



Victorian Year-Book

1916-17

By

A. M. LAUGHTON,

F.I.A., F.F.A., F.S.S.,

GOVERNMENT STATIST.

THIRTY-SEVENTH ISSUE

By Authority:

ALBERT J. MULLETT, GOVERNMENT PRINTER, MELBOURNE.

This page was added on 11 January 2013 to include the Disclaimer below.
No other amendments were made to this Product

DISCLAIMER

Users are warned that this historic issue of this publication series may contain language or views which, reflecting the authors' attitudes or that of the period in which the item was written, may be considered to be inappropriate or offensive today.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
MAP OF VICTORIA.	
INTRODUCTION	1 to 78
CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT	79 to 142
FINANCE	143 to 208
POPULATION	209 to 250
MUNICIPAL STATISTICS	251 to 300
VITAL STATISTICS—	
MARRIAGES	301 to 318
BIRTHS	318 to 331
DEATHS	332 to 388
ACCUMULATION	389 to 432
LAW AND CRIME	433 to 490
SOCIAL CONDITION	491 to 616
INTERCHANGE	617 to 664
MAP ILLUSTRATING THE PRODUCTION OF EACH DISTRICT.	
PRODUCTION—	
LAND SETTLEMENT, WATER SUPPLY, ETC.	665 to 699
AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL PURSUITS	700 to 771
MINING	771 to 786
MANUFACTORIES... ..	787 to 828
STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR VICTORIA, 1836 TO 1916	829 to 871
APPENDIX	873 to 876
GENERAL INDEX	877 to 906

PREFACE.

THIS is the thirty-seventh issue of the *Victorian Year-Book*.

The main object of the work is to show the progress made by the State during the year under review, and with this end comparisons are instituted with former years, and with other States and countries. An endeavour is made to present such information as will enable investigators to ascertain the results of past legislation, and as will assist legislators, publicists, and others in forming an opinion in regard to the most suitable methods to be adopted in the future in developing the natural resources of the State, and promoting the social welfare of the people.

The first part deals principally with the past history of the State and its constitutional progress. Its natural features, geology, fauna and flora are also described. Parts II., III., IV., VI., and IX. deal with the wealth and progress of the community as indicated by the growth of population, and by increases in bank deposits, in amounts assured with life offices, in volume of trade, &c., and details are given of the revenue and expenditure of the Government, and of municipalities. In parts V., VII., and VIII. will be found statistics relating to births, marriages and deaths, crime, education, charitable institutions, and other cognate subjects. In part X. a detailed account is given of the agricultural and other production of the State, and of its manufactures. The various parts were issued as soon as completed.

The information in all parts has been brought up to the latest possible date—in many instances to the middle of the-year 1917.

The Manufacturing Statistics included in this volume relate to the period from 1st July, 1916, to 30th June, 1917. The corresponding statistics in previous volumes referred to calendar years. The effect of the change is that these statistics are given in the present volume for a period later by six months than would have been the case if the former practice had been continued.

The bound volume of the *Year-Book* has for many years past been issued in the month of December. Owing to the alteration in practice referred to in the preceding paragraph the present volume will be issued a few weeks later than formerly, but there is compensation for the delay in the fact that it contains statistics in relation to manufactures for a period which is closer to the date of publication than in previous years.

The following special articles, which have been contributed by experts, appear for the first time :—The History of Victoria by Professor Ernest Scott, Physical Geography and Geology of Victoria by Mr. H. Herman, The Fauna of Victoria by the late Dr. T. S. Hall and Mr. J. A. Kershaw, and Agriculture and Live Stock in Victoria by the Victorian Department of Agriculture. On the other hand much space has been saved through the information given in regard to some subjects having been considerably reduced as compared with the preceding year.

I have to thank the heads of Government Departments and the various experts who have supplied information and in other ways assisted in the preparation of the work. I also take this opportunity of thanking the members of my staff for their hearty co-operation and for the valuable assistance received from them.

The figures and other material in each part of the book have been carefully examined and checked. If, however, any errors should be detected, I shall be pleased to receive information as to their nature and position.

A. M. LAUGHTON,
Government Statist.

Office of the Government Statist,
Melbourne, 7th January, 1918.

Victorian Year-Book, 1916-17.

INTRODUCTION.

THE HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

By Ernest Scott, Professor of History in the University of Melbourne.

DISCOVERY.

Dawn of History. The history of Victoria as a political community commenced in 1835, when the rival parties of John Batman and John Pascoe Fawkner, unauthorized by the Government in Sydney, settled upon the site of Melbourne. But we have to look back to a period before the dawn of the nineteenth century to reach the beginning of our knowledge of this part of Australia. The southern coasts of the continent were the last to be discovered and explored. The Dutch navigators who in the seventeenth century pieced together an outline of the west, north-west, and northern coasts, knew nothing of the south, because it lay outside the track of their vessels which made voyages between Europe and Java. Tasman in 1642 touched the south of Tasmania and sailed thence for New Zealand; but after this date we have to skip over a century and a quarter before we meet with a navigator who sailed even near the Victorian coast.

Cook. In 1770, James Cook, on his famous voyage in the *Endeavour*, was in the South Seas. His primary purpose was to convey a scientific party to Tahiti to observe a transit of Venus. His instructions left him free, after leaving that island, "to prosecute the design of making discoveries in the South Pacific Ocean," and to return to England by whatever route he thought proper. Cook knew of the western coasts of New Holland from Dutch charts, but the eastern coasts were unknown. He therefore resolved to sail till he fell in with the east of this continent, "and then to follow the direction of that coast to the northward or whatever direction it might take us." After exploring and charting New Zealand, he ran west toward New Holland. On 19th April, 1770 (by nautical reckoning; on 20th April by the almanac) at six o'clock in the morning, Lieutenant Hicks, who was on watch, sighted land. The *Endeavour* was then opposite the cape which on some maps is marked as Cape Everard. Cook wrote in his journal that "the southernmost point of land we had in sight" he named Cape Hicks, "because Lieutenant Hicks was the first who discovered this land." Unfortunately Cook recorded the latitude and longitude inaccurately, so that later navigators were unable to find the cape in the position where he "judged" the point to lie; but he added the words, "to the southward of this point we could see no land," and those words are sufficient, in view of Cook's situation at the time, to

identify Cape Everard as Point Hicks. This was the first part of the coast of Victoria to be seen by any European, as far as we know. After making the land thus, Cook sailed along it northward, discovering Botany Bay and the entire eastern coast of Australia.

Furneaux's error.

On his next voyage, in the *Resolution* 1772-74, Cook intended to ascertain whether Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) was a separate island, as he believed it to be, or part of the mainland. But Furneaux, the commander of his second ship, the *Adventure*, had become separated from him by tempestuous weather during the voyage, and had sailed up the east coast of Van Diemen's Land until the land began to fall away into what Furneaux believed to be simply a deep bay. In fact, he was in the entrance to Bass Strait, near the Furneaux Islands, which are named after him. But he reported that he was sure that there was no strait there, and Cook, though he does not seem to have been convinced, allowed Furneaux's advice to weigh with him. The winds were contrary for sailing to New Holland from New Zealand, so that on the whole he judged it advisable to devote his attention to problems connected with the Pacific. It was the misleading advice of Furneaux, therefore, that diverted Cook from a piece of investigation which would have led to the discovery of the whole of the Victorian coast in 1773.

Phillip's Commission.

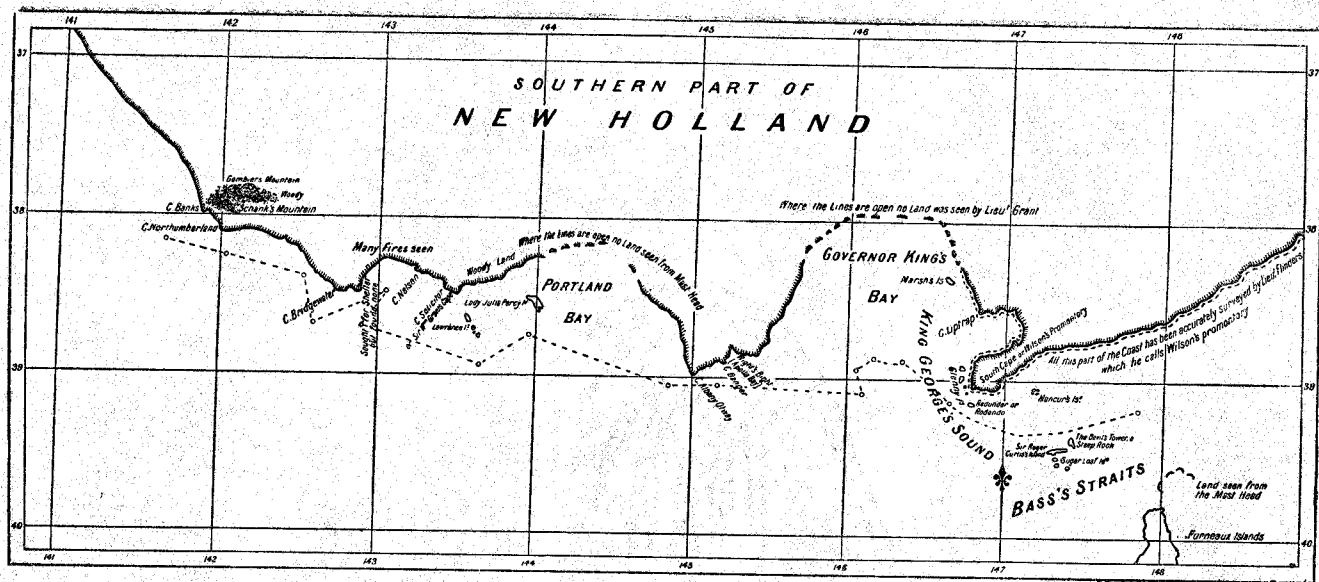
Nearly a quarter of a century passed. New South Wales was settled as a place of punishment for convicts in 1788, and the commission of the first governor, Arthur Phillip, gave him jurisdiction over the territory extending from Cape York to South Cape, and "all the country inland westward as far as the one hundred and thirty-fifth degree of east longitude." That definition brought the whole of Victoria within the scope of the New South Wales governorship. As yet, however, the British had no use for more land than was easily available in the vicinity of Port Jackson. Not for ten years after the first settlement was there even energy to spare for making an investigation of the unknown southern coasts.

Early adventures.

The first Europeans to traverse any part of Victoria were the shipwrecked crew of the *Sydney Cove*, a vessel sailing from Bengal to Port Jackson in 1797. She was lost on one of the islands of the Furneaux Group. Seventeen of the crew, in the ship's longboat, in attempting to make their way to the settlement, were dashed ashore and again wrecked near Point Hicks. They endeavoured to traverse the coast, through the wilds of Gippsland, from that point to Port Jackson, but only three were saved. These were rescued in an exhausted condition, "scarcely alive," southward of Botany Bay. Their fourteen companions either perished by the way or were killed by aboriginals.

Bass.

In the year after this tragedy, the discovery of the Victorian coast-line commenced, and was rapidly completed. George Bass, the surgeon of H.M.S. *Reliance*, having some time on his hands and being desirous of making discoveries, in 1798 persuaded



Grant's Original Chart of his Discoveries on Victorian Coast (1800).

Governor Hunter to grant to him the use of a whaleboat and a crew of blue jackets, in order that he might make an examination of the unexplored coasts southward of Botany Bay. Thus furnished, Bass entered upon his highly adventurous voyage, which resulted in the discovery of the whole of the Gippsland coast, Wilson's Promontory, and Western Port, which Bass entered on 5th January. "I have named the place, from its relative situation to every other known harbor on the coast, Western Port," wrote Bass in his journal. He believed, too, from the strength and rapidity of the tide and the long swell which continually rolled in upon the coast from the west, that there was a strait dividing the continent from Van Diemen's Land; but this fact was not demonstrated till later in the same year, when Bass and his friend, Matthew Flinders, in the sloop *Norfolk*, sailed through it and circumnavigated Van Diemen's Land. The strait was named after Bass at the instance of Governor Hunter.

Grant. The first ship to sail through Bass Strait from the westward, was the *Lady Nelson*, under the command of Lieutenant James Grant, in 1800. Grant brought the vessel out from England, with instructions to traverse the strait, news of the discovery of which reached the Admiralty in 1799. In so doing, he discovered the coast-line of Victoria westward of Port Phillip, and gave names to the principal coastal features. Running across the southern Indian Ocean from the Cape of Good Hope, he made the Australian coast quite close to the present boundary of South Australia and Victoria, on 3rd December, 1800. He named Mount Gambier and Mount Schanck, Cape Banks, Cape Northumberland, Cape Bridgewater, Cape Nelson, Portland Bay, Cape Albany Otway, Cape Patton, Cape Schanck, Cape Liptrap, and Lady Julia Percy Island.

Port Phillip. By the beginning of the nineteenth century, therefore, the Victorian coast was known, between the New South Wales border and Western Port on the east, and between the South Australian border and Cape Otway on the west. The intervening gap, at the head of which lies Port Phillip, had not been examined by Grant, though he had called it Governor King's Bay on his chart. In 1801, Lieutenant John Murray, in command of the *Lady Nelson*, was despatched on an exploring expedition, with particular instructions to investigate this gap. At the end of January, 1802, in pursuit of this task, Murray lay in Western Port, whence he sent the launch in charge of the mate, Bowen, to find a channel into the opening which had previously been seen from the masthead, and which "had the appearance of a harbor." Bowen, who set out on 31st January, returned on 4th February, with the report that there was a good channel into "a most noble sheet of water, larger even than Western Port, with many fine coves and entrances in it, and the appearance and probability of rivers." On 15th February, Murray brought the *Lady Nelson* into this new harbor, which he named "in honour of Governor P. G. King, under whose orders I act"; but King afterwards

altered the name to Port Phillip, desiring thus to honour the first Governor of New South Wales. Murray named Arthur's Seat "from its resemblance to a mountain of that name a few miles from Edinburgh." On 8th March, "the united colours of the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland were hoisted on board," and possession was taken of the port "in the name of his sacred Majesty, George the Third."

But the discovery of Port Phillip did not at once conduce to the extension of permanent settlement there. Captain Flinders, who visited it in May, 1802, in H.M.S. *Investigator*, and, surveying it from the top of Station Peak, one of the You Yangs, realized the importance of it, did indeed report upon "the goodness of the soil and natural advantages." But there was not yet any real necessity to expand beyond the environs of Sydney; and it is not probable that any effort would have been made to occupy positions elsewhere on the mainland or in Van Diemen's Land, had there not been a fear that if the British did not take possession of desirable positions the French would. In 1802 two French discovery ships visited Australian waters under the command of Commodore Baudin. They spent some weeks in Port Jackson, where Governor King entertained the suspicion that, though their ostensible object was scientific research, their real purpose was to spy out the land with a view to French colonization. "This," he wrote to the Secretary of State, "I cannot help thinking, is a principal object of their researches."

It was to frustrate this supposed design that the British Government ordered the establishment of the first Port Phillip settlement. Suspicion of Napoleon Bonaparte was at that time deeply rooted in the minds of Englishmen, and Bonaparte, then First Consul of the French Republic, had authorized the despatch of Baudin's expedition. A few years later (1807), when an official history of the voyage was published in Paris, the whole coast of Victoria from Wilson's Promontory westward, formed part of the region which the French designated Terre Napoléon. That Bonaparte ever intended to form a French colony in Australia there is no evidence to show; but that it should have been believed that he did was quite natural.

THE FINDING OF VICTORIA.

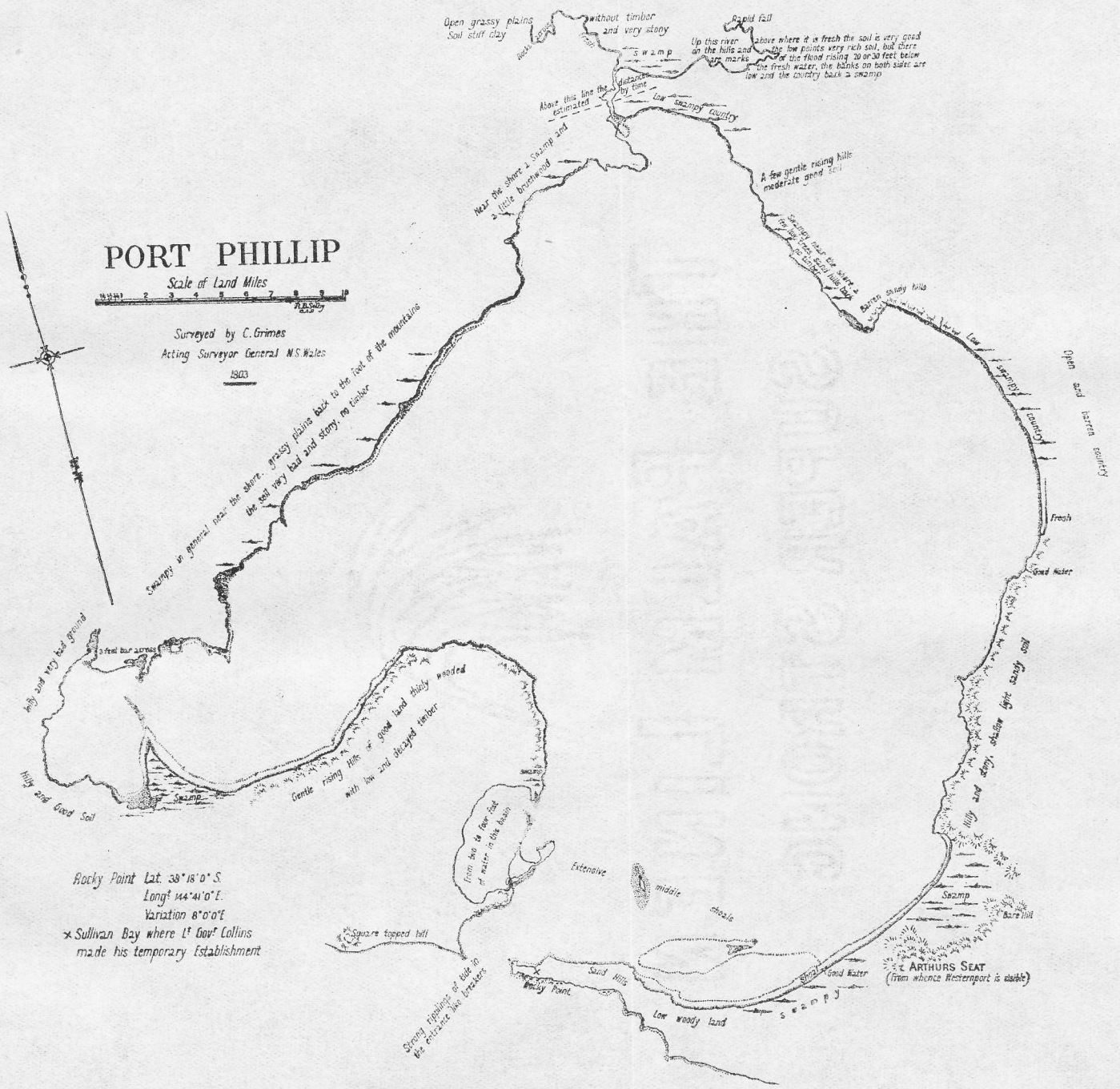
In 1803, a complete survey of Port Phillip had been made by Charles Grimes in the schooner *Cumberland*, under the command of Lieutenant Robbins. Grimes and his assistants discovered the River Yarra, which they ascended in a boat beyond the site of Melbourne. But their report and chart had not reached England by the time when the two ships which carried the first settlers set sail. These vessels, the *Calcutta* and the *Ocean*, conveyed nearly 400 persons, including 299 male convicts, the whole under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel David Collins.

PORT PHILLIP

Scale of Land Miles


Surveyed by C. Grimes
 Acting Surveyor General N.S. Wales

1803



Rocky Point Lat. $38^{\circ}16'0''$ S
 Longt $144^{\circ}41'0''$ E
 Variation $8^{\circ}0'0''$ E

× Sullivan Bay where Lt Govr Collins
 made his temporary Establishment

ARTHURS SEAT
 (from whence Westport is visible)

**Collins's
Settlement.**

They arrived in Port Phillip in the first week of October, and Collins chose to land them on the sandy Nepean peninsula, about half-a-mile to the east of Sorrento. There was no adequate supply of fresh water, sand and thick scrub were abundant, there was neither good timber for building nor grass for cattle. Collins, indeed, put no heart into the enterprise. He did not like his task, and seems to have been eager to justify an early abandonment of it by demonstrating that Port Phillip was not worth occupying. The bay, in his opinion, was "wholly unfit" for occupation; it was situated "in a deep and dangerous bight"; if he removed the settlement to the upper part of the harbor, the blacks were so numerous and so savage there that he would require four times the force he then had to act as a guard; and, in short, it was such an "unpromising and unproductive country" to which he had come that the sooner he got away from it the better he would be pleased. Governor King, in view of these pessimistic reports, authorized the abandonment of the settlement, and on 30th January, 1804, Collins took his people away to Hobart, after a disappointing and unenterprising experiment of less than four months.

**The
Westernport
Settlement.**

There was one other abortive settlement on Victorian soil before systematic occupation commenced. In 1826, the British Government became aware that a fresh French expedition of discovery was to visit the south seas, under the command of Dumont D'Urville, in the ship *Astrolabe*. Napoleon had died in 1821, and assuredly Great Britain had no fear of the restored Bourbon monarchy. But still it was considered advisable to be cautious, though the French professed that they had none but scientific ends in view. Governor Darling was therefore warned to take steps to establish posts on the south coast and the west of the continent. He at once ordered the despatch of a party to Western Port to occupy it. They consisted of two officers (Captain Wright and Lieutenant Burchell), eighteen soldiers of the Buffs, and twenty convicts. They were conveyed from Sydney in the *Fly* and the *Dragon*, and were provisioned for six months. The place where they established themselves was at Settlement Point (otherwise called Red Point), on the eastern side of the mainland (24th November, 1826). As a device for preventing the French from settling, if that had been the intention, the expedition of 1826 was a total failure, because in fact the *Astrolabe* had already called at Western Port, made such scientific investigations as the French captain desired, and departed. There was therefore no object in maintaining the settlement. Governor Darling consequently ordered its withdrawal, and Captain Wright and his party returned to Sydney in January, 1828, after an occupation of only a little over a year.

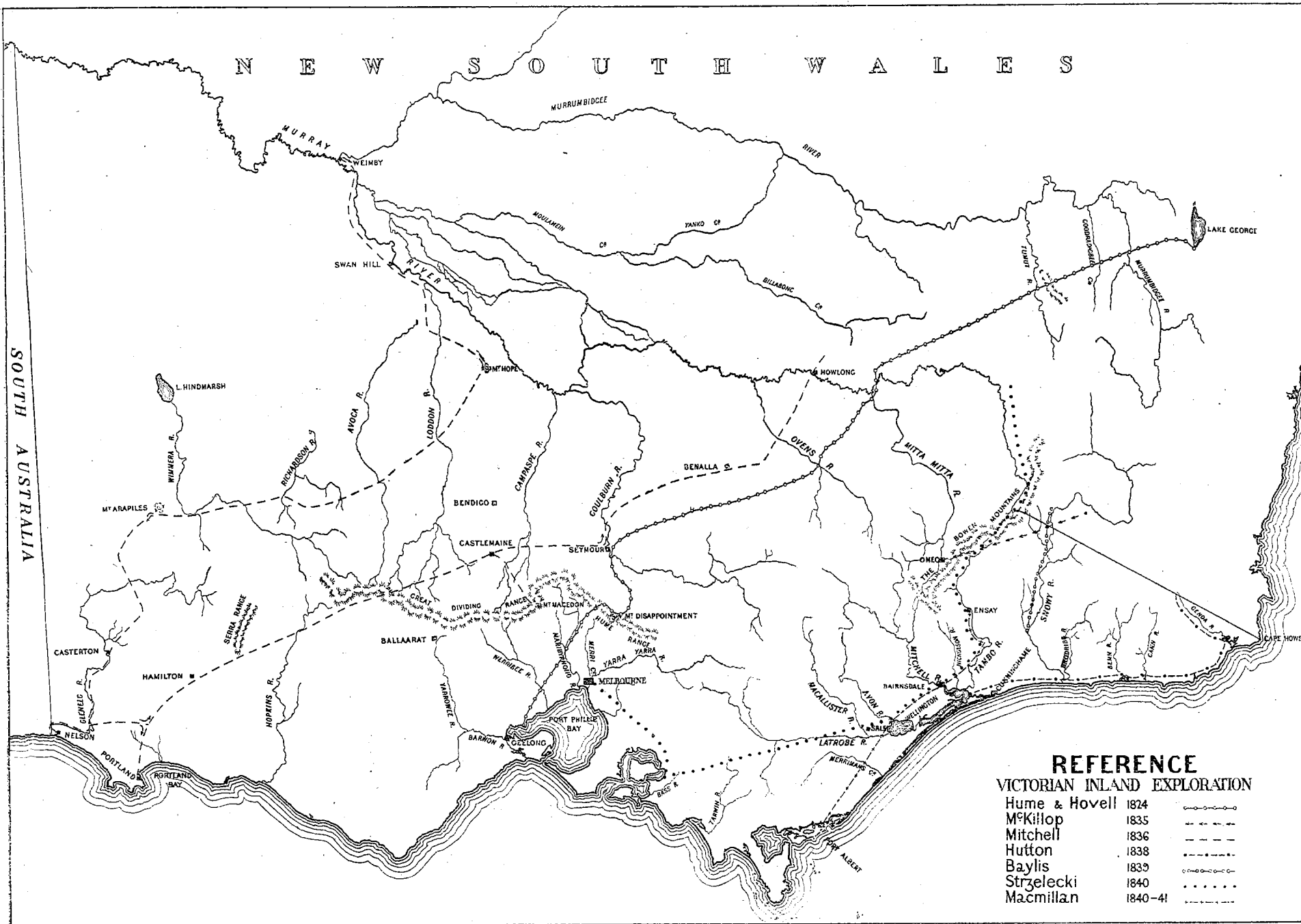
Attention must now be directed to the four principal land journeys by which the value of the province south of the Murray was made known.

Hume and Hovell. In 1824 Governor Brisbane, wishing to ascertain the nature of the country to the south of Sydney, conceived the strange idea of landing a party of convicts near Wilson's Promontory or Cape Howe, providing them with equipment for a long journey, and instructing them to make the best of their way to Sydney. If they arrived safely they were to receive "suitable rewards and indulgences." If they did not arrive safely, that would be their misfortune. The Governor mentioned the scheme to Alexander Berry, a Sydney merchant, who suggested that a better way of having the country explored would be to fit out an expedition and place it under the command of a friend of his, Hamilton Hume, an experienced bushman. Hume would have nothing to do with the Governor's Wilson's Promontory or Cape Howe project, but expressed his willingness to lead an expedition from his home at Lake George "to Western Port in Bass Strait."

The proposal fell through as a Government venture, but Hume determined to carry it out himself. Berry introduced him to a retired seaman, Captain Hovell, who wished to be associated with the enterprise, and the two agreed to find the men and equipment at their own expense. The expedition of Hume and Hovell, which left Lake George in October, 1824, was the first exploring party to traverse Victoria. On 16th December they reached the seashore, and both of them believed they were at Western Port. In fact, however, they had mistaken their whereabouts, and had reached the shores of Port Phillip Bay, within 10 miles of the site of Geelong. The journey, despite the mistake of the leaders, was of very great importance. They discovered the River Murray (which they named the Hume), the Mitta Mitta, the Ovens, and the Goulburn; and they named Mount Disappointment. It was from a word picked up by Hume and Hovell from the aboriginals that the town of Geelong derives its name. "Jillong" was the name of the bay upon which the town now stands.

Sturt. In 1829 the most famous of Australian inland explorers, Charles Sturt, traversed the whole course of the River Murray from its junction with the Murrumbidgee to the sea, and gave the great river the name it bears—which was that of Sir George Murray, the Colonial Secretary at the time. It should be insisted, however, that Hume and Hovell were the discoverers of the river, though they did no more than cross it.

Mitchell. The second important land journey across Victoria was that of Major Mitchell, in 1836. Mitchell, who was the Surveyor-General of New South Wales, was instructed to trace the course of the Darling till it joined the Murray, and then to examine the country to the south of the main stream. After completing the first part of his task, Mitchell traversed the course of the Murray up stream to a point a few miles beyond the inflow of the Murrumbidgee, and then crossed to the south side. He kept fairly close to the left bank till he reached the Loddon at Swan Hill, when he decided to



Map showing routes of Hume and Hovell and other Explorers.

The district between the Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers represents the territory which was lost to Victoria by an Imperial Act passed in 1842.

follow the valley of that river inland. That course opened out upon the broad rich pastures watered by the southern tributaries of the Murray. Ascending Pyramid Hill, Mitchell saw on all sides far-spreading plains shining "fresh and green in the light of a fine morning." Travelling south-west and south through the extreme Western District of Victoria, the explorer at length came upon the Glenelg, and followed it to the sea. When he turned homeward, determining to take a more easterly route, he halted his party for a rest in a pleasant spot about 15 miles north of Portland, while he with a few companions rode down to have a look at that harbor. There, to his great surprise, he found the Henty brothers in occupation, with huts built, live stock prospering, land under cultivation, and a serviceable whaling schooner at anchor in the bay. On the return journey Mitchell ascended Mount Macedon, which he named, crossed the Campaspe, the Goulburn, and the Ovens, and negotiated the Murray about 20 miles west of Albury.

Mitchell called the country which he traversed "Australia Felix," but that name never became the geographical designation of Victoria; and in any case it could only have applied to the western region, which he traversed. The Rev. Dr. Lang, in 1847, called the Port Phillip District "Phillipsland," and published a book about it with that title.

Gippsland. The penetration of the difficult mountainous district of Gippsland was the work of a small group of explorers. In 1835 George McKillop, of Hobart, in search of pastures, crossed the Monaro tableland and the Snowy River, and got as far as Omeo. Andrew Hutton, in 1838, during a drought, brought 500 head of cattle along the coast of Gippsland as far as the Lakes Entrance. But the aboriginals were very troublesome, spearing the cattle and menacing the whites. At length Hutton and his companions, to save their lives, had to retire, leaving the blacks in possession of the stock. In 1839 Edward Bayliss followed the valley of the Snowy River as far south as Buchan, also in search of pastures. In 1839-40, Angus McMillan, an adventurous young highlander, engaged upon a Monaro cattle station, made three very courageous journeys along the Tambo valley, determined not only to open up pasture lands, but also to find a port whence cattle might be shipped. With severe labour he did at length cut his way through to Port Albert, where afterwards a township was founded. Gippsland received its name, however, from the Polish savant, Count Strzelecki, who, pursuing geological researches in 1839-40, followed McMillan's tracks down the Tambo, skirting Lake Wellington, where he struck off practically along the route of the present Gippsland Railway, and reached the infant town of Melbourne on foot on 28th May, 1840.

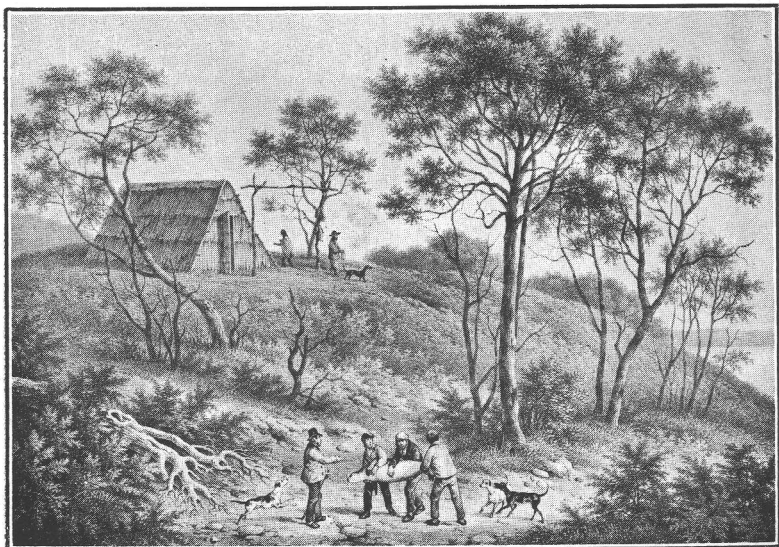
THE BEGINNINGS OF SETTLEMENT.

After the two abortive settlements at Port Phillip and Western Port, which have been described above, a very few faint premonitions of the dawn of colonization are on record. When the French

commander, Dumont D'Urville, was in Western Port in 1826, he found there a party of sealers, including five women. They had been left by a vessel ten months before to catch seals, but as they had not been called for as arranged, they begged the French captain to take them with him to Port Jackson, which he did. Captain Wright, later in the same year, also found sealers living near Settlement Point, where they had sown two acres of wheat and some maize. Both of these parties had built huts for themselves; and an engraving in the sumptuous atlas to D'Urville's *Voyage autour du Monde* (Paris, 1840-46) gives a view of one of these residences, and of the sealers engaged upon their work. Another man who was interested in sealing and whaling, William Dutton, in 1832, built a cottage for himself and huts for his men at Portland Bay; and a year later came to the same port a young man who intended not merely to use the place as a dépôt, but to settle there permanently.

Edward Henty was one of a family of seven stalwart sons who with their father, Thomas Henty, had emigrated from Sussex to the newly-founded Swan River colony. He brought £10,000 with him, but after two years' experience of Western Australia he decided to give up the attempt to establish a home there, and went to Launceston. Edward Henty, who went to examine the prospects in South Australia, put into Portland Bay in the *Thistle* on his way back to Launceston, and liked the place so much that he determined to settle there. His father, after paying a visit to Portland, approved of his choice; and in November, 1834, Edward Henty landed live stock and commenced farming before the Government in Sydney had an inkling that any persons were occupying land in the vicinity of Port Phillip.

Others, too, were soon inquiring about land in this unoccupied part of Australia. Many Launceston people knew about the quality of the country on the other side of Bass Strait from sealers and from the Henty family, not to speak of the published accounts of Hume and Hovell's expedition. Indeed, as early as 1827 two Launceston men, J. T. Gellibrand and John Batman, had applied to Governor Darling for grants of land at Western Port. They were refused. But Batman, in 1834, formed a syndicate of fifteen Launceston men—the Port Phillip Association—who fitted out an expedition to explore Port Phillip for pastoral purposes. In the schooner *Rebecca*, Batman set forth in May, 1835. He landed near Indented Head, and traversed country which filled him with astonishment. He had never seen anything to equal it. On several successive days he made excursions, and on one of these, at a place which the best analysis of the evidence identifies as being on the River Plenty, two or three miles above its junction with the Yarra, Batman went through the form of negotiating with seven alleged chiefs of the aboriginals the purchase of 600,000 acres of land, in return for a parcel of mirrors, knives, beads, and other cheap goods. Before returning to Launceston, Batman took a boat up the Yarra to get fresh water; and



First House in Victoria (1826).
(Sealers' Hut at Western Port).

there, when he saw the slope upon which Melbourne is built, he wrote in his diary, "This will be the place for a village."

Fawkner. Meanwhile, another Launceston group, under the leadership of John Pascoe Fawkner, had fitted out a rival expedition to explore Port Phillip. In the *Enterprise* the employees of this syndicate entered the bay in August, 1835, and decided to settle on the very spot which Batman had marked down as his "village." Other stock-owners quickly followed, as soon as the news about the valuable pasturages of Port Phillip gained currency in Launceston.

Official disapproval. In the eye of the Government in Sydney all of these unauthorized "squatters" on Port Phillip lands were trespassers, and neither Batman's "treaty" nor the claims of the Hentys and others were recognised as valid. But it was impossible to keep off "intruders" merely by issuing warnings. The Colonial Office in England was at this time sternly opposed to the extension of settlement. It already had enough Australian colonies on its hands, and they had been a source of expense and vexation. But the Governor in Sydney knew that it was impossible to stem the tide. Valuable pasture lands were unoccupied, and owners of flocks and herds were eager to avail themselves of them. The numbers of settlers increased, notwithstanding Sir Richard Bourke's solemn proclamation, with its threats. Disputes with natives occurred, and some blood was shed. A police magistrate was sent to report, and in June, 1836, he found nearly 180 white people residing on the banks of the Yarra, with sheep, cattle, horses, and farm implements to a total estimated value of £80,000. Since it was clearly impossible to prevent people from living there, it was necessary to provide for governing them, and that Governor Bourke did in September.

Lonsdale. He sent over from Sydney Captain William Lonsdale to act as magistrate, and to take "the general superintendence in the new settlement of all such matters as require the immediate exercise of the authority of the Government." Lonsdale arrived in Port Phillip in the *Rattlesnake* on 29th September. One of his first tasks was to determine whether the permanent settlement should be where Batman's and Fawkner's people had already built their huts. In some respects Lonsdale considered Gellibrand's Point (Williamstown) to be preferable; but the water supply there was inadequate. Finally, he "fixed upon the place already chosen as the settlement, where the greatest number of persons reside." Governor Bourke, who visited the settlement in March, 1837, confirmed the choice, and named the "village" Melbourne, after the **Melbourne.** Prime Minister. The surveyor, Hoddle, who came over from Sydney with the Governor, laid out the streets on a well-considered plan, and the first land sale was held on 1st June.

Latrobe. Lonsdale continued to administer the settlement till October, 1839, when C. J. Latrobe took charge as Superintendent or Lieutenant-Governor. Population increased rapidly.

Melbourne spread beyond the limits of Hoddle's survey and formed suburbs. The Port Phillip District, as the province south of the Murray was called, prospered greatly. In 1842 Melbourne was incorporated as a town, with a mayor and councillors. The first mayor was Henry Condell, brewer.

PUBLIC POLICY.

Convict labour. The first matter of public policy upon which there was strong feeling in the new province related to the admission of convicts. The Port Phillip District was, of course, a part of New South Wales, and that colony had been founded primarily as a place for the reception of persons transported for breaches of the law of England. The early land-owners had convicts "assigned" to them as servants. Indeed, there was scarcely any other labour available for country industries. But an antagonism to convict labour was growing in Australia, and especially in Port Phillip was there a decided feeling against it. In 1840 the British Government came to the conclusion that a change ought to be made in the system, and Orders in Council were issued which put an end to the introduction of transported persons to Australia, though still permitting them to be taken to Van Diemen's Land. This change had two effects. It glutted Van Diemen's Land with convict labour, and at the same time it dried up the source whence the squatters of the mainland had hitherto drawn their labour supply. Many Port Phillip pastoralists complained. They did not like convict labour, but they said they could get none other.

Conditional Pardon System. The British Government, in face of this situation, determined to reintroduce convictism in another form. The "conditional pardon system" purported to subject offenders to a course of discipline in an English prison, and then to land them in specified colonies, where they would be unrestrained, provided that they did not return to England during the currency of their sentences. Under this system a ship load of convicts was landed in Port Phillip in 1844. There was intense indignation in Melbourne, but the Government in England ignored the protests of the inhabitants. The conditional pardon system, however, was not a success, and in 1848 it was determined that convicts should be sent out with tickets of leave, the holders of which would have to report themselves to the police at stated intervals. Again Port Phillip was to be a receptacle for the offenders. But now the indignation of the Melbourne people blazed up angrily. Excited meetings of protest were held, and the newspapers and public men demanded that resort should be had to force to resist the landing of any more convicts. When the ship *Randolph* entered Port Phillip on 8th August, 1849, with a cargo of ticket-of-leave men on board, the menace of resistance on the part of the public was so serious that Latrobe took upon himself the responsibility of ordering the captain not to land his freight but to take them round to Sydney. The same was done when the *Hashmey*

arrived with a similar company in May. The strong feeling aroused on this subject, the formation and leadership of a solid body of public opinion on a crucial matter of public importance, did much to engender an independent political spirit among the Port Phillip people. Already there was a feeling that the connexion with New South Wales should be severed.

Since 1842 the Port Phillip District had had representation in the Legislative Council of New South Wales. **Government from Sydney.** In that year an Act of the Imperial Parliament set up a Council of 36 members, of whom 24 were to be elected and 12 nominated. Six of the elected members were allotted to the Port Phillip District, and one of these was to represent the town of Melbourne. There were two candidates for the Melbourne seat at the election in June, 1843—Edward Curr and the mayor, Condell. Sectarian bitterness was introduced to the contest, Curr being a prominent Roman Catholic, while Condell was put forward as the Protestant champion. When the poll was declared, and Condell won by 34 votes (295 to 261), there was some rioting, which had to be suppressed by the military.

Discontents. But representation in the Legislative Council of New South Wales was never a real thing to the Port Phillip people. Sydney was far away and difficult of access, and there were very few men with an aptitude for politics who could spare the time and afford the expense of detaching themselves from their business interests and residing in Sydney while the Council was in session. Consequently the representatives elected were generally Sydney men. Indeed, before the end of 1844, not a single Port Phillip resident was among the six representatives. Dissatisfaction with the system increased. The Port Phillip people felt more and more that their interests were different from those of persons who lived nearer to Sydney. They complained that a large part of the land and general revenue collected in their province was expended on the Sydney side, that their requirements were neglected, that the disposition of the Council was to thwart the development of Port Phillip. The nature of the feeling may be illustrated by the fact that at a "separation banquet" held in Melbourne in 1846, there was exhibited over the chairman's table a painting representing Prometheus chained to the rock and a vulture gnawing at his liver; and one of the contemporary newspapers observed that "a very forcible parallel exists between this famous supposition of ancient mythology and the treatment Port Phillip receives from Sydney." These discontents were more emphatically pronounced in 1848, when the electors of Melbourne chose Earl Grey, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to represent them in the New South Wales Council; not, of course, that they expected that he would ever take his seat, but because they desired by means of a farcical election to express their sense of the futility of the existing system. Earl Grey continued to be the member for Melbourne

till 1850, when William Westgarth was elected. An attempt was also made to induce the electors of Port Phillip—apart from Melbourne—to elect the Duke of Wellington, Lord Palmerston, Lord Brougham, Lord John Russell, and Sir Robert Peel, but this failed.

Separation. The action which had been taken, however, sufficed to concentrate attention upon the dissatisfaction of the Port Phillip people. The result was that, by an Act passed by the Imperial Parliament in 1850, the Port Phillip District was separated from New South Wales. The Privy Council Committee of Trade and Plantations, which reported generally on the subject of Colonial Government in 1849, and which recommended that a new colony should be formed of Port Phillip, advised Queen Victoria to confer her name upon it, and the Queen signified her acquiescence.

Boundaries. A misunderstanding occurred with reference to the northern boundary, and many Victorians considered that their colony had been improperly deprived of a district which geographically belonged to it. The dispute occurred thus. The Act of 1842 which conferred representation upon the Port Phillip District, had defined the northern boundary to be “a straight line drawn from Cape Howe to the nearest source of the River Murray, and thence the course of that river to the eastern boundary of the province of South Australia.” But in 1840, land regulations issued by the New South Wales Government in accordance with instructions from England, had laid down the northern boundary of the Port Phillip District to run “by the Rivers Murrumbidgee and Murray to the eastern boundary of the province of South Australia.” The Act of 1842, therefore, which was confirmed by the Act of 1850, cut off the district between the Murrumbidgee and the Murray, generally known as Riverina. By a later Act (1855), “the whole watercourse of the River Murray to the eastern boundary of South Australia,” was declared to be “within the territory of New South Wales.” It was contended at the time, and has been urged since, that Victoria was thus deprived of territory and of rights through the exertion of secret influences at the Colonial Office; but, on the opinion of counsel being obtained, it was advised that the colony had no case for a restitution. In a later case, it was found that an error had been made by the surveyors when the boundary between Victoria and South Australia was delimited; Victoria having acquired 340,000 acres more than she was entitled to get. South Australia brought an action, which was determined by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in 1914. The error was admitted, but it was ruled that the boundary drawn by the surveyors was intended to be final, and should stand.

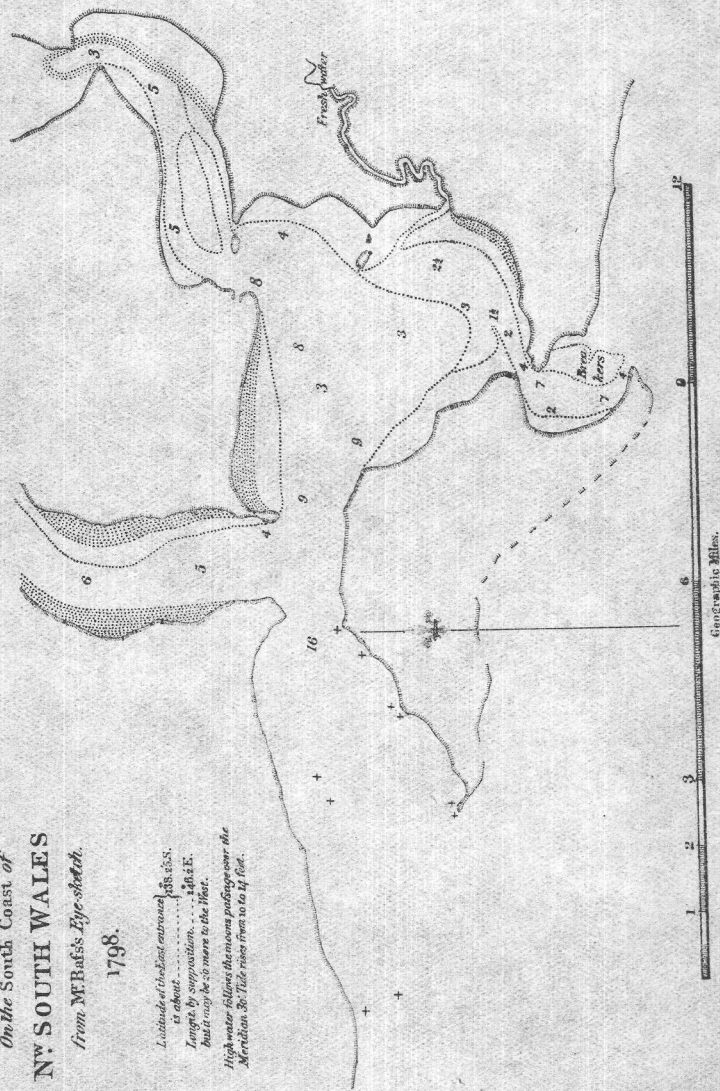
SELF GOVERNMENT.

The Act of 1850, which gave to Victoria separate political existence, at the same time conferred a constitution upon the colony. It came into operation on 13th January, 1851; but the Legislative Council of New South Wales,

Western Port
 On the South Coast of
N^Y SOUTH WALES
 from Mr. Bass's Eye-sketoh.

1798.

Latitude of the best anchorage 38. 55 S.
 is about 48. 55 S.
 Tangles by suppositions 46. 4 E.
 but it may be 20 more to the West.
 High water 6 fathoms the sea and 5 fathoms the
 Meridian 20. Tide runs from S. to N. by West.



which was still the properly constituted legislative authority, had to make provision for dividing the colony into electoral districts before practical effect could be given to it. The Governor of the parent colony issued the necessary writs for the election of members of the new Victorian Council on 1st July, 1851, and that date has consequently always been celebrated as "Separation Day" in Victoria.

The constitution placed at the head of the Government of Victoria a Lieutenant-Governor, and to this office the former Superintendent, Latrobe, was appointed. There was one house of legislature—the Legislative Council—consisting of twenty elected and ten nominated members. The franchise was conferred upon owners of freehold property to the value of £100, householders whose dwellings were valued at £10 per annum and upwards, holders of pastoral licences, and leaseholders of property valued at more than £10 per annum. Of the ten nominated members, five were official, and formed the Executive of the colony. They were W. F. Stawell (afterwards Chief Justice), Attorney-General; Captain William Lonsdale, Colonial Secretary; Redmond Barry (afterwards Mr. Justice Barry), Solicitor-General; C. H. Ebdon, Auditor-General; and R. W. Pohlman (afterwards a County Court Judge), Master-in-Equity.

The new Government had scarcely got to work when the whole complexion of Victorian affairs was changed by the startling gold discoveries. A pastoral community suddenly found itself rushed by a motley population attracted from the ends of the earth, the quiet little port of Melbourne became crowded with shipping, and the rulers of the country were confronted with new and unexpected problems. Important gold discoveries had been made in the Bathurst district of New South Wales about a month before the first Executive Council was sworn in. People in Victoria now began to attach significance to finds of pieces of gold which had from time to time been made within a few miles of Melbourne. As early as 1847 a shepherd had picked up a nugget in the roots of a tree which the wind had blown down. Another shepherd had brought in 22 ounces from a gully at Mount Buninyong. Small parties went out and searched in the Plenty Ranges, the Pyrenees, and along the Upper Yarra. A committee of Melbourne citizens formed in 1851 under the chairmanship of the Mayor, William Nicholson, reported that there was undoubted evidence of the existence of gold-bearing rocks. A reward was offered to whomsoever should discover a payable gold mine within 200 miles of Melbourne. Very soon there was no need to offer the stimulus of rewards; the exciting hunt for gold and the exceeding great yields were an ample recompense to many thousands.

The great rush commenced after August, 1851, when sensational discoveries were made at the hamlet of Buninyong, close to what was soon to be known throughout the world as the wonderful Ballarat gold-field. In October of that year Latrobe reported that "a very considerable amount of gold"

**First
Executive.**

Gold.

**The
Great
Rushes.**

was coming from the Buninyong neighbourhood, and that eager searchers were "pouring into the district." In November the rich deposits of Mount Alexander were tapped; in the same month came startling tidings of the auriferous wealth of Bendigo. Before the end of 1851 nearly a million pounds' worth of pure gold had been taken out of these firstly discovered mines of Victoria. "I can contemplate no limit to the discoveries or the results of the opening of these fields," wrote Latrobe in a despatch at the end of the year; "meanwhile, the whole structure of society and the whole machinery of government is dislocated." It was so; and naturally. The machinery of government in this infant colony, which less than twenty years before had contained no white inhabitants, and which had only had an independent administration of its own a few months, had been constructed for the purposes of a country in which there was only one considerable town, where the settlement beyond the centre was sparse and scattered, where there were few roads, where the police force was small, and the revenue trifling. At the census taken in March, 1851, the total population was 77,000, of whom 46,000 resided outside the two towns of Melbourne and Geelong. Before the end of that year it had increased by 20,000, and by the end of 1852 it had risen to 168,000. The incursion of this sudden flood of eager, jostling, excited people, many of them foreigners, virtually swept the Government off its feet. Shepherds and farm hands fled to the diggings; tradesmen threw down their tools, bought picks and shovels, and hurried off to Bendigo, Clunes, or Ballarat; civil servants gave up their appointments to go digging; and after 1852 oversea immigration poured in from Great Britain and the continent. Thousands of Chinese soon swelled the total.

Diggers' Licences. A despatch from the Imperial Government informed Latrobe's Ministry that, as they were responsible for the maintenance of law and order, they were at liberty to make such regulations as they pleased for deriving revenue from gold mining; and it was but reasonable that the large extra expense thrown upon the Government by the opening of the diggings should be largely borne by the rich yields of the mines. Legally the gold belonged to the Crown, and the Government had a right to demand a proportion of it. But how to obtain a fair share, and not do injustice, did not seem to be easy to determine. In New South Wales the Government had adopted the expedient of issuing licences to diggers, charging a fee of 30s. a month for one. The Victorian Legislative Council adopted the same plan by an Act passed at the beginning of 1852. The collection of the licence-fees was entrusted to the police. The police were charged with being rough and overbearing in pursuit of their duty, and there is evidence that in many instances they were. But they had a very rough task. Among the diggers were ex-convicts as well as many eminently respectable men; and the licence system became so unpopular that it was almost inevitable that bitter feeling should arise between those who had to collect and those who had to pay.

Undoubtedly cases of injustice occurred; and the magistrates were prone to accept the word of the police whenever a digger was brought before them. But, apart from the angry disposition thus generated, the licence system was inherently unjust. The element of luck played a great part in gold mining, and those who had the good fortune to possess a good claim could pay 30s. per month easily. But those whose labour was not well rewarded, could ill afford the impost; and the cost of the necessaries of life on the diggings was very high. Latrobe recognised the force of this objection, and proposed to the Legislative Council a Bill for the imposition of an export duty on gold, which would have taken toll of the industry as a whole, and would have obviated the irritation caused by the constant demands of the police upon the diggers for the production of their licences. But the Council did not pass the Bill.

**Political
agitation.**

The agitation for the abolition or reduction of the licence-fee was intermingled with a demand for political reforms. The majority of the miners were not entitled to the franchise under the existing Victorian constitution, and they protested against the exclusion from direct representation in the legislature of a class whose industry furnished about one-half of the total revenue of the colony. So strong did the discontent become that placards were erected on the diggings declaring that any miner who paid the 30s. fee should be treated as a traitor, and be warned to quit the gold-fields. A Bill passed in 1853 reduced the amount of the fee to £1, but still left the collection of it in the hands of the police, and, therefore, only modified the ill-feeling to a trifling extent.

Eureka.

Discontent arising from these and other causes culminated in 1854 in the famous incident of the Eureka Stockade. The immediate cause of the outbreak was a squalid crime; but mixed up with it were political agitation on the lines of the English Chartist programme, and the general disaffection of the mining population. Public feeling on the gold-fields was in a tense, excited condition, and it is quite probable, the relations between the miners and the Government being what they were, that if an outbreak had not occurred from one set of circumstances it would have done from another. At a Ballarat hotel of dubious repute, kept by a man named Bentley, a miner had been murdered. Bentley was charged with the crime, but though the evidence against him was strong, the magisterial bench, presided over by Dewes, a friend of Bentley, acquitted him. Strong indignation was expressed, excited public meetings were held, and, amidst riotous scenes, Bentley's hotel was burnt down. That the implication of Bentley, and of his friend, the police magistrate, was justified was proved when an investigation by a special board was held; for, as the result of the inquiry, Dewes was dismissed from office, Bentley and certain suspected accomplices were arrested, and he and two others were convicted and sentenced for manslaughter. But the police had previously arrested three men for participation in the burning of the hotel, and they were found guilty and imprisoned. To

the Ballarat diggers they were martyrs for the cause of all, and their immediate release was vociferously demanded. The miners naturally felt that their accusations against the governing authorities were amply confirmed by those proceedings, and the strength of the movement for political reform, together with that for the rectification of miners' grievances, was consequently intensified. The Ballarat Reform League pressed forward a programme of sweeping constitutional reconstruction; and its leaders, notably Peter Lalor, were regarded as the special champions of the industrial as well as the political interests of the diggers.

**The
Stockade.**

A new Lieutenant-Governor, Sir Charles Hotham, arrived in Victoria in June, 1854, in the midst of the storm and stress; Latrobe having resigned office in a depressed and disappointed condition of mind. Fearing that the police force at Ballarat was inadequate to maintain order, Hotham, in November, sent up 80 men of the 40th Regiment to reinforce them. The arrival of the advance guard aroused anger and suspicion, and a crowd of armed diggers set out to intercept the main body. An altercation with the officer in charge, Captain Wise, was followed by a sudden attack upon the contingent. The soldiers were overpowered, the ammunition waggon was captured, the baggage cart was overturned, and the troops, surprised and outnumbered, were driven in flight to their camp. After this violent rupture, further trouble was to be expected. Peter Lalor, foremost among the leaders of the diggers—for he was a man of commanding presence and convincing speech—urged that the miners should organize themselves to resist, and should solemnly pledge themselves to pay no more licence-fees. Companies of armed men drilled, and a rough kind of fort was built of logs and slabs under the direction of a German named Vern, on a piece of land known as the Eureka lead, flanking the main road from Geelong to Ballarat. Within this stockade, about an acre in extent, drilling proceeded and the forging of pikes for the fight which was believed to be imminent. But the commander of the troops, Captain Thomas, was kept well informed of what was occurring, for he had two of his own men, disguised, among the company within the stockade, and he knew precisely when it would be probably advantageous to make an attack in force. On the night of Saturday, 2nd December, there were about 200 men inside the stockade. A guard had been posted on the road from Melbourne to intercept reinforcements of troops, for it was believed that the commandant would not venture to assault the Eureka Stockade until he had a larger company under his hand. But Captain Thomas had resolved to force the issue forthwith. At 4 o'clock on the Sunday morning, his little company of 276 men—182 troops and 94 police—were quietly marched to the stockade. The alarm was given by a sentry when the assailants were about 300 yards away. When the soldiers and police had covered half the remaining distance, a volley from the stockade killed an officer (Wise) and two privates. An answering volley from the Government forces swept the logs, the order

to charge was given, and in the grey light of early dawn the rough defences of the stockade were rushed. In a few seconds the well-armed and disciplined company were in among the defenders, many of whom had nothing better than pikes to fight with. There was a smart struggle for about a quarter of an hour, when the garrison of the Eureka Stockade were completely defeated. Twenty-four are known to have been killed, and probably others died of wounds while in hiding. Four of the troops were killed, and a dozen wounded. The sympathy of the mass of the population of Victoria was with the insurrectionists; and, though thirteen men were put on their trial for participation in the rebellion, not one of them was convicted. It should be added that some of the most prominent rebels were foreigners. Peter Lalor, who was severely wounded in the fight, was hidden in a hole covered with slabs, and was afterwards helped to escape. He was held in high honour by the Ballarat miners, and was elected to Parliament by them. He was chosen Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in 1880. One result of this unfortunate quarrel was that the obnoxious licence-fee system was abolished, and there was substituted for it a miner's right, for which the digger paid £1 per annum, and which conferred upon the holder ownership of his claim and to the gold extracted from it. A miner's right was not subject to police inspection. A further redress of grievances took the form of direct representation of the gold-fields' population in the Victorian Legislative Council. The size of the Council had been extended first in 1853 by the addition of 24 seats, of which 16 were elective and eight nominee; and now again, after the Ballarat troubles in 1855, 12 new seats were created, eight of which were given to mining districts, whilst the franchise was extended to any man who had occupied or mined on Crown land for upwards of three months. These extensions brought the size of the first Victorian Legislative Council up to 66 members in 1855, the last year of its existence.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

Political changes. The time, indeed, was ripe for a complete change in the constitutional system of the country; and that change must be attributed, not to the events which have just been described, but to a general liberalizing process which affected the whole of the Australian colonies. The year 1855, indeed, is the year of the attainment of responsible government by the Australian people. As far as Victoria is concerned, the offer of responsible government was made from England, not conceded in response to a local demand. The constitution of 1850 had not given complete satisfaction in New South Wales, where Wentworth had powerfully advocated the substitution of a form of government on the British model—with two legislative houses, and a cabinet of ministers responsible to the popularly elective house—for government by Governor and appointed ministers in co-operation with a partly elective, partly nominee Council. New South Wales, through its Council, was invited

to construct a constitution for itself, taking the Canadian constitution for a model; and the Secretary of State for the Colonies, when conveying this intimation to New South Wales, at the same time sent a despatch to the Victorian Lieutenant-Governor, "offering to the colony of Victoria the same concession on the same terms." A committee of twelve members of the Legislative Council was appointed to prepare a draft constitution, which was produced in December, 1853. The scheme was considered by the whole Council in 1854, and was sent to England in the form of a Bill in March of that year. Lord John Russell, then Colonial Secretary, submitted to the House of Commons a Bill to enable the Queen to assent to a Bill "to establish a constitution in and for the colony of Victoria," and this measure received the Royal assent in July, 1855. Some alterations were, however, made in the measure by the Imperial Government and Parliament, principally because the Bill sent to England exceeded the powers conferred upon the Victorian Legislative Council by the constitution of 1850. It repealed certain Imperial statutes, and it handed over the disposal of Crown lands to the proposed new Victorian legislature. A point was afterwards raised as to the validity of the constitution, because it was not in all respects the measure which the Legislative Council had submitted; but the law officers gave it as their opinion that the efficacy of the measure was attributable to the fact that it was an Act of the Imperial Parliament, and had received the Queen's assent. The new constitution was brought into operation by proclamation in the *Government Gazette*, dated 23rd November, 1855. The first Premier (Colonial Secretary) was William Clark Haines.

The constitution thus brought into existence set up two houses of legislature, a Legislative Council and a Legislative Assembly. The Council consisted of 30 members, elected by six large provinces. A member was elected for ten years, and the Council as a whole could not be dissolved. One member for each district was to retire every two years. The elective principle for the Council was deliberately adopted, in contrast with the course followed under the New South Wales constitution of 1855, where the system of nomination was preferred. The qualification for election to the Council was the possession of freehold property to the value of £5,000, or worth £500 a year; a member had, also, to be 30 years of age. The Council could not amend a Bill for appropriating revenue or for imposing any duty or tax; but it was empowered to reject such a measure.

The Legislative Assembly under the 1855 constitution was composed of 60 members, and there were 37 constituencies. It was elected for five years. The qualification for membership was possession of freehold property to the value of £2,000, or worth £200 a year. The qualification of electors was possession of freehold property worth £50, or £5 per annum; or occupation of leasehold property worth £10 per annum; or the earning of a salary of £100 per annum; or the occupation of Crown lands for pastoral or mining purposes for the space of twelve

months. The Legislative Assembly was intrusted with the exclusive power of origination of all Bills appropriating revenue or imposing taxes, duties, and imposts.

Victoria in 1855. With this legislative machinery Victoria commenced at the end of 1855 to manage its own affairs under responsible government. It had at that time a population of nearly 320,000, and a public revenue of about £3,000,000. It was given complete control over an estate of 87,884 square miles—nearly the size of Great Britain—including some of the richest auriferous areas in the world, and lands of remarkable fertility. As yet few manufacturing industries had been established. Five years before the dawn of responsible government it had possessed little more than the pastoral industry and minor avocations consequent and dependent upon it. But the economic as well as the political character of the country had undergone rapid and sweeping changes. The enormous inrush of the gold-fields' population brought fresh ideas, additional requirements, and a powerful impetus to reconstruction almost before the new constitution had begun to work.

EARLY CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES.

The Ballot. Even before responsible government came into being, Victoria had made one of those changes which, from time to time, have invested her legislative experiments with interest for students of politics in other parts of the world. When, during the last weeks of the existence of the old Legislative Council, an Electoral Bill was under consideration for the purpose of bringing the new Parliament into existence, William Nicholson, member for North Bourke, proposed that voting should be by ballot. Haines, who had only very recently been selected by the Governor to be the first head of a constitutional Government, not only opposed the motion, but chose to make it a vital matter of Ministerial policy. Nicholson did not wish to displace the Government, but he insisted on pressing his ballot motion, which was carried by 33 votes to 25. Thereupon Haines resigned (December, 1855). The Governor, following constitutional usage, sent for Nicholson, who, however, was unable to form a workable Ministry. Haines thereupon agreed to resume office, and accepted the ballot clauses in the Electoral Bill. At this time, the ballot had not been adopted in connexion with electoral machinery in any part of the British Empire. The English Chartists had demanded the ballot as one of their "points." But whenever in the Imperial Parliament the reform had been proposed it was defeated. Victoria was thus a pioneer with respect to this method of voting; and, subsequently, in England and America, when the ballot was proposed, it was generally referred to as the Victorian or Australian ballot. Indeed, the new system was a signal success. The disorder and personal recrimination which had made the exercise of the franchise under the open voting system somewhat of an ordeal, were seen no more, and the election of

1856, though the popular interest in it was intense, was the quietest event of the kind that any who took part in it had ever seen.

The Constitution gave power to the Victorian Parliament "to repeal alter or vary" the Act itself; provided that the second and third readings of amending Bills were passed by an absolute majority of the Council and Assembly. The Parliament very soon exercised its power of amendment. In 1857 the property qualification for membership of the Legislative Assembly was abolished, and manhood suffrage was adopted; and in 1859 the duration of Parliament was reduced from five years to three. The number of members of the Assembly was increased from 60 to 78 (1858). A further increase to 86 members was made in 1876, and to 95 members in 1888. The number of members was reduced in 1903 to 68, and in 1906 to 65.

Manhood Suffrage. The franchise was conferred upon women by the Adult Suffrage Act of 1908, which applied to both Houses of the Legislature. On 30th August, 1899, plural voting was abolished, it being provided that no person should on any one day vote in more than one electoral district at an election for the Assembly. Plural voting is still, however, permissible in elections for the Upper House, but owing to the large area of the provinces, it is improbable that the right is exercised to any extent.

Women's Suffrage and Plural Voting.

Land. In 1857 land legislation began to assume an importance which transcended interest in constitutional reform. When responsible government in Victoria commenced, only 4,000,000 acres of land had passed into private ownership out of 56,000,000 acres which the colony contained. There had never been, on the south side of the Murray, those enormous alienations of land, as free grants or on very cheap terms, which had characterized public administration in the early years of New South Wales. The fact that the possibilities of Victoria were not realized till so late as 1835, prevented the giving away of large areas of the public estate. The settlement of Victoria fell within the period of "systematic colonization," which was profoundly influenced by the theories of Edward Gibbon Wakefield. Indeed, when it is remembered that immense estates were conferred upon individuals and corporations in New South Wales by favour and influence, the treatment accorded to such pioneers as John Batman and the Hentys in Victoria seems niggardly in the extreme. Batman's widow was not even allowed to keep the little plot of ground upon which he had erected a modest wooden cottage in his "village," and the claims of the Henty family to the land which they occupied at Portland were rather haughtily scorned by the austere authorities. Ultimately, after persistent appeals, the Hentys were granted land and monetary compensation to a total of £1,750; but that concession was made with ill grace.

Special Surveys. The first colonists of Victoria, in fact, were subject to the Land Regulations of 1831, which ordered that public lands were not to be disposed of otherwise than by public sale. In 1836 a special committee on colonial lands recommended that

the proceeds of land sales in Australia should be devoted to promoting emigration ; this, indeed, being one of Wakefield's essential principles. In order to give effect to this plan, the Imperial Government, in 1840, appointed a Board, called the Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners, who were charged with the duty of supervising land sales, and using the funds so obtained to assist emigrants to go to the colonies. Instructions issued by the Colonial Office, under the advice of these Commissioners, in 1840, directed that Port Phillip lands were to be sold at an uniform price of £1 per acre, except within established towns. The instructions did, however, apply to lands outside a 5-mile radius of towns. Investors who knew more about the position and prospects of the towns in this province than the Commissioners in London did, were quick to perceive that the purchase of suburban areas at £1 per acre would be highly remunerative. Henry Dendy, who paid in London £5,120 for 5,120 acres—8 square miles—of Port Phillip territory, in 1841, brought his land order out with him, and claimed the right to a "special survey" as near to the town of Melbourne as possible. He selected an area within the present town of Brighton. H. Elgar, who made a similar bargain with the Commissioners, selected eight square miles in what have since become populous suburbs east of Melbourne. Six other purchasers of land orders claimed to select eight square miles in other parts of Port Phillip, and the Superintendent, Latrobe, had to meet their demands, and cause "special surveys" to be made, because their land orders had the authority of the Imperial Government behind them. But it was obvious that if this policy were permitted to continue, the most valuable lands in the vicinity of Melbourne, Geelong, Williamstown, and other promising settlements would soon pass into the hands of private owners at absurdly low prices. Governor Gipps therefore intervened, and took the responsibility of refusing to permit a free choice to be exercised under any more land orders of the kind ; and the Colonial Secretary, perceiving by this time that a mistake had been made, ratified his action.

**The
Minimum
Price.**

Amended land regulations were issued in 1842, under the Crown Land Sales Act, directing that Port Phillip lands were to be sold by auction at a minimum price of £1 per acre. But land sales at this price did not meet the case of squatters who required large areas upon which to depasture their sheep ; and the squatting question became acute after 1842. After much agitation among interested persons, in England as well as in Australia, regulations were issued in 1847. These regulations applied to the whole of New South Wales, including the Port Phillip District, and they divided the whole of the lands into three categories—settled, intermediate, and unsettled. The "settled" areas of Port Phillip were lands within a radius of 25 miles of Melbourne, 15 of Geelong, and 10 of Portland. "Intermediate" areas were lands within the counties of Bourke, Grant, and Normanby, and within the squatting districts of Gippsland. The "unsettled" areas were all those not included within those just

mentioned. In "settled" areas pastoral runs might only be leased for one year; in "intermediate" areas for no longer than eight years; in "unsettled" areas for fourteen years. Not more than 600 square miles of Crown land in Port Phillip had been alienated before the separation of Victoria from New South Wales in 1850, and though the regulations of 1847 gave to the squatters the pre-emptive right to purchase parts of their runs in intermediate and unsettled areas, the right had, up to 1854, only been availed of to the extent of 300,000 acres, for all of which a minimum of £1 per acre had been paid. On the other hand, squatting licences had been availed of, up to 1855, to the extent of depasturing five million head of sheep and close upon half-a-million head of cattle on a thousand licensed runs.

When responsible government was conferred upon Victoria (1855), the Imperial Parliament repealed the Crown Land Acts, and thus threw upon the newly-erected Parliament of the colony the whole responsibility for land legislation. The list of Land Bills considered and Acts passed, from the time of the first Haines Ministry to very recent times, is very long; and the purposes which the various measures were intended to secure illustrate the phases of development through which Victoria has passed. Efforts to provide easy facilities for men of small means to settle on farms were made as early as the Land Act of 1860, introduced by James Service. The Duffy Land Act of 1862 opened ten million acres of land for settlement in agricultural areas, and permitted selectors to pay for their holdings on easy terms; but they were required to make substantial improvements. An amending Act of 1865 was designed to prevent settlers from selling their holdings, and it did not permit the fee-simple to be acquired till the settler had resided three years and effected improvements to the value of £1 per acre. A consolidating Land Act of 1869 reduced the size of agricultural areas from 640 to 320 square acres, and made improvements in details of administration, always with the object of promoting agricultural settlement and increasing the stability of the farming class. A new class of measure appeared in 1883, in the shape of the first Mallee Lands Act. The north-western area of Victoria, a light soil covered with mallee scrub, had been regarded in earlier years as useless country. But pastoralists were extending their operations, and discovered that the mallee contained valuable grazing land. A little later, large wheat-growing areas were opened up in the same part of the country. A large consolidating Lands Act, of 1890, classified the lands of the colony into eight divisions, according to their quality and capabilities. Another phase of land legislation commenced in 1898, when the first of a series of measures was introduced to enable privately-owned lands to be purchased by the Government for purposes of closer settlement. Thus, within a little over half a century, the country passed through a series of remarkably rapid changes in regard to its territory. First, there was the period of unauthorized occupation; next, the period of regulated occupation in large areas for pastoral

**Land
Legislation.**

purposes; thirdly, the period of the beginning of agricultural settlement; fourthly, the period of the rapid absorption of the most fertile lands by selectors and other purchasers; fifthly, the period when the demand for cultivable areas was in excess of the supply, and the attention of Governments had to be directed to schemes of repurchase.

THE CONSTITUTIONAL QUARRELS.

Protection. For about sixteen years, from 1864 to 1880, Victoria was in a condition of bitter political turmoil, arising out of disputes between the two Legislative Houses; and these disputes themselves afforded violent evidence of the emergence of new political forces which completely changed the policy of the country. A strong party had arisen, consisting largely of workers in town industries and miners, which advocated the imposition of Customs duties on goods which could be manufactured in Victoria. Its purpose was to protect local manufactures. This party was strong enough at a general election in 1864 to return to the Legislative Assembly a majority favorable to the Protective policy; and the Ministry of James McCulloch, which had come into office before the election, and was strengthened by the verdict of the country, determined to bring forward a Protective Tariff. The opposition to this policy was, however, very vigorous and influential, and McCulloch was aware that it was well represented in the Legislative Council. A measure which he introduced to reform that House by reducing the property qualification and shortening the ten years' period for which its members were elected to five, met with so swift a rejection from the Council that McCulloch was left in no doubt about the attitude of the House towards the policy of his Government. Calculating that the Tariff would meet with a similar fate, he determined to adopt the bold course of "tacking" it to the annual Appropriation Bill. There was no provision of the written Victorian Constitution which forbade this device, though "tacking" was repugnant to British constitutional practice. The Council was debarred from amending a Bill imposing taxation or appropriating revenue, though it might reject such a measure. The "tack" was, however, taken as a challenge to the Council's legislative powers, and the House refused to pass the Bill, on the ground that it was contrary to constitutional usage and to the practice of Parliament "to introduce any clause or clauses of aid or supply, or any foreign matter, into a Bill of appropriation" (May, 1865). Thus commenced one of the bitterest constitutional struggles in modern history, and one which has ever since been a subject of interest to writers on parliamentary government.

McCulloch's device of borrowing money from a bank to carry on the ordinary functions of government, and allowing the bank to sue for its recovery; the sending up of the Tariff apart from the Appropriation Bill, and its rejection because of its inclusion of clauses which the Council held to be foreign to its purpose; the appeal to the country at a general election (1866), and the return of a majority of the Assembly

favorable to McCulloch's policy; the rejection again of the Tariff by the Council; McCulloch's resignation, and the formal pledge of the Assembly that it would withhold support from any Ministry which did not press forward an Appropriation Bill containing the Tariff; and the final conference between the two Houses, which led to the elimination of the offending provisions from the Appropriation Bill, and the acceptance of the Tariff by the Council as a separate measure—these were the main features of a parliamentary conflict which was full of exciting incidents.

The Tariff struggle was immediately followed by another, not less intense in bitterness, with reference to a grant voted by the Assembly to Governor Darling. He had incurred the censure of the Colonial Office for his management of affairs during the Tariff quarrel, and the condemnation was conveyed in such terms as made it plain that he would not receive another appointment after his recall from Victoria. The proposed grant took the form of a sum of £20,000 to be paid to Lady Darling. But the Government included the item in the ordinary Appropriation Bill, whereas the Legislative Council held that it ought to have formed the subject of a separate measure. Thus another furious quarrel was precipitated, which, fortunately, the Imperial Government ended in 1868 by granting to Sir Charles Darling a pension of £1,000 per annum for life.

Darling Grant.

Immediately after these quarrels—in September, 1868—the Legislative Council passed a measure reforming its own constitution. The term of election was reduced to six years; the property qualification of members was lowered from £5,000 capital value, or £500 per annum value, to one-half those amounts; and the qualification of electors was reduced from £1,000 capital value, or £100 per annum, to an annual value of £50. This remained the standard till 1881, when the property qualification of Council members was again reduced, the requirement of the Act of that year being that a member should have possessed freehold estate in Victoria of a clear annual value of £100 for one year "previously to" his election; whilst the qualifications of electors were both lowered and broadened.

Reform of Constitution.

Another historical constitutional quarrel began in 1877, with reference to a proposal to make payment of members the permanent rule in Victoria. Two Acts had previously been passed (1870 and 1874) making provision for the payment of members temporarily, but the Council was not favorable to the principle, and had been reluctant to pass a permanent measure for the purpose. The Ministry of Graham Berry, which came into office in May, 1877, proposed to give permanence to the policy, and chose to do it by including the necessary money (£18,000) in the Appropriation Bill. The Council, maintaining its attitude of refusal to permit extraneous measures to be included amongst votes for ordinary annual services, laid aside the Bill. Again public feeling

Payment of Members.

was intense. The memorable feature of this struggle was the pressure put upon the Council by Berry through the dismissal from office of a large number of public servants, including County Court Judges, police magistrates, departmental secretaries, and others. The day on which these dismissals took place, 8th January, 1878, was called "Black Wednesday." Berry's professed reason was that it was necessary to reduce expenditure because of the refusal of the Council to pass the Appropriation Bill. It was not doubted, however, that his real purpose was to exercise pressure. The immediate effect of the wholesale dismissals was to reduce the value of property and securities and cause a mild commercial panic. In order to meet necessary and urgent demands upon the Treasury, Berry induced the Assembly to resolve that "all votes or grants passed in Committee of Supply become legally available for expenditure immediately the resolutions are agreed to by the Assembly." In accordance with this resolution, Governor Bowen signed "Treasury warrants," which enabled Berry to draw upon the revenue without the authority of an Appropriation Act. Shortly afterwards intermediaries arranged a means of settlement, and the Assembly withdrew the extraneous items from the Appropriation Bill, whilst the Council passed the Payment of Members Bill as a separate measure (March, 1878). Subsequently the legal advisers to the Imperial Government, who reviewed the facts of the case, laid down the principle that the Legislative Assembly was not justified in inserting a question of principle into an ordinary Appropriation Bill; and that public officials were not warranted in collecting taxes on the mere vote of the Legislative Assembly, nor in making payments which had not been authorized by Statute.

INDUSTRIAL LEGISLATION.

Factories. One of the reasons advanced for the Payment of Members Bill was that it would enable the industrial classes, miners, and farmers to secure direct representation by men of their own kind in the Legislature. The fact that such a demand was made, together with the achievement of the Protective policy, indicate that Victoria had passed far over the threshold of the grazing and agriculture stage of development, and that manufacturing interests were now prominent in the community. Five years after the inauguration of responsible government, there were only 4,000 factory hands in Victoria. In 1880 there were over 40,000. This development necessitated legislation for the proper conduct of factories and workshops. The Trade Union movement commenced in 1850 with the formation of a society of stonemasons, a considerable number of artisans following that calling having been introduced for work upon the granite arches of Prince's-bridge, Melbourne, which was formally opened by Governor Latrobe on 15th November, 1850.

**Eight
Hours
Day.**

It was a mason, James Stephens, who initiated the Eight Hours working day movement. Stephens, like so many more Australian colonists of the fifties, had been an English

Chartist, and though, it is true, the Eight Hours Day was not one of the "six points" of the Charter, it was an industrial demand which was generally made by English unionists at that period. Stephens commenced to agitate for an eight hours day shortly after he came to Victoria in 1851, and it was in connexion with the erection of the Melbourne University buildings in 1856 that he brought the demand to a head and secured the recognition of the principle. The original eight hours banner, made for the purpose of a demonstration by the masons and other building trade workers in 1856, is still in existence.

The first Victorian Factories Act was not passed till 1873. It was a very mild measure, prohibiting the employment of women in factories for more than eight hours, and its administration was intrusted to the local Boards of Health. A much more comprehensive Factories Act was passed in 1885, by which time there had been a marked expansion of industrial activities. The Act followed English legislation in making provision for Government inspection, insuring sanitary conditions and the general regulation of workshops. This was the foundation measure upon which several amendments were made in later years.

But the Victorian industrial legislation which has attracted most attention from students in other parts of the world is the Wages Board system. A Board of Inquiry appointed to inquire into the subject of "sweating" in certain industries revealed a condition of affairs so unsatisfactory that the Turner Government in 1895 considered that machinery was required for insuring humane conditions of employment. The Chief Secretary in that Administration, Alexander Peacock, devised the system of appointing Boards, consisting of equal numbers of employers and employees, presided over by independent chairmen, in particular trades. As an experiment in industrial politics the project evoked great interest, and the working of it has been carefully studied by many sociologists. In the Act of 1895, provision for the appointment of Wages Boards was made only in respect of the manufacture of women's blouses, men's shirts and slops, and women's underclothing; but the success of the experiment led to the extension of the method to about 130 industries.

POLITICAL.

The line of party cleavage in Victorian politics has shifted several times, and each change of the kind has naturally corresponded with the broadly marked periods of the country's development. In the early years of responsible government, land questions were of pre-eminent importance. The interests of squatters, who required land in large areas for grazing, clashed with those of farmers who desired land for cultivation purposes. "Unlock the lands" was the battle-cry in the fifties and early sixties. The very large size of the areas represented by the members of the Legislative

Council, naturally gave to that House the complexion of favouring the cause of the squatters. When alluvial gold mining declined in yields, and thousands of miners had to seek other avocations, the desire to extend the range and variety of the industries of Victoria presented itself in the form of a demand for Protection. The new cleavage lay between Free Traders and Protectionists, and this line determined the trend of politics more or less continually from 1864 till 1900, when Victoria became a State of the Commonwealth, and her Parliament ceased to exercise control over a local Tariff.

Labour Party. Payment of members did, as it was intended to do, enable the working classes to send their own representatives to Parliament; but the early Labour members, though acting together, were virtually an advanced wing of the Protectionist party, with a natural inclination to emphasize the interests of trade unionists. They were hardly a separate party in the sense of having aims distinct from those of the party with which they almost invariably worked and voted. Thus, W. A. Trenwith, who was President of the Melbourne Trades Hall Council in 1888, and afterwards member for Richmond in the Legislative Assembly, acted as leader of the Labour party in Parliament, but was not an advocate of independent Labour party action. The distinct cleavage between Labour politics and other parties and groups in Victoria occurred after the establishment of the Commonwealth. Numerically, however, the Labour party was strengthened after the great maritime strike of 1890, which commenced in Melbourne, and showed its effects so widely as to affect every industry and every colony in Australia. The Labour party, under the leadership of G. M. Prendergast, maintained itself according to circumstances as an independent opposition or an independent supporter of Ministries, after 1900; and in 1913, under the leadership of G. A. Elmslie, for the first time attained to office, though the Elmslie Administration was too short-lived to achieve any legislative or administrative work.

PUBLIC POLICY.

Burke and Wills. The public spirit of Victorian citizens led them, throughout the years under responsible government, to interest themselves in projects for the welfare of Australia as a whole. One of the most famous of Australian exploring expeditions, that associated with the names of Burke and Wills, was promoted and financed in Victoria (1860-1), though its chosen sphere of activity was far beyond Victorian territory.

Immigration Restriction. In view of the fact that since Federation public opinion has solidified in support of the policy of excluding undesirable immigrants from Australia, it is interesting to observe that the first colonial legislation on such lines was passed in Victoria. One of the burning questions which agitated the minds of the Port Phillip people, when the elections for the first Legislative Council took place in 1851, was that of imposing obstacles to the incursion of exprees from Van Diemen's Land, and many of the candidates in their election

addresses promised to support restrictive legislation. The Convicts Prevention Act debarred ticket-of-leave holders from entering the colony, and required immigrants from Van Diemen's Land to produce evidence of their absolute freedom, failing which they were to be treated as convicts, and placed under arrest. The Lieutenant-Governor, Latrobe, hesitated to give his assent to a measure which was without a precedent in any British colony, but public opinion was so strong, and the danger of allowing the gold-fields to be overrun by criminals was so great, that he signified the Royal assent. When, however, a copy of the Act reached the Colonial Office, the Secretary of State intervened; but, as he did not wish positively to disallow the Act, he suggested the introduction of an amending Bill, eliminating certain provisions to which he directed attention. So far, however, from the Legislative Council being inclined to weaken the original measure, they inserted in the amending Bill clauses making it much more stringent. The Council was strongly supported by a public meeting held in Melbourne, which protested that "the Sovereign of the British realms neither hath, nor ought to have, any right, prerogative, or power, warranting the letting loose in the colony of Victoria of the convicted criminals of other countries or colonies." The Council refused to modify its attitude at the dictation of the Secretary of State, and the Colonial Office did not persist in its antagonism. The Act, therefore, remained in operation.

Chinese. After the responsible government era, the influx of Chinese created alarm. The gold-fields attracted over 25,000 Chinese immigrants within four years, and they continued to arrive by every ship. The first Legislative Council sought to stem the tide by imposing a poll tax of £10 per head on every Chinese immigrant. Further legislation was passed from time to time, but the poll tax was abolished in 1865. The agitation against the Chinese again became intense at the beginning of the eighties. By that time, the thousands who had in earlier years found a living on the gold-fields had, owing to the decline of alluvial diggings, drifted into other avocations, and several city industries, notably cabinet-making, felt the pinch of cheap labour competition. In 1881 the Victorian Parliament, acting in conjunction with that of New South Wales, not only reimposed the £10 poll tax, but prohibited ships from bringing in more than one Chinese passenger for every 100 tons of the vessel's burthen. The validity of this legislation was tested in the case of *Ah Toy* versus *Musgrave*. In 1888, Ah Toy, a Hong Kong merchant, was debarred from entering Victoria, and he brought an action against the Collector of Customs, Musgrave, who administered the exclusion Act. A majority of the Judges of the Supreme Court of Victoria decided in his favour; but the Government appealed to the Privy Council, which reversed the decision, and laid down the principle that British colonies were empowered to legislate to exclude aliens. After Federation, the control of immigration passed into the hands of the Commonwealth Government.

Commercial Crises.

The rapid commercial expansion of Victoria has been checked temporarily, but never seriously set back, by a few financial crises. The first of these happened in 1841-3, and was a consequence of gambling in land values. The practice of putting up for sale by auction selected areas of land caused intense competition, and high prices were obtained. Such a sale—the last of the kind—took place in 1840. Immediately after came the order of the Colonial Office that colonial lands were to be sold at a fixed price of £1 per acre. At once there was a slump in values, and those who had borrowed money in order to buy land at high prices were pressed to pay. The bubble burst, ruin for many ensued, and for a while enterprise was crippled. The next crisis occurred during the flush of the gold discoveries. The sensational finds, and the overwhelming inrush of population, occasioned an enormous flow of imports to Victoria. Goods arrived faster, and in greater bulk, than they could be handled. The normal channels of trade were swollen and gorged with merchandise. Commodities deteriorated on the wharfs because they could not be conveyed to the distant places where they might have been sold. The goods which did get released were not always those which were useful. Merchants and traders lost heavily, and this in the very years—1853-4—when fortunes were being dug out of Ballarat and Bendigo. The imports in the years just mentioned totalled £79 and £70 per head of the population respectively. (For purposes of comparison it may be noted that the total Victorian imports in 1900 were valued at £15 per head of the population.) The losses were severe. It has been calculated that at least 20 per cent. of the imports were lost or destroyed, so that, notwithstanding the enormous gold exports, Victoria was left, during the years of glut, with a heavy trade balance against her.

The greatest period of commercial depression and financial paralysis sustained by Victoria occurred in 1892-3, following what was popularly known as the Land Boom. Extraordinary amounts of borrowed capital had poured into the colony during the seven or eight preceding years. The Government, municipalities, and public bodies borrowed millions from Great Britain. At the same time, millions of money were privately borrowed for investment. Land banks and building societies were created, with abundant money to lend, and extraordinary competition for suburban lands sent up values to unheard-of altitudes. When the regular banks became cautious and refused to advance more money on the security of real estate, the newly-created land banks readily obtained more millions from speculators in Great Britain; and more and more suburban lands were sold. A sharp financial crisis in London in 1890—due to the failure of the great house of Baring—suddenly restricted lendings to Victoria. The greater part of the money already lent had not been invested in remunerative industries, but had been used to inflate land values for speculative purposes. When one of the most active of the building societies, which had received hundreds of thousands of pounds from investors, suspended

payment, and it was found that its realizable assets were of trifling value, public confidence was shaken, and soon the whole edifice of credit was shattered. Bankruptcies were numerous, many of the so-called banks collapsed, and the shock of the failure was so severe that in 1893 most of the ordinary banks were forced into reconstruction. The blow to credit caused by the collapse was severe, and the efforts of legitimate industry were partially paralyzed. But Victoria showed herself in this as in other crises to be a country of remarkably rapid recuperative power. Her natural resources were so great and the energy of her people so adaptable that within a year or two the collapse of the land boom was an unpleasant memory of events which had impressed salutary lessons.

VICTORIA AND THE COMMONWEALTH.

The movement for the Federation of Australia received powerful support in Victoria. Indeed, the impetus which at length drove the movement to successful fruition, had its origin in this State. That this should have been so is remarkable, in view of the very strong insistence on the separation of the Port Phillip District from New South Wales just before the end of the first half of the nineteenth century. The two tendencies—one separatist, the other Federal—might at first glance seem to be inconsistent. But in reality they were not. In the forties, when communication between Sydney and Melbourne was slow, the interests of the two communities were different. Over 600 miles of territory lay between them. South of the Murrumbidgee, the natural "pull" of trade was towards Melbourne; north of the river, it was towards Sydney. But railways and improved sea carriage, in effect, cut down the distance. Moreover, the development of the industries of Victoria soon enabled manufacturers to meet the demands of the local market, whilst their capacity for production was in excess of local demands. They required the wider scope which Free Trade between the States—a necessary concomitant of Federation—would secure for them. The Australian Natives Association, too—an organization of Victorian origin—was eager for Federation. The early history of the Federal movement, and its several misfortunes, are connected principally with the politics of New South Wales; but it was a Victorian, John Quick, who in 1893 furnished the scheme upon which at length the cause advanced until the Commonwealth of Australia came into being in 1901. Quick propounded the plan of electing a Federal Convention, representative of the people of all the States, charged with the duty of preparing a Constitution; and this Constitution was to be submitted directly to the people for their acceptance or rejection. The plan worked, despite some delays and hindrances. New South Wales, after the Bill had passed the Convention, took exception to the provision in it which would have enabled the Federal Parliament to exercise a free choice in the selection of a Federal Capital. At the first referendum, in 1898, whilst in Victoria 100,520 votes were cast for the Bill and only

**Federal
Movement.**

22,099 against it, in New South Wales, 71,965 affirmative and 66,228 negative votes were cast. The New South Wales Parliament, however, had insisted that at least 80,000 affirmative votes should be recorded in order that the Commonwealth Bill might be accepted, and as this number was not recorded, the 1898 referendum simply brought matters to a stand-still.

It was again Victoria, through her Premier, Sir George Turner, which supplied the fresh impetus. It was clear that in New South Wales the real stumbling block was the Federal Capital clause. Many in that State feared that if the Federal Parliament were allowed to exercise a free choice, it would select a piece of territory in Victoria. In this State it was considered that the Federal cause was greater than any local matter of pride or jealousy; and at a conference of Premiers, held at Melbourne in January, 1899, Sir George Turner agreed to the amendment of the Federal Capital provision by the insertion of the condition that the capital must be in New South Wales, but not within 100 miles of Sydney. Pending the building of a capital, however, the Seat of Government was to be in Melbourne. Other alterations in the original Bill were made at the same time, but it was well understood that the insuring of the capital to New South Wales would make all the difference in the reception of the Federal project there. Such, indeed, proved to be the case, and at the second referendum in June, 1899, the Bill was carried in New South Wales by 107,420 votes to 82,741. In Victoria the affirmative majority was larger than before, there being 152,653 votes for the Bill and 9,805 against it.

Upon the achievement of Federation, the Parliament of Victoria offered its parliamentary buildings to the Federal Parliament, and the Government of the State offered Government House as a residence for the Governor-General of the Commonwealth. The use of these great buildings was accepted by the Federal Government, which, since the establishment of the Government, has been in occupation of them. The first meeting of the Federal Parliament, however, was held in the Melbourne Exhibition Building, where its proceedings were ceremoniously opened by H.R.H. the Duke of Cornwall and York, on behalf of King Edward VII., on 9th May, 1901.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF LEADING EVENTS IN VICTORIAN HISTORY.

The following are the dates of some of the principal events connected with the discovery and history of Victoria:—

Principal events.	1770. 19th April.—Victorian land first discovered by Capt. James Cook, R.N., in command of His Majesty's ship <i>Endeavour</i> .—("Point Hicks," believed to be the present Cape Everard in Gippsland.)
-------------------	---

1798. 4th June.—Western Port first entered by Surgeon George Bass, R.N.
- „ Nov. and Dec.—Discovery of Bass Strait, Midshipman Matthew Flinders, R.N., accompanied by Bass, having sailed round Tasmania in the sloop *Norfolk*.
1800. 4th to 9th Dec.—Lieutenant James Grant, R.N., in H.M.S. *Lady Nelson*, a gun brig of sixty tons burthen, bound from England to Port Jackson, first sailed through Bass Strait from the west. During the voyage Grant discovered and named Capes Bridgewater, Nelson, and Sir William Grant; Portland Bay; the Lawrence and Lady Julia Percy Islands; Capes Otway, Patton, Liptrap, &c.
1802. 5th January.—Port Phillip Bay discovered by Acting-Lieutenant John Murray, R.N., in the *Lady Nelson*. The launch (under Lieutenant John Bowen) entered the Heads on 2nd, and the ship on 15th February.
- „ 26th April.—Port Phillip Bay entered and examined by Flinders, who had been promoted to the rank of Commander. He was not aware that the Bay had been previously discovered by Murray.
1803. Jan. and Feb.—Port Phillip Bay surveyed, and the Yarra and Saltwater Rivers discovered, by Charles Grimes, Surveyor-General of New South Wales.
- „ 7th October.—Attempt made to colonize Port Phillip by Colonel David Collins, in charge of a party of convicts.
1804. 27th January.—Port Phillip abandoned by Collins as unfit for settlement.
1824. 16th December.—Hume and Hovell arrived at Corio Bay, having travelled overland from Sydney.
1826. 11th December.—An attempt to colonize Western Port, on its eastern side, near the site of the present township of Corinella, was made by Captain S. Wright, of H.M. 3rd Regiment, in charge of a party of convicts. The locality being sterile and scrubby, the establishment was withdrawn early in 1828.
1834. 19th November.—Permanent settlement founded at Portland Bay by Edward Henty.
1835. 29th May.—John Batman arrived in Port Phillip and made a treaty with the natives, by which they granted him 600,000 acres of land. The Imperial Government, however, refused to ratify the treaty.
- „ 28th August.—John Pascoe Fawkner's party sailed up the Yarra in the *Enterprise*, and settled on the site previously selected by Batman. (Fawkner followed shortly after, and landed on the 18th October.)
1835. 28th August.—Proclamation by Sir Richard Bourke, claiming Port Phillip as part of New South Wales.
1836. April to Oct.—Major (afterwards Lieutenant-Colonel Sir) Thomas Livingstone Mitchell made extensive explorations in the Port Phillip District, the western portion of which he named Australia Felix.
- „ 29th September.—Regular Government established under Captain William Lonsdale, who was sent from Sydney to act as Resident Magistrate of the Port Phillip District.
1837. First post office established in Melbourne.
- „ 2nd March.—Governor Sir Richard Bourke arrived from Sydney and gave the name, Melbourne, to the principal town in the new settlement.

1837. 1st June.—First sale of Crown lands in Melbourne. Average price of half-acre town lots, £35.
1838. First Presbyterian minister, Rev. J. Forbes, arrived at Melbourne.
- .. 1st January.—*The Melbourne Advertiser* first published.
- .. 12th September.—First census of the colony. Population enumerated, 3,511, viz., 3,080 males and 431 females.
1839. 6th May.—Death of John Batman, one of the founders of Melbourne, aged 36 years.
- .. 28th May.—Angus Macmillan's first journey into Gippsland.
- .. 30th September.—Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe arrived from Sydney and took charge of the Port Phillip District under the title of Superintendent.
1840. Jan.-Feb.—Macmillan's journey through Gippsland (which he called Caledonia-Australis) to Lakes Entrance.
- .. 28th May.—Count Paul Strzelecki reached Melbourne after journey through Gippsland.
1841. January.—Dendy's special survey of Brighton, and other special surveys.
- .. 8th February.—The first resident Judge appointed for Port Phillip.
- .. 1st September.—Savings Banks established in Melbourne.
1842. 12th August.—Melbourne incorporated as a Town by Act of the Legislature of New South Wales 6 Vict. No. 7.
- .. 9th December.—Henry Condell elected first Mayor of Melbourne.
1843. 13th September.—Subdivision of Port Phillip into four squatting districts.
1844. 24th December.—Petition for separation sent from Port Phillip to England.
1846. 2nd June.—*Argus* newspaper founded.
1847. 26th June.—Royal Letters Patent, proclaiming Melbourne a City, were signed.
1848. 23rd January.—Dr. Perry, first Anglican Bishop of Melbourne, arrived in Port Phillip.
1849. 8th August.—The *Randolph* prevented from landing convicts in Melbourne.
- .. 12th October.—Geelong incorporated as a Town by Act of the Legislature of New South Wales 13 Vict. No. 40.
1850. 3rd July.—Construction of first Australian railway commenced at Sydney.
1850. 5th August.—Passing of the Separation Act.
1851. 6th February.—"Black Thursday."—A day of tremendous heat and destructive fire, whereby a large tract of country was devastated. Several lives were lost, numbers of sheep, cattle, and horses perished, and a vast amount of property was destroyed.
- .. 1st July.—Port Phillip separated from New South Wales and created an independent colony, named Victoria, in honour of the Queen.
- .. July and Aug.—Discovery of gold in Victoria.
1852. 10th February.—Supreme Court of Victoria established.
- Great rush of immigrants to Victoria.
1853. 3rd January.—Bank of Victoria opened.
- .. 8th February.—Road districts (the origin of the present shires) established by Act 16 Vict. No. 40.
1854. *Age* newspaper founded.
- .. 22nd June.—End of Governor Latrobe's administration; Sir Charles Hotham's Governorship commenced.

1854. 3rd July.—Foundation stone of Melbourne University laid.
 „ 12th September.—Melbourne and Hobson's Bay railway opened for traffic.
 „ Nov. and Dec.—Riots on Ballarat gold-field. (Eureka stockade taken on the 3rd December.)
 „ 29th December.—Municipal institutions established by Act 18 Vict. No. 15.
1855. 12th March.—Electric telegraph first used.
 „ 23rd November.—Constitution proclaimed in Victoria.
 „ 18th December.—Voting by ballot first proposed in Legislative Council.
1856. 11th February.—Opening of Melbourne Public Library.
 „ 19th March.—The ballot as a means of electing members of both Houses of Parliament prescribed by Act 19 Vict. No. 12.
 „ 21st April.—Inauguration of eight hours system in building trades of Melbourne.
 „ 21st November.—Meeting of first Parliament under responsible government.
 „ 26th December.—Sir Henry Barkly sworn in as Governor.
1857. 27th August.—Property qualification of members of the Legislative Assembly abolished by Act 21 Vict. No. 12.
 „ 24th November.—Universal manhood suffrage for electors of the Legislative Assembly made law by Act 21 Vict. No. 33.
1858. 17th December.—Number of members of the Legislative Assembly increased to 78, to be returned for 49 Electoral Districts.
1860. 20th August.—Burke and Wills started from Melbourne on their ill-starred expedition across Australia, to die at Cooper's Creek on their return journey in the following June.
1861. Burke and Wills perish at Cooper's Creek, near Innamincka, South Australia.
 „ Torrens Land Transfer Act introduced in Victoria.
1862. September.—Council of Education appointed.
 „ 20th October.—Bendigo railway opened.
1863. 11th September.—Sir Charles Darling sworn in as Governor.
1865. 28th May.—Death of Angus Macmillan, Gippsland explorer.
 „ 25th July.—Deadlock in Victorian Parliament, owing to the Legislative Assembly tacking a Tariff Bill to the Appropriation Bill, which was laid aside by the Legislative Council.
1866. Sir Charles Darling re-called.
 „ 15th August.—Sir J. H. Manners-Sutton (Viscount Canterbury) sworn in as Governor.
1867. 6th February.—Customs Tariff imposing import duties on a number of articles, with a view of affording protection to native industries, came into operation under Act 31 Vict. No. 306.
 „ 14th August.—Beginning of the Lady Darling grant deadlock. During the eleven months it continued, all Government accounts remained unpaid.
 „ 23rd November.—Duke of Edinburgh arrived in Melbourne.
1868. 10th June.—Transportation to Australasia ceased.
1869. 1st January.—Property qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council reduced by Act 32 Vict. No. 334.
 „ 4th September.—Death of John Pascoe Fawkner, one of the founders of Melbourne, aged 77 years.

1870. 24th June.—Death of Adam Lindsay Gordon.
 „ Wilberforce Stephen's Education Act passed.
 „ June-July.—Federal Conference was held at Melbourne.
 „ 29th December.—Payment of members of Parliament provided for by temporary Act.
1871. 17th May.—Import duties on many articles increased, with the view of affording further protection to native industry.
1872. 12th June.—Branch of Royal Mint opened in Melbourne.
1873. 1st January.—A system of free, secular, and compulsory education introduced.
 „ 31st March.—Sir George Bowen sworn in as Governor.
1875. 31st December.—State aid to religion withdrawn in Victoria.
1876. 2nd November.—Number of members of the Legislative Assembly increased to 86, and boundaries of Electoral Districts altered so as to increase the number to 55, by Act 40 Vict. No. 548.
1877. 11th January.—Installation of Rev. Dr. Moorhouse as Anglican Bishop of Melbourne.
1878. 8th January.—“Black Wednesday.” Wholesale dismissal of public servants.
 „ 27th March.—Payment of Members Bill passed by Legislative Council, after a long conflict between the two Houses.
 „ 1st July.—Purchase of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay railway by Government.
1879. 27th February.—Marquis of Normanby sworn in as Governor.
1880. 6th February.—Fortnightly mail contract service between Victoria and England commenced.
 „ 22nd March.—Women admitted to Melbourne University under Act passed in 1879.
 „ 13th April.—Foundation stone of the new Anglican Cathedral laid.
 „ June.—Capture of the Kelly Gang.
 „ 1st October.—First Victorian International Exhibition opened in Melbourne.
 „ 23rd November.—Death of Sir Redmond Barry.
 „ Nov.-Dec.—Federal Conference, Melbourne, decided on Chinese restriction.
1881. 28th November.—Property qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council further reduced, number of provinces increased to 14, of members to 42, and tenure of seats fixed at 6 instead of 10 years.
1883. 1st November.—Public Service Act passed.
 „ 14th June.—Railway, Melbourne to Sydney, completed.
1884. 1st February.—Victorian railways placed under the control and management of three Commissioners, under Act 47 Vict. No. 767.
 „ 15th July.—Sir Henry Loch sworn in as Governor.
1885. 9th December.—Imperial Act constituting a Federal Council of Australasia brought into operation in respect to Victoria by Act 49 Vict. No. 843.
1886. 25th January.—Federal Council initiated, first session being at Hobart.
1888. 1st February.—Weekly mail contract service between Australia and England commenced by vessels of the Peninsular and Oriental and Orient services running alternately.
 „ 1st August.—Second Victorian International Exhibition opened in Melbourne.

1888. 22nd December.—Number of members of the Legislative Council increased to 48, and number of members of the Legislative Assembly to 95; electoral districts altered from 55 to 84, nearly all of them being single electorates.
1889. 28th November.—Lord Hopetoun sworn in as Governor.
1890. 16th August.—Great maritime strike commenced in Melbourne.
1891. 2nd March.—Federal Conference at Sydney.
1892. 17th March.—Railway Commissioners suspended by the Government.
1893. April and May.—Financial panic. Four banks and a number of other financial institutions stopped payment.
1894. Central Federation League established in Melbourne.
1895. January.—Conference at Hobart of the Premiers of Australia, when it was decided to commit the duty of framing a Federal Constitution to a convention chosen by the electors.
- .. 25th October.—Lord Brassey sworn in as Governor.
- Wages Boards system established.
1896. March.—Federal Enabling Acts passed by all the States except Queensland.
1897. 2nd March.—Australian Federal Convention opened in Adelaide.
1898. 20th January to
.. 3rd June.—Federal Convention held its third session in Melbourne.
.. 3rd June.—Federal Referendum Bill submitted to the electors of Victoria, New South Wales, and Queensland. The reference to the other States was made at a subsequent date.
1899. 28th January.—Conference of Premiers of all the Australian Colonies and Tasmania held in Melbourne, to consider the amendments suggested in the Draft Commonwealth Bill by the Parliament of New South Wales, at which a compromise was arrived at.
- .. 27th July.—Amended Commonwealth Bill approved at referendum in Victoria by 152,653 votes against 9,805.
- .. 28th October.—First Victorian troops left for South African war.
1900. 9th July.—Queen assented to Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900.
- .. 25th December.—Mr. Barton formed first Federal Ministry.
- LEADING EVENTS IN VICTORIAN AND OTHER HISTORY.**
1901. 1st January.—Official proclamation of Commonwealth of Australia.
- .. 18th January.—Old-age pensions came into force in Victoria.
- .. 22nd January.—Death of Queen Victoria. Accession of King Edward VII. His Majesty's coronation took place on 9th August, 1902.
- .. 9th May.—Duke of Cornwall and York opened first Federal Parliament in Exhibition Building, Melbourne.
- .. 8th October.—Inter-State free-trade established by the introduction of a provisional Tariff by resolution of the Commonwealth House of Representatives.
- .. 10th December.—Sir George Clarke (Lord Sydenham) sworn in as Governor.
1902. 1st January.—Methodist churches formed into one united body.
- .. 1st June.—South African War; peace announced.
- Last year of severe drought in Australia, which had extended over several years.
1903. Break up of drought followed by a record harvest.
- .. 5th October.—Sir Samuel Griffith (Chief Justice), Sir E. Barton, and Mr. R. E. O'Connor appointed Judges of first High Court of Australia.

1904. 25th April.—Sir Reginald Talbot sworn in as Governor.
 „ 15th December.—Assent given to Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.
1905. 25th April.—Royal Letters Patent for the Constitution of the Transvaal Colony issued.
 „ 29th August.—Peace arranged between Japan and Russia.
1906. 1st September.—Papua taken over by the Commonwealth of Australia.
 „ 12th October.—Messrs. I. A. Isaacs and H. B. Higgins appointed to the High Court Bench.
1907. 14th January.—Earthquake in Jamaica, with terrible loss of life.
 „ 8th August.—New Tariff introduced into the Federal Parliament, providing generally for large protective increases in Customs duties.
1908. 20th April.—Railway accident at Sunshine. Forty-four persons were killed and 412 injured.
 „ 22nd July.—Tercentenary of the foundation of Canada.
 „ 27th July.—Sir Thomas David Gibson Carmichael, Bart., sworn in as Governor.
 „ 29th August.—Visit of the American Fleet, consisting of sixteen battle ships, to Melbourne.
 „ 8th October.—Yass-Canberra selected as the site of Federal Capital.
 „ 6th November.—Selection of Federal Capital site confirmed by Senate.
 „ 28th December.—Disastrous earthquake in Sicily, the coasts of Calabria and Eastern Sicily being devastated, and the City of Messina and other towns almost obliterated. The deaths numbered 77,283 persons.
1909. 1st January.—Old-age Pensions Act came into force in the United Kingdom.
 „ 4th February.—South African Constitution, providing for the federation of the various South African colonies, drafted by the National Convention.
 „ 25th March.—The *Nimrod* returned to New Zealand from Antarctic regions. Sir Ernest Shackleton and three members of his party reached a point within 112 miles of the South Pole.
 „ 27th April.—Insurrection in Turkey. Deposition of the Sultan, Abdul Hamid, and appointment of his successor, Mahommed V.
 „ 13th August.—Financial agreement between the Commonwealth and States arrived at by Premiers, the principal clause providing that the States receive from the Customs revenue 25s. per head of population for ten years beginning 1st July, 1910, and thereafter until Parliament otherwise provides.
 „ 21st December.—Lord Kitchener arrived at Port Darwin to commence a tour of inspection of the Australian Military Forces.
1910. 27th January.—Conference between Premiers of Victoria and South Australia *re* border railways.
 „ 28th February.—Arrival in London of Right Hon. Sir G. H. Reid, P.C., K.C.M.G., to take up the position of High Commissioner for the Commonwealth.
 „ 14th March.—The Victorian Commission, appointed to inquire into the Murray waters question, presented its report, strongly expressing the view that navigation interests should be secondary to those of irrigation.
 „ 18th March.—First aeroplane flight in Victoria made by Mr. Harry Houdini, who reached a height of 100 feet.
 „ 6th May.—Death of King Edward VII.
 „ 9th May.—Proclamation of King George V.

1910. 20th May.—Funeral of the late King Edward VII. An imposing memorial service, attended by 100,000 people, was held in Melbourne.
- „ 30th May.—Opening of the Prahran-Malvern electric tramway.
- „ 31st May.—Commencement of the South African Union.
- „ 18th July.—Railway accident at the Richmond station. A train running express on the Brighton line crashed into the rear of a stationary train, telescoping two carriages, killing nine people, and injuring more than 400 other passengers.
- „ 9th August.—Nugget weighing 224 ozs., valued at about £900, found at the Poseidon gold-field.
- „ 14th August.—Death of Florence Nightingale, the famous organizer of army nursing, aged 90 years.
- „ 6th September.—Arrival of Admiral Sir Reginald F. H. Henderson, K.C.B., to advise on the naval defence of Australia.
- „ 24th September.—Gift of £10,000 made by the trustees of the Edward Wilson estate to the re-building fund of the Children's Hospital.
- „ 3rd October.—Revolution in Portugal, flight of King Manoel, and the establishment of a republican form of government.
- „ 12th October.—Arrival in Hobson's Bay of the *Terra Nova*, en route for the Antarctic regions.
- „ 18th October.—Printing of Commonwealth bank notes started.
- „ 4th November.—Opening of the first Parliament of the South African Union by H.R.H. the Duke of Connaught.
- „ 16th November.—The first vessels of the Australian Navy—H.M.A.S. *Yarra* and *Parramatta*—arrived in Australian waters.
1911. 3rd January.—Anarchist Club attacked by police and military in London. Desperate defence by besieged. Detective shot. Building accidentally fired. Two dead bodies found in ruins.
- „ 3rd March.—Commonwealth Naval Board appointed.
- „ 13th March.—Report on the naval defence of Australia by Admiral Sir Reginald F. H. Henderson, K.C.B., published, in which he recommended that the Australian Navy should consist of 52 vessels, to be constructed in 22 years. The total cost was estimated at £40,000,000.
- „ 24th March.—The steam-ship *Yongala* wrecked off the Queensland coast, with a loss of all on board, numbering 141 persons.
- „ 4th April.—The destroyer *Warrego* launched at New South Wales dock-yards.
- „ 1st May.—Penny postage came into force with other portions of the Commonwealth and with all other British Dominions.
- „ 22nd May.—Disputed boundary case, South Australia v. Victoria, decided by judgment of the Federal High Court. Victoria to retain territory in dispute.
- „ 23rd May.—Imperial Conference opened in London.
- „ 24th May.—Sir John M. Fleetwood Fuller sworn in as Governor.
- „ 22nd June.—The Commonwealth officially represented at the Coronation of King George V. by the Right Honorable the Prime Minister (Mr. A. Fisher).
- „ 1st July.—Compulsory military training of all boys between 14 and 18 years of age introduced throughout Australia.

1911. 31st July.—Arrival and swearing in of Lord Denman as Governor-General of the Commonwealth.
- „ 16th August.—Death of Cardinal Moran, at Sydney.
- „ 14th September.—M. Stolypin, Russian Premier, assassinated.
- „ 25th September.—Explosion on the French battle-ship *La Liberté*. 143 persons were killed or were missing, and 91 were seriously injured.
- „ 30th September.—Italy declared war against Turkey. Italian Fleet bombarded Tripoli.
- „ October.—Rising in China against the Manchu dynasty.
- „ 20th November.—The Mawson Antarctic expedition left Melbourne.
- „ 30th November.—Tariff Bill introduced in the Federal Parliament.
1912. 30th January.—Heat wave throughout large portion of Australia during end of January and beginning of February.
- „ 2nd February.—The estate of the late Mr. W. R. Hall, of Sydney, valued at £2,311,837.
- „ 9th February.—First wireless message sent from Melbourne (Domain Station).
- „ 10th February.—Death of Lord Lister, discoverer of antiseptic surgery.
- „ 12th February.—China declared a constitutional republic under the presidency of Yuan-Shih-Kai.
- „ 7th March.—Captain Amundsen reached Hobart in the *Fram* and announced that, on 14th December, 1911, he had reached the South Pole.
- „ 20th March.—Destructive typhoon on north-west coast of Western Australia—72 men lost their lives. The steamer *Koombana* wrecked with 50 souls aboard, who were all lost.
- „ 11th April.—Irish Home Rule Bill introduced in the House of Commons.
- „ 14th April.—Wreck of *Titanic*, with loss of 1,635 lives, by collision with an iceberg off Cape Race.
- „ 24th May.—First prize (£1,750) granted to Mr. W. B. Griffin, Chicago, U.S.A., for Federal Capital design.
- „ „ Mrs. W. R. Hall, Sydney, donated £1,000,000 to charity, and educational and religious advancement—half the income to be spent in New South Wales, one-fourth in Victoria, and one-fourth in Queensland—as a memorial to her late husband.
- „ 15th July.—Savings Bank branch of Commonwealth Government Bank began business in Victoria.
- „ 29th July.—Death of the Mikado of Japan.
- „ 4th September.—Railway collision at Dudley-street, West Melbourne. Two persons were killed and many injured.
- „ 14th September.—First sod turned of Transcontinental Railway Line to Western Australia (Port Augusta to Kalgoorlie).
- „ 8th October.—Declaration of War by Montenegro against Turkey. Beginning of Balkan War.
- „ 10th October.—Maternity allowance (of £5 for each birth) came into force throughout Australia.
- „ 12th October.—Disaster at North Lyell mine, Tasmania, owing to an outbreak of fire. Forty one miners were killed.
- „ 15th October.—Treaty of peace signed by Italy and Turkey.
- „ 22nd October.—Authorizing motion moved by Mr. Watt, in Assembly, for electrification of Victorian railways. Cost estimated at £2,349,437.
- „ 9th November.—Dr. Woodrow Wilson elected President of United States.

1912. 16th November.—Cable from Sydney to New Zealand laid by Pacific Cable Board.
1913. 7th January.—Congress of Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science met in Melbourne.
- „ 19th January.—Opening of the Commonwealth Bank of Australia (general banking department).
- „ 10th February.—The *Terra Nova* reached Oamaru, New Zealand, and announced that Captain Scott, Lieutenant Bower, and Dr. Wilson died on 21st March, 1912, and Captain Oates and Petty Officer Evans shortly before that date. The catastrophe occurred on the return journey from the South Pole, which was reached on 18th January, 1912.
- „ 12th February.—First sod of the Transcontinental Railway turned at Kalgoorlie.
- „ 25th February.—Deaths of Lieutenant Ninnis and Dr. Mertz reported by wireless telegraphy from Dr. Mawson's Antarctic Expedition. Lieutenant Ninnis died on 4th December, 1912, and Dr. Mertz on 17th January, 1913.
- „ 10th March.—H.M.A.S. *Melbourne*, of the Australian Navy, arrived at Fremantle.
- „ 12th March.—Foundation stone of Federal Capital laid by Lord Denman at Canberra.
- „ 1st May.—First Commonwealth bank note issued.
- „ 4th June.—King's Birthday honours announced. Mr. E. Carlile, ex-Parliamentary draftsman, received the honour of knighthood.
- „ 6th August.—Inter-State Commission appointed, consisting of Mr. A. B. Piddington, K.C. (chairman), Messrs. G. Swinburne, M.L.A., and N. C. Lockyer, Comptroller of Customs, members.
- „ 19th September.—The *Australia*, first Commonwealth flagship, and *Sydney*, second Commonwealth cruiser, reached Albany.
1914. 27th January.—Lord Denman, Governor-General of Australia, resigned position.
- „ 9th February.—The Right Hon. Ronald Craufurd Munro Ferguson, P.C., appointed Governor-General of the Commonwealth.
- „ 23rd February.—Sir Arthur Stanley sworn in as Governor.
- „ 13th March.—Railway accident at Exeter, New South Wales. Fourteen persons were killed and sixteen injured.
- „ 27th March.—French steamer *St. Paul*, bound from New Caledonia to Brisbane, wrecked on Smith's Rock, off Cape Morton, with a loss of twenty lives.
- „ 2nd May.—Fatal accident at the Great Extended Hustler's mine, Bendigo. Seven miners were killed.
- „ 29th May.—Wreck of the steamer *Empress of Ireland* in St. Lawrence River, Canada. The wreck was caused through a collision with a collier, and over 1,000 lives were lost.
- „ 16th June.—Sir Alexander Peacock, K.C.M.G., chosen as Premier, vice Hon. W. A. Watt resigned.
- „ 28th June.—Assassination in Sarajevo, capital of Bosnia, of Archduke Franz Ferdinand (heir presumptive of Austria-Hungary) and his wife.
- „ 26th July.—Encounter in Dublin streets between an armed civilian force and the military. Four persons were killed and a number wounded.
- „ 28th July.—Austria-Hungary declared war on Serbia.

1914. 1st August.—Germany declared war on Russia.
- „ 3rd August.—State of war exists between France and Germany.
- „ 4th August.—Great Britain declared war on Germany.
- „ „ „ Australian fleet placed under control of the British Admiralty, and a force of 20,000 soldiers offered by the Commonwealth Government for service in Europe.
- „ 5th August.—Siege of Liege (Belgium) by the German troops commenced.
- „ 6th August.—Austria-Hungary declared war on Russia.
- „ „ „ British cruiser *Amphion* struck a mine and sank with a loss of 130 lives.
- „ 9th August.—Germans occupied town of Liege.
- „ 10th August.—France declared war on Austria-Hungary.
- „ 12th August.—Great Britain declared war on Austria-Hungary.
- „ 13th–19th August.—Visit to Victoria of members of the British Association for the Advancement of Science.
- „ 15th August.—British Expeditionary Force landed at Boulogne, France.
- „ 17th August.—Japan issued an ultimatum to Germany, asking for the evacuation of Kaio Chao.
- „ 18th August.—First detachment of Australian Imperial Expeditionary Force left Sydney to take part in the war.
- „ 19th August.—Death of Pope Pius X.
- „ 20th August.—Germans occupied Brussels.
- „ 23rd August.—Japan declared war on Germany.
- „ 23rd–26th August.—British troops heavily engaged at Mons and Cambrai. They sustained heavy losses, but the enemy also suffered severely. They executed a masterly retreat in the face of overwhelming numbers.
- „ 27th August.—Austria-Hungary declared war on Japan.
- „ 28th August.—British naval victory over the German fleet at Heligoland Bight.
- „ 30th August.—It was announced by the Prime Minister (the Right Hon. Joseph Cook) that further contingents of Australian soldiers (in addition to original 20,000) were to be raised for service at the front.
- „ „ „ German Samoa taken by New Zealand troops and British warships.
- „ 1st September.—Great Austrian defeat by the Russians in Galicia.
- „ 2nd–4th September.—Battle of Tannenberg (or Osterode) won by the Germans against the Russians.
- „ 5th September.—British cruiser *Pathfinder* sunk by German submarine.
- „ „ „ Elections for the Federal Parliament. The Labour Party was returned to power.
- „ 7th September.—German army fell back from Paris.
- „ 8th September.—Pacific cable cut by a German cruiser at Fanning Island.
- „ 9th September.—The *Oceanic*, a converted cruiser, wrecked off the coast of Scotland.
- „ „ „ Battle of the Marne. Victory for the French and British arms.
- „ 10th September.—General retreat of the German army over the River Marne.
- „ 11th September.—Disastrous explosion at Ralph's Mine, Huntly, New Zealand. Forty-five men were killed.
- „ „ „ Herbertshohe (German New Guinea) captured and occupied by a landing force from H.M.A.S. *Australia*.
- „ 12th September.—Simpsonshafen (German New Guinea) occupied by the Australian forces.

1914. 13th September.—Rabaul (German New Guinea) captured and occupied by Australian troops.
- „ 15th September.—The retreat of the Germans ceased by their making a stand on the River Aisne, where they occupied strong defensive positions.
- „ 19th September.—Admiral Patey reported the loss of the Australian submarine *AEI* with 35 officers and men.
- „ 22nd September.—Three British cruisers—the *Aboukir*, *Hogue*, and *Cressy*—torpedoed and sunk by German submarines in the North Sea with great loss of life.
- „ 24th September.—Kaiser Wilhelm's Land occupied by the Australian Expeditionary Force.
- „ 29th September.—The Melbourne Stock Exchange, which had been closed at the beginning of the war, was re-opened.
- „ „ „ Indian troops reported to have arrived at Marseilles, France.
- „ 9th October.—The city of Antwerp captured by the German forces.
- „ 12th October.—The seat of government of Belgium removed from Ostend to Havre.
- „ 14th October.—The British cruiser *Hawke* sunk by a German submarine.
- „ „ „ Canadian Expeditionary Force arrived in England.
- „ 17th October.—British warships sank four German destroyers off the Dutch coast.
- „ 21st October.—The sale of alcohol forbidden in Russia until the end of the war.
- „ 22nd October.—Federal Parliament passed a grant of £100,000 in aid of the Government of Belgium.
- „ 26th October.—The Boer rebel Maritz defeated.
- „ 27th October.—Further rebellion in South Africa headed by Generals De Wet and Beyers.
- „ 28th October.—Rebel forces under General Beyers defeated in South Africa.
- „ 30th October.—Turkey takes part in war with Germany and Austria.
- „ „ „ British cruiser *Hermes* sunk by German submarine in the Strait of Dover.
- „ 1st November.—Naval encounter off Valparaiso between five German and three British cruisers. The British cruisers *Good Hope* and *Monmouth* were sunk, the whole of the crews of both vessels being lost.
- „ „ „ Australian Imperial Force (first convoy) and New Zealand Expeditionary Force sailed from Albany, Western Australia.
- „ 3rd November.—Russia declared war on Turkey.
- „ 5th November.—Great Britain and France declared war on Turkey.
- „ 7th November.—Tsing-tau fortress surrendered by the Germans to the Japanese and British forces.
- „ 9th November.—Destruction of the German raider *Emden* at North Cocos Island by H.M.A.S. *Sydney*.
- „ 13th November.—Great defence of Ypres in Belgium by the British and French troops terminated in favour of the Allies.
- „ 14th November.—Death of Field Marshal Lord Roberts, aged 82, in France, while on a visit to the Indian troops at the front.
- „ 16th November.—Germans defeated the Russians in East Prussia.
- „ 19th November.—Control of islands captured by the Japanese in the Pacific handed over to Australia.
- „ 26th November.—British battleship *Bulwark* blown up accidentally in Sheerness Harbor, with severe loss of life.

1914. 2nd December.—The capture of the South African rebel leader General De Wet announced.
- " " " Austrians captured Belgrade.
- " 5th December.—The Australian Imperial Force (first convoy) and the New Zealanders landed in Egypt for the defence of that country and to undergo war training in the vicinity of Cairo.
- " " " The German cruisers *Scharnhorst*, *Gneisenau*, *Nurnberg*, and *Leipzig* were sunk by a British squadron off Falkland Islands.
- " 8th December.—Great victory of the Serbians over the Austrians.
- " 15th December.—Serbians re-entered Belgrade.
- " 16th December.—Three English towns—Hartlepool, Whitby, and Scarborough—shelled by German cruisers. About 120 persons were killed and over 400 injured.
- " 17th December.—Protectorate established over Egypt by Great Britain.
- " 19th December.—Torpedo boat destroyer *Derwent* launched from ship-building yards, Sydney.
- " 24th December.—First German air raid on England.
- " — December.—Second convoy of Australian troops left for Egypt.
1915. 1st January.—Shooting outrage by two Turks at Broken Hill. A train of picknickers was attacked, with the result that four passengers were killed and six wounded. The Turks were pursued and shot dead.
- " " " H.M.S. *Formidable* (15,000 tons) torpedoed by a German submarine in the English Channel. The loss of life amounted to about 500 persons.
- " 7th January.—The sale of absinthe forbidden in France for the duration of the war.
- " 19th January.—A Zeppelin air raid occurred over the east coast of England.
- " 24th January.—A British squadron, under the command of Vice-Admiral Beatty, intercepted a strong German squadron making its way to the English coast. The Germans endeavoured to escape, but lost a battle cruiser, the *Blucher*, with great loss of life before getting clear. Three other German battle cruisers were seriously damaged.
- " 25th January.—The British and French defeated the Germans at La Bassee. The Germans lost 20,000 men in this attempt to break through to Calais.
- " 30th January.—The s.s. *Tokomaru* (6,084 tons), a New Zealand liner, was sunk without warning by a German submarine in the English Channel. The crew were saved by a trawler.
- " 2nd February.—Turkish troops, to the number of 12,000, made an attack on the Suez Canal, but were repulsed, their casualties numbering 2,400.
- " 8th February.—Archbishop Cerretti, Papal delegate, arrived in Sydney.
- " 18th February.—Germany declared a blockade of the British coast.
- " 19th February.—British and French warships bombarded the Turkish defences at the Dardanelles.
- " 24th February.—Riot at Singapore by the mutiny of a native regiment. Nineteen British soldiers and sailors, three native soldiers, and fourteen civilians were killed. French and Japanese marines were landed to assist the British troops. The riot was quelled.
- " 1st March.—Complete blockade of Germany declared by the Allies.

1915. 10th March.—The *Prince Eitel Friedrich*, a German converted cruiser, entered Newport News, United States, and was interned until the termination of the war. The *Kron Prinz Wilhelm*, an armed merchantman, the last of the German raiders up to that date, was also interned at Hampton Roads, Virginia.
- „ 11th March.—Death of T. A. Browne (Rolfe Boldrewood), famous Australian novelist, aged 88 years.
- „ 10th-13th March.—Great British attack at Neuve Chapelle. The Germans sustained 20,500 casualties.
- „ 14th March.—The German raider *Dresden* destroyed by the British steamers *Kent* and *Glasgow*, near the island of Juan Fernandez, off Chili.
- „ 18th March.—Three vessels of the Allied fleets—the *Irresistible*, the *Ocean*, and the *Bowvet*—sunk by mines in the Dardanelles.
- „ 19th March.—Russians captured Przemysl from the Austrians and took 100,000 prisoners.
- „ 28th March.—The s.s. *Falaba* (4,806 tons) sunk off the Welsh coast by a German submarine, with the loss of 100 persons.
- „ 9th April.—Battle of Les Esparges won by the French.
- „ „ „ Fine general rains throughout Victoria, signaling the break-up of the drought.
- „ 14th April.—Heavy fighting took place on the Euphrates River, Mesopotamia, where 15,000 Turks were defeated by the British.
- „ 25th April.—Australian, British, and French troops landed under circumstances of extraordinary difficulty at Gallipoli Peninsula.
- „ 27th April.—Loss of the French warship *Leon Gambetta* (12,352 tons), which was torpedoed by a submarine in the Adriatic. One hundred and thirty-six of the crew were rescued.
- „ 30th April.—Germans invaded the Baltic provinces of Russia.
- „ 2nd May.—Russians forced by the combined Germans and Austrians at the battle of the Dunajec to retire from their positions in the Carpathians.
- „ 7th May.—The great Cunard Atlantic liner *Lusitania* was torpedoed by a German submarine, with a loss of 1,134 lives. The vessel was sunk off Old Head, close to the fishing town and summer resort of Kinsale, near Cork, on a voyage from New York to Liverpool.
- „ 12th May.—H.M.S. *Goliath* (12,950 tons) torpedoed by a submarine at the Dardanelles, with a loss of 500 men.
- „ „ „ The Union troops under General Botha occupied Windhuk, the capital of German South-West Africa.
- „ 13th May.—The Australian submarine *AE2* lost in the Dardanelles. The crew were taken prisoners by the Turks.
- „ 19th May.—Major-General Sir William Bridges, commander of the Australian troops at the Dardanelles, succumbed to wounds sustained in action.
- „ 23rd May.—Italy declared war on Austria-Hungary.
- „ 26th May.—The British auxiliary cruiser *Princess Irene* (6,000 tons), which was engaged as a mine-layer, was blown up at Sheerness, with a loss of 270 lives.
- „ 27th May.—Italian army entered Austria.
- „ 28th May.—The British battleship *Triumph* (11,800 tons) torpedoed by a German submarine at the Dardanelles. Most of the crew were saved.

1915.	29th	May.—The British battleship <i>Majestic</i> sunk by a submarine at the Dardanelles.
"	3rd	June.—Przemsyl re-taken from the Russians by the Germans.
"	15th	June.—Italians invested Gorizia.
"	22nd	June.—Lemberg re-taken from the Russians by the Austrians.
"	5th	July.—A British submarine sank a German battleship in the Baltic Sea.
"	10th	July.—German South West Africa conquered by General Botha. A force of 3,400 Germans surrendered and was transferred to Union territory.
"	14th	July.—War Census Bill introduced in the House of Representatives by the Federal Attorney-General. The measure provided for the registration of the manhood and wealth of Australia.
"	21st	July.—The Italian armoured cruiser <i>Guiseppi Garibaldi</i> (7,234 tons) sunk by an Austrian submarine in the Adriatic. The majority of the crew were saved.
"	4th	August.—Warsaw captured from the Russians by the Germans.
"	7th	August.—The British landed a large force at Suvla Bay. The Turks were engaged, but the objective of the British was not attained.
"	"	" Battle of Hooge, in West Flanders, won by the British.
"	14th	August.—The British transport <i>Royal Edward</i> (11,117 tons) sunk by a submarine in the Ægean Sea. The persons lost numbered about 1,000.
"	15th	August.—Information received of atrocities on Armenians by Turks in Northern and Eastern Anatolia. Over 500,000 persons are believed to have been massacred.
"	17th	August.—The Russian fortified town of Kovno, on the Niemen River, in Northern Poland, captured by the Germans.
"	18th	August.—War Income Tax Bill introduced in the House of Representatives. The tax on incomes from personal exertion is payable on incomes exceeding £156, and the rate ranges from 3d. to 5s. in the £1, the last-mentioned rate being payable on incomes exceeding £7,600.
"	19th	August.—A British submarine, <i>E13</i> , was lost through running ashore on the Danish islands of Saltholm. German destroyers opened fire, and fifteen of the British crew were killed.
"	20th	August.—War declared by Italy on Turkey.
"	21st	August.—Naval battle in the Gulf of Riga. Germans suffered severe losses and evacuated the gulf.
"	22nd	August.—The White Star liner <i>Arabic</i> (15,801 tons) torpedoed by a German submarine off the Irish coast, on a voyage from Liverpool to New York. Thirty-three lives were lost.
"	1st	September.—First Commonwealth war loan of £5,000,000 over applied for, the tenders amounting to £13,380,000.
"	2nd	September.—The British transport <i>Southland</i> (11,899 tons) torpedoed in the Ægean Sea while conveying Australian troops from Alexandria to the Dardanelles. The vessel was beached in Mudros Bay, and out of 2,000 troops on board the casualties numbered only 33.
"	4th	September.—The British steamer <i>Hesperian</i> (10,920 tons) torpedoed off the south coast of Ireland, on a voyage from Liverpool to Montreal. Twenty-six persons were lost.
"	20th	September.—Vilna captured by the Germans from the Russians.
"	25th	September.—British defeated the Germans at Loos.
"	30th	September.—The <i>Brisbane</i> , the first Australian built cruiser, launched at Sydney. •

1915. 30th September.—The *Benedetto Brin* (13,215 tons), Italian battleship, blown up at Brindisi, with a loss of 333 persons.
- „ 4th October.—Russia broke off diplomatic relations with Bulgaria.
- „ 5th October.—Detachments of the Allied troops landed at Salonika at the invitation of the Greek Government.
- „ 6th October.—Austro-German invasion of Serbia began.
- „ 12th October.—German troops captured Belgrade from the Serbians.
- „ 13th October.—Miss Edith Cavell, a British nurse, shot in Brussels by the Germans.
- „ 14th October.—Great Britain declared war on Bulgaria.
- „ „ Bulgaria declared war on Serbia.
- „ 28th October.—The British transport *Marquette* torpedoed in the Ægean Sea. Ten New Zealand nurses lost their lives.
- „ 7th November.—Nish, temporary Serbian capital, captured by the Bulgarians.
- „ 8th November.—The *Ancona*, an Italian emigrant liner, sunk in the Mediterranean by an Austrian submarine. Two hundred and eight persons perished.
- „ 15th November.—Russians in Eastern Galicia inflicted great losses on Austro-Germans.
- „ 17th November.—The British hospital ship *Anglia* struck a mine in the English Channel. Those on board numbered 375, of whom 300 were saved.
- „ 26th November.—It was announced that no males of military age (18 to 45 years) would be allowed to leave Australia without passports.
- „ 30th November.—The Bulgarians captured Monastir from the Serbians.
- „ 2nd December.—Major-General Townshend, commander of the British forces, marching on Bagdad, compelled to retire in the face of superior numbers of Turkish troops.
- „ 21st December.—Anzac and Suvla Bay evacuated by the Allied troops, practically without casualties.
- „ 30th December.—P. and O. liner *Persia*, 7,974 tons, torpedoed without warning in the Mediterranean whilst on a voyage from London to Bombay with a number of passengers on board. The loss of life was as follows:—Passengers 119, European crew 50, Lascar crew 166.
1916. 5th January.—Death of Sir Edward Holroyd, formerly Senior Puisne Judge of Victorian Supreme Court.
- „ 6th January.—British pre-Dreadnought *King Edward VII.* encountered a mine and sank in the North Sea. All on board saved.
- „ 9th January.—Allied forces completely and successfully evacuated the Gallipoli peninsula.
- „ 11th January.—The Victorian State Governor (Sir A. Stanley) at Melbourne Mint, struck first shilling produced in Australia for circulation.
- „ 13th January.—Fall of Cetinje, capital of Montenegro.
- „ 15th January.—West African liner *Appam* (7,781 tons) captured by the German raider *Moewe* and sent under a prize crew to Newport News (U.S.A.).
- „ 20th January.—The Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes, left Sydney per s.s. *Makura* for London.
- „ 21st January.—Proclamation issued by Administrator of German (now British) New Guinea changing name of Herbertshohe (capital) to Kokopo (the original name of settlement).
- „ 24th January.—Military Service (Compulsion) Bill passed by House of Commons.
- „ 28th January.—Splendid rains over practically whole of Eastern Australia (especially Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania).

1916. 1st February.—It was reported that the s.s. *Clan Mactavish*, with a cargo of frozen meat from Australia had been sunk by the German raider *Moewe* in the North Atlantic after a desperate resistance, during which fifteen of her crew were killed.
- “ “ “ Second Commonwealth War Loan (£10,000,000) subscription list closed. Splendid response; £21,655,580 applied for.
- “ 14th February.—“Shorter hours” riots at Liverpool (N.S.W.) Military Camp.
- “ 15th February.—Express train from Launceston to Hobart left the rails near Campania, 27 miles from Hobart. Seven persons were killed and about 30 injured.
- “ 18th February.—Cameroon (German colony) conquered.
- “ 19th February.—It was officially announced that the British light cruiser *Arethusa* (3,600 tons) had struck a mine off the east coast of England and become a total wreck. Ten lives were lost.
- “ 21st February.—Brilliant capture of Erzerum by the Russians.
- “ “ “ Battle of Verdun commenced.
- “ 27th February.—P. and O. liner *Maloja* (12,431 tons) struck a mine and sank off Dover whilst on a voyage to India. Over 100 lives, mostly Lascars, lost.
- “ 7th March.—Federal Ministry fixed the price of flour (£11 8s. per ton) and of bread over the counter (6½d. per 4-lb. loaf) throughout metropolitan areas of the Commonwealth.
- “ 10th March.—Germany declared war on Portugal.
- “ 24th March.—Channel steamer *Sussex* (1,353 tons) torpedoed without warning in the English Channel. Over 50 lives lost.
- “ 27th March.—Six o'clock closing of hotels came into force in South Australia.
- “ 3rd April.—Antarctic exploration ship *Aurora* reached Dunedin (N.Z.) under charge of Captain Stenhouse.
- “ 4th April.—It was announced that an Australian Zinc Proprietors' Association had been formed through which the whole of the products of the Australian companies would be marketed for 50 years.
- “ “ “ Zeppelin *L15* brought down in the Thames estuary whilst engaged in a raid on the eastern counties. The crew were taken prisoners.
- “ 7th April.—It was announced that the Allies had bought, through the Australian Wheat Board, 150,000 tons of Australian wheat for shipment during April, May, and June, bringing totals of such sales to date to nearly 1,000,000 tons.
- “ 14th April.—The Turkish town of Trebizond, on the Black Sea, captured by the Russians.
- “ 20th April.—Sir Roger Casement captured whilst attempting to land on the coast of Ireland from a German submarine.
- “ 23rd April.—Strong United States note to Germany on unrestrained submarine warfare, threatening to break off diplomatic relations unless Germany agreed to modify her submarine policy in accordance with international law.
- “ 24th April.—Serious rebellion in Dublin. The rebels gained control of the General Post Office and other parts of the city and made a desperate resistance. An unconditional surrender was signed by the rebel leaders on the 29th April after much bloodshed on both sides.
- “ 29th April.—After a resistance lasting 143 days Kut-el-Amara surrendered to the Turks. The forces surrendered included 2,970 British troops and 6,000 Indians.

1916. 30th April.—Pre-Dreadnought battleship *Russell* (14,000 tons) sunk in the Mediterranean; 124 men missing.
- „ 4th May.—Germany replied to the United States note in regard to submarines, undertaking to comply with the suggestion of President Wilson conditionally.
- „ „ „ The Hon. John Murray (ex-Premier of Victoria) died suddenly at Warnambool from heart failure, as the result of his horse bolting.
- „ 8th May.—“Day-baking” bakers’ strike commenced in Victoria.
- „ 16th May.—Great Austrian attack on the Italians in the Trentino.
- „ 22nd May.—Premiers’ Conference opened at Adelaide.
- „ 1st June.—Great naval action between the British and German naval forces in the North Sea off the coast of Jutland. Heavy losses on both sides; the German navy eventually retiring to its base under cover of darkness, leaving the British victors.
- „ 2nd June.—Victorian Grocery trade dispute closed (men to return to work on old terms; Arbitration Court to consider claims).
- „ „ „ It was announced that Sir Ernest Shackleton had arrived safely at the Falkland Islands, having left portion of his expedition at Elephant Island, owing to the loss of the *Endurance*.
- „ 5th June.—Lord Kitchener drowned at sea west of the Orkney Islands whilst *en route* to Russia on H.M.S. *Hampshire*. Only twelve of the crew saved.
- „ 10th June.—Referendum taken in New South Wales *re* hour of closing hotels during the war and for six months thereafter; resulted in a large majority for six o’clock.
- „ 16th June.—The Victorian political slander suit (for £5,000 damages), *Farthing v. Worrall*, ended in verdict for defendant.
- „ 18th June.—Czernowitz captured by the Russians.
- „ 28th June.—It was announced that the Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes, had purchased on behalf of the Commonwealth Government fifteen steamers, with an average carrying capacity of 8,000 tons, at a total cost of about £2,000,000, the line of vessels to be known as the Commonwealth Government Line.
- „ 30th June.—Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company ceased to exist (after a life of nearly 50 years); tramways handed over temporarily to a Board appointed by the Victorian Government.
- „ 1st July.—Victorian Day-baking strike ended in failure.
- „ „ „ Great British offensive on the West front commenced.
- „ 3rd July.—Trial of Sir Roger Casement on a charge of high treason concluded. A verdict of “guilty” was returned.
- „ 9th July.—Copious rains in Victoria (rivers in flood).
- „ „ „ German merchant submarine *Deutschland* arrived at Baltimore from Germany.
- „ 21st July.—Six o’clock closing of hotels suddenly enforced in Sydney.
- „ 25th July.—Pozieres captured by the Australian and New Zealand troops.
- „ 27th July.—Great fire in Sydney. Total damage estimated at £150,000.
- „ 3rd August.—It was announced that the Federal Cabinet had decided to issue five-shilling notes.
- „ „ „ Roger Casement hanged.
- „ 8th August.—The Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes, reached Melbourne on his return from London.
- „ 13th August.—Death of Sir George Turner, well known Victorian and Federal politician, at the age of 65 years. He was

- Premier of Victoria from September, 1894, to December, 1899, and from November, 1900, to February, 1901, and he was Treasurer in the first (Barton) Federal Ministry, 1901-3; in the Deakin Ministry, 1903-4, and in the Reid-McLean Ministry, 1904-5.
1916. 28th August.—Italy declared war on Germany.
 " " " Roumania declared war on Germany.
 " 14th September.—The Federal Minister for Customs, Mr. Tudor, resigned from Hughes Ministry, being opposed to its Con-
 scription policy.
 " 15th September.—The New South Wales Political Labour League expelled the Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes, from the Australian Labour movement.
 " 21st September.—Second reading of Referendum Bill (compulsory military service) passed by House of Representatives by 46 votes to 10.
 " " " Heavy and insistent rains set in over large part of Victoria; great floods, with loss of life and considerable amount of damage.
 " 23rd September.—Raid by police on Sydney head-quarters of organization known as the Industrial Workers of the World. Four men arrested on a charge of treason.
 " " " Referendum Bill (compulsory military service) passed by Senate by 17 votes to 9.
 " 24th September.—Two Zeppelins brought down whilst engaged in a raid on England.
 " 26th September.—Combles and Thiepval captured by the Allies.
 2nd October.—First group of men called up for compulsory military training under provisions of Defence Act.
 " 8th October.—Submarine campaign begun on Allied shipping off American coast.
 " 9th October.—Sir David Hennessy chosen as Lord Mayor of Melbourne for fifth year in succession.
 " 11th October.—Six o'clock closing of hotels came into force in Victoria.
 " 27th October.—Three Federal Ministers (Mr. Higgs, Treasurer; Senator Gardiner, Vice-President of Executive Council and Assistant Minister for Defence; and Senator Russell, Assistant Minister) resigned.
 " 28th October.—The Referendum for Compulsory Military Service abroad was defeated by a small majority.
 " 31st October.—Big general coal strike commenced in eastern States. Thirteen mines idle in Newcastle (N.S.W.) district.
 " " " Phenomenal downpour of hail and rain in Melbourne about 4 p.m. Low lying parts of city and suburbs submerged. Much damage resulted.
 " 6th November.—P. and O. Company's R.M.S. *Arabia* (7,933 tons) torpedoed and sunk without warning in the Mediterranean whilst on a voyage from Australia to London. All the mails were lost, but no passengers and only two of the crew were missing.
 " " " Melbourne Cup postponed for the second time in its history. Course waterlogged by heavy rains.
 " 9th November.—It was announced that President Wilson had been re-elected President of the United States.
 " 14th November.—Federal Labour Party split. The Prime Minister, Mr. W. M. Hughes, tendered his resignation, at the same time asking leave to form a new Ministry. This being granted, Mr. Hughes formed a new Ministry with himself as Prime Minister and Attorney-General. The old External Affairs Department was abolished and a Works Department created.

1916. 14th November.—New Cabinet formed on National lines in New South Wales, Mr. W. A. Holman being Premier and Treasurer.
- „ 16th November.—Compulsory conference of masters and men involved in the Newcastle coal strike was convened by the Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes.
- „ 19th November.—Monastir re-occupied by Allied troops.
- „ 21st November.—Death of Francis Joseph, Emperor of Austria and King of Hungary, aged 87 years.
- „ 22nd November.—Death of Mr. Thos. Prout Webb, K.C., Master-in-Equity and Commissioner of Taxes for Victoria.
- „ „ „ British hospital ship *Britannic* (48,158 tons) sunk by torpedo or mine in Aegean Sea. There were no wounded on board at the time, and of a complement of 1,156 about 50 were missing.
- „ „ „ Proclamation calling upon men to enlist for compulsory home service (issued prior to the Referendum) withdrawn, the men in camp to be released immediately.
- „ 24th November.—British hospital ship *Braemar Castle* (6,318 tons) sunk by enemy in Aegean Sea whilst on a voyage from Salonika to Malta with 400 cases of sickness on board. Only one life was lost.
- „ „ „ Owing to coal strike, every industry in Commonwealth, not defined as a national necessity, deprived of gas or electric motive power (except in certain cases of temporary exemption).
- „ „ „ Second coal strike conference convened by the Prime Minister, Mr. Hughes.
- „ 27th-28th Nov.—Zeppelin attack on east coast of England. Two Zeppelins brought down off the coast.
- „ 29th November.—Federal Parliament re-assembled.
- „ „ „ Special Tribunal under War Precautions Act to deal with coal strike met in Sydney.
- „ 1st December.—Allied troops treacherously attacked by Greeks in Athens. It was reported that the Allies lost 30 killed and had numerous other casualties.
- „ 2nd December.—Severe sentences, ranging from 5 to 15 years with hard labour, imposed on I.W.W. prisoners (convicted on charges of conspiracy) by Judge Pring (N.S.W.).
- „ 4th December.—Work resumed on coal mines on basis of eight hours bank to bank as claimed by miners.
- „ 5th December.—Mr. Asquith tendered his resignation as Prime Minister of Great Britain. New Ministry formed under Mr. Lloyd George.
- „ 6th December.—Bucharest captured by the Germans.
- „ 12th December.—Germany, Austria, Turkey, and Bulgaria, through neutral Powers, submitted a formal proposal of peace to the Allies.
- „ 22nd December.—El Arish captured by the British.
- „ 28th December.—Disastrous floods at the town of Clermont, Queensland. Over 60 lives lost and many buildings wrecked.

PROGRESS OF STATE SINCE 1842.

The following table has been prepared to illustrate the advance made by the State since 1842, the year of the introduction of representative government into New South Wales, which then included the Port Phillip district. The years 1850 and 1855 have been chosen—the former as being the year immediately preceding the separation of the Colony from New South Wales, and the latter as the date o

STATISTICS OF VICTORIAN PROGRESS, 1842 to 1916.

The introduction of responsible government for Victoria. The subsequent years are census years, except the last:—

Progress of Victoria.

	1842.	1850.	1855.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1915-16.
Population, 31st December ..	23,799	76,162	864,324	541,800	747,412	879,886	1,157,678	1,210,882	1,397,977
Revenue .. £	87,296	259,483	2,728,656	2,592,101	3,734,422	5,186,011	8,343,588	7,712,099	11,470,875
Expenditure from Revenue .. £	124,681	196,440	2,612,807	3,092,021	3,659,534	5,108,642	9,128,699	7,672,780	11,683,367
Public Funded Debt .. £	..	..	480,000	6,345,060	11,994,800	22,426,502	43,638,897	49,546,275	76,604,562
Gold produced .. oz.	..	..	2,798,065	1,967,453	3,255,477	853,850	576,400	739,562	276,162
Wool produced .. lbs.	2,762,830	16,345,468	22,470,443	22,640,745	37,177,646	45,970,560	76,603,635	73,235,138	82,330,198
Butter produced .. "	..	..	..	..	..	..	16,703,786	46,867,572	42,345,113
Agriculture—									
Land in cultivation .. acres	8,124	52,341	115,060	427,241	793,918	1,582,998	2,512,593	3,647,459	7,069,608
Wheat .. bushels	55,860	556,167	1,148,011	3,607,727	4,500,795	8,714,377	13,679,268	12,127,332	58,521,706
Oats .. "	66,100	99,535	614,614	2,136,430	3,299,889	3,612,111	4,455,551	6,724,900	9,328,894
Wine .. gallons	..	4,621	9,372	47,568	713,589	539,191	1,554,130	1,981,475	1,380,367
Live Stock—Horses .. No.	4,065	21,219	33,430	84,057	181,643	278,195	440,696	392,237	493,779
" Cattle .. "	100,792	378,806	534,113	628,092	799,509	1,286,677	1,812,104	1,602,384	1,043,604
" Sheep .. "	1,404,333	6,032,783	4,577,372	6,239,253	10,002,381	10,267,265	12,928,148	10,841,790	10,545,632
" Pigs .. "	..	9,260	20,686	43,480	177,447	299,926	286,780	350,370	192,002
Total Imports—Value .. £	277,427	744,925	12,007,939	13,532,452	12,341,985	16,718,521	21,711,608	18,927,340	*
Exports—Value .. £	198,783	1,041,796	13,493,388	13,828,606	14,557,820	16,252,103	16,006,743	12,646,097	26,782,893
Imports, Oversea—Value .. £	..	..	..	10,991,377	9,201,942	11,481,567	13,802,598	13,075,259	14,744,135
Exports .. "	..	..	..	12,209,794	12,843,451	12,316,128	11,403,922	13,075,259	14,744,135
Shipping .. tonnage	78,025	195,117	1,133,283	1,090,002	1,355,025	2,411,902	4,715,109	6,715,491	9,837,374
Railways open .. miles	..	..	..	214	276	1,247	2,764	3,238	4,105
Telegraph wire .. "	..	..	..	2,586	3,472	6,626	13,989	15,356	28,906
Postal business—Letters .. No.	97,490	381,651	2,990,992	6,109,929	11,716,166	26,303,347	62,526,448	83,973,499	191,427,078
Newspapers .. "	147,160	381,158	2,349,656	4,277,179	5,172,970	11,440,732	22,729,005	27,104,344	40,246,088
Savings Bank Deposits .. £	..	52,697	173,090	582,796	1,117,761	2,569,432	5,715,687	9,662,006	26,402,071
Factories—									
Number of ..	..	..	278	531	1,740	2,488	3,141	3,249	5,413
Hands employed ..	..	..	..	4,395	19,468	43,209	52,225	66,529	113,834
Value of machinery, plant, land and buildings .. £	..	..	..	..	4,725,125	8,044,296	16,472,859	12,298,500	22,529,072
Value of articles produced .. £	..	..	..	..	..	13,370,836	22,390,251	19,478,780	51,466,093
State Education—									
Number of Primary schools ..	..	61	370	671	988	1,757	2,233	1,967	2,227
Expenditure on Education .. £	..	..	115,099	162,547	274,384	546,285	726,711	701,034	1,462,230
Total value of rateable property in municipalities .. £	..	..	..	29,638,091	59,166,078	87,642,459	203,351,360	185,101,993	318,960,116
Friendly Societies—									
Number of Members ..	..	..	1,698	7,166	35,706	47,908	89,269	101,045	158,746
Total funds .. £	..	..	..	..	213,004	475,954	961,933	1,870,604	2,775,787

NOTE.—In a few instances in the earlier years, where it is not possible to give figures for the exact date or period shown, those for the nearest dates or periods are given. Gold was discovered in 1851, in which year the return was 145,137 oz. Butter figures were not collected prior to 1891.
 * Owing to the Commonwealth authorities having discontinued the keeping of records of inter-State trade, the value of the total imports and exports of the State are not available for a later year than 1909. For that year the imports were valued at £28,150,198 and the exports at £29,896,275.

The population of the State at the end of 1842 was 23,799; and at the end of 1916 it had increased to 1,397,977. During the period 1842-1916 the revenue steadily increased from £87,296 to £11,471,000. There was no public debt until after separation. In 1855 the State indebtedness was £480,000; in 1916 the funded debt had reached £75,504,562, which has been spent on revenue-yielding and other works of a permanent character. The land in cultivation in 1842 was slightly over 8,000 acres; it now amounts to 7,069,608 acres. In the number of horses, cattle, and pigs increases are generally shown. The value of imports in 1842 was £277,427; in 1909, the last year for which figures are available, it was over £28,000,000. Exports amounted to £198,783 in 1842; and in 1909 to nearly £30,000,000. No railways or telegraphs were in existence up to the end of 1855; in 1861 there were 214 miles of railway open and in 1916 there were 4,105 miles; 2,586 miles of telegraph wires had been erected up to 1861, and 28,906 miles up to the 30th June, 1916. Postal business in letters and newspapers has expanded rapidly during the period covered by the table, and there has also been a large increase in Savings Bank deposits, which rose from £52,697 in 1850 to £26,402,071 in 1916.

The expenditure on education amounted to £115,000 in 1855, and had increased to £1,462,230 in 1915-16. Members of friendly societies numbered 1,698 in 1856, and 158,746 in 1915—the funds amounting to £213,000 in 1871 and £2,775,787 in 1915. Hands employed in factories rose from 19,468 in 1871 to 113,834 in 1915. The total value of rateable property in municipalities, which was £29,600,000 in 1861, aggregated £318,960,116 in 1915-16.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, AREA, AND CLIMATE.

Victoria is situated at the south-eastern extremity of the Australian continent, of which it occupies about a thirty-fourth part, and it contains about 87,884 square miles, or 56,245,760 acres. It is bounded on the north and north-east by New South Wales, from which it is separated by the River Murray, and by a straight line running in a south-easterly direction from a place near the head-waters of that stream, called The Springs, on Forest Hill, to Cape Howe. On the west it is bounded by South Australia, the dividing line being about 242 geographical miles in length, approximating to the position of the 141st meridian of east longitude, and extending from the River Murray to the sea. On the south and south-east its shores are washed by the Southern Ocean, Bass Strait, and the Pacific Ocean. It lies between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude, and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. Its extreme length from east to west is about 420, its greatest breadth about 250, and its extent of coast-line nearly 600 geographical miles. Great Britain, exclusive of the islands in the British Seas, contains 88,756 square miles, and is therefore slightly larger than Victoria.

The southernmost point in Victoria, and in the whole of Australia, is Wilson's Promontory, which lies in latitude 39 deg. 8 min. S., longitude 146 deg. 26 min. E.; the northernmost point is the place

where the western boundary of the State meets the Murray, latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S., longitude 140 deg. 58 min. E.; the point furthest east is Cape Howe, situated in latitude 37 deg. 31 min. S., longitude 149 deg. 59 min. E.; the most westerly point is the line of the whole western frontier, which, according to the latest correction, lies upon the meridian 140 deg. 58 min. E., and extends from latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S. to latitude 38 deg. 4 min. S., or 242 geographical miles.

Climate. From its geographical position, Victoria enjoys a climate more suitable to the European constitution than any other State upon the Continent of Australia. In the sixty years ended with 1916 the maximum temperature in the shade recorded at the Melbourne Observatory was 111·2 deg. Fahr., viz., on the 14th January, 1862; the minimum was 27 deg., viz., on the 21st July, 1869; and the mean was 57·4 deg. Upon the average, on four days during the year the thermometer rises above 100 deg. in the shade; and, generally, on about three nights during the year it falls below freezing point. The maximum temperature in the sun ever recorded (*i.e.*, since 1857) was 178·5 deg., viz., on the 4th January, 1862. The mean atmospheric pressure noted at an Observatory 91 feet above the sea level was, during the sixty years ended with 1916, 29·93 inches; the average number of days on which rain fell was 136, and the average yearly rainfall was 25·48 inches.

MOUNTAINS AND HILLS, RIVERS AND LAKES.

Mountains and Hills. The highest mountain in Victoria is Mount Bogong,* situated in the county of the same name, 6,509 feet above the sea-level; the next highest peaks are—Mount Feathertop, 6,306 feet; Mount Nelson, 6,170 feet; Mount Fainter, 6,160 feet; Mount Hotham, 6,100 feet; Mount McKay, 6,030 feet; and Mount Cope, 6,027 feet; all situated in the same county; also the Cobboras, 6,030 feet, situated between the counties of Benambra and Tambo. These, so far as is known, are the only peaks which exceed 6,000 feet in height; but, according to a list, which appears in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16, there are 39 peaks between 5,000 and 6,000 feet high, and 40 between 4,000 and 5,000 feet high; it is known, moreover, that there are many peaks rising to upwards of 4,000 feet above the level of the sea whose actual heights have not yet been determined.

Rivers. With the exception of the Yarra, on the banks of which the metropolis is situated; the Goulburn, which empties itself into the Murray about eight miles to the eastward of Echuca; the La Trobe and the Mitchell, with, perhaps, a few other of the Gippsland streams; and the Murray itself, the rivers of Victoria are not navigable except by boats. They, however, drain the watershed of

* The highest mountain on the Australian Continent is Mount Kosciuszko, in New South Wales, one peak of which is 7,328 feet high.

large areas of country, and many of the streams are used as feeders to permanent reservoirs for irrigation and water supply purposes for factories. The Murray, which forms the northern boundary of the State, is the largest river in Australia. Its total length is 1,520 miles, for 1,200 of which it flows along the Victorian border. Several of the rivers in the north-western portion of the State have no outlet, but are gradually lost in the absorbent tertiary flat country through which they pass.

Lakes. Victoria contains numerous salt and fresh water lakes and lagoons; but many of these are nothing more than swamps during dry seasons. Some of them are craters of extinct volcanoes. Lake Corangamite, the largest inland lake in Victoria, covers 90 square miles, and is quite salt, notwithstanding that it receives the flood waters of several fresh-water streams. It has no visible outlet. Lake Colac, only a few miles distant from Lake Corangamite, is a beautiful sheet of water, 10½ square miles in extent, and quite fresh. Lake Burrumbeet is also a fine sheet of fresh water, embracing 8 square miles. The Gippsland lakes—Victoria, King, and Reeve—are situated close to the coast, and are separated from the sea only by a narrow belt of sand. Lake Wellington, the largest of all the Gippsland lakes, lies to the westward of Lakes Victoria and King, and is united to the first-named by a narrow channel. South-east of Geelong is Lake Connewarre, connected with the sea at Point Flinders.

A list of mountains and hills, rivers and lakes in Victoria appears in the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1915-16. This was revised by the Surveyor-General, Mr. A. B. Lang, and contains information in regard to heights, lengths, and areas respectively.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF VICTORIA.

By H. Herman, B.C.E., M.M.E., F.G.S., Director of Geological Survey.

Several new points of interest worth special mention have arisen during the past two or three years. The age of the trilobite-bearing beds at Heathcote and Dolodrook River has been fixed as Upper Cambrian, with an ascertained passage at the former locality upward into Lower Ordovician graptolite beds. At Limestone Creek, Upper Murray, Mr. F. C. Chapman has found that the limestone series shows both a Silurian (Yeringian) and a Devonian facies, thus accounting for apparent anomalies in the field relationships of certain beds. The Limestone Creek and Gibbo-Mitta corals show a distinct resemblance to those of Yass and Canberra in New South Wales. The Orbost-Bairnsdale limestone area has been correlated with the Miocene limestone of the Western District; fish remains are plentiful in the upper portion of the series in both regions, giving rise to local developments of phosphatic limestone, which may in places prove to be of economic value. Considerable progress has been made by the Geological Survey

in field mapping generally; important structural surveys have been completed in the Ballarat and Wood's Point districts.

About one-third of Victoria consists of rugged highlands, the remaining two-thirds mainly of plains less than 1,000 feet above sea-level. High-level plateaux reaching an elevation of 6,000 feet are represented by the basaltic areas of Cobungra, Dargo, and Bogong High Plains, in the east of the State, on or near the main divide; but their area aggregates only about 100 square miles. If the Eastern Australian highlands stretching north and south from Cape York to Victoria be regarded as a long leg, the Victorian extension is in the shape of a small foot running westerly for about 400 miles, and irregularly descending, principally in a succession of peneplains, from heights exceeding 6,000 feet on the east till it disappears under the Murray and coastal plains, a few hundred feet above sea-level, to the west of the Grampians, Serra, Victoria, and Black ranges, a detached group of meridional ridges of Lower Carboniferous sedimentaries, rising to a maximum height of nearly 4,000 feet.

The highlands consist almost entirely of Carboniferous, Devonian, Silurian, and Ordovician sedimentary rocks (with inter-stratified volcanic rocks in places highly developed), plutonic masses of granites, granodiorites, porphyries, and thick accumulations of dacite lavas and tuffs. Great physiographical changes can be partly demonstrated and partly conjectured to have taken place during Mesozoic and Palæozoic times; but there is clear evidence that the present physical features are mainly of Cainozoic development. Marine beds, probably Miocene, have been proved by boring at Portland at 2,265 feet below sea-level; fully 3,000 feet of Cainozoic vertical erosion and denudation can be clearly traced in the highlands; extensive faulting during the same period has been revealed by surface observations and boring operations.

VICTORIA IN EARLIER GEOLOGICAL TIMES.

Victoria's geological and physiographical history is traceable from times as early as the Cambrian, possibly even pre-Cambrian, to which age may belong schists and gneisses of the north-east and west.

Nothing of the distribution of land and sea at this time can be stated except that much of the present land area was under sea. So far surveys have not been detailed enough to show whether or where there are ancient shore lines of the pre-Cambrian period. There is more definite evidence of Cambrian seas in trilobite-bearing beds at Heathcote and Dolodrook River, the period being also represented by a volcanic series in the shape of lavas and tuffs, as well as by igneous intrusions.

The Ordovician and Silurian periods witnessed the accumulation of tens of thousands of feet of sedimentary material, now represented from east to west nearly throughout the State by slates, shales, and sandstones, with some grits, conglomerates, and occasional limestones. Apparently little land surface existed in these early Palæozoic times. Adjustments

of the earth's crust followed, perhaps accompanied, Ordovician sedimentation; and probably continued through the Silurian period, then becoming so intense as to crush and crumple aggregations of strata miles in thickness into sharp corrugations, more or less acute domes, and great geanticlines and geosynclines. The result of these movements was probably great fold mountains, and the conversion of the greater part of the prior sea surface into land surface. The magnitude of the adjustments was such that strata became elevated fully 30,000 feet above others previously on the same horizontal plane. No striking metamorphism resulted from the intense orogenic movements, although there is some evidence (near Tallangatta) that restricted areas may have developed high schistosity at this or even a much later stage.

The hollows formed by the folding and faulting probably had a nearly meridional trend; they were partly filled by sub-aerial or sub-aqueous Lower Devonian volcanic accumulations (as the Snowy River porphyries and the dacites of Dandenong and Macedon) thousands of feet thick; by the deposit of Middle Devonian limestones and shales in shallow seas at Buchan and Bindi; by Upper Devonian (or later) freshwater sandstones and conglomerates, with interbedded volcanic rocks, of great thickness, marking the site of an inland sea from Sale to Whitfield; and by thousands of feet thick of Lower Carboniferous sandstones (the present Grampian Ranges). The Carboniferous rocks at Mansfield show evidence of occasional shallow marine conditions as well as terrestrial. The strong tendency of all the Palæozoic rock systems, covering an enormous period of geological time, to group themselves in roughly meridional parallelism, is eloquent testimony to the intensity of the character of the surface lines left by the Lower Devonian and earlier orogenic folding.

Glacial conglomerate and boulder till with intercalated fern-bearing strata indicate Permo-Carboniferous intermittent glacial and temperate conditions; during this and the Triassic periods there may have been no marine surface within the State, Bass' Strait, and Tasmania. Fresh adjustments of the crust gave rise to a probable general subsidence of the surface and markedly to a depression or succession of depressions, running in a general east-west direction from Sale (or further east) through Geelong and Casterton well into South Australia. These depressions formed inland seas which became receptacles for the deposition of several thousand feet of freshwater mudstone and sandstone now forming the Jurassic coal measures of the State.

Late Mesozoic and early Cainozoic times found Victoria a land region, although the same period witnessed the transgression and retrogression of a vast sea covering east-central Australia, perhaps completely separating Western Australia from eastern Queensland, eastern New South Wales, Victoria, and Tasmania.

Next ensued a period of subsidence, indicated by a restricted development of marine Oligocene beds as far inland as Hamilton.

The intercalation of brown coal beds at Altona between marine Oligocene marls and clays demonstrates that during this period minor elevation was an occasional feature during general subsidence. Passing into Miocene times steady and long-continued downward movement enabled the Miocene seas to find their way over large portions of Gippsland, the Western District, and the Mallee.

The tilting and warping of the Jurassic strata and the marked common faulting of these beds and the Oligocene or Miocene volcanic and sedimentary rocks in Gippsland show that earth-surface adjustments of a somewhat violent character were proceeding well into the Pliocene period, thus explaining why Pliocene seas covered the greater part of the Mallee and portion of Gippsland while the peneplains of the eastern highlands were being dissected by the erosion of valleys eventually over 3,000 feet in depth. The separation of Tasmania from Victoria was one of the most striking effects of these various earth movements.

The outstanding features of Pliocene to Recent physiography were the extensive development of volcanoes and the ejection of the lavas and tuffs of western Victoria, together with oscillations of the land surface. Of these oscillations the latest phases are predominating uplift in western Victoria, evidenced by raised beaches and rejuvenated streams (such as the Hopkins and Glenelg); and general depression in eastern Victoria, resulting in submergence of the coastal plain and deep accumulations of river silt such as the flats of the lower Snowy River.

MOUNTAINS, RIVERS, AND LAKES.

From the foregoing it is evident that structurally the mountains of Victoria are in the main a complex of major and minor ridges and foothills arising from deep dissection and faulting of an early Cainozoic peneplain of ancient rocks. The trend of the ridges bears little relation to the strike or folding of these rocks. Folding, tilting, or warping may have played a strong part in the isolated ranges of the Grampians, Cape Otway, and South Gippsland, though dissection is still the most conspicuous agent that formed the present contours.

A straight line running west-north-west for about 112 miles from Cape Howe to Forest Hill marks the eastern portion of the boundary between Victoria and New South Wales. This line is in rugged country almost throughout, and crosses successively the Genoa, a short coastal river running south-easterly into Mallacoota Inlet, the Bendoc and Delegate rivers, minor streams that eventually join and run northerly into the Snowy River, and finally the Snowy itself, the largest coastal river in the State, which, after following a tortuous course amid the most elevated highlands of New South Wales, crosses the border line about 15 miles from Forest Hill, and thence runs nearly southerly through precipitous gorges for 50 or 60 miles until it enters near Orbost the fertile maize-growing flood plain that extends for 15 miles to its outlet to the sea at Marlo. From Forest Hill the main divide of the eastern Australian highlands extends northerly for about 1,500 miles

till it cuts the coast in the extreme north of Queensland. In the opposite direction it turns into Victoria, traversing the State in a nearly east-west direction at an average distance of about 100 miles from the coast. The elevation of the divide fluctuates considerably; its prominent saddles are at the head of Livingstone Creek (elevation 2,400 feet) near Omeo and near Seymour (elevation 1,200 feet). Westerly from Seymour the general elevation is much lower than to the east; the water-parting is for long distances over flat basaltic plateaux; nearing the South Australian border levelling is needed to locate its precise course between the drainage areas of the Glenelg and Wimmera on a coastal plain a few hundred feet above sea-level.

From immediately west of Forest Hill, close to the 148th meridian, the Murray River marks the northern boundary of the State, following a tortuous course of 1,200 miles in an average west-north-westerly direction until the South Australian boundary is crossed at the 141st meridian. For less than 300 miles the river is a rapid-falling mountain stream; thence it enters the Murray plains, which quickly develop, going westerly, into the fertile agricultural districts of the Goulburn and Wimmera on the Victorian side, and the Southern Riverina in New South Wales territory. Between the 144th meridian and the South Australian border the river runs almost wholly through Mallee country. Of the tributaries to the Murray, the Mitta Mitta and Kiewa, on the east, traverse deep valleys and gorges carved from the penepain of ancient rocks; while the Wimmera, on the west, rising in the Grampians, speedily enters the flat plains and loses itself in a chain of lakes a hundred miles south of the Murray, to which it is tributary in name only. Intermediate affluents to the Murray, going west, are the Ovens, Goulburn, Campaspe, Loddon, and Avoca, their characters successively changing from the extreme eastern to the extreme western type.

On the coastal side of the main divide, west of the Snowy, the Tambo and Mitchell are almost wholly mountain waterways, the Latrobe somewhat less so. All these, after emerging from the old rocks of the highlands, traverse a broad belt of Cainozoic foothills or plains before entering the sea *via* the Gippsland lakes. The Yarra is almost wholly a mountain stream, rising at an elevation of about 5,000 feet and entering Port Phillip Bay within the short distance, along its bends, of 150 miles. West of Melbourne the only watercourses requiring mention are the Barwon, Hopkins, and Glenelg, all rising at low elevations compared with their eastern brothers, the first two traversing a few hundred miles of basaltic plateaux and plains, the third a dissected coastal plain, before reaching sea-level.

More than 170 lakes are listed by the Surveyor-General. Of these, many are fresh and many salt; only eleven exceed in area 10 square miles. A great number, especially in the north-west, are nearly or completely dry, except during wet seasons. This applies even to lakes that look so imposing on the map as Albacutya and Tyrrell. It is not easy to understand why Lake Corangamite, 72 square miles in area, near Camperdown, is salt, while Lake Colac, a few miles distant, 10½

square miles in area, is fresh. Both are in depressions in the same volcanic plain. The Gippsland lakes, navigable for 50 miles, have been formed by wind-blown sand forming a lengthy barrier on the sea-side of the estuary of the Latrobe, Mitchell, and Tambo rivers. Here seashore action and river silting have long been striving to transform the lakes into dry land; but so far coastal subsidence has fought fairly successfully against the threatened encroachments.

THE COAST LINE.

Cainozoic marine beds, dune sands, and volcanic material constitute the coast line from the South Australian border to the Gellibrand River, covering more than two degrees of longitude. Portions of this section show cliffs a few hundred feet high, but the general elevation throughout is low for many miles inland. Herein are located the open roadsteads of Portland Bay and Warrnambool, the two main harbor sites of western Victoria. From the Gellibrand to the 144th meridian near Lorne the Jurassic rocks of the Otway Ranges form a rugged and picturesque coast, steep cliffs rising inland to an elevation, in places, of 2,000 feet in a few miles. Beyond Lorne Cainozoic rocks at a low elevation continue past Port Phillip heads and Western Port to the prominent though inextensive granite area of Cape Woolamai. Port Phillip and Western Port are both probably river estuaries formed by coastal subsidence. The former is the port of Melbourne, and one of the most extensive harbors in Australia; the latter has in recent years been chosen as an important naval base of the Commonwealth. Jurassic rocks fringe the coast for some miles beyond Cape Woolamai, thence receiving a thin Cainozoic capping till the Palæozoic sedimentaries of Cape Liptrap are reached. A few miles of these are succeeded by 15 miles of sandy beach bordering the dune-formed isthmus connecting the main land with the bold granite masses (over 2,000 feet high overlooking the coast) of Wilson's Promontory, the most southern Victorian remnant of the former Tasmanian-Victorian peneplain. From the Promontory granite to Cape Howe the low-lying Cainozoics and Recent sand dunes of the Ninety-Mile Beach are broken only by the shallow waters of Corner Inlet, the narrow break of the entrance to the Gippsland lakes, a few isolated granite headlands easterly from Orbost, and the beautiful drowned valley of Mallacoota Inlet.

STRATIGRAPHICAL SUCCESSION.

Cambrian and Older.—The regionally metamorphosed schists of the North-East and the Glenelg may, as already indicated, be pre-Cambrian. At Heathcote are trilobite beds of Upper Cambrian age; associated with these beds are cherts, diabases, porphyries, microgranites, and granophyres. The inter-relations of these rocks are not yet quite beyond doubt; the latest view is that the diabases are mostly volcanic, that some of the cherts are metasomatically altered tuffs, and that the cherts and diabases are interbedded, and conformably underlie the trilobite beds.

F. C. Chapman classes a trilobite limestone at Dolodrook River, North Gippsland, as Upper Cambrian; he also by recent research confirms his previous opinion of the Upper Cambrian age of the Heathcote series.

The Heathcote rocks may have furnished some of the rich alluvial gold of the old McIvor Creek diggings. Magnesite, steatite, and manganese are worked at Heathcote; corundum and chrome iron occur both at Heathcote and Dolodrook River.

Ordovician rocks are almost wholly sandstones and slates, with thin conglomerates and limestone rarely. The beds have been intensely folded.

The Lower Ordovician beds yield a rich graptolite fauna, on which they have been subdivided into several definite zones. Except for small areas near Mornington and Mansfield they are known only west of the meridian of Melbourne, where they cover wide areas, including most of the important gold-fields of the State. Upper Ordovician rocks cover large areas in the east; many productive lode and alluvial gold-fields occur therein, as well as unimportant ores of silver-lead, copper, iron, and manganese.

Silurian sandstones and mudstones with conglomerates and limestones, all much folded, cover a large part of Central Victoria. On a rich fauna they have been divided into three series, the lowest of which is typically represented at Melbourne.

The rich Walhalla-Wood's Point gold belt is in Silurian rocks. Gold-antimony lodes and limestone are also exploited. Platinum and copper have been found in small quantity.

Devonian.—Lower Devonian rocks are probably represented by the acidic tuffs, agglomerates, lavas, and porphyry masses of the Snowy River, as also by the dacite lavas and granodiorites of Macedon and the Dandenongs. Limestones and shales at Buchan and Bindi are Middle Devonian. The large area of freshwater sandstones and conglomerates, with interbedded volcanic rocks, of the Macallister-Wonnangatta area, may be Upper Devonian or Carboniferous.

The intrusive granites and granodiorites that figure so prominently throughout the State on the geological map are probably in general Lower Devonian.

Economically the Devonian rocks have not so far been very important. Gold, silver-lead, copper, baryta, felspar, and building stone have been the chief products. The bulk of the interior decoration of Commonwealth House, London, is being executed in *cafe-au-lait* marble from the Buchan limestone area.

Carboniferous.—Lower Carboniferous rocks are represented by the sandstones and shales of the Grampian Ranges in western Victoria, and in the Mansfield district by a thick series of red sandstones, mudstones, impure limestone and conglomerates. At Mt. William in the Grampians, there is evidence of a granodiorite-porphyrity intrusion into the Lower Carboniferous sandstones. Freestone for building purposes has so far been the main product.

Permo-Carboniferous.—Boulder till and glacial conglomerate occur at Bacchus Marsh, Heathcote, various north-eastern localities, Campbelltown, and Coleraine; they also underlie deep leads in some of the western gold-fields. At Bacchus Marsh a series of sandstones and shales containing *Gangamopteris* is interbedded with the glacial conglomerate and till. Freestone is so far the chief economic product.

Jurassic.—Felspathic sandstones and mudstones with occasional conglomerates occur in South Gippsland, the Otway Ranges, and the watershed of the Wannon. Seams of coal up to 10 feet thick have been worked in the South Gippsland area, but in the Wannon and Otway only small seams have been found. Much faulting and intrusions of dolerite dykes are characteristic of the South Gippsland Jurassic. Freestone from Barrabool Hills, near Geelong, has been quarried for building purposes. The dolerites offer a useful road-making material.

Oligocene.—Marine sands, clays, and limestones of Oligocene age are known at Mornington, Muddy Creek, Altona, and Sorrento (the last two at a depth). At Newport and Altona under the marine series there are seams of brown coal up to 140 feet thick.

Miocene.—The greatest thickness of known Cainozoic beds belongs to this period. Miocene marls and polyzoal rocks occur in numerous localities along the Victorian coast. In the Western District, Miocene appears in many places south of the divide. Extensive deposits of brown coal range from the Miocene to the Oligocene. Basaltic flows are associated with Miocene beds, perhaps marking the inception of Cainozoic volcanic activity. The main water-bearing strata of the Mallee-Riverina basin belong to this series. Limestone is so far the chief product.

Pliocene.—Lower Pliocene shell-marls and sands are represented at the Gippsland Lakes, portions of shores of Port Phillip Bay, Flemington, Hamilton, Shellford, Muddy Creek, and the Mallee. This period is generally characterized by coarse marine and freshwater sediments; large areas are probably overlain by volcanic rocks. In the fauna some gigantic mammals are included. Upper Pliocene sands and limestones are at Glenelg River, Moorabool River, and in the Mallee. The extensive volcanic plains of the Western District have been formed from the tuffs and lavas of numerous volcanoes, active from Pliocene to comparatively recent times. Many of the craters are of perfect shape and are a conspicuous feature of this region.

Recent.—Loam and sand deposits, dune sands, recent beaches, and lake sediments now forming, ferruginous and calcareous bands and concretions are included in deposits of Recent age.

Cainozoic formations have proved fabulously rich in alluvial gold. Stream tin, a little wolfram and monazite have also been worked. Clays have proved useful in the pottery industries, sands for glass-making, and some ferruginous material for pigment.

The vast deposits of brown coal (which may range from Oligocene to Miocene or younger) promise to play an important part in the future industrial development of the State.

THE FLORA OF VICTORIA.

By ALFRED J. EWART, D.Sc., Ph.D., F.L.S., Government Botanist, and Professor of Botany and Plant Physiology, Melbourne University.

The early general accounts of the flora of Victoria by Baron Mueller have been, to some extent, superseded by the short but excellent accounts given by Mr. G. Weindorfer in the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1904, and by Mr. C. A. Topp, M.A., LL.B., in the Melbourne Handbook of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science, 1890. In several respects, however, these general views need amplification, especially as the progress of settlement, drainage, irrigation, and cultivation continues to affect the character and distribution of the native flora. The following remarks will serve to complete the accounts already given, as well as to draw attention to certain features which come prominently out in a general view of the flora, but have not previously been discussed.

The factors which influence a flora and determine its character are the result of the interaction of telluric, oceanic, and solar influences, and may be grouped under the following heads:—

1. The previous geological history of the country, and its relationship to other countries.
2. The present and past climate, in which the most important factors are—
 - (a) Average and annual temperature, and extremes of heat and cold.
 - (b) Average annual rainfall, and its distribution throughout the year.
 - (c) Character and depth of the soil.
 - (d) Prevailing winds and their intensity and direction, including the influence of drift sand, &c.

The two latter factors influence more the local than the general distribution through large areas, although the influence of wind on the flora of the coastal districts around Melbourne, and on that of large areas of the north and south-western districts, is very pronounced.

The previous geological history of Victoria is by no means certain, although evidences of elevation and subsidence are shown in many parts, and volcanic eruptions and lava outbursts in past ages have been responsible for the sudden destruction of the local flora over wide areas. In the same way, the existing evidence of glacial action points to the occurrence of a cold glacial age in the history of Victoria, when arctic conditions prevailed, and all the requirements were produced for the subsequent development of a homogeneous alpine flora on the tops of the lofty mountains as the cold receded and more favorable conditions prevailed, leaving arctic species stranded, as it were, on the top of every lofty mountain throughout the State. The alpine flora of Victoria is, however, apparently more modern and hence less striking than that of Europe, although many features of

similarity exist between the two. The more modern character of the Victorian alpine flora is, for instance, evidenced by the facts that the plain and alpine floras largely overlap, and that the latter shows less type differentiation than usual. Species which pass from alpine or sub-alpine regions to the plains are *Arabis perfoliata*, *Billardiera scandens*, *Correa Lawrenciana*, *Hypericum japonicum*, *Sagina procumbens*, and *Stellaria pungens*, although others are not wanting, such as *Drosera Archeri*, &c., which are exclusively restricted to high alpine elevations. Little doubt exists as to a land connexion with Tasmania in past ages by way of King Island, and this is borne out by the large number of species common to the two States, Tasmania and Victoria. New Zealand, on the other hand, is widely distinct in its flora from that of Victoria, so that, if New Zealand and Australia were ever connected, the separation must have occurred in very remote ages.

Present Climate.—The average annual rainfall of 26 inches approximates to that of England, and this, coupled with its warmer climate and continental connexions, makes the flora of Victoria somewhat more numerous and varied than that of Great Britain, in spite of the smaller area of the State. The idea that Victoria is much drier than Great Britain is hardly correct. The chief difference is that in Great Britain a few places are exceptionally wet (Ben Nevis, 151 inches per annum; one station in Lake district, 177 inches per annum), whereas in Victoria a few regions are exceptionally dry (the north-west portion of the Mallee). The Lake district in England, and the south-west coast of Scotland, with an annual rainfall of 40 inches, correspond exactly to the Otway Forest and South Gippsland, where the rainfall just exceeds 40 inches. Over a very large part of the east coast of England and Scotland the rainfall is below 25 inches. The average for London is, for instance, 24 inches—*i.e.*, below the average for Victoria; and in one drought year, when agriculture in Essex and neighbouring counties suffered greatly, it was as low as 16 inches. A point of great importance is that in all the wettest parts of Great Britain the flora is of a special character, and limited to a few bog, humus, or hygrophilous types, whereas it is in the drier regions that the flora is more abundant and varied—that agriculture is of most importance, and the land most valuable.

In Victoria, owing to its warmer climate, a higher rainfall is required to reach the limit at which it becomes detrimental to agriculture, and at which bog, humus, and hygrophilous floras prevail. Although this limit is reached in parts of South Gippsland, the Otways, and on some of the higher mountain ranges, it is only over limited areas, which represent a relatively small portion of the total surface of Victoria. The conditions are, therefore, very different to those prevailing on the west coasts of Ireland or Tasmania, where, owing to the high rainfall, enormous tracts of land are quite unsuited for the ordinary practice of agriculture, though, naturally, not entirely useless. Even in Victoria, however, if the curves for rainfall and temperature coincided instead of being opposed—*i.e.*, if the rains of the south fell on the

northern areas—the climate, flora, and agricultural possibilities of the State would be enormously improved, and irrigation would be largely unnecessary.

As it is, there are over 2,000 species of flowering plants and vascular cryptogams in Victoria; and when the lower cryptogams—Algæ, Musci, Fungi, &c.—are added, the species total fully 5,000. England possesses about 1,200 flowering plants and ferns; but, owing to its relatively large expanse of coast and its more uniformly moist climate, Algæ, Musci, and Fungi are better represented.

A very interesting feature in distribution is afforded by the fact that many almost subtropical species from New South Wales or even Queensland (*Hakea dactyloides*, *Livistona australis*, *Callitris calcarata*, &c.) extend down the coast into Victoria. The neighbourhood of the sea maintains a more equable temperature, and keeps the air more uniformly moist. Plants in general suffer more from cold dry air than from equally cold but moist air, so that under moist coastal conditions subtropical and even tropical plants can extend far to the south out of their proper geographical zones.

The climate of Victoria may be fairly compared with that of the south of France or Spain, but the flora is widely dissimilar as regards the species and genera, and even some of the orders (Proteaceæ) of which it is composed. A number of common British genera—*Hypericum*, *Stellaria*, *Cardamine*, *Drosera*, *Capsella*, &c.—are represented in Victoria, but mainly or entirely by distinct Australian species. A few cosmopolitans—*Spergularia rubra*, *Sagina procumbens*, *Myosurus minimus*, *Potentilla anserina*, *Oxalis corniculata*, *Portulaca oleracea*, *Polygonum hydropiper*, *Lemna minor*, *Potamogeton*, &c.—are, however, natives of Victoria, and they, with others, form a connecting link with the world's flora. Thus *Prunella vulgaris*, L., the "Self-Heal," and *Solanum nigrum*, the "Black Nightshade," are common English weeds, while native species of *Sida*, *Hibiscus*, *Anagallis*, *Heliotropium*, *Cyperus*, &c., also occur in Asia, Africa, and America. Such non-European plants as *Parietaria debilis*, *Dodonæa viscosa*, *Avicennia officinalis*, and *Tetragonia expansa* are especially interesting, since they connect our flora with that of the old and new worlds on the one hand and with that of New Zealand on the other.

The dominant general features of the Victorian flora are determined by the necessity of protection against periodic drought and intense sunlight. The latter affects, of course, exposed plants only, and is shown by the common presence of vertical leaves or phyllodia on so many of our forest trees, with the result that they yield relatively little shade, and at the same time transpire less actively than if horizontally expanded.

Various adaptations for surviving periods of drought are shown, such as the formation of reduced evaporating surfaces and fleshy leaves like those of the salt-bushes, by the transformation of branches which would bear leaves into thorns and prickles, such as *Acacia armata*, &c.

In addition, many herbaceous perennials in dry seasons or situations develop as annuals, surviving the dry period in the form of seed. The seeds of many Leguminosæ (*Acacias*, *Jacksonias*, *Viminaria denudata*, &c.) have impermeable cuticularized seed-coats when fully ripened, so that they may remain dormant in the soil for long periods of years, germinating when brought to the surface and the coats softened by heat, by the alkaline ash of bush fires, or by mechanical abrasion.

A few introduced trees, such as the Moreton Bay Fig, Maple, and Plane, shed a portion of their leaves in drought so that the remainder may have a chance of surviving, and the same may be shown to a limited extent by some of the native trees, although the latter are nearly all evergreen, the leaves being shed irregularly all the year round without ever leaving the tree entirely bare. The prevalence of evergreens in the native flora is the result of our mild winters, but introduced deciduous trees flourish admirably and are largely used for tree planting.

The erect, branchless, lower stems and thick fibrous bark of so many of our Eucalypti are probably protective adaptations against bush fires, and this peculiarity often causes them to be unaffected by a fire which would completely consume a European pine forest under similar conditions. The frequently delayed dehiscence of *Callistemon*, *Hakea*, *Banksia*, &c., especially under moist conditions, is probably also an adaptation to drought conditions or to recurrent bush-fires, for both causes clear the land of existent vegetation to a greater or less extent, and, at the same time, excite the escape by dehiscence of the seeds which are to replace it, and the germination of those dormant seeds whose coats have been softened by the heat and ashes.

The coast scrub of Tea-tree (*Leptospermum* and *Melaleuca*) protects itself against wind and sand-drift by growing close together, the leaves, which demand a fair exposure to light, being found at the upper surfaces and edges of the scrub only and giving its interior a peculiarly gloomy character. Where the scrub is dense, no plants grow beneath; but where it is less dense, a few mosses, grasses, and such orchids as *Caladenia*, *Pterostylis*, &c., may be found, and an introduced *Polygala*, *P. myrtifolia*, L., is sometimes abundant. The Mallee scrub of the north-west (shrubby Eucalypti) affords an instance of similar adaptation, but in this case to inland conditions.

In spite of its close connexion with the rest of Australia, the barriers to migration in the past have sufficed to enable Victoria to retain a fairly large number of endemic species, at least 46, although possibly some of the latest-described plants may prove to be merely varieties or hybrids of species with a wider range. This appears especially to be the case with the genus *Pultenaea*, of which no less than five new species have been recently recorded, one of them, *P. Weindorferi*, Reader, being found comparatively near Melbourne. In any case, the comparison with England, which, in spite of its isolation as an island and larger area, has hardly any true endemic species, is very striking.

The endemic species of Victoria include *Eucalyptus alpina*, *Acacia tenuifolia*, *Pultenaea* (9 species), *Grevillea* (4 species), *Olearia stricta*, *Goodenia Macmillani*, *Prostanthera* (3 species), *Leucopogon* (2 species), *Chiloglottis* (2 species), *Prasophyllum* (4 species), *Stipa* (4 species), *Glyceria dives*, *Lepidosperma tortuosum*, and many others. There is, however, a smaller percentage of endemic species in Victoria than in any other State of Australia, owing to the greater range of conditions within its boundaries and to the close connexion with neighbouring States, the northern and western boundaries of Victoria being political rather than geographical or botanical.

The genera with endemic species, and more especially *Pultenaea*, *Grevillea*, *Acacia*, *Eucalyptus*, *Thelymitra*, and *Prasophyllum*, may be regarded as especially adapted to Victorian conditions and as characteristic representatives of its flora.

The latter is, however, in a transitional condition, and is rapidly undergoing modification as the result of civilization.

The chief factors tending to the disadvantage of the native flora are—the progress of deforestation, the drainage of swamps and swampy localities, sheep pasturing and the spread of rabbits, the increase of the area under cultivation or irrigation, and the introduction of hordes of alien weeds and garden escapes, many of which are not merely more or less aggressive weeds of cultivation—*Senecio*, *Carduus*, *Centaurea*, *Anagallis arvensis* (Pimpernel), *Sonchus* (Sow Thistle), and *Tares* (*Vicia*), &c.—but also establish themselves on pastures and virgin ground, largely ousting the native flora. Such plants are the Gorse, *Ulex europæus*, Perennial Thistle, *Carduus arvensis*, Onion Grass, *Romulea cruciata*, Blackberry Bramble, *Rubus fruticosus*, Briar, *Rosa rubiginosa*, Ragwort, *Senecio Jacobæa*, St. John's Wort, *Hypericum perforatum*, Stinkwort, *Inula graveolens*, Boxthorn, *Lycium horridum*, Prickly Pear, *Opuntia monacantha*, and many others. The list of proclaimed plants of Victoria now includes no less than 47 species, of which only the Nut Grass, *Cyperus rotundus*, Cotton Fireweed, *Erechtites quadridentata*, D.C., Chinese Scrub, *Cassinia arcuata*, the Mistletoes, *Loranthus celastroides* and *L. pendulus*, and the Prickly Acacia, *Acacia armata*, are native plants.

During the period 1916-1917 ten foreign plants have succeeded in establishing themselves as naturalized aliens in Victoria. In addition seven other exotics have made their appearance for the first time, some of which may eventually establish themselves as aliens.

The following species have been added to the list of the native flora *Ceratogyne obionoides*, Turcz (Compositæ), previously recorded from Western Australia, South Australia, New South Wales, and Queensland; *Eremophila* (*Pholidia*) *crassifolia*, F.v.M. (*Myoporaceæ*), previously known from South Australia, and *Eremophila Sturtii*, R. Br. (*Myoporaceæ*), previously recorded from South Australia, New South Wales, and Queensland. In addition, a new species belonging to the natural order *Rutaceæ* has been recorded from this State

(*Phebalium bullatum*, J. M. Black), also a new species of orchid has been recorded (*Chiloglottis Pescottiana*, Rogers).

One striking peculiarity is to be noted—namely, that the introduced Pimpernel is ousting the two native Pimpernels, and the same applies in other cases also. Thus the native *Hypericum* is not particularly abundant, whereas the introduced *Hypericum*, or St. John's Wort, is spreading rapidly. The introduced Dodder, *Cuscuta epithymum*, L., seems to be more dangerous, especially to lucerne, than the native Dodders; while the parasite *Cassytha* (Lauraceæ), sometimes mistaken for Dodder, hitherto has confined its attacks to native vegetation and left cultivated plants untouched.

The unusual luxuriance and powers of spreading shown by many introduced weeds is in some cases possibly the result of the stimulating effect of a change of climate, but in others is merely due to the fact that the weeds are allowed to grow on land from which cultivation excludes them in their original home. It would be interesting to know whether the production of alkaloids in certain feebly poisonous alien weeds increases in their new home, or whether such weeds appear to be more poisonous because stock eat them more freely in Victoria. This applies, for instance, to the Pimpernel (*Anagallis arvensis*), which has spread rapidly in Victoria, and was responsible for a heavy mortality among sheep at Lilydale, but in England does not seem to be specially dangerous to stock, possibly because green fodder is more abundant.

One feature of the native flora is, as is usually the case, the small number of useful economic plants it contains. Many of the forest trees produce good timber, but the latter is, in some cases, too hard, heavy, and brittle when seasoned to be of much value, except for special purposes where durability is all-important and little working is required; while the softer woods are for the most part not very durable, or are very liable to warp and crack—at least under the methods of seasoning usually adopted here. It is for this reason that so much of the new forest planting has been confined to exotic trees; but, nevertheless, many native trees yield timber useful for beams, railway sleepers, piles, paving blocks, furniture, &c. With the improved methods of seasoning that have in many cases come into practical use, it has been found that many native timbers formerly little appreciated are really of great value. Unfortunately, most of our native forests have been despoiled of their most valuable timber trees without any forethought to the future before their value was fully realized, and without proper provision for artificial re-forestation. Natural re-forestation is too uncertain a process to be relied on in countries where population is fairly abundant and land is correspondingly valuable. The imports of timber into Victoria already reach a high figure, although a very large part is derived from timber trees which would grow equally well within the State. That there should be hardly any native fruits and no native cereal grains of any value as food for civilized man is hardly surprising when we consider that the commoner cereals and fruit trees are the result of ages of continual selection. Even the native

fodder grasses and fodder plants are, with some notable exceptions, inferior in quality or objectionable on account of their armed fruits, inferior fertility, deficient nutritive properties, &c., and are being driven out by more suitable and adaptable introduced grasses.

All the Leguminosæ used as fodder (Clover, Trefoil, Vetch, Lucerne, Sainfoin, Peas, &c.), are introduced, so that if we exclude the *Acacia*, with its wattle-bark, this important order contains hardly any native representatives of pronounced economic value. A large number of our native flowers would possibly be capable of great improvement under cultivation, and other native plants might be found to develop useful economic properties under selective treatment. The cultivated plants of the world are mainly the result of selective adaptations from the floras of Europe and Asia, and no one seeing the original wild mustard for the first time could have predicted, without long trial extending over generations, the series of useful cultivated plants (cabbage, cauliflower, rape, mustard, brocoli, Brussels sprouts, turnips, &c.) to which this one genus would give rise. If only such investigations are made before it is too late, although we may regret, on sentimental grounds, the shrinkage of the native flora and the probable ultimate extinction of many of its representatives, it can only be regarded as the inevitable result of the progress of settlement, while the spread of the different weeds of cultivation is the usual, though by no means an unavoidable, accompaniment of the same change.

The proper establishment of the National Park at Wilson's Promontory will render it possible to preserve many species which seem in danger of extinction—at least, until such time as their economic possibilities have been thoroughly ascertained; and it is sincerely to be trusted that none of our endemic species will be suffered to become absolutely extinct when a special harbor and sanctuary exists for them. A species once extinct cannot be revived by any means; and to allow plants to become extinct before all their economic possibilities have been thoroughly tested is a wanton wasting of the hidden treasures which Nature scatters lavishly around us.

The flora of the National Park now contains over 600 species of native plants, that is nearly one-third of the whole flora of Victoria, and this number includes several plants which are rare or absent from other parts of Victoria. Many native plants formerly absent from the Park have now been planted there, and in the course of time it will probably represent the only large area where the entire native flora will be seen in its primitive condition and natural relationship.

THE FAUNA OF VICTORIA.

By the late T. S. HALL, M.A., D.Sc. (University of Melbourne) and J. A. KERSHAW, Curator of the National Museum, Melbourne.

The peculiarity of the Australian mammalian fauna has often been remarked upon. Nowhere else in the world do we find representatives of the three great groups into which the class is divided, namely, the

Eutheria, the Marsupials, and the Monotremes. The last group, containing the spiny anteater (*Tachyglossus*) and the platypus (*Ornithorhynchus*), is confined to the continent and neighbouring islands, while the marsupials exist, nowadays, only in the Australian region and America.

Of the Eutheria, which comprises all mammals above the Marsupials, we have but a few terrestrial forms—the dingo (*Canis dingo*), a few bats, and rats and mice. The seas afford a few more, such as whales and dolphins, seals, and, in certain places, the dugong (*Halicore*).

Owing to the progress of settlement and the consequent disappearance of the natural cover and feeding grounds, many of the terrestrial forms are rapidly disappearing, while some have already gone.

With the establishment of the National Park at Wilson's Promontory as a permanent sanctuary for the native fauna and flora, it is now possible to preserve many species in their natural environment, which would otherwise soon become extinct. The small Wombat (*Phascolomys tasmaniensis*) which is restricted to Flinders Island, in Bass Straits, where it is doomed to early extinction, and the black opossum of Tasmania have been liberated there together with red and grey kangaroos, wallabies, wombats, emus, and lyre birds from the mainland. The echidna was already there, and no doubt the platypus will soon follow.

In Victoria we find the Australian fauna typically developed. The echidna ranges over the whole continent, while its ally, the platypus, is confined to the eastern side of Australia from Tasmania to the Tropics. Both are still common in certain parts of the State.

Among the marsupials the kangaroo family (*Macropodidae*) is well represented, though the larger forms are rapidly disappearing. These comprise the red, grey, and black-faced kangaroos. The larger wallabies are represented by the black-tailed wallaby (*Macropus ualabatus*), which is still common in many parts of the State, and ranges far to the north of our boundaries.

The smaller forms such as the rufous-bellied wallaby (*M. billardieri*), the brush-tailed rock wallaby (*Petrogale penicillata*), the hare wallaby (*Lagorchestes leporoides*), and the bridled nail-tailed wallaby (*Onychogale frenata*) are now rare, and very seldom seen in their wild state.

The rat-kangaroos frequent the thick scrub and are very rapid in their movements. One species, the brush-tailed (*Bettongia penicillata*), which is found in Southern New South Wales, builds a large nest of grass, using its long tail to carry the material. Three species are known to Victoria, viz., the rufous (*Aepyprymnus rufescens*), jerboa (*Bettongia cuniculus*), and the common rat-kangaroo (*Potorous tridactylus*). These have practically disappeared from this State.

The Australian opossum family (*Phalangeridae*) comprises our so-called opossums, flying squirrels, and the native bear—unfortunate names, but the only local ones in common use. The common opossum or phalanger and the Tasmanian brown are the same species (*Trichosurus vulpecula*), the island form being a little larger and of a darker

hue. The species ranges over practically the whole of Australia. They form their nests in hollow trees, or, where these are absent, as on some of the islands in Bass Strait and in Central Australia, on the ground. A closely-allied species, the short-eared (*T. caninus*) is found in the eastern part of the State. The ring-tailed opossum (*Pseudochirus peregrinus*) builds a round ball-like nest of small twigs and leaves in the dense scrub.

The flying opossums, or, as they are sometimes called, flying squirrels, are represented by several species, ranging from the size of a cat to that of a mouse, and are beautiful animals. Like the common opossums, they are nocturnal in habit and are herbivorous. They have not the power of true flight, but can glide through the air for a considerable distance from a greater to a less height. This is accomplished by the aid of a membranous parachute formed by a lateral extension of the skin of the body and supported by the fore and hind limbs, similar to that of the true flying squirrels.

On a still moonlight night they may be observed to project themselves from the topmost boughs of a tall tree and gliding at a gradually decreasing angle reach the trunk of another tree, often at a considerable distance.

The largest species (*Petauroides volans*) is distributed throughout the eastern part of the State. It varies in colour from black to almost wholly white. Three smaller species (*Petaurus breviceps*, *P. australis*, and *P. scuireus*), are also found in Victoria, though the two latter are rare.

The pigmy flying phalanger (*Acrobates pygmaeus*) is no larger than a mouse and has a remarkable, flattened, feather-like tail. It is frequently found coiled up in an abandoned birds' nest. The doormouse phalanger (*Dromicia nana*) is arboreal in habit and insectivorous, and, like the acrobates, is sometimes found in an old birds' nest.

The rarest of all this group is the small squirrel phalanger (*Gymnobelideus leadbeateri*). Only three specimens are known, all of which are in the National Museum and were obtained in South Gippsland.

The native bear or koala (*Phascolarctos cinereus*) has a very restricted range. It does not occur in South Australia or Tasmania, but extends north up the eastern coastal region. As shown by its occurrence in cave deposits in Western Australia it formerly had a much wider range. Despite its name it is a harmless and peaceable vegetable feeder, and, except in protected areas, is rapidly disappearing.

Of the wombat family (*Phascolomyidæ*) we have but one representative (*Phascolomys mitchelli*) which is still common in the eastern part of the State.

In the native cat family (*Dasyuridæ*) there were originally three of the spotted species in Victoria. The large tiger cat (*Dasyurus maculatus*), however, seems to have entirely disappeared, though still common in parts of Tasmania. The common native cat (*D. viverrinus*) is not uncommon near Melbourne, while the black-tailed species (*D. geoffroyi*) only occurs north of the Dividing Range.

The Tasmanian devil (*Sarcophilus ursinus*) is now confined to Tasmania, but that it existed at no very distant date in this State is shown by the well preserved and recent appearance of skulls which have been found. A living specimen captured in 1912 in a forest at Tooborac and sent to the National Museum suggested that it probably still existed, but in the absence of further evidence it must be regarded as an escaped specimen from confinement.

The pouched mice (*Phascogale* and *Sminthopsis*) are small animals ranging in size from that of a rat to a mouse. Some are arboreal, others terrestrial. The largest is the brush-tailed pouched mouse, (*Phascogale penicillata*), which lives in hollow logs and holes in trees, and feeds on young birds, eggs, and insects. They are also known to enter the fowl-house and kill chickens. It has a wide distribution, extending over the greater part of Australia. Two smaller species (*Phascogale flavipes* and *P. swainsoni*) are also found in Victoria.

The narrow-footed pouched mice (*Sminthopsis*) are terrestrial, being usually found under logs. They are fierce little cannibals, and a few years ago about 50 were sent alive in a case to the University. Two days after there were two living, while a few rags of fur represented the other four dozen. The survivors engaged in mortal combat in the glass jar in which they were put to be chloroformed.

The common pouched mouse (*S. murina*) and the thick-tailed (*S. crassicaudata*) are not uncommon here. Examples of these forms are desiderata in the National Museum.

The bandicoots (*Peramelidæ*) are represented in this State by five species. The rabbit-bandicoot, or bilbie (*Thalacomys lagotis*), constructs a large, open-mouthed burrow, and, like the pig-footed bandicoot (*Chæropus ecaudatus*), is a rare animal and occurs only in the north-west.

Gunn's bandicoot (*Perameles gunni*) is the commonest species, and the long-nosed (*Perameles nasuta*) and the short-nosed bandicoots (*Isodon obesulus*) are also found here.

In eutheria, the higher mammals, we are, as already stated, poorly represented. The dingo (*Canis dingo*) perhaps got here before man arrived, and its remains are found fossil. Bass Strait was a barrier to it, and it did not reach Tasmania.

Among bats the large fruit-bat, commonly known as the flying-fox (*Pteropus poliocephalus*), occasionally appears in great numbers in the northern and eastern parts of the State, where it inflicts great damage on fruit gardens. During such raids, long distances are often travelled, the animals returning each morning to their usual camps. It is widely spread up the eastern sea-board of the continent. Several species of the smaller insect-eating bats occur, among which are *Nyctinomus australis* and *Taphozous australis*, both widely distributed species.

The large, handsome, golden water-rat (*Hydromys chrysogaster*) is common in parts, and its range extends all over the Continent, as well as to Tasmania and New Guinea. There are also several species of bush-rats, while the jerboa rats, so called on account of their mode of

progression, are represented by *Notomys mitchelli*, found in the Mallee country in the north-western part of the State.

Of seals, the Australian sea-bear (*Otaria fosteri*) at one time very abundant on our shores, is now practically restricted to the Seal Rocks, off Western Port Bay, and to Julia Percy Island. Here there are still large numbers, and being protected they are unmolested.

The large earless leopard seal (*Ogmorhinus leptonyx*) is only an occasional visitor, while two species of the white crab-eating seal (*Lobodon carcinophaga*) have wandered here from the far south.

The yellow-sided dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) is common, and whales of several species are occasional visitors along our coast.

As regards birds, we have only a few species practically confined to the State, the Victorian lyre-bird (*Menura victoriæ*) being the best known. The emu (*Dromaius novaehollandiæ*) is still common in the north-west, as well as in parts of South Gippsland.

Wild fowl are plentiful and occasionally great incursions are made from the north. The black swan (*Chenopsis atrata*) is abundant, especially in Gippsland, and is protected throughout the year. The Cape Barren goose (*Cereopsis novaehollandiæ*) and the pied goose (*Anseranus semipalmata*) are both rare. Among ducks, the common species are the black duck (*Anas superciliosa*), Australian teal (*Nettion castaneum*), and the grey teal (*N. gibberifrons*). Quail are common at times, and pigeons of various kinds occur. Our most striking birds are the lories and honey-eaters, which gather "the harvest of the honey-gums." The mound-building Lowan or Mallee hen (*Leipoa ocellata*), found only in the west and north-west, and the bower-birds (*Ptilonorhynchus violaceus* and *Chlamydotera maculata*) are remarkable for their habits, so often described, while the mutton-bird (*Puffinus brevicaudus*) is of great economic value for its eggs, which are gathered, together with its young, in countless numbers.

Field naturalists have investigated our birds more thoroughly than any other group of our fauna.

Turning to reptiles, we have two tortoises, the short-necked (*Emydura macquariæ*), found north of the Divide, and the long-necked (*Chelodina longicollis*), occurring both here and in Gippsland. The large leathery turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) is a rare visitor, and only three or four specimens have been captured.

As regards lizards, there are altogether about 50 species in the State, the most remarkable being the so-called legless forms of the family Pygopidæ. *Pygopus lepidopus*, *Delma fraseri*, *D. impar*, and *Lialis burtonii* are well-known examples. They have no front legs, while the hind ones are represented by two scaly flaps usually fitting into grooves on the side of the body, and so escaping casual examination. They are probably the main source of the stories of snakes with legs, which occasionally appear in the newspapers. The large lace lizard, or "goanna" (*Varanus varius*), derives its name from Iguana, a genus not found in Australia. It is common in the northern and eastern parts

of the State, and reaches a length of 5 or 6 feet. A rather smaller species (*Varanus gouldi*) is found throughout the dry north-west, where it replaces *Varanus varius*. The Gippsland water lizard (*Physignathus lesueuri*) is remarkable on account of its semi-aquatic habits, which has earned for it the local name of the Gippsland crocodile. It is usually found basking in the sun on rocks and fallen logs close to a stream, into which it immediately disappears on the least alarm. The Jew, or bearded, lizard (*Amphibolurus barbatus*) and the smaller so-called "bloodsucker" (*A. muricatus*) are common throughout the State.

Other well-known forms are the stump-tail (*Trachysaurus rugosus*) and the blue-tongues (*Tiliqua*), three species of which occur here.

Among the smaller kinds there are several species of skinks and six species of geckoes.

Among snakes, we have the non-venomous blind snake (*Typhlops polygrammicus*) with a body as smooth as glass, which enables it to bury itself in the sandy soil with great rapidity, and the carpet snake (*Python spilotes*), both of which are restricted to the northern parts of the State.

We have about a dozen venomous species, though some, from their small size, are not dangerous to man.

The tiger snake (*Notechis scutatus*), a handsomely-marked species, is one of the commonest, as well as the most active and dangerous. It is viviparous and very prolific, being known to produce from 30 to 40 young at a time.

The brown snakes (*Denisonia* and *Diemenia*) produce eggs, and are only found in the northern and western districts. The common brown snake (*Diemenia textilis*) grows to a length of 6 feet, and is of a uniform olive-brown in the adult, while the young are often prettily marked with a black blotch on the crown of the head and a series of narrow black cross-bars on the body.

Among others are the black snake (*Pseudechis porphyriacus*) and the copper-head (*Denisonia superba*), common in the southern districts. The death or deaf-adder (*Acanthophis antarcticus*), which is spread over practically the whole of Australia, is a short, thick-set reptile, and is greatly dreaded on account of its habit of lying still until nearly or quite stepped on, when it strikes without warning. The only sea snake is the yellow-bellied sea snake (*Hydruis platurus*), which is rare. It is usually black on the back and yellow on the sides and tail, the latter with black spots.

We have about eighteen species of Amphibians in Victoria, all of them being frogs and toads. Of the family Hylidæ, the largest is the handsome green and gold "bell-frog" (*Hyla aurea*), very common in Southern Victoria, and usually found in swampy ground. The brown tree frog (*H. ewingii*) is often found resting in the branches of small eucalypts or under logs. In the family Cystignathidæ we have several species, among the best known of which are *Limnodynastes tasmaniensis*, one of the commonest frogs around Melbourne, *L. dorsalis*, and *L.*

peronii. The small brown frog (*Crinia signifera*) is an active creature about an inch long, and is commonly met with under logs and stones.

All the frogs are great insect-eaters, and in their turn are a favorite food of the snakes.

In fresh-water fish we are not rich, owing mainly to our poor river development. There is a marked distinction between the forms found to the north of the Divide and those to the south. In the Murray basin we have the Murray cod (*Oligorus macquariensis*), which is known to attain a length of about 4 feet and reach the weight of 100 lbs. This species, which is one of the most important of our food fishes, has been introduced into some of our southern streams, much to the detriment of the smaller species.

The cat-fish (*Copidoglanis tandanus*), the bony bream (*Chatassus erebi*), the golden or Murray perch (*Ctenolates ambiguus*), and the silver perch (*Therapon bidyana*) are absent from the southern waters.

The black-fish (*Gadopsis marmoratus*) occurs throughout the Murray basin, even in Queensland head-waters, in Southern Victoria, and in Northern Tasmania. The Australian grayling (*Prototroctes maræna*), once very abundant in the Yarra and other southern streams, is now scarce and in danger of being completely exterminated. It also occurs in parts of Tasmania. The tupong, known to anglers as the fresh-water flathead (*Pseudaphritis urvillii*), is widely distributed throughout the State. The fresh-water eel (*Anguilla australis*) is common, and occurs only in the southern streams. Its mode of distribution and reproduction have long been a source of keen interest and discussion in the newspapers. Eel-fares have frequently been witnessed in several of the larger rivers. Lampreys are not uncommon in most of our streams, and are frequently caught in eel-traps.

The voracious little minnows (*Galaxias*) are numerous in most of our rivers and creeks, and are commonly known as trout. Five or six species are known to occur here, the largest of which is the spotted minnow, or mountain trout of anglers (*Galaxias truttaceus*), which attains a length of about 10 inches. It is also plentiful in Tasmania. *G. attenuatus* is even more abundant and has a very extensive range, being found not only in South Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, and Tasmania, but also in New Zealand and South America.

During heavy floods thousands of these fish have been observed and captured near the mouth of the Yarra.

With regard to the marine fish, which are very numerous and of considerable economic value, want of space will only permit of the mention of some of the better-known forms.

Among the more important of our food fishes is the schnapper (*Pagrosomus auratus*), which at times is very abundant. Medium-sized examples have the upper parts of the body beautifully ornamented with pale-blue spots, while very large specimens, known as "old-man schnapper," frequently develop a prominent bony protuberance on the top of the head and an enormously swelled and fleshy nose.

The golden bream (*Chrysophrys australis*) is equally valuable and abundant, and provides excellent sport for the angler. Its weight has been recorded up to 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs.

The rock flathead (*Platycephalus levigatus*) and the Bass flathead (*P. bassensis*) are well-known Victorian species.

The barracouta (*Thyrsites atun*) appears in enormous numbers at certain times of the year, when great hauls are made. During their visit, great quantities are sold in the fish market and in the streets, and many are smoked. It is a good fighting fish, and to the angler it affords excellent sport. Besides being common along the south and eastern coasts and in Tasmania, its range extends to New Zealand, and the southern waters of Africa and South America. Both the spotted whiting (*Sillago punctata*) and the sand whiting (*S. ciliata*) are common, and are well worthy of their place among the finest of our table fish.

The trumpeter (*Latris hecateia*), though plentiful in Tasmanian waters, is not common here.

The salmon trout (*Arripis trutta*) is one of the commonest of our edible fishes, and at times appears in great shoals. The young differ from the adult by being beautifully spotted. We have three or four species of mullets, of which the sea mullet (*Mugil dobula*) and the flat-tailed mullet (*M. peronii*) need only be mentioned.

The garfish are represented by the sea and the river garfish (*Hemirhamphus intermedius* and *H. regularis*), and rank among our best table fish. Among others we have the flounder (*Rhombosolea flesoides*), rock ling (*Genypterus australis*), John Dory (*Zeus faber*), silver dory (*Cyttus australis*), rock cod (*Physiculus barbatus*), trevally (*Seriola brama*), ludrick (*Girella simplex*), and boar fish (*Maccullochia labiosa*).

The herring family (*Clupeidae*) includes some of the most important of our economic fishes, among which may be mentioned the pilchard (*Clupanodon neopilchardus*) and the anchovy (*Engraulis antipodum*). Though small, these fish occur at times in enormous shoals, but up to the present little has been done to utilize them in a practical way.

The Australian king-fish or jew-fish (*Sciæna antarctica*) is a very large and handsome fish, considered by some authorities to be identical with the maigre (*S. aquila*) of Europe. It is valuable as a food fish, and is said to grow to a length of about 5 feet and weigh up to 60 lbs. A specimen in the National Museum which was captured at Western Port measures 4 ft. 6 in. It is very voracious and feeds on crustaceans and fishes of various kinds.

The yellow-tail (*Seriola lalandi*) grows to still larger dimensions than the king-fish, specimens of nearly 6 feet in length and weighing about 100 lbs. being on record. The largest Victorian specimen in the National Museum measures 4 feet. Like the former species, it is very voracious and feeds on other smaller fishes.

Several species of sharks occur here, chief of which are the white shark (*Carcharodon carcharias*), basking shark (*Cetorhinus maximus*), hammer-headed shark (*Sphyrna zygaena*), thresher (*Alopias vulpes*),

carpet shark (*Orectolobus barbatus*), seven-gilled shark (*Notorhynchus indicus*), and the harmless Port Jackson or bull-dog shark (*Heterodontus philippi*).

Among the rays may be mentioned the eagle ray (*Myliobatis australis*), fiddler (*Trygonorrhina fasciata*), common stingray (*Trygonoptera testacea*), and the dreaded thorn-tailed stingray (*Dasyatis thetidis*).

The treatment of our invertebrate fauna must be brief, and confined to land and fresh-water forms, though of some of the marine groups, as, for instance, the mollusca, we know a good deal. In land and fresh-water shells we are not very well represented; most of the species are small and attractive to the naturalist only. There are two species of black-shelled snails, about $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, namely, *Paryphanta atramentaria*, occurring in the fern gullies of Gippsland, and a rarer species (*P. compacta*) found in the Otway Forest. Another, and much larger, species (*Panda atomata*) is also found in Eastern Gippsland. The pretty and delicate little snail (*Helicarion cuvieri*), is one of the commonest species, and found under logs and stones in our fern gullies. Of the fresh-water snails, *Isidora tenuistriata*, which has its shell coiled in the opposite way to the ordinary—a left-handed screw—is believed to be the temporary host of the liver-fluke of the sheep, and this is the reason why wet ground is “fluky country.”

Scorpions are common, especially in the warmer parts, but all are small. Spiders are very abundant, both in individuals and species, and we have only one harmful species. This is the katipo (*Latrodectus hasseltii*), widely distributed in Australia, and identical with the New Zealand and Southern Asiatic form. It is black with a scarlet, or deep-orange, spot on the hinder end of the abdomen. The so-called “tarantula” (*Isopeda*), though hideous and terrifying to most people, is quite harmless. The death’s-head spider (*Celena excavata*) obtains its name from the peculiar ornamentation of the body, roughly resembling a human face. Its eggs are encased in four to six small, round, silken balls about the size of a small marble, over which it maintains a constant guard. It mimics its surroundings so closely that it is very difficult to detect, and, when disturbed, it simulates death.

Centipedes, of which there are several species, are carnivorous in their habits, and are distributed commonly throughout the State. They do little, if any, harm to human beings. Millipedes are perfectly innocent animals which feed chiefly upon decaying vegetable matter. *Peripatus* occurs in the moister regions, usually under logs and stones.

The insect fauna is very rich, and practically all the orders are represented here. Many species are peculiar to the State, while others are widely distributed over the Continent, and some beyond its boundaries. The groups upon which the most attention has been bestowed are the butterflies, moths, and beetles, though many of the less-known forms, as, for instance, the ants, diptera, dragon-flies, and coccids are receiving considerable attention both in Australia and elsewhere.

The butterflies and moths (*Lepidoptera*) have always been very popular with entomologists, on account of their beauty and size. Of

the former there are about 80 species in Victoria, many of which are very limited in their range.

To mention a few of the species, the swallow-tail (*Papilio macleayanus*) is found in the fern gullies of Eastern Victoria, the wanderer (*Danaida archippus*) is found all over Australia, as well as in parts of Asia, Africa, and Southern Europe. The caper white (*Anathæis teutonia*), always common, appears at times in immense swarms. Among the " browns " are *Heteronympha merope*, *H. philerope*, *H. banksii*, and others. The Australian admiral (*Pyrameis itea*) and the painted lady (*P. kershawi*) are abundant everywhere. Among the " blues " (*Lycænidæ*) are some of our most beautiful butterflies, the species of *Hypochrysops* with their wonderfully brilliant metallic tints being especially attractive.

Moths are abundant and many are of large size. Some in their larval stage are destructive to fruit and timber trees, as, for instance, the vine moth (*Phalænoides glycineæ*); the wood moths (*Hepialidæ* and *Zeuzeridæ*), which include several large species, the larvæ of which bore into and destroy the eucalypts and wattles; the cut-worm moths, which are known in their larval stage as " cut-worms " and " army-worms," and are very destructive to grass and growing crops; the cherry-stem borer (*Maroga unipunctana*), a pest to fruit trees of several kinds; and many others.

Among the beetles are many which both in the larval and perfect stages are very destructive to timber trees, grain, skins, and furs. The buprestids, longicorns, and cetonids are specially favoured by entomologists on account of their great beauty and wonderful forms. The weevils (*Curculionidæ*) comprise a large number of species of great variety of form. They are plant feeders, many being very destructive, and are characterized by the more or less produced snout.

The ladybirds (*Coccinellidæ*) are carnivorous both in the larval and adult stages, and are the natural enemies of the aphid and scale insects.

In the Orthoptera we have a few fine stick-insects (*Phasmidæ*), one of the largest (*Tropidoderus rhodomus*) measuring 9 inches across the expanded wings. Some of the wingless forms mimic dead twigs, for which they are frequently mistaken. Grasshoppers and locusts are numerous and some very destructive, and a few crickets, including the mole cricket (*Gryllotalpa coarctata*), occur here.

Of Neuroptera we have many dragon-flies, May-flies, and ant-lions. Wasps and ants (*Hymenoptera*) are abundant, while many of our native bees are being starved out by the imported bee, which is now widely spread. The shrill deafening song of the cicada in its countless thousands must be heard on a hot day to be appreciated. Both the black (*Psaltoda mærens*) and the green (*Cyclochila australasica*) are equally numerous.

Want of space will not permit of hosts of other forms being mentioned.

Of Crustacea, we may mention the fresh-water crayfishes, of which we have several kinds. The Murray crayfish (*Astacopsis serratus*) is a spiny form growing to the length of a foot, and frequently seen in the Melbourne market. A rare species (*A. kershawi*), nearly the size of the

Murray species, is found in Gippsland. The yabbie, or pond crayfish (*Parachærops bicarinatus*), is found in all suitable situations, and ranges widely over Australia. Though a small species about 5 or 6 inches long, it is eaten. The so-called land-crab (*Engæus*), of which there are several species, is really a crayfish, and is found in the damper parts of the State. It also occurs in Tasmania. One of the Anaspidæ (*Koonunga cursor*) has been found near Melbourne and Ballarat, and has thrown some light on the classification of the Crustacea.

We are rich in earthworms, though our native species are disappearing before the imported European ones, which are now found everywhere in the State. In the Gippsland giant earthworm (*Megascolides australis*) we have by far the largest species known. A living specimen measured at the University was 7 ft. 2 in. long. Gorgeously coloured planarian worms, a few inches in length, abound in the moister parts of the State, being generally found under logs.

The same localities are the home of two or three species of land-leech, which are blood-thirsty, though small. A fresh-water leech (*Limnoddella australis*), used surgically, is common enough in ponds.

Pond life generally is actively studied by our field naturalists, but an attempt to deal with it would require a volume in itself, and appeal to professed naturalists alone. Suffice it to say that it is rich and varied, and presents us with many interesting problems.

As to the origin of our fauna, much has been said and written. Briefly, the marsupials, and, perhaps, some birds, the tortoises, certain frogs, fresh-water fish, many insects, earthworms, and other animals, point definitely to a former land connexion with South America, where they find their nearest living relatives. The eutheria are of Malaysian origin, as also are most of our birds, some of our land mollusca, and the fresh-water crayfishes. This incursion is of later date than the Antarctic one. It may almost be said that the fauna and flora of the Queensland and New South Wales scrubs represent an invasion in force from the north.

In conclusion, one point may be noticed, and that is the popular names given to our animals and plants. The early settlers found themselves in a new world where nearly everything alive differed from what they had been accustomed to. In their difficulties about names they adopted a few—far too few—from the aborigines, but in the main applied the names they knew to the fresh forms they found. Some of the names came from Britain, others from America, and a small number from other countries. So we have the oaks and gum trees, box trees, and so on among plants. Among animals, we have bears, badgers, cats, bandicoots, opossums, squirrels, weasels, magpies, larks, wagtails, robins, turkeys, trout, cod, and a host of others, which are in no way related to their namesakes elsewhere. The result is often very confusing, but not nearly as much so as when scientific names, such as Iguana, are wrongly applied to animals of a very different character from their rightful owners.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

The Present Constitution.

**Reform Act
1903.**

After the establishment of the Federal Government it became evident that the representation of the States in the States Houses was excessive, and steps were taken to reform the States Constitutions. Accordingly an Act "to provide for the Reform of the Constitution" was passed in Victoria and reserved for the Royal assent on 7th April, 1903. After an interval of some months the Royal assent was proclaimed on 26th November, 1903. This Act, entitled *The Constitution Act 1903*, provided for a reduction in the number of responsible Ministers from ten to eight, and in their salaries from £10,400 to £8,400; decreased the number of members of the Legislative Council from 48 to 35, including one special representative for the State railways and public servants; but increased the number of electoral provinces from fourteen to seventeen, each being now represented by two members elected for six years—one retiring every three years by rotation, except at a general election, when one-half of the members are to be elected for only three years. The property qualification of members of the Council was reduced from £100 to £50 as the annual value of the freehold, and that of electors qualifying as lessees or occupying tenants from an annual value of £25 to one of £15. A reduction was also made in the number of members of the Legislative Assembly from 95 to 68—including two to be specially elected by the railway officers, and one by the State public servants—and in that of the electoral districts from 84 to 65. The Constitution was again amended in 1906 by the repeal of the provisions in the Act of 1903 relating to the separate representation of railway officers and State public servants. The Assembly now consists of 65 and the Council of 34 members.

Power is given to any Minister who is a member of the Assembly to sit in the Council—or *vice versa*—in order to explain the provisions of any measure connected with any department administered by him. The Council is empowered to suggest alterations in any Appropriation Bill once at each of three stages of the Bill, viz.—(a) when in Committee, (b) on the Report of the Committee, and (c) on the third reading. The remedy provided to meet disagreements between the two Houses is the simultaneous dissolution of both after a Bill has been twice submitted to, and rejected by, the Council—viz., once before, and once after, a dissolution of the Assembly in consequence of such first rejection.

The Governor. The Governor acts under the authority of Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, and according to Royal instructions issued by the Colonial Office. He is the official head of the Legislature, and assents in the name of the Crown to all Acts passed by the Parliament, reserving for the Royal assent certain Bills such as those relating to divorce or to the granting of land or money to himself. The only matters in which the exercise

of any discretion is required on the part of the Governor are the assenting to or dissenting from, or reserving of Bills passed by the Parliament; the granting or withholding of a dissolution of Parliament when requested by a Premier; or the appointment of a new Ministry.

Forming a new Ministry. When a Ministry is defeated in Parliament on an important measure or at the polls, its members almost invariably tender their resignations to the Governor, whose duty it is in such a case to announce his intention of accepting them. The outgoing Premier generally suggests to the Governor, as his successor, the name of the most prominent of his opponents, usually the leader of the Opposition. Thereupon the Governor "sends for" the individual suggested, who, if he feels in a position to carry on the Government, endeavours to form a Ministry. If he fails, he informs the Governor of the fact, and some one else is applied to. The distribution of the portfolios is first arranged by the proposed Ministers themselves, and submitted to the Governor for approval, who always adopts it, unless the list contains the name of some one against whom very serious objections exist, or foreshadows a new and revolutionary arrangement.

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

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

the Council, who keeps a formal record of its proceedings and deliberations, which are frequently published with the names of its members prefixed. Here the decisions of the Cabinet are put into official form.

Responsible Ministers. The number of salaried Ministers is now limited to eight, and their salaries to £8,400; four at least must be members of the Council or Assembly, but not more than two shall be members of the Council nor more than six of the Assembly. Although only four Ministers are required to be members of either House, in practice all members of a Ministry are always members. The head of the Ministry—the Premier, a merely titular distinction—has usually filled the office of Treasurer as well, and may occupy any office. The present Premier—the Hon. Sir Alexander James Peacock, K.C.M.G.—is also Treasurer.

The Parliament. The Parliament consists of two Chambers, the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly. The general power of legislation is conferred upon "His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the said Council and Assembly." By Section 56 of The Constitution Act it was provided that—"All Bills for appropriating any part of the revenue of Victoria, and for imposing any duty, rate, tax, rent, or impost shall originate in the Assembly, and may be rejected, but not altered by the Council." There was great difference of opinion as to the interpretation of this section, it being held by many that the words "all Bills for appropriating" (revenue) "and for imposing" (taxes) signified Bills having for their principal object the authorizing of payments or the granting of supply; it was also contended that legislation which merely incidentally or consequentially authorized the collection of money or the payment of officials could be dealt with as ordinary legislation by the Council. This matter was dealt with by Section 30 of *The Constitution Act 1903*, which, on a consolidation of Acts, became Section 33 of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1915* (No. 2632). This section declares that a Bill shall not be deemed for appropriating, &c., or for imposing, &c., by reason only of its containing provisions "for the imposition or appropriation of fines or other pecuniary penalties or for the demand or payment or appropriation of fees for licences or fees for services under such Bill." In regard to the latter portion of Section 56 of The Constitution Act, providing that Money Bills must originate in the Assembly, and may be rejected but not altered by the Council, the new Act provides, as in the Commonwealth Constitution, that the Council may suggest alterations, as mentioned previously.

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

The
Legislative
Council.

The Council—called the Upper House—now consists of 34 members. The State is divided into seventeen electoral provinces, each returning two members. At the first election the member in each constituency who, of the two elected, receives the higher number of votes retains his seat for six years, whilst the other member retains his seat for three years only, subject, of course, to the dissolution of both Houses in case of a dead-lock, as previously described. One-half of the members thus retire every three years. To be qualified for membership, a candidate must be a male of the age of 30 years, and a natural-born subject, or if not natural-born must have been naturalized and resident in Victoria for ten years, and must have been beneficially entitled to a freehold estate in Victoria of the clear annual value according to municipal valuation of £50 for one year “previously to” his election. The following persons aged 21 or over, if they are natural-born subjects, or naturalized for three years and resident in Victoria for twelve months, are entitled to vote for the Council in the electoral division on the rolls of which their names appear:—The owner of a freehold rated at an annual value of £10; the owner of a leasehold created originally for five years or the occupying tenant of land, rated at £15 annual value, graduates of a British University, matriculated students of the University of Melbourne, barristers and solicitors, legally-qualified medical practitioners, duly appointed ministers of religion, certificated schoolmasters, and naval and military officers, active and retired. Qualified ratepayers are enrolled automatically from the municipal rolls. Those persons claiming in respect of a professional residential qualification must take out electors’ rights for the division in which they reside. The Victorian Adult Suffrage Act, which received the Royal assent on 31st March, 1909, provides for womanhood suffrage in elections for the Council under the same property and other conditions as relate to men.

The
Legislative
Assembly.

The Assembly, commonly called the Lower House, now consists of 65 members. For the whole of the seats single electorates are now provided. Each Assembly expires by effluxion of time at the end of three years from its first meeting, but may be sooner dissolved by the Governor. To be qualified for election to the Assembly, a candidate must be a natural-born subject or a person who has been naturalized for five years and resident in Victoria for two years. The following persons are ineligible:—Judges, ministers of religion, Government contractors, uncertificated insolvents, holders of offices of profit under the Crown (except Ministers), and persons who have been attainted of treason, or convicted of felony or infamous offence in the British dominions. Moreover, a member vacates his seat if he resigns; is absent for a whole session without permission of the House; takes any oath or declaration of allegiance or adherence to a foreign power, or becomes a subject of a foreign State; becomes bankrupt, insolvent, or a public defaulter; is attainted of treason, or convicted of felony, &c.; becomes *non*

compos mentis; or enters into a Government contract. Universal suffrage is in force for the Assembly, all persons over the age of 21 years, natural-born or naturalized, untainted by crime, being allowed a vote, if their names are on a general roll and if they have been resident in the State six months and in the district one month. An Act to amend the law relating to Parliamentary elections was passed on 4th January, 1911. Provision is made for the general roll for the Legislative Assembly to be compiled by an electoral canvass of each district, during which canvass particulars are to be obtained from each householder concerning persons resident in the house aged 21 years and upwards. Persons enrolled in respect of residence may also be enrolled in another district on the general roll for lands or tenements situated therein. No person is entitled to have his name on more than two general rolls, and a person cannot vote more than once at an Assembly election. The franchise was extended to women by the *Adult Suffrage Act* 1908, assented to in March, 1909. A member of the Assembly receives reimbursement of his expenses in relation to his attendance at the rate of £300 per annum. The Assembly is presided over by a Speaker, who is elected at the first meeting after every general election, and vacates his seat by expiry or dissolution of the House, and by death, resignation, or a removing vote of the House. When the Assembly resolves itself into a Committee of the whole House to consider the details of any measure, it is presided over by a Chairman of Committees. The Assembly cannot proceed to business unless twenty members, exclusive of the Speaker, are present; and the Speaker has a casting but no substantive vote.

Voting by
post at
elections.

To facilitate the exercise of the franchise in sparsely-populated districts, the *Voting by Post Act* 1900 was passed on 17th October, 1900. This measure enabled any elector who was resident, or was likely to be staying, on the polling day, more than five miles from the nearest polling booth, or who was prevented by reason of sickness or infirmity from voting personally, to obtain a ballot paper entitling him to vote by post for any candidate in his district standing for either House of Parliament. This Act came into force on 1st December, 1900, and continued in force for three years, and thence until the end of the next session of Parliament. Subsequent Acts continued the measure to 31st December, 1910. The *Electoral Act* 1910, now incorporated in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1915 (No. 2632), makes permanent provision for voting by post at elections for either House. If an elector satisfies the returning officer that he resides five miles or, in the case of a mountainous division, at least three miles from the nearest polling booth, or has reason to believe that he will not be within five miles of the nearest polling booth, or that on account of ill-health or infirmity he will be prevented from voting personally, a postal ballot-paper may be issued to such elector. At the State elections held on 16th November, 1911, 12,362 persons voted by post, representing 3.13 per cent. of the total votes

recorded, and at the elections held on 26th November, 1914, 7,266 persons voted similarly, this number being 2·27 per cent. of the total votes polled. Voting by post, which was in operation at four Commonwealth elections, was abolished by the *Commonwealth Electoral Act 1911*, and consequently no votes were recorded in this manner at the elections held since that date.

By an Act originally passed on 24th December, 1903, now incorporated in *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1915* (No. 2632), it is provided that the electoral expenses (other than personal expenses incurred in travelling and attending election meetings) of a candidate for the Legislative Council and Assembly shall not exceed £400 and £150 respectively. A limitation is also placed upon the matters in respect of which such sums may be expended. No electoral expenses shall be incurred by or on behalf of a candidate except in respect of:—(1) The expenses of printing, advertising, publishing, issuing, and distributing addresses and notices, and purchase of rolls. (2) The expenses of stationery, messages, postage, and telegrams. (3) The expenses of holding public meetings, and hiring halls for that purpose. (4) The expenses of committee rooms. (5) One scrutineer at each polling booth, and no more. (6) One agent for any electoral province or district.

FEDERAL REFERENDUM.

The question of conscription for military service outside the Commonwealth was submitted to the electors of Australia on 28th October, 1916, in the following form:—

“Are you in favour of the Government having, in this grave emergency, the same compulsory powers over citizens in regard to requiring their military service for the term of this war, outside the Commonwealth, as it now has in regard to military service within the Commonwealth?”

The result of the referendum was as under:—

REFERENDUM RELATING TO MILITARY SERVICE OUTSIDE THE COMMONWEALTH TAKEN ON 28TH OCTOBER, 1916.

State.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot-papers were Issued.			Percentage of Electors to whom Ballot-papers were Issued to Electors Enrolled.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria ..	398,975	425,997	824,972	354,067	342,617	696,684	88·74	80·43	84·45
New South Wales ..	556,187	499,799	1,055,986	475,669	382,730	858,399	85·52	76·58	81·29
Queensland ..	199,602	166,440	366,042	173,448	136,473	309,921	86·90	81·99	84·67
South Australia ..	131,636	131,145	262,781	113,461	97,791	211,252	86·19	74·57	80·39
Western Australia ..	94,456	73,146	167,602	82,067	58,581	140,648	86·88	80·09	83·92
Tasmania ..	54,758	53,117	107,875	47,020	41,211	88,231	85·87	77·59	81·79
Territories ..	3,296	1,276	4,572	2,576	892	3,468	78·16	69·91	75·85
Total ..	1,438,910	1,350,920	2,789,830	1,248,308	1,060,295	2,308,603	86·75	78·49	82·75

REFERENDUM RELATING TO MILITARY SERVICE—continued.

State.	No. of Electors who Voted—		Majority for—		Percentage of Votes Recorded IN FAVOUR of the Prescribed Question.		Percentage of Votes Recorded NOT IN FAVOUR of the Prescribed Question.	
	Yes.	No.	Yes.	No.	To Formal Votes.	To Electors Enrolled.	To Formal Votes.	To Electors Enrolled.
Victoria ..	353,930	328,216	25,714	..	51·88	42·90	48·12	39·79
New South Wales ..	356,805	474,544	..	117,739	42·92	33·79	57·08	44·94
Queensland ..	144,200	158,051	..	13,851	47·71	39·39	52·29	43·18
South Australia ..	87,924	119,236	..	31,312	42·44	33·46	57·56	45·37
Western Australia ..	94,069	40,884	53,185	..	69·71	56·13	30·29	24·39
Tasmania ..	48,493	37,833	10,660	..	56·17	44·95	43·83	35·07
Territories ..	2,136	1,269	867	..	62·73	46·72	37·27	27·76
Total ..	1,087,557	1,160,033	..	72,476	48·89	38·98	51·61	41·58

The decision of a majority of the electors, as shown by these figures, was against the proposal, which was consequently defeated.

ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, 1916.

At the last triennial elections for the Legislative Council, held on 1st June, 1916, five seats were contested, twelve members being returned unopposed. The following table shows the number of electors on the rolls for each province, and the number who voted in the provinces where elections were held:—

NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED AT THE TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON 1st JUNE, 1916.

Provinces.	Number of Electors on Rolls.	Number of Electors who Voted.			Informal Votes.	Number who Voted by Post.	Proportion of Electors who Voted.
		Rate-payers.	Non-Rate-payers.	Total.			
East Yarra ..	30,499	..	..	..	..	..	Per cent.
Melbourne ..	18,986	..	..	..	..	..	..
" East ..	18,873	..	..	..	..	..	..
" North ..	29,866	8,920	..	8,920	44	85	29·86
" South ..	23,976	..	..	..	..	..	..
" West ..	25,446	10,178	5	10,183	79	103	40·02
Bendigo ..	10,940	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gippsland ..	13,032	5,062	4	5,066	18	51	38·87
Nelson ..	10,904	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northern ..	12,722	..	..	..	..	..	..
North-Eastern ..	12,778	..	..	..	..	..	..
" Western ..	15,907	..	..	..	..	..	..
Southern ..	13,667	5,037	13	5,050	20	19	36·95
South-Eastern ..	22,537	..	..	..	..	..	..
" Western ..	16,336	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wellington ..	10,410	5,628	6	5,634	42	115	54·12
Western ..	13,442	..	..	..	..	..	..
Less uncontested provinces (12) ..	300,321	..	..	..	..	..	..
" ..	207,900	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	92,421	34,825	28	34,853	203	373	37·71

ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1914.

Elections. Legislative Assembly. At the elections for the Legislative Assembly held on 26th November, 1914, there were contests in 49 of the 65 constituencies, each returning one member. The number of electors on the rolls was 810,026—398,234 males and 411,792 females—and in contested districts 53·92 per cent. of the number entitled recorded their votes, the proportion for males being 57·55 per cent. and for females 50·46 per cent. The following table shows the number of electors, the votes polled, and the percentage of the latter to the former in the different electoral districts:—

NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 26TH NOVEMBER, 1914.

Electoral Districts.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Abbotsford ..	7,736	8,533	16,269				Uncontested.		
Albert Park ..	9,301	10,945	20,246				Uncontested.		
Allandale ..	3,015	3,306	6,321				Uncontested.		
Ballaarat East	4,913	6,081	10,994	3,546	4,170	7,716	72·17	68·57	70·18
Ballaarat West	4,472	6,234	10,706	3,153	4,106	7,259	70·50	65·86	67·80
Barwon ..	5,551	5,773	11,324	3,438	3,000	6,438	61·93	51·96	56·85
Benalla ...	4,286	3,808	8,094	2,448	1,832	4,280	57·11	48·11	52·88
Benambra ..	4,089	3,101	7,190	2,586	1,847	4,433	63·24	59·56	61·65
Bendigo East	4,321	5,118	9,439	2,769	2,808	5,577	64·08	54·86	59·08
Bendigo West	4,770	5,707	10,477	3,340	3,438	6,778	70·02	60·24	64·69
Boroondara ..	13,412	16,562	29,974	5,663	6,007	11,670	42·22	36·27	38·93
Borong ..	4,227	3,538	7,765				Uncontested.		
Brighton ..	7,306	10,768	18,074	3,565	3,975	7,540	48·79	36·91	41·71
Brunswick ..	9,841	11,869	21,710	5,426	5,039	10,465	55·13	42·45	48·20
Bulla ..	5,768	5,084	10,852	3,425	2,641	6,066	59·38	51·94	55·89
Carlton ..	6,783	7,680	14,463				Uncontested.		
Castlemaine and Maldon ..	3,434	3,929	7,363	2,628	2,671	5,299	76·52	67·98	71·97
Collingwood ..	6,796	7,765	14,561				Uncontested.		
Dalhousie ..	3,745	3,698	7,443	2,729	2,618	5,347	72·87	70·79	71·84
Dandenong ..	7,227	6,676	13,903				Uncontested.		
Daylesford ..	3,689	3,524	7,213	2,465	2,161	4,626	66·82	61·32	64·13
Dundas ..	4,542	4,259	8,801	3,365	2,909	6,274	74·09	68·30	71·28
Eaglehawk ..	6,093	3,939	8,029	2,906	2,500	5,406	71·05	63·46	67·33
East Melbourne	4,490	6,830	13,323	3,321	3,620	6,941	51·14	53·00	52·00
Essendon ..	11,792	13,503	25,295	7,055	7,142	14,197	59·82	52·89	56·12
Evelyn ..	5,461	4,940	10,401	3,164	2,317	5,481	57·93	46·90	52·69
Fitzroy ..	6,900	8,159	15,059				Uncontested.		
Flemington ..	10,389	9,805	20,194				Uncontested.		
Geelong ..	6,444	7,614	14,058				Uncontested.		

NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 26TH NOVEMBER, 1914
—continued.

Electoral Districts.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Gippsland East	4,042	2,668	6,710	2,472	1,507	3,979	61·15	56·48	59·30
Gippsland Nth.	4,926	4,478	9,404	3,099	2,541	5,640	62·91	56·74	59·97
Gippsland Sth.	5,599	4,379	9,978				Uncontested.		
Gippsland West	4,751	3,832	8,583				Uncontested.		
Glencelg ..	4,785	4,522	9,307	3,241	2,899	6,140	67·73	64·10	65·97
Goulburn Valley	4,785	4,428	9,213	2,951	2,472	5,423	61·67	55·82	58·86
Grenville ..	3,175	3,112	6,287	2,236	2,110	4,346	70·42	67·80	69·12
Gunbower ..	4,886	3,742	8,628				Uncontested.		
Hampden ..	6,561	5,705	12,266	4,123	3,206	7,329	62·84	56·19	59·75
Hawthorn ..	9,940	14,136	24,076	3,831	4,466	8,297	38·54	31·59	34·46
Jika Jika ..	11,953	13,509	25,462	6,784	6,248	13,032	56·75	46·25	51·18
Kara Kara ..	3,950	3,508	7,458	2,927	2,580	5,507	74·10	73·54	73·84
Korong ..	3,895	3,307	7,202	2,311	1,918	4,229	59·33	57·99	58·72
Lowan ..	4,878	4,457	9,335				Uncontested.		
Maryborough	3,925	3,987	7,912	2,504	2,167	4,761	66·09	54·35	60·17
Melbourne ..	6,135	3,969	10,104	2,672	1,860	4,532	43·55	46·86	44·85
Mornington ..	7,457	6,240	13,697	3,723	2,418	6,141	49·92	38·75	44·83
Nth. Melbourne	8,350	9,119	17,469	4,033	3,834	7,867	48·30	42·04	45·03
Ovens ..	3,401	3,351	6,752	2,387	2,082	4,469	70·18	62·13	66·18
Polwarth ..	6,647	4,462	11,109	3,932	3,222	7,154	59·15	72·21	64·39
Port Fairy ..	4,118	3,757	7,875	3,132	2,476	5,608	76·05	65·90	71·21
Port Melbourne	9,517	7,476	16,993				Uncontested.		
Pradhan ..	8,273	12,002	20,275	4,369	5,229	9,598	52·81	43·56	47·33
Richmond ..	8,366	9,076	17,442	4,463	4,063	8,526	53·34	44·76	48·88
Rodney ..	5,689	4,967	10,656	3,982	3,298	7,280	69·99	66·39	68·31
St. Kilda ..	10,773	14,522	25,295	4,170	5,243	9,413	38·70	36·10	37·21
Stawell and									
Ararat ..	4,719	4,412	9,131	3,123	2,631	5,754	66·17	59·63	63·01
Swan Hill ..	8,152	5,248	13,400	3,828	2,270	6,098	46·95	43·25	45·51
Toorak ..	8,834	13,325	22,159	3,827	5,533	9,360	43·32	41·52	42·24
Upper Goulburn	4,480	3,753	8,233	2,711	2,023	4,734	60·51	53·90	57·50
Walhalla ..	3,821	2,823	6,644	1,799	1,091	2,890	47·09	38·64	43·56
Wangaratta ..	4,397	4,121	8,518	2,519	2,175	4,694	57·29	52·77	55·10
Waranga ..	3,769	3,289	7,058	2,612	2,157	4,769	69·30	65·58	67·56
Warrenheip ..	3,340	2,863	6,203	2,455	2,049	4,504	73·50	71·56	72·61
Warrnambool..	4,651	4,664	9,315	3,204	2,879	6,083	68·88	61·72	65·30
Williamstown..	10,501	9,835	20,336				Uncontested.		
Total ..	398,234	411,792	810,026	..	..	..	..	..	..
Less sixteen un- contested dis- tricts ..	108,950	107,742	216,692	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total contested districts ..	289,284	304,050	593,334	166,502	153,448	319,950	57·55	50·46	53·92

Preferential Voting. The preferential system of voting was adopted where there were more than two persons standing for the same electorate. By the method in vogue previously to 1911 it was not unusual for a candidate to be elected who had received the support of only a minority of those voting. Under the present system a candidate is returned only if the result shows that the majority of those who have voted prefer him to the candidate who has received the next lower number of votes.

In filling up the ballot-paper electors are required to place the figure "1" opposite the name of the candidate whom they wish to see elected, the figure "2" opposite the name of the one whom they would prefer should the first not be returned, the figure "3" opposite their next choice, and so on. After it is known how many first preference votes have been given to the various candidates, if no candidate has received an absolute majority the candidate who has received the fewest first preference votes is declared defeated. The ballot-papers of such defeated candidate are then examined with the view of ascertaining to what candidates the second preferences have been given, and these second preferences are allotted to the persons to whom they relate. Each remaining candidate thus receives, in addition to the first preferences accorded to him, the second preferences in his favour appearing on ballot-papers of the candidate who has been defeated. If there are still more than two candidates left, the procedure described above is repeated, the candidate occupying the lowest place being declared defeated, until it is found that one candidate has received an absolute majority of votes.

In eight of the contests in the election of November, 1914, there were more than two candidates. In two of these the candidate who received the greatest number of votes had an absolute majority of the total first preferences recorded, and consequently a second count was unnecessary. In the six remaining cases the distribution of ballot-papers of defeated candidates among non-defeated candidates next in order of voters' preference was put into operation, with the result that the candidates returned received an absolute majority of the votes recorded. In three of such cases the candidate who occupied the highest position on the first count was displaced after the second and subsequent preferences had been distributed.

The following are the proportions of electors who voted at the last twenty general elections of the State Lower House in districts in which the elections were contested:—

PROPORTION OF VOTERS AT GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1866 to 1914.

Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted.		Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who voted.	
	Per cent.			Per cent.	
1866	55·10	1892 ...	...	65·12
1868	61·59	1894 ...	...	70·99
1871	65·02	1897 ...	...	70·33
1874	61·00	1900 ...	...	63·47
1877	62·29	1902 ...	...	65·47
1880 (Feb.)	...	66·56	1904 ...	...	66·72
1880 (July)	...	65·85	1907 ...	...	61·26
1883	64·96	1908 ...	...	53·64
1886	64·70	1911 ...	...	63·61
1889	66·58	1914 ...	...	53·92

Duration of Parliaments and Sessions. The twenty-fourth Parliament was opened for a short session on 3rd December, 1914, and prorogued on 6th January, 1915. The second session was opened on 20th April, 1915, and closed on 14th January, 1916, and the third session was opened on 5th July, 1916, and closed on 10th January, 1917.

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

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

**DURATION OF PARLIAMENTS AND SESSIONS,
1856 TO 1917.**

Number of Parliament.	Period.	Duration of Parliament.	Days in Session.	
			Number.	Percentage to Duration.
1st	1856-8	Days. 991	691	69·7
2nd	1859-60	637	566	88·8
3rd	1861-4	1,091	728	66·7
4th	1864-5	378	366	96·8
5th	1866-7	686	391	57·0
6th	1868-70	1,048	734	70·0
7th	1871-3	1,049	639	60·9
8th	1874-6	1,072	700	65·3
9th	1877-9	993	684	68·9
10th	1880	49	46	93·9
11th	1880-2	926	802	86·6
12th	1883-6	1,088	543	49·9
13th	1886-9	1,091	653	59·9
14th	1889-92	1,093	636	58·2
15th	1892-4	845	524	62·0
16th	1894-7	1,089	684	62·8
17th	1897-00	1,088	586	53·9
18th	1900-02	671	358	53·4
19th	1902-3	436	300	68·8
20th	1904-7	968	509	52·6
21st	1907-8	518	327	63·1
22nd	1909-11	1,021	548	53·7
23rd	1911-14	1,066	584	54·8
24th (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Sessions)	1914-17	..	495	..

It will be seen that there was a greater percentage of working days during the nineteenth Parliament than during any other since 1882. Excluding the nineteenth Parliament, the tendency of late years is, according to the above figures, towards shorter sessions than formerly. The longest recess was in 1866-7, when 230 days elapsed between the closing of the second and the opening of the third session of the fifth Parliament; in 1905-6 the recess lasted 196 days.

STATE ACTS PASSED DURING 1916.

The following is a short synopsis of the Acts passed by the State Parliament during 1916 :—

Act No. Date.

2820 .. 13th July

.. This Act applies £2,508,373 out of the Consolidated Revenue for the service of the year 1916-17

Act No.	Date.	
2821 ..	21st August	.. This Act applies £248,757 out of the Consolidated Revenue for the service of the year 1915-16.
2822 ..	4th September	.. The <i>Education Act 1916</i> , to be read with the principal Act 1915, empowers the Governor-in-Council to cancel the registration of any school where the instruction is not given through the medium of the English language.
2823 ..	25th September	.. The <i>State Savings Bank Act 1916</i> , to be read with the <i>State Savings Bank Act 1915</i> , authorizes the Commissioners of the State Savings Bank of Victoria to invest in stock and other securities issued for war purposes under the authority of any Act of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia.
2824 ..	2nd October	.. The <i>Execution of Trusts Act 1916</i> amends and extends the provisions of the <i>Execution of Trusts Act 1915</i> .
2825 ..	"	.. The <i>Medical Act 1916</i> provides for the suspension of the operation of indentures of chemists' apprentices engaged on war services.
2826 ..	9th October	.. The <i>Colac Market Land Act 1916</i> revokes the permanent reservation of certain Crown land reserved as a site for a market at Colac.
2827 ..	"	.. The <i>Intoxicating Liquor (Temporary Restriction) Act 1916</i> restricts the hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor to from 9 a.m. till 6 p.m. The Act operates from a day to be fixed by proclamation until the end of the session of Parliament next following the termination of the war.
2828 ..	"	.. The <i>Evidence Act 1916</i> amends the law of evidence to allow of depositions of witnesses engaged on war service to be taken in criminal cases in courts of law.
2829 ..	"	.. The <i>Unauthorized Documents Act 1916</i> amends the law relating to the printing, publishing, or delivering of a false process.
2830 ..	"	.. The <i>University Act 1916</i> provides for the conferring of degrees, diplomas, certificates, or licences in the case of persons who have qualified to receive same but have died on war service.
2831 ..	12th October	.. The <i>Poor Prisoners Defence Act 1916</i> provides for the defence of accused persons who are without adequate means.
2832 ..	"	.. The <i>Port Melbourne Loan Act 1916</i> enables the Council of the Town of Port Melbourne to apply towards the reconstruction of the Town Hall, in addition to £3,620, the sum of £1,300 which was previously provided for the purchase of a stone-crushing plant and a tar-mixing plant.
2833 ..	"	.. The <i>Members' Qualification (Amendment) Act 1916</i> , to be read with the <i>Constitution Act Amendment Act 1915</i> , removes the disqualification of members of the Council or Assembly by reason of military or naval services.
2834 ..	"	.. This Act applies £1,289,888 out of the Consolidated Revenue for the service of the year 1916-17.

Act No.	Date.	
2835 ..	23rd October	.. The <i>Betting Tax Act 1916</i> , to be read with the <i>Stamps Act 1915</i> , imposes certain stamp duties on bookmakers' licences or permits and on betting tickets.
2836 ..	6th November	.. The <i>Melbourne to Burwood Tramway Act 1916</i> increases the borrowing powers of the Trust from £232,000 to £282,000.
2837 ..	"	.. The <i>Creswick Land Act 1916</i> provides for the closing of certain streets and the compulsory resumption of certain land in the township of Creswick and for using the same and other lands for the purposes of a hospital.
2838 ..	"	.. The <i>Daylight Saving Act 1916</i> provides for the earlier use of daylight in certain months yearly by advancing the clock one hour at two in the morning of the first Sunday in October in each year until the hour of two in the morning of the first Sunday in March. This Act is to come into operation only when New South Wales and South Australia have passed similar Acts.
2839 ..	"	.. The <i>Bellarine Land Act 1916</i> revokes the permanent reservation of certain land in the parish of Bellarine.
2840 ..	"	.. The <i>South Melbourne and Port Melbourne Land Act 1916</i> revokes the permanent reservation of certain Crown land in the city of South Melbourne and the town of Port Melbourne.
2841 ..	"	.. The <i>Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Act 1916</i> , to be read with the principal Act 1915, amends the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Acts as regards the election of Commissioners, the form of general notices and the rate of interest payable by owners.
2842 ..	"	.. The <i>Mildura College Lands Act 1916</i> provides for certain Agricultural School or College lands situate at Mildura being vested in the Minister of Public Instruction.
2843 ..	"	.. The <i>Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages Act 1916</i> , to be read with the principal Act 1915, enables the mother of an illegitimate child to have it legitimised where the father is on war service, is physically or mentally incapable of taking action as a result of such service or is dead, provided there was no legal impediment to the marriage of the parents at the time of the birth of the child.
2844 ..	"	.. The <i>Railway Lands Acquisition Act 1916</i> amends the principal Act 1915 in regard to additional compensation payable in certain cases and repayment of overdraft of railway construction trusts.
2845 ..	"	.. The <i>White Phosphorus Matches Prohibition Act 1916</i> , to be read with the <i>Factories and Shops Act 1915</i> , prohibits the manufacture and sale of matches made with white phosphorus.

Act No.	Date.	
2846	.. 27th November	.. The <i>Wheat Marketing Act</i> 1916, to be read with the <i>Wheat Marketing Act</i> 1915, extends and amends the principal Act, making it apply to surplus wheat harvested in 1915-16 and to wheat harvested in 1916-17 and making other additions and alterations.
2847	.. ..	.. The <i>Melbourne Building By-laws Act</i> 1916, to be read with the <i>Local Government Act</i> 1915, amends the building by-laws of the City of Melbourne.
2848	.. ..	.. The <i>Heatherton Sanatorium Act</i> 1916 provides for the formation of a Board of Management of the Heatherton Sanatorium and for other matters in connexion therewith.
2849	.. ..	.. The <i>Transfer of Land Act</i> 1916 amends the law relating to the transfer of land.
2850	.. ..	.. The <i>Fungicides Act</i> 1916 regulates the sale of fungicides, insecticides, vermin destroyers and weed destroyers.
2851	.. 4th December	.. The <i>Gaols Act</i> 1916 amends the <i>Gaols Act</i> 1915 as regards the power of the Inspector-General to remove prisoners and the suspension of sentence of an escaped prisoner.
2852	.. ..	.. The <i>Water Act</i> 1916 amends the principal Act 1915 with regard to irrigation and matters relating thereto.
2853	.. 11th December	.. This Act applies £672,061 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year 1916-17.
2854	.. ..	.. The <i>Friendly Societies Act</i> 1916 amends the Friendly Societies Acts by making provision in regard to the Friendly Societies Reinsurance Fund and to sick pay of members incapacitated whilst on naval or military service.
2855	.. 18th December	.. The <i>Licensing Act</i> 1916 amends the <i>Licensing Act</i> 1915 in regard to licence-fees, sale of liquor under certain conditions, and the constitution and powers of licensing courts and the Licences Reduction Board and other matters relating thereto; forbids the employment of females at bars other than existing barmaids and certain relatives of the licensee, and provides for the registration of existing barmaids.
2856	.. 21st December	.. The <i>Presentments Act</i> 1916 amends the law relating to presentments in criminal cases, and matters preliminary, incidental or similar thereto.
2857	.. 28th December	.. The <i>Instruments Act</i> 1916, to be read with Part VI. of the <i>Instruments Act</i> 1915, amends the law relating to bills of sale.
2858	.. ..	.. The <i>Veneral Diseases Act</i> 1916 provides that all persons suffering from venereal disease must submit themselves for treatment by a medical practitioner or at a hospital, and the medical practitioner must notify the medical inspector of all such cases; gives the medical inspector power to detain until cured any diseased person failing to voluntarily submit to treatment; and makes further provision in matters relating to venereal

Act No.	Date.	
		disease. Part II. amends the <i>Police Offences Act 1915</i> in regard to obscene and indecent publications.
2859 ..	28th December ..	The <i>Melbourne and Geelong Improvements Act 1916</i> empowers the City of Melbourne and the City of Geelong to reclaim and improve insanitary low-lying or overcrowded areas.
2860	The <i>Infectious Diseases Hospital Act 1916</i> , to be read with the <i>Infectious Diseases Hospital Act 1914</i> , empowers the Board of Management to borrow £40,000 for building purposes, permanently reserves certain land for the same purpose, and deals with other matters.
2861	The <i>Municipal Rates Recovery Act 1916</i> makes provision for the recovery by municipalities of rates and other moneys.
2862	The <i>Country Roads Act 1916</i> amends the <i>Country Roads Act 1915</i> in regard to the amount payable in respect of permanent works, and gives the Country Roads Board authority over main roads as regards timber cutting, &c., and traffic.
2863	The <i>Intestate Estates Distribution Act 1916</i> amends the law relating to the distribution of the estates of persons dying intestate.
2864	The <i>Administration and Probate Act 1916</i> amends the principal Act with regard to settlements made by a deceased person.
2865	The <i>Land Tax Act 1916</i> fixes the rate of tax for the year 1917 at $\frac{1}{4}$ d. on every pound sterling of the unimproved value where the unimproved value exceeds £250; the minimum amount of tax payable to be two shillings and sixpence. Power is given to the Commissioner to state a case for the opinion of the Supreme Court on any question arising under the Land Tax Acts.
2866	The <i>Constitution Act Amendment Act 1916</i> removes the prohibition against public servants taking part in politics. Public comment by an officer of the public service upon the administration of any Department and also the use of confidential information other than in the discharge of official duties are prohibited.
2867	The <i>War Contributions Act 1916</i> amends the <i>War Expenditure and Overdrafts Act</i> in regard to contributions to war funds and validates investments by municipalities in Commonwealth War loans. The Act is made retrospective to the 2nd November, 1914.
2868	The <i>Supreme Court Act 1916</i> amends the <i>Supreme Court Act 1915</i> with respect to the qualifications of the Master-in-Equity.
2869	The <i>Footwear Regulation Act 1916</i> regulates the manufacture and sale of boots, shoes, &c. All boots are to be stamped with the name of the manufacturer. Soles must not contain any weighting substance and are to be of solid leather or else stamped with the name of the material of which they are composed. The Act defines

Act No.	Date.	
		the powers of inspectors, empowers the Governor in Council to make regulations for carrying out its provisions, and deals with other matters in connexion therewith.
2870 ..	28th December ..	The <i>Medical Act 1916</i> provides that all prescriptions shall bear the date, signature, and address of the medical practitioner.
2871	The <i>Victorian Loan Act 1916</i> authorizes the raising of £200,000 for irrigation works and water supply works and for drainage and flood protection works in country districts.
2872	The <i>Municipal Endowment Act 1916</i> , to operate from the 1st July, 1916, fixes the municipal endowment at £50,000 for the year 1916-17.
2873	The <i>Water Supply Loans Act 1916</i> authorizes the raising and sanctions the issue and application of £156,000 for the purposes of water supply for the Commonwealth Naval Base and townships on the Mornington Peninsula.
2874	The <i>Water Supply Loans Application Act 1916</i> sanctions the issue and application of £398,000 available under Loan Acts for irrigation works, water supply works, drainage and flood protection works in country districts.
2875	The <i>Statute Law Revision Act 1916</i> removes anomalies and corrects errors in the statute law.
2876	The <i>Statute Law Revision Committee Act 1916</i> provides for the tenure of office of joint statute law revision committees.
2877	The <i>Railway Loan Application Act 1916</i> sanctions the issue and application of £1,910,000 available under Loan Acts for railway and other purposes.
2878	The <i>Developmental Railways Account Transfer Act 1916</i> provides for the transfer of not more than £45,000 from the "Developmental Railways Account" to the Consolidated Revenue.
2879	The <i>North Geelong to Fyansford Railway Construction Act 1916</i> authorizes the construction by the State of a line of railway from North Geelong to Fyansford.
2880	The <i>Rosstown Junction Railway Abandonment Act</i> provides for the abandonment of the Rosstown Junction Railway and for other matters in connexion therewith.
2881	The <i>Lancefield and Kilmore Railway Act 1916</i> empowers the Railways Commissioners to dismantle the Lancefield and Kilmore railway.
2882	The <i>Thornbury Land Act 1916</i> gives authority to the Governor in Council to vary from time to time the terms of the lease of the Glen Iris Brick Tile and Terra Cotta Co. in regard to the price of bricks supplied to the Board of Land and Works and the Railways Commissioners.
2883	The <i>Friendly Societies Act 1916</i> (No. 2) makes provision with respect to contributions due under the Friendly Societies Acts by persons on war service.

Act No.	Date.	
2884 ..	28th December	.. The <i>State War Council Act 1916</i> provides for the formation of the State War Council of Victoria. Subject to the provisions of the Commonwealth Act known as the <i>Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Fund Act 1916</i> , the Council is empowered to regulate and control the contributions to and distribution of all war funds and to devise means of employment for discharged soldiers.
2885 The <i>Railways Act 1916</i> provides that railway working expenses up to £300,000 not properly chargeable to the current financial year may by direction of the Governor in Council be debited over three years.
2886 The <i>Lunacy Act 1916</i> amends the <i>Lunacy Act 1915</i> in matters relating to the property and the cost of maintenance of patients, and empowers the Inspector-General to require the return forthwith of any patient on trial leave.
2887 The <i>Midwives Act 1916</i> amends the Act of 1915 in regard to the constitution of the Midwives Board, the publication of the register of midwives, the conditions of registration, and the summoning of medical assistance in cases of emergency.
2888 This Act applies £3,715,481 out of the Consolidated Revenue for the service of the year 1916-17, and appropriates supplies granted during the session amounting to £8,434,560 to the service of the Government.

OFFICIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

The following return shows the names and periods of office of Governors and Acting Governors of the State, since the first appointment of Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe as Superintendent, in 1839 :—

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Charles Joseph La Trobe ...	30th Sept., 1839 ...	5th May, 1854
John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster (acting)	8th May, 1854 ...	22nd June, 1854
Captain Sir Charles Hotham, R.N., K.C.B.	22nd June, 1854 ...	31st Dec., 1855
Major-General Edward Macarthur (acting)	1st January, 1856...	26th Dec., 1856
Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B. ...	26th December, 1856	10th September, 1863

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—continued.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Sir Charles Henry Darling, K.C.B.	11th September, 1863	7th May, 1866
Brigadier-General George Jackson Carey, C.B. (acting)	7th May, 1866 ...	15th August, 1866
The Honorable Sir John Henry Thomas Manners-Sutton, K.C.B.	15th August, 1866...	2nd March, 1873
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (acting)	3rd March, 1873 ...	19th March, 1873
Sir George Ferguson Bowen, G.C.M.G.	31st March, 1873 ...	22nd February, 1879
Sir Redmond Barry, Kt. (acting) ...	3rd January, 1875...	10th January, 1875
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (acting)	11th January, 1875	14th January, 1876
The Most Honorable George Augustus Constantine Phipps, Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., P.C.	27th February, 1879	18th April, 1884
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (acting)	18th April, 1884 ...	15th July, 1884
Sir Henry Brougham Loch, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.	15th July, 1884 ... 18th October, 1889	8th March, 1889 15th November, 1889
Sir William Foster Stawell, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor (acting)	6th November, 1886	12th March, 1889
Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, G.C.M.G. (acting)	9th March, 1889 ... 16th November, 1889	17th October, 1889 27th November, 1889
The Right Honorable John Adrian Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G.	28th November, 1889	12th July, 1895
The Honorable John Madden, LL.D. (acting)	26th January, 1893 27th March, 1895 ...	11th May, 1893 24th October, 1895
The Right Honorable Baron Brassey, K.C.B.	25th October, 1895	31st March, 1900
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D. (acting)	29th December, 1896 27th September, 1897 23rd March, 1898 ...	16th February, 1897 10th October, 1897 21st October, 1898
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (acting)	15th January, 1900	10th December, 1901
Sir George Sydenham Clarke, K.C.M.G., F.R.S.	10th December, 1901	24th November, 1903
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (acting)	24th November, 1903	25th April, 1904
Major-General Hon. Sir Reginald Arthur James Talbot, K.C.B.	25th April, 1904 ...	6th July, 1908

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—continued.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
The Honorable Sir John Madden, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (acting)	20th March, 1907 ...	18th November, 1907
	6th July, 1908 ...	27th July, 1908
	26th July, 1909 ...	10th August, 1909
	2nd February, 1910	9th February, 1910
	18th February, 1910	24th February, 1910
	28th July, 1910 ...	8th August, 1910
	19th May, 1911 ...	24th May, 1911
Sir Thomas David Gibson Carmichael, Baronet, K.C.M.G.	28th August, 1913...	23rd February, 1914
	27th July, 1908 ...	19th May, 1911
Sir John Michael Fleetwood Fuller, Baronet	24th May, 1911 ...	31st January, 1914
Sir Arthur Lyulph Stanley, K.C.M.G.	23rd February, 1914	

Captain William Lonsdale, formerly of the 4th Regiment, was appointed Police Magistrate of the District of Port Phillip on 9th September, 1836, and assumed office on the 29th of the same month. In that capacity he was in charge of the District until the appointment of Mr. C. J. La Trobe, as Superintendent. Subsequently, Captain Lonsdale acted as Superintendent during the temporary absence of Mr. La Trobe, who was called on to administer the Government of Tasmania from the 13th October, 1846, to the 25th January, 1847. Sir John Madden was appointed Lieutenant-Governor, to act in the absence of the Governor, by Commission dated 29th April, 1899.

The following list shows the names of Ministers who held office from the separation of the Colony from New South Wales in 1851, up to the establishment of responsible government in 1855:—

MINISTERS PRIOR TO RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

Name of Minister.	Office.	Date of Assumption of Office.
William Lonsdale ..	Colonial Secretary ..	} 15th July, 1851
Alastair Mackenzie ..	Colonial Treasurer ..	
Charles Hotson Ebdon ..	Auditor-General ..	
Robert Huddle ..	Surveyor-General ..	
Alexander McCrae ..	Chief Postmaster ..	
William Foster Stawell ..	Attorney-General ..	
Redmond Barry ..	Solicitor-General ...	} 13th April, 1852
James Horatio Nelson Cassell	Collector of Customs	
Edward Eyre Williams ..	Solicitor-General ..	21st July, 1852
James Croke ..	Solicitor-General ...	30th September, 1852
Frederick Armand Powlett	Colonial Treasurer ...	11th October, 1852
Hugh Culling Eardley Childers	Auditor-General ..	1st July, 1853
Andrew Clarke ..	Surveyor-General ..	20th July, 1853
John Fitzgerald Leslie Foster	Colonial Secretary ..	5th December, 1853
Hugh Culling Eardley Childers	Collector of Customs	8th December, 1853
Edward Grimes ..	Auditor-General ..	4th January, 1854
Robert Molesworth ..	Solicitor-General ..	12th December, 1854
William Clark Haines ..	Colonial Secretary ..	

Ministries
1855 to 1917.

In the next list will be found the names of the Premiers of the several Governments from 1855 to the present date :—

MINISTRIES SINCE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

Number of Ministry and Name of Premier.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.	Duration of Office. Days.
1. William Clark Haines...	28th November, 1855	11th March, 1857 ...	469
2. John O'Shanassy ...	11th March, 1857 ...	29th April, 1857 ...	49
3. William Clark Haines...	29th April, 1857 ...	10th March, 1858 ...	315
4. John O'Shanassy ...	10th March, 1858 ...	27th October, 1859	596
5. William Nicholson ...	27th October, 1859...	26th November, 1860	396
6. Richard Heales ...	26th November, 1860	14th November, 1861	353
7. John O'Shanassy ...	14th November, 1861	27th June, 1863 ...	590
8. James McCulloch ...	27th June, 1863 ...	6th May, 1868 ...	1,775
9. Charles Sladen ...	6th May, 1868 ...	11th July, 1868 ...	66
10. James McCulloch ...	11th July, 1868 ...	20th September, 1869	436
11. John Alexander MacPherson	20th September, 1869	9th April, 1870 ...	201
12. James McCulloch ...	9th April, 1870 ...	19th June, 1871 ...	436
13. Charles Gavan Duffy...	19th June, 1871 ...	10th June, 1872 ...	357
14. James Goodall Francis	10th June, 1872 ..	31st July, 1874 ...	781
15. George Briscoe Kerferd	31st July, 1874 ...	7th August, 1875 ...	372
16. Graham Berry ...	7th August, 1875 ...	20th October, 1875	74
17. Sir James McCulloch	20th October, 1875...	21st May, 1877 ...	579
18. Graham Berry ...	21st May, 1877 ...	5th March, 1880 ...	1,019
19. James Service ...	5th March, 1880 ...	3rd August, 1880 ...	151
20. Graham Berry ...	3rd August, 1880 ...	9th July, 1881 ...	340
21. Sir Bryan O'Loughlen...	9th July, 1881 ...	8th March, 1883 ...	607
22. James Service ...	8th March, 1883 ...	18th February, 1886	1,078
23. Duncan Gillies ...	18th February, 1886	5th November, 1890	1,722
24. James Munro ...	5th November, 1890	16th February, 1892	469
25. William Shiels ...	16th February, 1892	23rd January, 1893	343
26. James Brown Patterson	23rd January, 1893	27th September, 1894	612
27. Sir George Turner, P.C., K.C.M.G.	27th September, 1894	5th December, 1899	1,895
28. Allan McLean ...	5th December, 1899	19th November, 1900	350
29. Sir George Turner, P.C., K.C.M.G.	19th November, 1900	12th February, 1901	85
30. Sir Alexander James Peacock, K.C.M.G.	12th February, 1901	10th June, 1902 ...	483

MINISTRIES SINCE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT—*continued.*

Number of Ministry and Name of Premier.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.	Duration of Office.
			Days.
31. William Hill Irvine ...	10th June, 1902 ...	16th February, 1904	616
32. Sir Thomas Bent, K.C.M.G.	16th February, 1904	8th January, 1909	1,789
33. John Murray ...	8th January, 1909	18th May, 1912 ...	1,226
34. William Alexander Watt	18th May, 1912 ...	9th December, 1913	205
35. George Alexander Elmslie	9th December, 1913	22nd December, 1913	13
36. William Alexander Watt	22nd December, 1913	18th June, 1914 ...	178
37. Sir Alexander James Peacock, K.C.M.G.	18th June, 1914 ...	9th November, 1915	509
38. Sir Alexander James Peacock, K.C.M.G.	9th November, 1915		

The second Peacock Ministry remained in office from 18th June, 1914, to 9th November, 1915, when a reconstruction took place. The names of Ministers and the offices held by them in the third Peacock Administration in June, 1917, were as follows :—

THIRD PEACOCK MINISTRY.

Name.	Office.
Peacock, Sir Alexander James, K.C.M.G.	Premier, Treasurer, and Minister of Labour.
Lawson, Harry Sutherland Wightman	Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, and Minister of Public Instruction.
McLeod, Donald	Chief Secretary and Minister of Public Health.
Hagelthorn, Frederick William, M.L.C.	Minister of Agriculture.
McKenzie, Hugh	Minister of Railways, Minister of Water Supply, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Hutchinson, William	President of the Board of Land and Works and Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey.
Livingston, Thomas	Minister of Mines, Minister of Forests, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Adamson, William Addison, M.L.C. ..	Commissioner of Public Works and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
Baillieu, William Lawrence, M.L.C. ..	Honorary Minister.
Membrey, James George	Honorary Minister.
Robinson, Arthur, M.L.C.	Honorary Minister.

The names of members and officers of Parliament and of the constituencies which the members represent are given below :—

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1917.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President : The Hon. J. M. Davies.

Name of Province.	Name of Member.	Date of Retirement.
Bendigo ..	Hon. A. Hicks	1919
	Hon. J. Sternberg	1922
East Yarra ..	Vacant	1919
	Hon. J. K. Merritt	1922
Gippsland ..	Hon. G. M. Davies	1919
	Hon. E. J. Crooke	1922
Melbourne ..	Hon. J. M. Davies (President)	1919
	Hon. J. McWhae	1922
Melbourne East ..	D. L. McNamara	1919
	Hon. J. P. Jones	1922
Melbourne North	Hon. W. J. Beckett	1919
	Hon. D. Melville	1922
Melbourne South..	Hon. A. Robinson (Honorary Minister)	1919
	Hon. T. H. Payne	1922
Melbourne West ..	Hon. J. H. Disney	1919
	Hon. J. G. Aikman	1922
Nelson	Hon. J. D. Brown	1919
	Hon. T. Beggs	1922
Northern	Hon. F. G. Clarke	1919
	Hon. W. L. Baillieu (Honorary Minister)	1922
North-Eastern ..	Hon. W. Kendell	1919
	Hon. A. O. Sachse (Chairman of Committees)..	1922
North-Western ..	Hon. F. W. Hagelthorn (Minister of Agriculture)	1919
	Hon. R. B. Rees	1922
Southern	Hon. W. L. R. Clarke	1919
	Hon. W. C. Angliss	1922
South-Eastern ..	Hon. D. E. McBryde	1919
	Hon. W. A. Adamson (Commissioner of Public Works)	1922
South-Western ..	Hon. A. A. Austin	1919
	Hon. H. F. Richardson	1922
Wellington ..	Hon. A. Bell	1919
	Hon. F. W. Brawn	1922
Western	Hon. E. J. White	1919
	Hon. W. S. Manifold	1922

Clerk of the Legislative Council : R. W. V. McCall.

Clerk Assistant : H. H. Pearson.

Usher, Accountant, and Clerk of Committees : W. R. Heywood.

Clerk of the Papers : P. T. Pook.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1917—*continued.*

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Speaker: Hon. Sir Frank Madden.

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Abbotsford ..	G. C. Webber.
Albert Park ..	Hon. Geo. A. Elmslie.
Allandale ..	Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock, K.C.M.G. (Premier, Treasurer, and Minister of Labour).
Ballaarat East ..	Hon. R. McGregor.
Ballaarat West ..	M. Baird.
Barwon ..	J. F. Farrer.
Benalla ..	J. J. Carlisle.
Benambra ..	H. Beardmore.
Bendigo East ..	L. J. Clough.
Bendigo West ..	Hon. D. Smith.
Boroondara ..	Hon. Sir Frank Madden (Speaker).
Borung ..	Hon. W. Hutchison (Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey).
Brighton ..	O. R. Snowball.
Brunswick ..	J. R. Jewell.
Bulla ..	Hon. A. R. Robertson.
Carlton ..	R. H. Solty.
Castlemaine and Maldon ..	Hon. H. S. W. Lawson (Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, and Minister of Public Instruction).
Collingwood ..	Hon. M. Hannah.
Dalhousie ..	A. F. Cameron.
Dandenong ..	W. S. Keast.
Daylesford ..	Hon. D. McLeod (Chief Secretary and Minister of Public Health).
Dundas ..	W. K. Smith.
Eaglehawk ..	T. Tunnecliffe.
East Melbourne ..	A. A. Farthing.
Essendon ..	M. M. Blackburn.
Evelyn ..	J. Rouget.
Fitzroy ..	Hon. J. W. Billson.
Flemington ..	E. C. Warde.
Geelong ..	R. Purnell.
Gippsland East ..	Hon. J. Cameron.
Gippsland North ..	J. W. McLachlan.
Gippsland South ..	Hon. T. Livingston (Minister of Mines and Minister of Forests).
Gippsland West ..	Hon. J. E. Mackey (Chairman of Committees).
Glenelg ..	H. J. M. Campbell.
Goulburn Valley ..	J. D. Mitchell.
Grenville ..	J. Chatham.
Gunbower ..	H. Angus.
Hampden ..	D. S. Oman.
Hawthorn ..	W. M. McPherson.
Jika Jika ..	Hon. J. G. Membrey (Honorary Minister).
Kara Kara ..	J. W. Pennington.
Korong ..	A. Gray.
Lowan ..	J. Menzies.
Maryborough ..	Hon. A. R. Outtrim.
Melbourne ..	A. Rogers.
Mornington ..	Hon. A. Downward.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1917—continued.

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—continued.

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
North Melbourne	Hon. G. M. Prendergast.
Ovens	Hon. A. A. Billson.
Polwarth	Vacant.
Port Fairy	H. S. Bailey.
Port Melbourne	O. Sinclair.
Prahran	Hon. D. Mackinnon.
Richmond	E. J. Cotter.
Rodney	Hon. H. McKenzie (Minister of Railways and Minister of Water Supply).
St. Kilda	Hon. R. G. McCutcheon.
Stawell and Ararat	R. F. Toutcher.
Swan Hill	Hon. J. Gray.
Toorak	N. Bayles.
Upper Goulburn	M. K. McKenzie.
Walhalla	S. Barnes.
Wangaratta	Hon. J. Bowser.
Waranga	J. Gordon.
Warrenheip	E. J. Hogan.
Warrnambool	J. D. Deany.
Williamstown	Hon. J. Lemmon.

Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Assembly : H. H. Newton, J.P.

Clerk Assistant and Clerk of Private Bills : W. R. Alexander.

Clerk of the Papers, Clerk of Committees, and Serjeant-at-Arms : J. M. Worthington.

Reader and Clerk of the Record : W. R. Barstow.

Accountant and Assistant Clerk of Committees : P. P. Conlan.

Chief *Hansard* Reporter : A. Barr.

FOREIGN CONSULS.

The following is a return of Consuls-General and Consuls for Victoria of foreign countries :—

CONSULS-GENERAL.

Country.	Names.
Belgium	Lauwers, E.
China	Tseng Tsung-Kien (Acting).
Colombia	Lyle, M.
Cuba	Altimira y Polo, Senor Antonio.
Italy	Eles, Cav. E.
Netherlands	Boschart, W. L.
Norway	Römcke, Otto (Acting).
Russia	D'Abaza, A. N.

CONSULS.

Belgium	Vanderkelen, F.
Chili	Barrows, R. H.
Ecuador	Phillips, Edwin.
Greece	Maniachi, A.
Guatemala	De Bavay, Auguste.
Japan	Fullarton, D. B.
México	McKinley, Alexander.

FOREIGN CONSULS—*continued.*CONSULS—*continued.*

Country.	Names.
Netherlands	Assche, O. Van
Nicaragua	Medina, R.
Panama	Phillips, Edwin.
Peru	Loyer, J. F.
Portugal	Thomson, J.
Servia	Oldham, A. E.
Spain	de Montero y de Madrazo, Senior Don J.
"	Cave, H.
Sweden	Waern, J. D.
Swiss Confederation	Stahel, G.
United States	Magelssen, W. C.
Uruguay	Walters, H. A.

VICE-CONSULS.

Belgium	Valcke, M.
Brazil, United States of	Sheppard, H. A.
China	Lu Ping Tien.
Denmark	Holdenson, P. J.
"	Belcher, E. N.
France	Fliche, H.
Liberia	Coombs, W. G.
Norway	Martin, G.
Paraguay	Fraser, W. S.
Russia	Sleigh, H. C.
United States	Hartlett, C.

TRADE COMMISSIONERS.

The following Trade Commissioners have been appointed by the countries mentioned to represent them in Victoria:—

Representing—

United Kingdom	Milne, G. T.
Canada	Ross, D. H.
New Zealand	Manson, H. J.
Brazil	Sheppard, S. H.

PRINCIPAL STATE OFFICERS.

Appended is a list of the principal officers in the Public Service of Victoria, including the Judiciary and other officers not under the provisions of the Public Service Acts. Officers of Parliament are given above, in conjunction with members of the Houses. Those in the Departments of Trade and Customs, Post and Telegraph, and Defence are given under the section dealing with the Commonwealth, of which these Departments form a part:—

Office.	Name.
Chief Justice	The Hon. Sir John Madden, G.C.M.G., LL.D.
Puisne Judges	Sir Thomas A'Beckett, K.B. H. E. A. Hodges. J. H. Hood. L. F. B. Cussen.

PRINCIPAL STATE OFFICERS—*continued.*

Office.	Name.
County Court Judges	W. E. Johnston. J. G. Eagleson. W. H. Moule. J. S. Wasley. H. C. Winneke.
Master-in-Equity and Lunacy and Registrar of Titles	H. A. Templeton.
Commissioner of Taxes	R. M. Weldon.
Commissioner of Titles	W. C. Guest, K.C., M.A., LL.B.
Public Service Commissioner	G. C. Morrison, I.S.O.
Inspector-General of the Insane	Dr. W. E. Jones.
Agent-General, London	Sir P. McBride, K.B.
Auditor-General	F. H. Bruford.
Chairman of the Board of Public Health and Medical Inspector	Dr. E. Robertson, M.R.C.S., D.P.H.
Chief Commissioner of Police	A. G. Sainsbury, J.P.
Curator of Estates of Deceased Persons	W. B. House.
Prosecutor for the King at Melbourne	C. J. Z. Woinarski, K.C.
Prosecutors for the King	J. A. Gurner, K.C.; S. Leon, K.C.
Chief Clerk and Taxing Master Supreme Court	M. M. Phillips.
Government Botanist	Dr. A. J. Ewart.
State Rivers and Water Supply Commissioners—	
Chairman	W. Cattanach.
Commissioner	J. S. Dethridge, C.E.
Commissioner	E. Shaw, C.E.
Lands Purchase and Management Board—	
Chairman	A. B. Lang.
Member	W. McIver.
Member	A. A. Peverill.

CHIEF SECRETARY'S DEPARTMENT.

Under Secretary	W. A. Callaway.
Chief Clerk	H. E. Macdowell.
Government Medical Officer	Dr. J. A. O'Brien.
Government Statist	A. M. Laughton, F.S.S.
Marine Board	Secretary, J. G. McKie.
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	Secretary, J. Molloy.
Premier	Secretary, F. T. Short.
Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery	Chief Librarian and Secretary, E. La T. Armstrong.
Public Service Commissioner	Secretary, J. D. Merson.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOUR.

Secretary for Labour and Chief Inspector of Factories	H. M. Murphy.
---	---------------

TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

Under-Treasurer	M. A. Minogue.
Chief Clerk	T. E. Meek.
Accountant	J. A. Norris.
Taxation Office	Commissioner, R. M. Weldon.
Land Tax	Deputy Commissioner, M. Murphy.
Government Printer	A. J. Mullett.

PRINCIPAL STATE OFFICERS—*continued.*

DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS.

Office.	Name.
Commissioners	C. E. Norman (Chairman), L. J. McClelland, E. B. Jones.
Secretary	G. H. Sutton.
Secretary to the Minister	T. P. Lynch.
Chief Clerk	J. S. Rees.
General Superintendent of Transportation	T. B. Molomby.
Superintendent Passenger Train Service	J. J. Tierney.
Superintendent Goods Train Service	C. Miscamble.
General Passenger and Freight Agent	W. E. N. Keast.
Chief Accountant	T. F. Brennan.
Assistant Accountant	H. W. Mead.
Chief Clerk	A. Williams.
Auditor of Receipts	W. G. Ritchie.
Chief Mechanical Engineer	W. M. Shannon.
Assistant Chief Mechanical Engineer	A. E. Smith.
Workshops Manager	R. Ferguson.
Chief Engineer of Way and Works	J. H. Fraser.
Engineer of Works	W. R. Rennick.
Assistant Chief Engineer of Way and Works	E. H. Ballard.
Chief Electrical Engineer	W. Stone.
Telegraph Superintendent	W. A. Holmes.
Chief Storekeeper	C. W. J. Coleman.
Superintendent of Printing	A. Valentine.
Chief Engineer for Railway Construction	M. E. Kernot.

ROYAL MINT (UNDER IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT).

Deputy Master	Major M. L. Bagge.
Superintendent of Bullion Office	A. M. Le Souëf.
First Assayer	F. R. Power.
Registrar and Accountant	W. M. Robins.
First Clerk	H. D. McCay.

The particulars given in the succeeding lists refer to institutions which are closely associated with the Government :—

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

Return of the Professors, Lecturers, and Demonstrators of the Melbourne University :—

PROFESSORS.

Office.	Name.
Mathematics	Nanson, E. J., M.A.
History	Scott, E.
Anatomy and Pathology	Allen, Sir H. B., M.D., B.S., LL.D.
Engineering	Payne, H., M. Inst. C.E., M.I. Mech. E.
Classical Philology	Tucker, T. G., M.A., Litt.D.
Mental and Moral Philosophy	Gibson, W. R. B., M.A., D.Sc.
English Language and Literature	Wallace, R. S., M.A.
Chemistry	Masson, D. O., M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.
Biology	Spencer, Sir W. B., K.C.M.G., M.A., Litt. D., F.R.S.
Natural Philosophy	Laby, T. H., M.A.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY—*continued.*PROFESSORS—*continued.*

Office.	Name.
Law	Moore, W. H., C.M.G., B.A., LL.D.
Music	Laver, W. A.
Physiology and Histology	Osborne, W. A., M.B., B.Ch., D.Sc.
Geology and Mineralogy	Skeats, E. W., D.Sc., F.G.S.
Anatomy	Berry, R. J. A., M.D., Ch.M., F.R.C.S., F.R.S.E.
Botany and Plant Physiology	Ewart, A. J., D.Sc., Ph.D., F.L.S.
Veterinary Pathology	Woodruff, H. A., M.R.C.V.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

LECTURERS.

Equity	Mackey, J. E., M.A., LL.B.
Law of Contracts	Latham, J. G., M.A., LL.B.
Wrongs and Procedure	Maguire, J. R., B.A., LL.B.
Law of Property	Gregory, R. H., LL.B.
Classics and Philology	Kerry, Wm., M.A.
Mixed Mathematics	Michell, J. H., M.A., F.R.S.
Mathematics (Evening)	Weatherburn, C. E., M.A., D.Sc.
French	Maurice-Carton, F. I., M.A., B. ès L.
German	Lodewyckx, A., M.A., Litt.D.
Surgery	Bird, F. D., M.B., M.S., F.R.C.S.
"	Kilvington, B., M.D., M.S. (acting).
Theory and Practice of Medicine	Maudsley, H., M.D., F.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
"	Howard, G. T., B.A., M.D., B.S. (acting).
Obstetrics and Diseases of Women	Meyer, F. H., M.D., B.S.
Forensic Medicine	Mollison, C. H., M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S.
Anatomy	Lister, C. R., M.B., M.S.
"	Newton, H. A. S., M.B., M.S.
Pathology	O'Connor, J. I., M.B., B.S.
Therapeutics, Diagnostics, and Hygiene	Bago, C., M.A., M.D., B.S.
Public Health	Sinclair, T. W., M.D.
Bacteriology	Bull, R. J., M.D., B.S.
Materia Medica and Pharmacy	Plowman, S., F.R.C.S.
Mining	Merrin, A. H., M.C.E.
Architecture	Blackett, W. A. M., F.R.V.I.A.
"	Gawler, J. S., A.R.V.I.A.
"	Henderson, A. M., M.C.E.
Veterinary Anatomy and Surgery	Lewis, J. C., D.V.Sc.
"	Kendall, W. T., D.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.
"	Cameron, S. S., D.V.Sc., M.R.C.V.S.
"	Sweet, Miss Georgina, D.Sc.
"	Seddon, H. R., B.V.Sc.
"	Bordeaux, E. F. J., B.V.Sc., B. ès L.
Botany	McLennan, Miss Ethel I., B.Sc.
Classics (Evening)	Cornwall, E. W., B.A.
Metallurgy	Higgin, A. J., F.I.C.
Civil Engineering	Higgins, Geo., M.C.E., M. Inst. C.E.
Electrical Engineering	Brown, E. B., M.Sc.
"	Rennie, E. J. C., B.E. (acting)
Engineering, Design, and Drawing	Kernot, W. N., B.C.E.
Surveying	Lupson, J. T., L.S.
Education	Smyth, J., M.A., D.Ph.
"	McRae, J., M.A.
"	Sharman, M. S., M.A., M.Sc.
"	Marshall, Miss Ida D., M.A.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY—continued.

LECTURERS—continued.

Office.	Name.
Education	Lawson, R., M.A.
English	Strong, A. T., M.A.
Logic (Evening)	Smith, T. J., M.A.
Philosophy	Stewart, J. McK., B.A., Ph.D.
History	Webb, Miss Jessie S. W., M.A.
Political Economy	Kelly, E. C. W., LL.M.

LECTURERS AND DEMONSTRATORS.

Chemistry	Green, W. H., D.Sc., and Rivett, A. C. D., B.A., D.Sc.
Biology	Sweet, Miss Georgina, D.Sc.
Natural Philosophy	Love, E. F. J., M.A., D.Sc., F.R.A.S.
"	Holmes, W. M., M.A., B.Sc.
Histology	Dane, P. G., M.D., B.S.
Geology	Summers, H. St. John, D.Sc.
Physiology	Maxwell, L. A. I., B.Sc., B. Agr. Sc.

DEMONSTRATORS.

Anatomy	Downes, R. M., M.D., M.S.
"	Stephens, H. D., M.D., M.S.
"	Tymms, A. S. M., M.D., M.S. (acting).
Chemistry	Green, Miss Leila A., M.Sc.
Obstetrics	Spowers, E. A., M.D., B.Sc.
Metrology	Grayson, H. J.
Natural Philosophy	Rossiter, A. L., M.S.
"	Allen, Miss N. C. B., B.Sc.
"	McAulay, A. L., B.Sc.
Bacteriology	Kelsey, Miss H. F. M., M.B., B.S.
"	Rennie, Miss H. M., M.B., B.S.
Veterinary Anatomy	Meyers, C. N., B.V.Sc.
Biology	Raff, Miss J. W., M.Sc.
Physiology	Kincaid, Miss H. E., D.Sc.
Medicine	Denchy, W. J., M.D., B.S.
Surgery	Roche, C. W. G., M.D., B.S.

OFFICE STAFF.

Registrar	Bainbridge, J. P., F.I.A.V., F.C.I.S.
Chief Clerk	Serle, P.
Librarian	Ulrich, E. D., M.A.
" .. Medical School	Gladish, F.

THE MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.

Office.	Name.
Chairman	W. J. C. Riddell.

Commissioners—

- Sir A. Snowden, E. C. Treadwell, H. C. Elliott, Hon. J. G. Aikman, J.P., M.L.C., J. H. Gardiner, A. L. Crichton, W. W. Cabena, Dr. G. Cuscaden, J.P., Frank Stapley, D. Bell, J.P., representing the City of Melbourne.
 J. Baragwanath, J.P., John Cookbill, J.P., T. H. Craine, J.P., D. McArthur, J.P., representing the City of South Melbourne.
 E. Naylor, J. R. G. Nicholson, J. J. W. Flintoft, J.P., representing the City of Prahran.
 A. Collins, J.P., W. Johns, representing the City of Collingwood.
 A. Renfrew, J.P., A. Wheeler, M.B., J.P., representing the City of Fitzroy.
 A. F. Fear, H. H. Bell, representing the City of Richmond.
 J. H. A. Pittard, J.P., H. B. Gibbs, representing the City of St. Kilda.

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS—*continued.*Commissioners—*continued.*

F. E. Shillabeer, J.P., representing the City of Footscray.
E. Ward, representing the City of Hawthorn.
J. W. Fleming, J.P., representing the City of Brunswick.
W. J. Mountain, representing the City of Essendon.
W. R. Thomson, representing the City of Malvern.
P. St. John Hall, representing the City of Caulfield.
Hon. Robert Beckett, M.L.C., representing the City of Camberwell.
H. E. Bastings, representing the City of Northcote.
Sir Henry de C. Kellett, J.P., representing the Town of Kew.
T. Wilson, J.P., representing the Town of Brighton.
Geo. S. Walter, representing the Town of Port Melbourne.
Chas. Knowles, representing the Town of Williamstown.
Alex. G. Campbell, J.P., representing the Town of Coburg.
J. S. White, J.P., representing the Shire of Heidelberg.
C. T. Crispe, J.P., representing the Shire of Preston.
Secretary Geo. A. Gibbs.
Treasurer R. Richardson.
Engineer-in-Chief C. E. Oliver, M.C.E.

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.

Office.	Name.
Commissioners—	
Chairman	G. F. Holden.
Representative of shipping interests	W. T. Appleton.
Representative of exporters	J. A. Boyd.
Representative of importers	H. Meeks.
Representative of primary producers	D. McLennan.
Secretary	J. H. McCutchan.
Treasurer	R. E. Shepherd.
Engineer	A. C. Mackenzie.
Harbor Master	W. G. Vincent.
Superintendent of Dredging	D. Kerr.

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST.

Office.	Name.
Commissioners	J. Hill (Chairman); E. J. Bechervaise, R. McGregor, M.L.A.
Secretary	J. H. Grey.
Accountant	C. W. Dickins.
Engineer (acting)	F. G. Goldstone.
Inspecting Engineer	Geo. S. Richardson.
Harbor Master, Geelong	Captain George A. Molland.

STATE SAVINGS BANK OF VICTORIA.

Office.	Name.
Commissioners—	
W. Bell Jackson (Chairman).	
Wm. G. McBeath, J.P.	
Major-General J. W. McCay, C.B.	
G. A. Young.	
C. Forrester.	
W. Warren Kerr (deputy).	
Inspector-General	Geo. E. Emery, J.P.
Chief Inspector	A. Cooch, J.P.
Secretary	G. W. Paxton.

PUBLIC LIBRARY, MUSEUMS, AND NATIONAL GALLERY OF VICTORIA.

Trustees—

- H. G. Turner, Esq., F.R.G.S., President.
 A. Leeper, Esq., M.A., LL.D., Vice-President.
 Sir Edward Carlile, K.C., Treasurer.
 The Rev. W. H. Fitchett, B.A., LL.D.
 Sir W. Baldwin Spencer, K.C.M.G., Litt. D., F.R.S.
 R. Murray Smith, Esq., C.M.G., M.A.
 The Rev. E. H. Sugden, Litt. D., B.Sc.
 His Honour Sir Thomas a'Beckett.
 A. S. Joske, Esq., M.D.
 The Hon. J. E. Mackey, M.A., LL.B., M.L.A.
 The Hon. G. Swinburne.
 Sir Henry Weedon, Knt.
 J. Moloney, Esq.
 The Hon. R. G. McCutcheon, M.L.A.
 W. Montgomery, Esq.
 Edward Officer, Esq.
 His Honour Mr. Justice Cussen.

- Chief Librarian and Secretary : E. La Touche Armstrong, M.A., LL.B.
 Curator of the Industrial and Technological Museum : R. H. Walcott, F.G.S.
 Hon. Director of the National Museum : Sir W. Baldwin Spencer, K.C.M.G., Litt.D., F.R.S.
 Curator of the Zoological Collection : J. A. Kershaw, F.Z.S.
 Director of the National Gallery and Master of the School of Art : L. B. Hall.
 Master of the School of Drawing : F. McCubbin.

BOARD OF PUBLIC HEALTH.

Office.	Name.
Chairman and Medical Inspector .. ..	.. E. Robertson, F.B.C.S., D.P.H.
Members .. .. .	.. F. G. Wood, J.P., appointed by Governor in Council.
	Alderman W. Burton, J.P., City of Melbourne.
	Councillor William Henry Treganowan, North Yarra Group.
	Councillor J. Baragwanath, South Yarra Group.
	Councillor J. H. Curnow, J.P., Eastern Country Boroughs.
	Councillor J. J. Brokenshire, Western Country Boroughs.
	Councillor A. H. Smith, J.P., Eastern Shires.
	Councillor H. A. Austin, J.P., Western Shires.
Secretary .. ..	.. T. W. H. Holmes, J.P., F.I.A.A.
Senior Clerk .. ..	.. A. P. Kane.
Engineers .. ..	.. J. T. Oliver and F. E. T. Cobb.
Assistant Medical Inspector..	.. J. Johnston, M.D.

MARINE BOARD, MELBOURNE.

Office.			Name.
President	..	..	W. D. Garside.
Vice-President	..	..	C. W. Maclean.
Members ..	..	..	C. Hallett, A. Agnew, R. Dickins, D. Y. Syme, C. F. Orr, J. McK. Corby, C. E. Jarrett, H. Belfrage, J. Ogilvie, J. G. Little.
Examiner in Navigation and Seaman- ship			H. Goodrham.
Examiner in Pilotage	..	..	D. Russell.
Counsel ..	..	..	E. J. D. Guinness.
Secretary	..	..	J. G. McKie.

COURT OF MARINE INQUIRY.

Office.			Name.
President	..	..	Senior Police Magistrate presiding.
Skilled Members ..	..	..	A. Dunbar, V. E. E. Gotch, E. Smith, A. McCowan, J. Sloss, G. B. Ramsay, H. Press, R. Wills, W. F. A. H. Russell, F. W. Strickland.

LICENCES REDUCTION BOARD.

Office.			Name.
Chairman..	..	..	Robert Barr.
Members ..	..	..	Thomas F. Cumming. James Lock.
Secretary and Accountant ..	..	..	W. H. Banks.

INDETERMINATE SENTENCES BOARD.

Office.			Name.
Chairman..	..	..	Hon. S. Mauger.
Members ..	..	..	W. R. Anderson, P.M. C. A. Topp, I.S.O.

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

Office.			Name.
Chairman..	..	..	W. Calder, M. Inst. C.E.
Members ..	..	..	W. T. B. McCormack, C.E. F. W. Fricke.

THE COMMONWEALTH.

The Commonwealth of Australia comprises the States of Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, and the Northern and Federal Territories, and its

area is estimated to be somewhat under three million square miles. The following are the areas of the different States, as officially computed :—

AREA OF STATES.

	Sq. Miles.
Victoria	87,884
New South Wales	309,472
Queensland	670,500
South Australia	380,070
Western Australia	975,920
Tasmania	26,215
Territories—	
Northern	523,620
Federal	900
Total Australia	2,974,581

The following are the latitudes and longitudes of the capital cities of the different Australian States, the positions being the observatories at Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, and Adelaide, the Barracks Observatory at Hobart, and the Government House at Perth :—

Position of Australasian capitals.

POSITION OF STATES' CAPITAL CITIES.

State.	Capital City.						
	Name.	Latitude S.			Longitude E.		
		°	'	"	°	'	"
Victoria	Melbourne ...	37	49	53	144	58	32
New South Wales	Sydney ...	33	51	41	151	12	23
Queensland	Brisbane ...	27	28	0	153	1	36
South Australia	Adelaide ...	34	55	34	138	35	4
Western Australia	Perth ...	31	57	24	115	52	42
Tasmania	Hobart ...	42	53	25	147	19	57

FEDERAL CAPITAL.

By Section 125 of the Commonwealth Constitution Act **site.** it was decreed that the capital city of the Australian Commonwealth should be in New South Wales, distant not less than 100 miles from Sydney. Until such time as the Federal Government should meet at the seat of government, Parliament was to sit at Melbourne. In August, 1904, the Parliament of the Federation fixed the seat of Government at Dalgety, New South Wales; but on 14th

December, 1908, this Act was repealed, the following clauses being enacted in the *Seat of Government Act 1908* :—

Yass-Canberra. It is hereby determined that the seat of government of the Commonwealth shall be in the district of Yass-Canberra, in the State of New South Wales.

The territory to be granted to, or acquired by, the Commonwealth for the seat of government shall contain an area not less than nine hundred square miles, and have access to the sea.

The government of the Territory is provided for by the *Seat of Government (Administration) Act 1910*.

THE CONSTITUTION.

Leading features of the Commonwealth Constitution.

The Act constituting the Commonwealth was passed by the Imperial Parliament and proclaimed in Australia on 1st January, 1901. Its leading features are as follows :—

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

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

Senate. Senate to consist of six members from each State; number may be increased or diminished, but so that equal representation of the States be maintained. Senators are elected for six years, but, after a general election, the tenure of office is so arranged that half the number shall present themselves for re-election every third year. Qualification of electors of Senate and of Senators to be same as for House of Representatives. Each elector shall vote only once.

House of Representatives. House of Representatives shall have twice the number of members of the Senate, and the number of members for each State shall be in proportion to population, but not less than five for any State. Members are elected for three years. Qualification of electors to be that of the more numerous House in each State. The *Commonwealth Franchise Act 1902* provides that all persons not under 21 years of age who have lived in Australia for six months continuously, who are natural born or naturalized subjects, are entitled to vote at elections for the Federal Parliament. Each elector to vote only once. Qualifications of a member—(a) 21 years of age, (b) to be an elector or entitled so to be, (c) resident three years, (d) natural born or naturalized five years.

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

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

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

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

COMMONWEALTH ACTS PASSED, 1916.

The following is a brief summary of the Acts passed by the Commonwealth Parliament during 1916 :—

- No. 1 .. 12th May .. The *Supply Act* (No. 5) 1915-16 grants and applies £1,818,905 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1915-16.
- No. 2 The *Supply Act (Works and Buildings)* (No. 5) 1915-16 grants and applies £213,560 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1915-16 for the purposes of additions, new works, buildings, &c.
- No. 3 .. 30th May .. The *War Precautions Act* 1916 amends the *War Precautions Act* 1914-15.
- No. 4 The *Acts Interpretation Act* 1916 amends the Acts of 1901 and 1904.
- No. 5 The *Appropriation Act* 1915-16 grants and applies £4,024,982 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1915-16, and appropriates the supplies granted for such year amounting to £54,098,280 to the service of the Government.
- No. 6 The *Appropriation (Works and Buildings) Act* 1915-16 appropriates the supplies granted for the year 1915-16 amounting to £3,278,499 to the service of the Government for the purposes of additions, new works, buildings, &c.
- No. 7 The *Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Fund Act* 1916 provides for the administration of the Australian Soldiers' Repatriation Fund.
- No. 8 The *Commonwealth Public Service Act* 1916 amends the Act of 1902-1915.
- No. 9 The *Commonwealth Public Service (Acting Commissioner) Act* 1916 provides for the appointment, temporarily, of an Acting Public Service Commissioner.
- No. 10 The *Customs Act* 1916 amends the Act of 1901-1914.
- No. 11 The *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Appropriation Act* 1916 grants and applies out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund the sum of £3,500,000 for Invalid and Old-age Pensions.
- No. 12 The *Lands Acquisition Act* 1916 authorizes the transfer to and the vesting in any authority incorporated by any law of the Commonwealth of lands acquired by the Commonwealth under the *Lands Acquisition Act* 1906.
- No. 13 The *Patents Act (Partial Suspension) Act* 1916 suspends the operation during the continuance of the war and for six months thereafter of the *Patents Act* 1903-1909 in regard to the provisions for patents not worked to an adequate extent within the Commonwealth.

- No. 14 .. 30th May .. The *Post and Telegraph Act* 1916 amends the Act of 1901-1913.
- No. 15 The *Representation Act* 1916 provides that there shall be no appointment during 1916 of an enumeration day for the purposes of the *Representation Act* 1905.
- No. 16 The *Rules Publication Act* 1916 repeals certain provisions of the Act of 1903.
- No. 17 The *States Loan Act* 1916 authorizes the raising of £8,940,000 to be loaned to the different States, with the exception of New South Wales.
- No. 18 The *Supply Act (No. 1)* 1916-17 grants and applies £2,752,388 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1916-17.
- No. 19 The *Supply Act (Works and Buildings) (No. 1)* 1916-17 grants and applies £662,085 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1916-17 for the purposes of additions, new works, buildings, &c.
- No. 20 The *Trading with the Enemy Act* 1916 provides for the constitution of the office of Public Trustee, and otherwise amends the Trading with the Enemy Acts of 1914.
- No. 21 The *War Census Act* 1916 amends the law as regards the onus of proof in any proceedings for an offence against the War Census Acts 1915.
- No. 22 The *War Loan Act* 1916 authorizes the raising and expending of £50,000,000 for war purposes.
- No. 23 The *War Loan Act (United Kingdom) (No. 1)* 1916 provides that all moneys borrowed after 30th June, 1915, under the *War Loan Act* 1914 and the *War Loan Act (No. 2)* 1915 shall be credited to the Loan Fund.
- No. 24 The *War Loan Act (United Kingdom) (No. 2)* 1916 authorizes the borrowing of £25,000,000 from the Government of the United Kingdom for war purposes.
- No. 25 The *War Pensions Act* 1916 amends the Act of 1914-1915.
- No. 26 .. 15th September .. The *Supply Act (No. 2)* 1916-17 grants and applies £5,023,580 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1916-17.
- No. 27 .. 28th September .. The *Military Service Referendum Act* 1916 provides for submitting to a Referendum the question of compulsory military service outside the Commonwealth of Australia.
- No. 28 .. 30th September .. The *Solicitor-General Act* 1916 provides for the creation of the office of Solicitor-General of the Commonwealth. The duties and functions of the Solicitor-General shall be such as are delegated to him by the Attorney-General.

- No. 29 .. 30th September .. The *Estate Duty Assessment Act* 1916 amends the Act of 1914 by making provision for the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner of Taxation.
- No. 30 The *Supply Act (Works and Buildings)* (No. 2) 1916-17 grants and applies £918,000 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1916-17 for the purposes of additions, new works, buildings, &c.
- No. 31 The *Income Tax Assessment Act* 1916 amends the Acts of 1915 by making provision for the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner of Taxation.
- No. 32 The *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act* 1916 amends the Act of 1908-12 by increasing the maximum amount of pension from 10s. to 12s. 6d. per week, by providing for pensions to inmates of benevolent asylums and hospitals, and by making other alterations.
- No. 33 The *Land Tax Assessment Act* 1916 provides for the appointment of an Assistant Commissioner of Land Tax.
- No. 34 .. 16th December .. The *Supply Act* (No. 3) 1916-17 grants and applies £2,195,527 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1916-17.
- No. 35 The *Supply Act (Works and Buildings)* (No. 3) 1916-17 grants and applies £2,702,760 out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the service of the year 1916-17 for the purposes of additions, new works, buildings, &c.
- No. 36 .. 21st December .. The *Entertainments Tax Assessment Act* 1916 relates to the imposition, assessment, and collection of a tax upon payments for admission to entertainments.
- No. 37 The *Income Tax Act* 1916 provides for the imposition of a tax upon incomes, and fixes the rates of tax.
- No. 38 The *Entertainments Tax Act* 1916, to be read with Act No. 36, 1916, fixes the rates of the entertainments tax.
- No. 39 The *Income Tax Assessment Act* (No. 2) 1916 makes many machinery amendments in the Acts of 1915 and 1916.
- No. 40 The *Daylight Saving Act* 1916 promotes the earlier use of daylight by varying the clock time in certain months yearly. This Act is to continue in force for the duration of the war and six months thereafter.
- No. 41 The *Unlawful Associations Act* 1916 relates to unlawful associations and members thereof and to the printing or publishing of matter inciting to crime.

OFFICIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY.

The following statement contains the names and periods of office of the Governors-General and acting Governors-General of the Commonwealth of Australia since its establishment on 1st January, 1901 :—

GOVERNORS-GENERAL OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
The Right Hon. the Earl of Hopetoun, P.C., K.T., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.	1st January, 1901	9th May, 1902
The Right Hon. Hallam, Baron Tennyson, G.C.M.G. (acting Governor-General)	17th July, 1902	9th January, 1903
The Right Hon. Hallam, Baron Tennyson, G.C.M.G. (Governor-General)	9th January, 1903	21st January, 1904
The Right Hon. Henry Stafford, Baron Northcote, G.C.M.G., G.C.L.E., C.B.	21st January, 1904	8th September, 1908
The Right Hon. William Humble, Earl of Dudley, P.C., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O.	9th September, 1908	31st July, 1911
The Right Hon. Thomas Denman, Baron Denman, P.C., G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O.	31st July, 1911 ..	16th May, 1914
The Right Hon. Sir Ronald Craufurd Munro Ferguson, P.C., G.C.M.G.	18th May, 1914	Still in office

The names of the present Governors of the States and New Zealand and the dependencies, and the dates of their assumption of office, are as follows :—

GOVERNORS OF AUSTRALASIAN STATES.

	Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.
Victoria ...	Sir Arthur Lyulph Stanley, K.C.M.G.	23 Feb., 1914
New South Wales ...	Sir Gerald Strickland, Count della Catena, K.C.M.G.	14 March, 1913
Queensland ...	Major-General Sir Hamilton Goold Adams, G.C.M.G.	15 March, 1915
South Australia ...	Sir Henry Lionel Galway, K.C.M.G.	18 April, 1914
Western Australia ...	Sir William Grey Ellison Macartney, P.C., K.C.M.G.	6 June, 1913
Tasmania ...	The Hon. Francis Alexander Newdigate Newdegate	
New Zealand ...	Earl of Liverpool, G.C.M.G., M.V.O.	19 Dec., 1912
Fiji ...	Sir Bickham Sweet-Escott, K.C.M.G.	25 July, 1912
Papua ...	The Honorable J. H. P. Murray, C.M.G.	23 Nov., 1908
Northern Territory ...	Professor John Anderson Gilruth	16 April, 1912
Federal Territory ...	Vacant	

COMMONWEALTH MINISTRIES.

Ministries since the proclamation of the Commonwealth.

Since the inauguration of the Commonwealth the administrations, with the dates of their assumption of and retirement from office, have been as follows :—

COMMONWEALTH MINISTRIES, 1901 TO 1917.

Ministry.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.	Number of Days in Office
1. Barton Administration ...	1st Jan., 1901	23rd Sept., 1903	996
2. Deakin ,, ...	24th Sept., 1903	26th April, 1904	216
3. Watson ,, ...	27th April, 1904	17th Aug., 1904	113
4. Reid-McLean ,, ...	18th Aug., 1904	4th July, 1905	321
5. Second Deakin ,, ..	5th July, 1905	12th Nov., 1908	1,227
6. Fisher ,, ...	13th Nov., 1908	2nd June, 1909	201
7. Deakin-Cook ,, ...	2nd June, 1909	29th April, 1910	331
8. Second Fisher ,, ...	29th April, 1910	20th June, 1913	1,148
9. Cook ,, ...	20th June, 1913	17th Sept., 1914	454
10. Third Fisher ,, ...	17th Sept., 1914	27th Oct., 1915	405
11. Hughes ,, ...	27th Oct., 1915	14th Nov., 1916	384
12. Second Hughes ,, ...	14th Nov., 1916	17th Feb., 1917	95
13. Third Hughes ,, ...	17th Feb., 1917	Still in office ...	...

This table shows that Commonwealth Ministries have remained in office on an average for about one year and four months. Owing to a difference of opinion amongst the members of the Labour party on the question of conscription, the Hughes Administration resigned office on 14th November, 1916, the former leader of the party (the Right Hon. W. M. Hughes, P.C.) forming a new Ministry from the members of the party who had favored conscription. The composition of this administration was as follows :—

MEMBERS OF THE TWELFTH COMMONWEALTH MINISTRY, 1917.

Prime Minister and Attorney-General : THE HON. W. M. HUGHES.

Minister for Defence : THE HON. G. F. PEARCE.

Minister for the Navy : THE HON. J. A. JENSEN.

Postmaster-General : THE HON. W. WEBSTER.

Treasurer : THE HON. A. POYNTON.

Minister for Trade and Customs : THE HON. W. O. ARCHIBALD.

Minister for Home Affairs : THE HON. F. W. BAMFORD.

Minister for Works : THE HON. P. J. LYNCH.

Vice-President of the Executive Council : THE HON. W. G. SPENCE.

Assistant Minister : THE HON. E. J. RUSSELL.

” ” THE HON. W. H. L. SMITH.

On 17th February, 1917, the second Hughes Ministry resigned office and a Coalition Government was formed, which comprised the undermentioned members:—

**MEMBERS OF THE THIRTEENTH COMMONWEALTH
MINISTRY, 1917.**

Prime Minister and Attorney-General: THE RIGHT HON. W. M. HUGHES, P.C.
Minister for the Navy: THE RIGHT HON. J. COOK, P.C.
Treasurer: THE RIGHT HON. SIR JOHN FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G.
Minister for Defence: THE HON. G. F. PEARCE.
Vice-President of the Executive Council: THE HON. E. D. MILLEN.
Minister for Works and Railways: THE HON. W. A. WATT.
Minister for Home and Territories: THE HON. P. MCM. GLYNN, K.C.
Minister for Trade and Customs: THE HON. J. A. JENSEN.
Postmaster-General: THE HON. W. WEBSTER.
Honorary Minister: THE HON. L. E. GROOM.
Honorary Minister: THE HON. E. J. RUSSELL.

The succeeding lists contain the names of members and officers of both Houses of the Commonwealth Parliament, High Court Judges, members of the Inter-State Commission, and principal officers of the Commonwealth Government:—

**MEMBERS OF THE SEVENTH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT,
1917.**

THE SENATE.

President SENATOR THE HON. T. GIVENS.
Chairman of Committees .. SENATOR G. HENDERSON.

Victoria.

*Barker, S.
 *Barnes, J.
 Bolton, W. K.
 Fairbairn, G.
 Plain, W.
 *Russell, Hon. E. J.

South Australia.

Guthrie, R. S.
 *Newland, J.
 *O'Loghlin, Lt.-Col. the Hon. J. V.,
 V.D.
 Rowell, Colonel J., C.B.
 Senior, W.
 *Shannon, J. W.

New South Wales.

*Gardiner, Hon. A.
 *Grant, J.
 *McDougall, A.
 Millen, Hon. E. D.
 Pratten, H. E.
 Thomas, Hon. J.

Queensland.

Crawford, T. W.
 *Ferricks, M. A.
 Foll, H. S.
 *Givens, Hon. T.
 *Maughan, W. J. R.
 Reid, M.

Western Australia.

Buzacott, R.
 de Largie, Hon. H.
 Henderson, G.
 *Lynch, Hon. P. J.
 *Needham, E.
 *Pearce, Hon. G. F.

Tasmania.

Bakhap, T. J. K.
 Earle, J.
 *Guy, J.
 Keating, Hon. J. H.
 *Long, Hon. J. J.
 *O'Keefe, Hon. D. J.

* These senators retire on 30th June, 1920; the remaining members on 30th June, 1923.

MEMBERS OF THE SEVENTH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT, 1917—
continued.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Speaker THE HON. W. E. JOHNSON.
Chairman of Committees .. THE HON. J. M. CHANTER.

VICTORIA.

Member.	District.
Anstey, F.	Bourke
Best, Hon. Sir R. W., K.C.M.G.	Kooyong
Boyd, Hon. J. A.	Henty
Brennan, F.	Batman
Fenton, J. E.	Maribyrnong
Hughes, Right Hon. W. M., P.C.	Bendigo
Irvine, Hon. Sir W. H., K.C.M.G., K.C.	Flinders
Leckie, J. W.	Indi
Lister, J. H.	Corio
Maloney, W. R. N.	Melbourne
Manifold, Hon. J. C.	Corangamite
Mathews, J.	Melbourne Ports
Maxwell, G. A.	Fawkner
McGrath, D. C.	Ballaarat
Palmer, A. C.	Echuca
Rodgers, A. S.	Wannon
Salmon, Hon. C. C.	Champions
Sampson, S.	Wimmera
Tudor, Hon. F. G.	Yarra
Watt, Hon. W. A.	Balaclava
Wise, G. H.	Gippsland

NEW SOUTH WALES.

Member.	District.
Abbott, General P. P., C.M.G.	New England
Blakeley, A.	Darling
Catts, J. H.	Cook
Chanter, Hon. J. M.	Riverina
Chapman, Hon. A.	Eden-Monare
Charlton, M.	Hunter
Considine, M. P.	Barrier
Cook, Right Hon. Joseph, P.C.	Parramatta
Falkiner, F. B. S.	Hume
Fleming, W. M.	Robertson
Greene, W. M.	Richmond
Johnson, Hon. W. Elliot	Lang
Kelly, Hon. W. H.	Wentworth
Lamond, H.	Illawarra
Lynch, John	Werriva
Mahony, W. G.	Dalry
Nicholls, S. R.	Macquarie
Orchard, R. B.	Nepean
Pigott, H. R. M.	Calare
Riley, E.	South Sydney
Ryrie, General G. de Laune, C.M.G.	North Sydney
Smith, Hon. Bruce, K.C.	Parkes
Thomson, John	Cowper
Wallace, C.	West Sydney
Watkins, Hon. D.	Newcastle
Webster, Hon. W.	Gwydir
West, J. E.	East Sydney

MEMBERS OF THE SEVENTH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT, 1917—
continued.

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*continued.*

QUEENSLAND.

Member.				District.
Bamford, Hon. F. W.	..	..	..	Herbert
Bayley, J. G.	..	..	..	Oxley
Corser, E. B. C.	..	..	..	Wide Bay
Finlayson, W. F.	..	..	..	Brisbane
Groom, Hon. L. E.	..	..	..	Darling Downs
Higgs, Hon. W. G.	..	..	..	Capricornia
Mackay, G. H.	..	..	..	Lilley
McDonald, Hon. C.	..	..	..	Kennedy
Page, Hon. J.	..	..	..	Maranoa
Sinclair, H.	..	..	..	Moreton

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Member.				District.
Archibald, Hon. W. O.	..	..	..	Hindmarsh
Foster, Hon. R. W.	..	..	..	Wakefield
Glynn, Hon. P. McM., K.C.	..	..	..	Angas
Livingston, J.	..	..	..	Barker
Poynton, Hon. A.	..	..	..	Grey
Story, W. H.	..	..	..	Boothby
Yates, G. E.	..	..	..	Adelaide

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

Member.				District.
Burchell, R. J.	..	..	..	Fremantle
Forrest, Right Hon. Sir J., P.C., G.C.M.G.	..	..	..	Swan
Fowler, Hon. J. M.	..	..	..	Perth
Gregory, Hon. H.	..	..	..	Dampier
Heitmann, E. E.	..	..	..	Kalgoorlie

TASMANIA.

Member.				District.
Atkinson, L.	..	..	..	Wilmot
Jensen, Hon. J. A.	..	..	..	Bass
McWilliams, W. J.	..	..	..	Franklin
Smith, Hon. W. H. Laird	..	..	..	Denison
Vacant..	..	..	..	Darwin

PARLIAMENTARY OFFICERS.

Senate.—C. Gavan Duffy, C.M.G., Clerk of the Senate; G. H. Monahan, Clerk Assistant; F. U'Ren, Usher of the Black Rod.

House of Representatives.—W. A. Gale, Clerk of the House; T. Woolford, Clerk Assistant; F. L. Clapin, Serjeant-at-Arms.

Reporting Staff.—B. H. Friend, Principal Parliamentary Reporter; D. F. Lumsden, Second Reporter.

Commonwealth Librarian—A. Wadsworth.

PRINCIPAL COMMONWEALTH OFFICERS.**JUDICIARY—HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA.**

Chief Justice	..	..	..	The Right Hon. Sir Samuel Walker Griffith, P.C., G.C.M.G.
Justice	..	..	..	The Right Hon. Sir Edmund Barton, P.C., G.C.M.G.
"	..	..	..	The Hon. Isaac Alfred Isaacs, K.C.
"	..	..	..	The Hon. Henry Bourne Higgins, K.C.
"	..	..	..	Frank Gavan Duffy, K.C.
"	..	..	..	Charles Powers.
"	..	..	..	The Hon. George Edward Rich.
Associate to Chief Justice	..	..	..	G. J. Rennick.
"	..	..	..	Justice Barton
"	..	..	..	Neil McTague.
"	..	..	..	Miss N. Isaacs.
"	..	..	..	F. G. R. Peterson.
"	..	..	..	Miss M. Gavan Duffy.
"	..	..	..	Lionel Powers.
"	..	..	..	E. L. Best.
Principal Registrar	..	..	..	J. W. O'Halloran.
Marshal	..	..	..	Walter David Bingle.

INTER-STATE COMMISSION.

Chief Commissioner	..	..	..	A. B. Piddington, K.C.
Commissioner	..	..	..	The Hon. George Swinburne.
Commissioner	..	..	..	N. C. Lockyer, I.S.O.
Secretary	..	..	..	A. G. Brown, B.A., LL.B.
Senior Clerk	..	..	..	H. McConaghy.

POSTMASTER-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION.**

Secretary	..	..	..	J. Oxenham.
Chief Clerk	..	..	..	J. C. T. Vardon.
Chief Clerk	..	..	..	P. Howe.
Chief Clerk	..	..	..	E. Woodrow.
Chief Electrical Engineer	..	..	..	J. Hesketh.
Chief Accountant	..	..	..	G. G. Haldane.
Meteorologist	..	..	..	H. A. Hunt.

DEPUTY POSTMASTERS-GENERAL.

Victoria	..	..	..	C. E. Bright.
New South Wales	..	..	..	E. J. Young.
Queensland	..	..	..	H. B. Templeton.
South Australia	..	..	..	E. W. Bramble.
Western Australia	..	..	..	J. J. Lloyd.
Tasmania	..	..	..	H. L. D'Emden.

STAFF OFFICERS, VICTORIA.

Electrical Engineer	..	..	..	F. Golding.
Chief Clerk	..	..	..	J. Mason.
Accountant	..	..	..	C. J. Westhoven.
Superintendent Mail Branch	..	..	..	E. P. Ramsay.
Manager Telegraph Branch	..	..	..	T. Howard.
Senior Inspector, Post and Telegraph Services	..	..	..	H. J. Huffer.

PRINCIPAL COMMONWEALTH OFFICERS—*continued.*

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND CUSTOMS.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION.

Comptroller-General	..	..	S. Mills.
Chief Clerk	..	..	L. F. East.
Chief Surveyor	..	..	G. E. Hudson.
Director of Quarantine	..	..	J. H. L. Cumpston.
Analyst	..	..	W. P. Wilkinson.
Director of Lighthouses	..	..	J. F. Ramsbotham.
Director of Navigation	..	..	Vacant.
Secretary, Inter-State Commission	..	..	A. G. Brown.

STATE COLLECTORS.

Victoria	..	..	P. Whitton.
New South Wales	..	..	W. H. Barkley.
Queensland	..	..	O. S. Maddocks
South Australia	..	..	S. H. Rowe.
Western Australia	..	..	R. McK. Oakley.
Tasmania	..	..	W. J. Bain.

STAFF OFFICERS, VICTORIA.

Inspector and Sub-Collector	..	..	R. W. Moorehead.
Inspector, 1st Class	..	..	S. J. Priestley.
"	..	..	C. H. Green.
Accountant	..	..	W. C. P. Harvey.
Inspector of Excise	..	..	H. E. Kennedy.

PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT.

Secretary	..	..	M. L. Shepherd.
Chief Clerk	..	..	W. H. Clarke.
Auditor-General	..	..	J. W. Israel, I.S.O.
Secretary, Auditor-General's Office	..	..	G. H. Gatehouse.
Director of Naval and Military Audit	..	..	J. B. Laing.
Official Secretary to the Governor-General*	..	..	Major G. C. T. Steward, C.M.G.

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

Acting Public Service Commissioner	..	..	W. B. Edwards.
Inspector (Central Staff)	..	..	W. J. Skewes.
Acting Inspector for Victoria	..	..	W. J. Clemens.
Acting Secretary	..	..	H. McTaggart.
Acting Registrar	..	..	G. E. Willson.

HOME AND TERRITORIES DEPARTMENT.

Secretary	..	..	A. A. Hunt, C.M.G.
Chief Clerk	..	..	F. J. Quinlan.
Commonwealth Statistician	..	..	G. H. Knibbs, C.M.G., F.S.S., F.R.A.S.
Chief Electoral Officer	..	..	R. C. Oldham.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT.

Secretary and Parliamentary Draftsman	..	..	Sir R. R. Garran, K.B.
Chief Clerk and Assistant Parliamentary Draftsman	..	..	G. S. Knowles, M.A., LL.M.
Secretary to Representatives of Government in the Senate	..	..	M. C. Boniwell.
Crown Solicitor	..	..	G. H. Castle.
Commissioner of Patents	..	..	G. Townsend.

* Also acts as Secretary to the Executive Council.

PRINCIPAL COMMONWEALTH OFFICERS—*continued.*

DEPARTMENT OF WORKS AND RAILWAYS.

Secretary	Lieut.-Col. D. Miller, C.M.G., I.S.O.
Chief Clerk*	W. D. Bingle.
Accountant	H. L. Walters.
Director-General of Works	Col. P. T. Owen.
Works Director, Victoria	H. J. Mackennal.
Engineer-in-Chief for Commonwealth Railways	N. G. Bell.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY.

Secretary (also acts as Commissioner of Invalid and Old-age Pensions, Maternity Allowances, and War Pensions)	J. R. Collins.
Assistant Secretary	C. J. Cerutti.
Accountant	J. T. Heathershaw.
Deputy Commissioner of Invalid and Old-age Pensions, Maternity Allowances, and War Pensions	T. James.

TAXATION OFFICE.

Acting Commissioner of Taxation ..	R. Ewing.
Acting Deputy Commissioner of Taxation, Victoria	J. S. Eastwood.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE.

Secretary for Defence	Com. S. A. Pethebridge, C.M.G., R.A.N.R. (Retired).
Acting ditto	T. Trumble.
Assistant Secretary (Acting)	M. M. Maguire.
Chief Accountant	Hon. Col. T. J. Thomas, A. and I. Staff.
Chemical Adviser to the Department of Defence	M. Bell.
Manager, Cordite Factory	A. E. Leighton, F.I.C.
Acting Manager, Small Arms Factory	B. T. McKay (temp.).
Manager, Clothing Factory	H. A. Slade.
Manager, Harness, Saddlery, and Leather Accoutrements Factory	G. E. Crowe.
Manager, Woollen Cloth Factory ..	J. Small.
Examiner of Stores and Equipment ..	Hon. Lieut. H. B. Miles, Retired List, R.A.N.
Consulting Military Engineer	Colonel P. T. Owen, Reserve of Officers.
Attached to High Commissioner's Office, London	Capt. (temp. Lt.-Col.) P. N. Buckley, R.A.E.
Editor, <i>Australian Military Journal</i> ..	Capt. R. R. Garland, Unattd. List.
Contract and Supply Board—	
Chairman	M. M. Maguire.
Members	Hon. Major A. J. L. Wilson.
Secretary	J. J. F. Lahiff.
	Hon. Major J. C. Ormiston.

* Is also Marshal of the High Court of Australia.

COMMONWEALTH DEFENCE.

The Principal Defence Councils are as follows:—

COUNCIL OF DEFENCE.

PRESIDENT.

The Minister of State for Defence.

MEMBERS.

The Treasurer.

The First Naval Member.

The Second Naval Member.

The Inspector-General of the Military Forces.

The Chief of the General Staff.

The Consulting Military Engineer.

And such officers of the Citizen Forces and expert advisers as from time to time, for any meeting of the Council, are summoned by the President to that meeting.

SECRETARY.

The Secretary for Defence.

MILITARY BOARD.

REGULAR MEMBERS.

PRESIDENT.

The Minister of State for Defence.

MEMBERS.

The Chief of the General Staff (1st Military Member).

The Adjutant-General (2nd Military Member).

The Quartermaster-General (3rd Military Member).

The Chief of Ordnance (4th Military Member).

The Finance Member.

SECRETARY.

Hon. Lt.-Col. T. Griffiths, C.M.G., D.S.O., Military Staff Clerks. (A.I.F.)
R. J. Murphy (Acting).

DEPARTMENT OF THE MILITARY BOARD.

DEPARTMENT OF CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF.

Chief of the General Staff	Col. (temp. Brig.-Gen.) H. J. Foster, R.E., p.s.c.
Commonwealth Representative on Imperial General Staff (Dominion Section)	Col. H. G. Chauvel, C.B., C.M.G. (G.S.O., 1st Grade). (A.I.F.)
Director of Military Operations	Col. C. B. B. White, C.B., D.S.O., p.s.c., R.A.G.A. (A.I.F.)
Director of Military Training	Lt.-Col. F. B. Heritage (temp.). (A.I.F.)

COMMONWEALTH DEFENCE—*continued.*DEPARTMENT OF CHIEF OF THE GENERAL STAFF—*continued.*

Director of Army Signals .. ..	..	Major H. L. Mackworth, D.S.O., R.E. (G.S.O. 3rd Grade (temp.) (A.I.F.))
Inspector, Coast Defences .. ..	..	Col. L. H. Kyngdon, R.A.G.A. (temp.), A.D.C. to H.E. the Gov.-Gen.
General Staff Officer, 2nd Grade ..	..	Bt. Lieut.-Col. E. H. Reynolds, p.s.c., R.A.G.A. (A.I.F.)
General Staff Officers, 3rd Grade (temp.)		Bt. Major W. J. Foster. (A.I.F.) Capt. (Hon. Major) E. L. Piesse, Intell. Section. G.S. (temp.) Capt. L. L. Pollard. Lieut. (temp. Capt.) D. G. E. Donald, A.G.A. (temp.).

DEPARTMENT OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

Adjutant-General .. ..	..	Col. (temp.) T. H. Dodds, D.S.O. (temp.).
Director-General of Medical Services ..	..	Surgeon-General (temp.) R. H. J. Fetherston, A.A.M.C. (temp.).
Staff Officer to the Director-General of Medical Services		Capt. (prov.) R. F. O'Sullivan, A.A.M.C.
Staff Officer, Dental Services .. ..	..	Major (temp.) T. F. W. Hall, 60th Inf.
Principal Health Officer .. ..	..	Lieut.-Col. J. H. L. Cumpston, A.A.M.C., Res.
Principal Pharmaceutical Officer .. ..	..	Hon. Major D. Cosser.
Assistant Adjutant-General and Direc- tor of <i>Personnel</i>		Col. (temp.) T. H. Dodds, D.S.O.
Director of <i>Personnel</i> .. ..	..	Capt. (Hon. Major) P. M. McFarlane (temp.).
Staff-Capt. .. ..	..	Bt. Major H. D. Wynter. (A.I.F.) Lieut. (temp. Capt.) N. G. M. Browne (temp.).
Quartermasters .. ..	..	Qrmr. (Hon. Capt.) F. H. Trask, Staff Capt. (temp.). Qrmr. (Hon. Lieut.) G. E. Sykes, A.A.M.C. (Permt.)
Director of Rifle Associations and Clubs		Bt. Major W. H. Osborne, V.D., A.E.
Inspectors of Rifle Ranges .. ..	..	Hon. Col. J. H. A. Lee, Retired List (2nd Military District). Capt. J. H. R. King, Retired List (3rd Military District). Hon. Lieut. H. C. Grover (2nd Military District). Hon. Lieut. J. James (4th Military District). Hon. Lieut. P. Bowden (5th Military District). Hon. Lieut. R. J. Fraser (1st Military District). Hon. Lieut. L. M. Ord (1st Military District). Hon. Lieut. P. B. Sanders (6th Military District).
Director of Physical Training .. ..	..	Lieut.-Col. F. J. Alderson, Chief Instruc- tor, P.T. Instl. Staff.

COMMONWEALTH DEFENCE—*continued.*

DEPARTMENT OF THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

Quartermaster-General	Col. (temp. Brig.-General) J. Stanley, C.M.G., Retired List (temp.).
Director of Equipment	Hon. Major A. J. L. Wilson (temp.).
Director of Ordnance Services	Bt.-Col. J. G. Austin, C.M.G., A.O.D. (A.I.F.)
Director of Supply and Transport and Chief Instructor of Army Service Corps Training	Major J. T. Marsh, C.M.G., A.S.C. (Imp.) (A.I.F.)
Director of Remounts	Hon. Lt.-Col. W. St. L. Robertson.
Inspector of Equipment	Col. J. S. Lyster, Retired List.

DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF OF ORDNANCE.

Chief of Ordnance	Bt. Col. H. W. Dangar, O.C., R.A.F.A. (temp.).
Director of Artillery	Lt.-Col. W. A. Coxen, R.A.G.A. (A.I.F.)
Chief Instructor of Field Artillery	Bt.-Col. H. W. Dangar, O.C., R.A.F.A.
Instructor of Field Artillery	Major S. M. Anderson, R.F.A. (A.I.F.)
Inspecting Ordnance Officer	Bt. Lt.-Col. H. B. L. Gipps, R.A.G.A.
Assistant to Inspecting Ordnance Officer	Qrmr. (Hon. Lieut.) J. C. Kubale, R.A.G.A.
Assist. Inspector Small Arms Amm.	Qrmr. (Hon. Capt.) H. A. Home, R.A.G.A.
Director of Engineers	Lt.-Col. G. F. Wilkinson, R.A.E.
Assistant Director of Engineers	Bt. Major H. O. Clogstoun, R.E. (Acting). (A.I.F.)
Director of Works	Bt. Major T. Murdoch, R.A.E.
Quartermaster	Qrmr. (Hon. Lieut.) E. Squire, R.A.E.
Inspector of Ordnance Machinery and Officer in Charge of Armament Artificers	Hon. Lt.-Col. R. Harding, Armament Artificers.
Assistants to the Inspector of Ordnance Machinery	Qrmr. (Hon. Lieut.) T. Henderson, Armament Artificers.
	Qrmr. (Hon. Lieut.) J. F. Breakspear, Armament Artificers.
Officer in Charge of Armament	Hon. Major A. J. Coghill, Military Staff Clerks.
Inspector of Artillery Equipment	Col. (temp. Brig.-General) J. Stanley, C.M.G., Retired List.

DEPARTMENT OF THE FINANCE MEMBER.

Finance Member	Hon. Col. T. J. Thomas.
----------------------	-------------------------

DEPARTMENT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

The Inspector-General	Major-General J. G. Legge, C.B., C.M.G. (A.I.F.)
Staff Officer	Vacant.
Inspector	Capt. J. L. Whitham, C.M.G. (A.I.F.)

HEAD-QUARTERS MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE.

President	Col. (temp.) T. H. Dodds, D.S.O., Adjutant-General (temp.).
-----------------	---

COMMONWEALTH DEFENCE—*continued.*HEAD-QUARTERS MOBILIZATION COMMITTEE—*continued.*

Member	..	..	..	Col. C. B. B. White, C.B., D.S.O., p.s.c., R.A.G.A., Director of Military Operations. (A.I.F.)
Secretary	..	..	..	Capt. (Hon. Major) P. M. McFarlane, Director of <i>Personnel</i> (temp.).

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE OF AUSTRALIA.

Commandant	Col. (temp. Brig.-General) J. W. Parnell, C.M.G., R.A.E., A.D.C. to His Excellency the Governor-General.
------------	----	----	----	--

DISTRICT COMMANDANTS.

Commandant, 1st (Queensland)	Military District	Col. (Hon. Brig.-Gen.) G. G. H. Irving, (temp.).
Commandant, 2nd (N.S.W.)	Military District	Col. (temp. Brig.-General) G. L. Lee, C.M.G., D.S.O., (temp.) A.D.C. to H.E. the Governor-General.
Commandant, 3rd (Victoria)	Military District	Col. (temp. Brig.-General) V. C. M. Sellheim, C.B., C.M.G. (temp.).
Commandant, 4th (South Australia)	Military District	Lt.-Col. (Hon. Brig.-General) J. K. Forsyth, C.M.G. (temp.)
Commandant, 5th (Western Australia)	Military District	Lt.-Col. (temp. Col.) R. E. Courtney, C.B., V.D. (acting).
Commandant, 6th (Tasmania)	Military District	Col. W. J. Clark, R.A.G.A.

DISTRICT STAFF, 3RD MILITARY DISTRICT (VICTORIA).

HEAD-QUARTERS, MELBOURNE.

Military Commandant	..	..	Col. (temp. Brig.-General) V. C. M. Sell- heim, C.B., C.M.G. (temp.)
General Staff Officer, 2nd Grade	..	..	Major E. F. Harrison, R.A.G.A.
General Staff Officers, 3rd Grade (temp.)	..	..	Capt. D. M. King, The King's (L'pool Regt.). Lieut. (temp. Capt.) A. W. Hutchin (temp.). (A.I.F.) Capt. W. T. Tackaberry (temp.) (A.I.F.)
Assistant Adjutant-General	..	..	Colonel J. C. Hawker.
Assistant Qrnr.-General	..	..	Lt.-Col. R. Dowse. (A.I.F.)
Staff Officer for Field Artillery	..	..	Bt. Lt. Col. S. S. Ryrie, R.A.F.A.
Staff Officer for Garrison Artillery	..	..	Lt.-Col. J. E. Robertson (temp.), R.A.G.A.
Staff Officer for Engineers	..	..	Major W. Pestell, A.E.
Principal Medical Officers (Militia)	..	..	Col. C. S. Ryan, C.B., V.D., A.A.M.C. (A.I.F.) Col. (temp.) G. Cuscaden, A.A.M.C.
Command Sanitary Officer (Militia)	..	..	Lt.-Col. (temp.) W. B. Vance, A.A.M.C.
Principal Veterinary Officer (Militia)	..	..	Lt.-Col. E. A. Kendall, A.A.V.C. (A.I.F.)
Senior Ordnance Officer	..	..	J. J. F. Lahiff.
” ” ” (acting)	..	..	J. F. Nash.
District Paymaster	..	..	Lt.-Col. A. Bolle.
Quartermaster	..	..	Qrnr. (Hon. Lieut.) E. Sherbon.

COMMONWEALTH DEFENCE—*continued.*

PRINCIPAL NAVAL OFFICERS.

NAVAL BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION.

President	The Minister of State for the Navy, Hon. Joseph Cook, M.P.
First Naval Member	Rear-Admiral Sir William R. Creswell, K.C.M.G.
Second Naval Member	Captain Henry L. Cochrane, R.N.
Third Naval Member	Engineer-Admiral William Clarkson, C.M.G.
Finance and Civil Member	Vacant.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF.

Director of Naval Ordnance	Captain W. H. C. S. Thring.
Naval Secretary	Hon. Paymaster George L. Macandie.
Director of Navy Accounts	Hon. Fleet Paymaster Albert Martin.
Director of Naval Stores, Victualling, and Contracts	Paymaster-in-Chief Alfred M. Treacey.

DEFENCE.

SOLDIERS SENT FROM AUSTRALIA TO THE WAR.

Contingents
despatched to
the front.

On the outbreak of war the Prime Minister, acting on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, despatched a cable message to the Secretary of State for the Colonies offering to the Admiralty unfettered control of the Royal Australian Navy and to send an expeditionary force of 20,000 men of all ranks to any destination desired, the entire cost to be borne by the Commonwealth Government. This offer was accepted two days subsequent to the declaration of war, and on 10th August the *personnel* and ships of the Royal Australian Navy were transferred to the Royal Navy.

The call of volunteers to the colours met with an immediate and enthusiastic response in each State of the Commonwealth, and the task of training the men was vigorously proceeded with. Upon the suggestion of the Imperial authorities, it was decided that the composition of the force should be a division (of staff, three brigades, and divisional troops) and one light horse brigade, the command of which was offered to and accepted by the late Major-General Sir W. T. Bridges, K.C.B., C.M.G., the Inspector-General of the Australian Military Forces. After this force had been raised the Government notified the Imperial authorities that a further body of troops, comprising lines of communication units (about 2,000), first reinforcements (about 3,000), two additional light horse brigades (about 4,000), an additional infantry brigade (about 4,500), and certain small veterinary units, would be despatched. The first convoy, which numbered 20,343 of all ranks, left Albany on 1st November, and landed in Egypt on 5th December, 1914. The second convoy, which consisted of 11,161 men, left the rendezvous about the end of December, 1914, and reached Egypt on 1st February, 1915. Additional Units and Reinforcements have been despatched.

Up to 31st March, 1917, the troops despatched from Australia for active service numbered 292,969. These were organized chiefly into the undermentioned units, some of which have since been disbanded or absorbed into other units:—

ARMY CORPS TROOPS.

- 2 Corps Cyclist Battalions.
- 2 Corps Cavalry Regiments.
- 3 Army Field Artillery Brigades (12 Batteries).
- 3 Army Field Artillery Ammunition Columns.

ANZAC MOUNTED DIVISIONS.

- 4 Light Horse Brigades (12 Regiments).
- Machine Gun Corps (4 Squadrons).
- 1 Field Squadron, Engineers.
- 1 Signal Squadron, Engineers.
- 4 Signal Troops, Engineers.
- 1 Mounted Divisional Train (A.S.C.).
- 4 Light Horse Field Ambulances.
- 4 Mobile Veterinary Sections.
- 2 Depôts Units of Supply.

FIVE DIVISIONS.

- 15 Infantry Brigades (60 Battalions).
- 5 Pioneer Battalions.
- 15 Machine Gun Coys.
- 10 Divisional Artillery Brigades (40 Batteries).
- 5 Divisional Ammunition Columns.
- 45 Trench Mortar Batteries.
- 15 Field Companies, Engineers.
- 5 Divisional Signal Companies.
- 5 Divisional Trains (20 A.S.C. Coys.).
- 5 Field Bakeries.
- 5 Field Butcheries.
- 25 Depôt Units of Supply.
- 1 Motor Ambulance Workshop.
- 5 Mobile Veterinary Sections.
- 15 Field Ambulances.
- 5 Sanitary Sections.
- 5 Infantry Base Depôts.

MISCELLANEOUS UNITS.

- Siege Artillery Brigade (3 Batteries).
- 4 Flying Squadrons.
- Aeroplane Squadron ($\frac{1}{2}$ Flight) for service in Mesopotamia.
- Mining Corps (3 Companies).
- 3 Tunnelling Companies.
- Naval Bridging Train.
- Divisional Ammunition Park.
- 2 Divisional Supply Columns.
- Reserve Park.

- 3 Auxiliary Mechanical Transport Companies A.S.C.
Armoured Motor Car Section.
- 5 Railway Sections.
- 4 Railway Supply Detachment.
- 2 Remount Units (8 Squadrons).
Wireless Signal Squadron (Headquarters and 2 Troops) for service
in Mesopotamia.
- 3 Battalions, Imperial Camel Corps (12 Companies),
Camel Brigade, Field Ambulance.
Other Administrative, Training and Departmental Units.
- 4 General Hospitals,
- 2 Stationary Hospitals.
- 3 Casualty Clearing Stations.
Contagious Diseases Hospital.
Other Miscellaneous Hospitals.
Dental Services.
Nursing Service.
Naval and Military Expeditionary Force (for service in German
New Guinea).

TROOPS IN TRAINING.

In addition to the above units, on the 31st March, 1917, there were 18,662 troops in training throughout Australia in preparation for despatch to the front.

REINFORCEMENTS.

The approximate number of troops despatched monthly as reinforcements for all units is 12,000. Reinforcements for the Australian Units serving under the Government of India are despatched from time to time as required.

UNIVERSAL TRAINING IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Compulsory Training. Bearing in mind the smallness of the population of Australia—about 5 millions—when compared with the vast extent of the continent, which covers an area of 2,948,366 square miles, and possesses a coastline of 12,210 miles, and remembering in connexion with this the advent of new naval powers in the Pacific—it is obvious that any voluntary system of service would be inadequate for the defence of the continent. To provide for an efficient defence, nothing short of a universal system of training would suffice, and such a system has been adopted by Australia.

The following shows briefly the service required under the Scheme of Universal Training at present in force:—

JUNIOR CADETS.

From the age of twelve to fourteen each boy is required to undergo a certain amount of training in school. This consists of physical training, and a little elementary marching drill, &c., and is chiefly carried out by the school teachers. Junior cadets are not formed into any military organizations, nor is any uniform supplied or worn.

SENIOR CADETS.

During January or February of the year in which boys reach the age of fourteen years they are required to be registered for military training if they reside within five miles of a place appointed for training. After registration, the boys are medically examined, and, if passed as "fit for training," are required to undergo sixty-four hours' instruction each year, which is divided into whole-day, half-day, and night drills, parades being held as far as possible to suit the convenience of the lads in the locality. There is no continuous training required from the boys, and the whole of the work is carried out in the locality of their homes.

Senior Cadets are organized in companies and battalions. Uniform is provided, but they are not liable to be called out to fight. No payment is made to Senior Cadets for attendance at drills. Service in the Senior Cadets lasts until the 30th June in the year in which the boys reach the age of eighteen years.

MILITIA FORCES.

Between the 1st January and the 30th June of the year in which boys reach the age of eighteen they are again medically examined and, if passed as "fit," they are on the 1st July transferred to the Militia Forces. As far as possible they are allotted to the "arm" they elect to join, but, if transferred to the Artillery or Engineers, they are required to undergo an equivalent of twenty-five days' training each year, of which seventeen must be in a camp of continuous instruction; in other arms the period is sixteen days, of which eight are in camps of continuous training.

Service in the Militia Forces of the Commonwealth is practically of the same nature as service in the Territorial Force of Great Britain, with the exception that the training is compulsory for males between the ages of eighteen and twenty-six years, divided into whole-day parades, half-day parades, and night parades, arranged as far as possible to suit the convenience of the trainees.

The only training which requires a trainee to be absent from his home overnight is the short period spent in camp each year (seventeen days for Artillery and Engineers, eight for other arms), the other parades being as far as practicable carried out on holidays, Saturday afternoons, and evenings.

Pay is granted for attendance at parades of the Militia Forces. Recruits, *i.e.*, those undergoing training during the first year, are paid at the rate of 3s. per day, 1s. 6d. per half-day, and 9d. per night drill. During the second and subsequent years' training the rates are:— For privates, 4s. per day, 2s. per half-day, 1s. per night drill; for corporals, 9s. per day, and an equivalent for half-day and night drills; and for sergeants, 10s. per day, and an equivalent for half-day and night drills; and so on according to rank.

An additional allowance is made to married members receiving less than 8s. per day, for attendance at camp, as follows :—

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|---------|------------------|
| (a) For wife (living at home) | .. .. . | 1s. 3d. per diem |
| (b) For each child | .. .. . | 7½d. „ |

An allowance of the same amount as in (a) is paid to a soldier who is the sole support of a widowed mother or of a mother who is entirely dependent upon his earnings. The total amount earnable each year is limited to the allowance for twenty-five days for Artillery and Engineers, and sixteen days for other arms. Promotion to each rank in the Militia Forces is by competitive examination from those in the next lower grade. All must start at the bottom as privates. The privates compete for promotion to corporal, the corporals for promotion to sergeant, the sergeants and higher non-commissioned ranks for promotion to lieutenant, and so on. Uniform and equipment are provided.

Service in the Militia Forces lasts until 30th June of the year in which the trainee reaches the age of twenty-six years. Members of the Militia Forces are liable for service within the Commonwealth only.

The establishment of the Military Forces under the Universal Training Scheme provides for approximately 175,000 men.

The establishment of the year 1915-1916 is—

Permanent .. .. .	.. .. .	3,496
Militia (Citizen Forces)	.. .. .	73,683
Unattached List and Reserve of Officers	.. .. .	1,161
		<hr/>
		78,340

In addition, there are members of Rifle Clubs .. .. .	.. .. .	93,291
Senior Cadets .. .. .	.. .. .	91,654

The Militia (Citizen Forces) will be increased by some 18,000 each year (consequent on the transfer of Senior Cadets, on reaching their eighteenth year, to the Citizen Forces) until 1920, when the maximum establishment will be reached; thereafter, although the usual quota of trainees will join, there will be a corresponding decrease due to time-expired men.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE.

To provide a supply of thoroughly well-trained officers capable of undertaking the duties of administration and instruction of the Citizen Forces, a Military College has been established somewhat on the lines of West Point in the United States. The College course is free—entrance to the College being by competitive examination, which is open to all who fulfil certain prescribed conditions. No charges of any description are made to parents of successful candidates for admission.

MILITARY FACTORIES.

Military
Factories.

To make Australia as far as possible independent of other countries for the supply of military stores, factories have been established by the Commonwealth for—

- (a) The manufacture of cordite.
- (b) The manufacture of small arms.
- (c) The manufacture of harness, saddlery, and leather accoutrements.
- (d) The manufacture of clothing.
- (e) The manufacture of woollen cloth.

NUMBERS IN TRAINING UNDER UNIVERSAL TRAINING SCHEME.

Universal
Training—
Registrations
of Cadets.

The registrations for training in the Senior Cadets and Militia Forces, the number medically examined, the exemptions granted in training areas, and the number of cadets liable for and actually in training in the various military districts of the Commonwealth to the end of December, 1916, are shown hereunder:—

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS, MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS TO THE
31st DECEMBER, 1916.
SENIOR CADETS.

Military District.	Total Registrations in Training Areas.					Total Medically Examined.	Number Medically Fit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Fit.	Number Temporarily Unfit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Temporarily Unfit.	Number Unfit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Unfit.	Total Exemptions Granted in Training Areas.	Number remaining to be Medically Examined or Exempted.	Total Number Liable for Training.	Total Number actually in Training.
	Quota, 1899.	Quota, 1900.	Quota, 1901.	Quota, 1902.	Total.											
1st (Qld.)	3,362	3,579	3,638	3,824	14,403	14,272	12,241	85·7	631	4·5	1,400	9·8	2,085	77	12,241	12,209
2nd (N.S.W.)	8,931	9,222	9,308	9,542	37,308	36,478	32,885	90·0	1,034	2·9	2,604	7·1	4,175	293	32,885	32,050
3rd (Vic.)	7,477	8,102	7,950	7,928	31,457	31,147	27,920	89·6	871	2·8	2,356	7·6	3,275	262	27,920	27,434
4th (S. Aus.)	2,411	2,681	2,560	2,615	10,217	10,195	9,252	90·7	265	2·6	678	6·7	943	22	9,252	9,242
5th (W. Aus.)	1,434	1,538	1,640	1,700	6,312	6,292	5,829	92·6	107	1·7	356	5·7	472	11	5,829	5,632
6th (Tas.)	952	972	994	1,010	3,928	3,748	3,178	84·7	189	5·0	381	10·3	722	28	3,178	3,147
Total	24,567	26,044	26,090	26,919	103,620	102,127	91,255	89·4	3,097	3·0	7,775	7·6	11,672	693	91,255	89,704

MILITIA FORCES.

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS, AND NUMBER LIABLE FOR TRAINING TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

1894, 1895, 1896 and 1897 QUOTAS.

Military District.	Total Registrations in Training Areas.					Exemptions Granted.					Number liable for Training.
	Quota, 1894.	Quota, 1895.	Quota, 1896.	Quota, 1897.	Total.	Quota, 1894.	Quota, 1895.	Quota, 1896.	Quota, 1897.	Total.	
1st (Qld.) ..	3,414	3,873	3,746	3,630	14,663	881	1,012	1,076	1,059	4,028	10,635
2nd (N.S.W.)	9,287	9,769	9,747	9,762	38,565	2,153	2,550	2,877	2,641	10,221	28,344
3rd (Vic.) ..	7,349	7,761	8,047	7,498	30,655	1,896	2,116	2,167	2,016	8,195	22,460
4th (S. Aus.)	2,745	3,040	3,062	2,835	11,682	915	949	998	963	3,825	7,857
5th (W. Aus.)	1,245	1,388	1,316	1,339	5,288	397	439	452	481	1,769	3,519
6th (Tas.) ..	817	935	1,022	902	3,676	177	156	211	225	769	2,907
Total ..	24,857	26,766	26,940	25,966	104,529	6,419	7,222	7,781	7,385	28,807	75,722

SUMMARY OF REGISTRATIONS, MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, AND EXEMPTIONS, AND NUMBER IN TRAINING IN THE MILITIA FORCES TO 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

1898 QUOTA.

Military District.	Total Registrations.	Total Medically Examined.	Number Medically Fit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Fit.	Number Temporarily Unfit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Temporarily Unfit.	Number Unfit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Unfit.	Total Exemptions Granted in Training Areas.	Number Remaining to be Medically Examined or Exempted.	Total Number Liable for Training.	Total Number Actually in Training.
1st (Qld.) ..	2,796	2,712	1,964	72.5	256	9.4	492	18.1	774	58	1,964	1,964
2nd (N.S.W.)	8,345	6,666	5,170	77.6	486	7.3	1,010	15.1	2,503	672	5,170	4,563
3rd (Vic.) ..	6,313	5,843	4,491	76.9	423	7.2	929	15.9	1,494	328	4,491	4,392
4th (S. Aus.)	1,903	1,844	1,529	82.9	84	4.5	231	12.6	315	59	1,529	1,529
5th (W. Aus.)	951	925	793	85.7	17	1.8	115	12.5	133	25	793	757
6th (Tas.) ..	772	707	541	76.6	35	4.9	131	18.5	190	41	541	524
Total ..	21,080	18,697	14,488	77.5	1,301	6.9	2,908	15.6	5,408	1,183	14,488	13,729

JUNIOR CADETS.

Medical examinations of Junior Cadets.

The medical examinations of Junior Cadets in the Commonwealth show that those who are unfit, or temporarily unfit, represent a very small percentage of the whole. This is made manifest by the following tabulation:—

SUMMARY OF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS TO THE 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

1903 AND 1904 QUOTAS.

Military District.	Total Number Medically Examined.			Number Medically Fit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Fit.	Number Unfit and Temporarily Unfit.	Percentage Medically Examined who are Unfit and Temporarily Unfit.
	Quota, 1903.	Quota, 1904.	Total.				
1st (Qld.) ..	3,150	3,321	6,471	6,269	96.9	202	3.1
2nd (N.S.W.)	10,076	9,683	19,759	19,332	97.8	427	2.2
3rd (Vic.) ..	8,028	6,184	14,212	13,935	98.0	277	2.0
4th (S. Aus.)	2,208	2,028	4,236	4,135	97.6	101	2.4
5th (W. Aus.)	2,062	1,854	3,916	3,823	97.6	93	2.4
6th (Tas.) ..	875	813	1,688	1,618	95.9	70	4.1
Total ..	26,399	23,883	50,282	49,112	97.7	1,170	2.3

Common-
wealth
Military
Forces in
Victoria
1916-17.

The following statement shows the establishment of the various corps constituting the Commonwealth Military Forces in Victoria for the year 1916-17:—

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH MILITARY FORCES IN VICTORIA, 1916-17.

Corps.	Officers.	Warrant Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Men.	Total.
PERMANENT.			
District Head-Quarters Staff ...	7	27	34
" Pay Department—Civilians...	7	12	19
Royal Australian Field Artillery, No. 2 Battery	7	109	116
Ordnance Department ... ..	...	84	84
Instructional Staff	20	171	191
Provost Staff	1	6	7
Physical Training Staff	3	1	4
Rifle Range Staff ... ..	...	13	13
Armament Artificers	1	13	14
Royal Australian Garrison Artillery ...	10	202	212
Royal Australian Engineers	9	80	89
Army Medical Corps	1	13	14
Army Veterinary Corps	1	1	2
Rifle Clubs Staff ... ..	...	8	8
Army Service Corps	1	57	58
Crew, Launch <i>Mars</i> ... ..	...	5	5
Total (Permanent)	68	802	870
MILITIA.			
Light Horse—			
5th Light Horse Brigade	89	1,451	1,540
7th " " "	118	1,901	2,019
Field Artillery—			
7th Field Artillery Brigade	26	484	510
8th " " "	26	484	510
Garrison Artillery	12	274	286
Engineers	42	992	1,034
Infantry	849	15,406	16,255
Extra Territorial Unit—Melbourne			
University Rifles	31	500	531
Army Service Corps	36	477	513
Army Medical Corps	42	562	604
Staff and Officers attached to Regiments, Ports, &c.	91	...	91
Army Veterinary Corps	11	...	11
Area Officers	64	...	64
Total (Militia)	1,437	22,531	23,968
VOLUNTEERS.			
Army Nursing Service ... ..	...	26	26
Engineer and Railway Staff Corps ...	10	...	10
Total (Volunteers)	10	26	36
Grand Total (Permanent, Militia, and Volunteers)	1,515	23,359	24,874

Rifle Clubs. Under the Defence Act Rifle Clubs form portion of the Reserve of the Military Forces of the Commonwealth. There is a larger number of Rifle Clubs in the 3rd Military District (Victoria) than in any other, but the number of members is greater in the 2nd Military District (N.S.W.). On the 31st December, 1916, there were 1,555 clubs. The "efficient" members for the year 1915-16 for the whole Commonwealth were 59 per cent. of the total.

RIFLE CLUBS IN AUSTRALIA, 1916.

District.	Number of Rifle Clubs.	Number of Members.	Number of State Rifle Associations.	Number of District Rifle Club Unions.
1st Military District (Queensland) ..	306	18,073	2	17
2nd Military District (New South Wales) ..	392	35,314	1	12
3rd Military District (Victoria) ..	394	25,994	1	18
4th Military District (South Australia) ..	185	10,687	1	7
5th Military District (Western Australia) ..	179	11,513	1	7
6th Military District (Tasmania) ..	99	5,811	1	6
Commonwealth	1,555	107,392	7	67

NAVAL DEFENCE.

During 1915 and 1916 the Royal Australian Navy did excellent service, but it was service which does not readily lend itself to be measured in terms of statistics.

H.M.A.S. *Pioneer* actively co-operated in the successful operations on the East Coast of Africa carried out by the Imperial Navy against the enemy cruiser *Konigsberg*.

Whilst engaged in the Naval operations at the Dardanelles in May, 1915, the submarine *AE2* was sunk by the enemy, her officers and men being taken prisoner.

The light cruiser *Brisbane* was successfully launched from the Commonwealth Naval Ship-building Yard, Cockatoo Island, Sydney, on 30th September, 1915, and her place on the building slip has been taken by a sister cruiser to be named the *Adelaide*. Action is being taken with regard to the training of a certain number of engineers, artificers, and draughtsmen in Great Britain in order that the Commonwealth may be able to build submarines at the Cockatoo Island Naval Ship-building Yard.

During 1915 the battle cruiser *Australia* joined the Grand Fleet in the North Sea, and was made flagship of a battle cruiser division. The other ships of the Australian Navy are taking their part in the war where the Imperial authorities find them most useful.

Destroyers. One of the most important units of the Australian Navy is the flotilla of destroyers which has recently been increased to six vessels of modern type, high speed and serviceable armament. The vessels are the *Warrego*, *Yarra*, *Parramatta*, *Swan*, *Torrens*, and *Huon*. They form what is known as the

"River" class, and it will be observed that they are named after rivers in each of the several States of the Commonwealth. Half the flotilla was built in Australia under war conditions, the vessels being the product of the Commonwealth dockyard, and only joining the fleet quite recently. Already, however, the three Australian-built destroyers have well proved their worth and demonstrated the excellence of the workmanship that was put into them. They have all seen service under strenuous conditions, and the engine-room departments especially have been called upon for tests of endurance and capacity, which have been responded to in a most praiseworthy manner. Although only out of the builders' hands a few months each one of the three new destroyers has steamed upwards of 7,000 miles.

In conformity with the general scheme of naval strategy the destroyers of the Australian Navy have been kept to our own and neighboring waters. The volume of Australian shipping was never greater than to-day, and the large number of troopships continually going and coming provides ample proof of the watchful care exercised by the Australian Navy over all shipping in these waters. Australian transports have been able to travel the ocean in safety, thanks to the destroyer flotilla, and to accumulate earnings on freight representing approximately £6,500,000.

The small gunboat *Una*, which was captured from the Germans in New Guinea, had recently to perform the duty of leading a punitive expedition in the New Hebrides. This was undertaken under directions of the Admiralty, in conjunction with the French, for the purpose of punishing certain natives responsible for the murder of missionaries. The expedition was successful, and resulted in the total destruction of the native villages, with considerable casualties to the inhabitants.

It is gratifying to record that H.M.A. ships are worthily performing their share of the great task of maintaining British supremacy on the seas.

The growing magnitude and importance of the work and duties of the Naval Branch of the Defence Department led the Commonwealth Government on 12th July, 1915, to establish a separate Department of State, styled the Department of the Navy.

Naval College. The Royal Australian Naval College, which is situated at Jervis Bay, New South Wales, is now in its full normal state, there being 120 Cadet Midshipmen at this establishment undergoing training. About 25 to 30 boys will leave the College each year for service in the Seagoing Fleet. The first batch left at the end of 1916.

Early Stages of War. Generally, the operations falling to the lot of the Royal Australian Navy during the early stages of hostilities may conveniently be divided into four definite phases. Not that there was any definite pause between them, they were merely the

accentuated notes in a movement that knew no rest until the enemy was either accounted for or driven out of Australian Pacific waters.

In the first place the Royal Australian Navy established its advanced bases at Port Moresby and Rabaul with a view to seeking out and bringing to action the enemy's armoured cruisers *Scharnhorst* and *Gneisenau*. The marked feature of this first stage was the dashing way in which the destroyer flotilla carried out its task of searching Simpsonhafen and Matupi Harbors, only however to find that the quarry was elsewhere.

Before a further opportunity was given of getting into touch with the enemy, orders emanated from the Admiralty for the *Australia*, accompanied by the *Melbourne*, to convoy the New Zealand Military expedition, organized for the capture of Samoa, across the 1,200 miles of water which separates that island from the Dominion. This, the second phase, necessitated advanced bases at Noumea and Suva for coal and oil. This duty having been successfully accomplished, the flagship and her consort steamed backed to Rabaul, and the captures of Herbertshohe in New Britain, the Head-Quarters of the German Administration in the Pacific, and Freiderich Wilhelmshafen in New Guinea quickly followed, constituting the third phase of the Pacific Naval campaign. Meanwhile information had been steadily accumulating that made it clear that the enemy with his light cruisers intended to concentrate at a rendezvous to the north-east of Fiji. The *Australia* was, therefore, in the fourth phase based on Suva, from which centre she was able to patrol an extensive sector of the Pacific. The retirement of the enemy's ships to South American waters was the inevitable outcome of the tightening of the tactical net of operations, in which the speed and armament of the *Australia* were the essential factor.

The vast sea area, which had to be patrolled by the Royal Australian Navy, made radius of action a matter of first importance. It was necessary to secure the greatest possible radius of action, and this rested upon the factors of (a) suitable fuel and (b) transportation facilities. Continuity of action is the keynote of successful Naval enterprise, and not the least of the problems facing the Naval Administration was how it could ensure ample supplies of coal and oil being always available at the various advanced bases. In no instance, fortunately, was there even a single day's delay caused to the different operations through any default on the part of the large fleet of colliers and oilers employed. An idea of the magnitude of the task which was successfully accomplished in these first phases, embracing the first five months of the war, is conveyed in the statement that the ships of the Royal Australian Navy in the aggregate steamed upwards of 100,000 miles, and that, to enable them to do this, it was necessary to transport over long distances some 76,000 tons of coal and some 12,000 tons of oil.

Finally, it is worthy of record that not a single British merchant vessel was captured by the enemy in Australian waters, nor a port in Australasia attacked. On the other hand—

19 German steamers, aggregating	..	89,000 tons
1 Austrian steamer	..	3,530 tons
5 German sailing vessels, aggregating		12,200 tons
		<hr/>
Total	..	104,730 tons
		<hr/>

were interned.

Eleven others were captured, aggregating 12,000 tons, including the German Government vessels *Komet*, *Nusa*, &c.

The fitting out of the transports engaged in the conveyance of troops is now carried out by the Department of the Navy, instead of by contract as formerly.

FINANCE.

State
Finance.

Under the Constitution Act the revenues of the State are payable into Consolidated Revenue, but certain of these revenues have been hypothecated by various Acts of Parliament for specified purposes, and are payable into special accounts or funds kept at the State Treasury. These special accounts or funds comprise the Mallee Land Account, the Assurance Fund, the Licensing Fund, the Licensing Act Compensation Fund, the Police Superannuation Fund, the Country Roads Board Fund, and the Developmental Railways Account. In addition to these funds, there are the Loan Fund into which all borrowed moneys are paid, and various Trust Funds.

Subsequent to the erection of Victoria into a self-governing Colony in 1851, it was divided for the purposes of local government into Districts which were evolved later into the present system of municipalities. The municipalities have power to levy rates and are assisted with grants by the State Government. Particulars regarding municipal finance are dealt with in another section of the *Year-Book*. Allied to the municipalities are the Boards and Trusts which control water supply, irrigation, and sewerage, and have rating powers in connexion therewith. There are also the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and the Country Fire Brigades Board, which are concerned with fire extinction in the metropolis and urban districts, and derive their revenues from the State Government, the Municipalities, and Insurance Companies; and the Melbourne and Geelong Harbor Trusts, which are intrusted with the management of those respective ports, and derive their revenues in the main from wharfage rates.

The Lands Purchase and Management Board manages closer settlement on behalf of the State. Lands are purchased with loan moneys, and the revenues received by the Board from lessees, &c., are payable into the Closer Settlement Fund, from which the working expenses of the Board are met, interest on loans provided, and loans redeemed.

Upon the federation of the Australian Colonies in 1901, the Customs and Excise, Post and Telegraph, and Defence Departments were transferred to the Commonwealth Government, as a set off against which the Commonwealth paid to the State at least three-fourths of the net Customs and Excise revenue until 31st December, 1910, and subsequently an annual amount equal to 25s. per head of the population. (See page 148.)

A summary of the transactions for the financial year 1915-16 in the Consolidated Revenue Fund and in the special funds referred to above gives the following result:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT OF VICTORIA,
1915-16.

Revenue	£	11,470,875
Expenditure		11,683,363
Deficit for the year		212,488
Revenue deficit at 30th June, 1915		1,429,603
Revenue deficit at 30th June, 1916		1,642,091

The Revenue and Expenditure Account is a statement of cash transactions, the revenue representing actual receipts less refunds, and the expenditure actual payments made during the year.

The differences between the revenue and expenditure shown above and that given in the Treasurer's Finance Statement arise from the use of a different method of classification for statistical purposes, the particulars of which are as follows:—

	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£
Total according to Treasurer's Finance Statement ...	11,169,900	11,402,715
<i>Add—</i>		
Mallee Land Account—appropriated to		
Loan Redemption purposes	74,423	74,423
Country Roads Board Fund	62,270	62,270
Licensing Act Compensation Fund	60,396	60,396
Licensing Fund	95,606	95,606
Police Superannuation Fund	6,153	6,153
Assurance Fund	2,127	2,127
<i>Deduct—</i>		
Appropriation to reduction of deficit ... ..	...	20,327
Total	11,470,875	11,683,363

Compiled on the above basis, the revenue and expenditure of the State for the last ten years are shown in the next statement:—

STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: 1906-7 TO 1915-16.

Year ended 30th June.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Year ended 30th June.	Revenue.	Expenditure.
	£	£		£	£
1907 ...	8,459,203	7,792,812	1912 ...	10,181,840	10,171,386
1908 ...	8,478,710	8,026,476	1913 ...	10,508,945	10,479,741
1909 ...	8,409,543	8,402,036	1914 ...	10,958,037	10,944,718
1910 ...	8,760,305	8,742,293	1915 ...	10,529,017	11,706,968
1911 ...	9,372,637	9,362,291	1916 ...	11,470,875	11,683,363

The expenditure shown in this statement comprises considerable sums appropriated to paying off the liabilities of former years, and to forming sinking funds to meet outstanding loans. Such appropriations are detailed in the succeeding table.

REVENUE DEVOTED TO PAYING OFF OLD LIABILITIES,
ETC., 1906-7 TO 1915-16.

Year ended 30th June.	ORDINARY REVENUE APPROPRIATED.				Total.
	In reduction of the accumulated revenue de- ficiency of former years.	To Land Sales by Auction Fund.	In redemption of loan raised in anticipation of revenue (Act No. 1451).	Towards Redemption Funds to meet out- standing loans.*	
	£	£	£	£	£
1907 ...	666,391	38,346	25,000	163,864	893,601
1908 ...	452,234	39,163	25,000	163,296	679,693
1909 ...	7,507	45,216	25,000	145,716	223,439
1910 ...	18,012	43,319	25,000	165,527	251,858
1911 ...	10,346	41,643	25,000	166,864	243,853
1912 ...	10,454	14,988	25,000	190,909	241,351
1913 ...	29,204	...	25,000	212,269	266,473
1914 ...	13,319	...	...	204,745	218,064
1915 ...	17,519	...	...	211,117	228,636
1916 ...	20,327	...	...	266,599	286,926
Totals (10 years)	1,245,313	222,675	175,000	1,890,906	3,533,894

* Full particulars of the Redemption Funds will be found further on in this "part."

In addition to the above appropriations there were in the financial years 1906-7, 1908-9, and 1911-12, large surpluses, which were applied specially to works or purposes of a public nature.

The following table shows the receipts and expenditure from general revenue during the year ended 30th June, 1916. On 1st July, 1915, the total revenue deficiency was £1,429,602 9s. 11d., and in the course of the year it was increased by £212,488 7s., leaving the accumulated revenue deficiency at

the end of the financial year 1915-16 at £1,642,090 16s. 11d., which amount was met by Treasury bonds £1,270,470, by the Public Account pending the issue of bonds £82,815, and by advances from the trust funds £288,805.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE STATEMENT, 1915-16.

Revenue.	Amount.	Expenditure.	Amount.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Excise and Inland ...	1,586,243 15 7	Consolidated Revenue deficiency, 30/6/15	1,429,602 9 11
Territorial ...	221,185 8 6	Special Appropriations	3,480,524 17 5
Public Works ...	6,235,656 13 8	Chief Secretary ...	981,691 1 5
Ports and Harbors ...	111,824 19 11	Minister of Labour	25,019 13 1
Fees ...	497,497 17 7	Minister of Public Instruction	1,043,408 4 9
Fines ...	12,598 15 10	Attorney-General...	84,375 3 6
Mallee Land Account	74,422 12 5	Solicitor General ...	70,118 2 1
Country Roads Board Fund	62,269 17 3	Treasurer ...	439,008 5 8
Licensing Act Compensation Fund	60,396 1 0	Commissioner of Crown Lands	156,251 13 4
Licensing Fund ...	95,606 4 2	Commissioner of Public Works	327,007 1 5
Police Superannuation Fund	6,152 16 1	Minister of Mines	57,257 0 2
Assurance Fund ...	2,127 7 0	Minister of Forests	54,017 11 8
Miscellaneous ...	761,425 9 11	Minister of Water Supply	118,411 9 10
Federal Government	1,743,467 0 0	Minister of Agriculture	260,371 14 11
Consolidated Revenue deficiency, 30/6/16	1,642,090 16 11	Minister of Health	39,611 2 9
		Minister of Railways	4,245,315 6 0
		Mallee Land Account	74,422 12 5
		Country Roads Board Fund	62,269 17 3
		Licensing Act Compensation Fund	60,396 1 0
		Licensing Fund ...	95,606 4 2
		Police Superannuation Fund	6,152 16 1
		Assurance Fund ...	2,127 7 0
Total ...	13,112,965 15 10	Total ..	13,112,965 15 10

The accumulated revenue deficiency at 30th June, 1916, was, as shown in the above statement, £1,642,091. This deficiency had its beginning in the year 1890-91, when it amounted to £206,843, and in the course of the next five years it was added to year by year, until it reached its greatest magnitude (£2,711,436) on 30th June, 1896. After that date it was steadily reduced year by year, with one or two

exceptions, to £251,652 on 30th June, 1914; but, during 1914-15, under conditions brought about by the war and a serious drought, it was increased to £1,429,603.

Heads of State Revenue. Details of the sources of the revenue for the last five financial years are given in the following statement:—

HEADS OF STATE REVENUE, 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

Heads of Revenue.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
Federal Government...	1,667,657	1,691,833	1,733,280	1,757,894	1,743,467
State Taxation—					
Probate and Succession Duties	448,283	443,682	457,042	536,869	510,032
Income Tax ...	443,248	542,236	527,705	506,214	702,745
Land Tax ...	293,823	308,275	302,224	303,550	352,353
Stamp Duties ...	276,836	249,485	275,839	287,169	397,978
Licences ...	117,973	116,559	116,678	112,953	98,302
Other ...	17,103	12,449	13,848	15,286	13,429
Public Works and Services—					
Railways ...	5,237,466	5,250,599	5,568,039	5,170,020	5,727,275
Water Supply ...	255,081	304,679	324,143	284,979	355,083
Harbor Trusts, Wharfage, &c. ...	123,196	122,257	120,241	105,517	105,045
State Coal Mine ...	199,267	240,240	257,192	275,590	253,668
Interest on properties transferred to Commonwealth	138,941	105,701	87,068	82,803	82,764
Other ...	16,508	24,643	28,990	39,838	47,856
Land—					
Sales ...	211,952	238,290	164,124	139,122	162,239
Rents ...	144,267	144,841	142,738	144,466	129,191
Interest, &c. ...	125,807	138,696	168,173	172,064	193,188
Other Sources ...	464,432	574,480	670,713	594,683	596,260
Total ...	10,181,840	10,508,945	10,958,037	10,529,017	11,470,875
Per Head of Population	£ s. d. 7 12 1	£ s. d. 7 12 3	£ s. d. 7 15 2	£ s. d. 7 7 2	£ s. d. 8 1 10

The revenue for 1915-16 represents an increase of £941,858 on that for the previous year, and of this amount £557,255 is shown against Railways. The payments to the State by the Federal Government in the last six years are computed on the basis of a fixed payment of 25s. per head of population in the State, whereas in preceding years the Federal Government paid over to the State at least three-fourths of the net revenue from Customs and Excise duties. The reduction during the last three years in the revenue from sale of Crown lands is chiefly due to the fact that revenue from lands sold by auction is now payable into the Developmental Railways Account

FEDERAL AND STATE FINANCE.

Federal
and State
Finance.

The financial relations existing between the Commonwealth and the several States were, until the 31st December, 1910, such as were provided by Section 87 of the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act, viz., that during a period of ten years after the establishment of the Commonwealth and thereafter until Parliament should otherwise decide, a proportion not exceeding one-fourth of the net revenue of the Commonwealth from duties of Customs and Excise should be applied annually by the Commonwealth towards its expenditure, the balance to be paid to the States.

It was, however, enacted by the *Commonwealth Surplus Revenue Act 1910* that, on and after 31st December, 1910, Section 87 (Braddon clause) of the Constitution should cease to have effect so far as it affected the power of the Commonwealth to apply any portion of the net revenue of Customs and Excise towards its expenditure, and so far as it affected the payment of any balance by the Commonwealth to the several States, or the application of such balance towards the payment of interest on the debts of the several States which might be taken over by the Commonwealth; and further, that the Commonwealth should, during the period of ten years beginning 1st July, 1910, and thereafter until Parliament should otherwise provide, pay to each State by monthly instalments, or apply to the payment of interest on any State debts which might be taken over by the Commonwealth, an annual sum representing 25s. per head of the number of the people in such State.

By the same Act provision was also made that during the period of ten years beginning 1st July, 1910, and thereafter until Parliament should otherwise provide, the Commonwealth should pay to the State of Western Australia, by monthly instalments, an annual sum which in the first year should be £250,000, and in each subsequent year should be progressively diminished by the sum of £10,000, and that one-half of the amount of such payments should be debited to all the States (including Western Australia) in proportion to population.

By the *Tasmanian Grant Act 1912* the sum of £500,000 was granted out of the Consolidated Revenue of the Commonwealth for the purpose of financial assistance to the State of Tasmania, and an additional grant of £400,000 was made by the *Tasmanian Grant Act 1913*. As the result of these two grants, payments are to extend over a period of ten years, and, having commenced in 1912-13 with the amount of £95,000, there is an annual instalment of £90,000 for the succeeding eight years, and a final one of £85,000 in the year 1921-22.

INCOME TAX.

State
Income Tax.

An income tax was first imposed in Victoria in 1895, and, although originally fixed for a period of three years, it has, with certain amendments and alterations, been retained and continued from year to year until the present time. Incomes assessed for tax in any year are those earned, derived, or received in Victoria in the preceding financial year, and are divided into two classes, viz. :— (1) those derived from personal exertion, and (2) those derived from property. The former consist of salaries, wages, stipends, fees, commissions, bonuses, pensions, superannuation or retiring allowances earned in or derived from Victoria, and all incomes arising or accruing from any profession, trade, or business carried on in Victoria; whilst the latter comprise incomes from all other sources. In computing the taxable income certain deductions are allowed from the gross income, the principal of which are outgoings and losses incurred in the production of the income, life assurance premiums not exceeding £50, and calls or contributions actually paid into any mining company or company in liquidation.

In the years 1912 to 1915, as shown in the succeeding tables, incomes up to £200 were exempt from taxation except in the cases of companies and absentees, and those between £201 and £500 were allowed an exemption of £150 except in the cases of companies and absentees. The rates of tax in those years on incomes from personal exertion were 3d. on every £1 of the taxable amount up to £500; thence up to £1,000, 4d.; thence up to £1,500, 5d.; and over £1,500, 6d. in the £1. The rates on incomes from property were respectively double the rates on incomes from personal exertion. In the case of life insurance companies the tax was 8d. in the £1 on 30 per cent. of the premium income from ordinary business and on 15 per cent. of that from industrial business. In the case of mining companies the tax was 7d. in the £1 on the total amount of dividends declared and debenture interest paid. In the case of other companies liable to tax the rate was 7d. in the £1 on the net income.

For the year 1915-16 and for the three subsequent years, while the exemptions and rates for incomes up to £500 have not been altered, the rate on incomes over £500 from personal exertion has been increased to 4d. for every £1 of the taxable amount thereof up to £500, to 5d. for every £1 between £500 and £1,000, to 6d. for every £1 between £1,000 and £1,500, and to 7d. for every £1 over £1,500. The rates on income from property are respectively double those on incomes from personal exertion, and the rate for companies is 12d. for every £1 of the taxable amount.

In the following table are shown the rates of taxation, also the number of assessments, the amount of taxable incomes, and the tax payable in the respective groups for which different rates of taxation are charged :—

INCOME TAX ASSESSMENTS, 1915-16—BASED ON INCOMES OF 1914-15.

Income.	Rate of Tax in £1 of Taxable Income.			Number of Assessments.			
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Companies.	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal Exertion and Property.	Companies.
	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>	<i>d.</i>				
Up to £500 ..	3	6	} 12	27,480	3,579	839	590
£501 to £1,000	4	8		2,313	929	2,529	195
£1,001 to £1,500	5	10		437	234	711	124
£1,501 to £2,000	6	12		189	97	362	87
£2,001 and upwards	7	14		221	136	525	477
Total ..	..	..	..	30,640	4,975	4,966	1,478

Income.	Taxable Incomes.				Tax Payable.			
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal Exertion and Property.	Companies.	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Combined Personal Exertion and Property.	Companies.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Up to £500 ..	3,595,436	574,094	173,021	100,678	47,443	14,356	3,005	5,032
£501 to £1,000	1,551,442	635,391	1,724,209	139,124	27,428	22,604	35,739	6,956
£1,001 to £1,500	529,988	283,473	861,682	154,810	10,491	11,249	19,058	7,682
£1,501 to £2,000	326,451	166,343	627,467	150,774	7,095	7,278	14,882	7,540
£2,001 and upwards	835,707	487,521	2,358,429	6,107,629	21,445	25,039	71,301	305,938
Total ..	6,839,024	2,146,822	5,744,808	6,653,015	113,902	80,526	143,985	333,148

On account of rebates of income tax allowed under section 18 of the *Income Tax Act* 1915, the tax payable does not coincide with the rates of tax when applied to the taxable incomes shown in the above statement.

In the succeeding statement particulars of the assessments, incomes and tax for the last five years are set forth :—

INCOME TAX: 1912 TO 1915-16.

—	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1915-16.
Number of Assessments:					
Individuals .. ..	..	42,065	44,172	44,803	40,581
Companies .. ..	..	1,449	1,500	1,632	1,473
Total, Distinct Taxpayers ..	40,527	43,514	45,672	46,495	42,054
Taxable Incomes of previous year:					
Individuals	£ ..	£ 17,221,140	£ 17,306,324	£ 16,869,357	£ 14,730,654
Companies .. ..	..	5,711,829	6,064,835	6,546,342	6,653,015
Total ..	21,540,822	22,932,969	23,371,159	23,415,699	21,383,669
Tax payable:					
Individuals .. ..	..	326,506	327,293	320,166	338,413
Companies .. ..	..	166,595	178,522	192,679	333,148
Total ..	466,185	493,101	505,815	512,845	671,561
Per taxpayer ..	£ s. d. 11 10 1	£ s. d. 11 6 8	£ s. d. 11 1 6	£ s. d. 11 0 7	£ s. d. 15 19 4
Average tax payable in the £1 on taxable incomes by—					
Individuals .. ..	..	d. 4·55	d. 4·54	d. 4·55	d. 5·51
Companies .. ..	..	7·00	7·06	7·06	12·00

In a comparison of the particulars contained in this table, it should be noted that the figures for 1914 and 1915 have not been revised, as in former years, for later transactions on account of these years which were dealt with in the year following. In the instances where revised figures are available for 1915, it is known that the number of assessments has been increased by 909 and the amount of tax payable by £4,126. These increases have not been included in the above table as there is no information available in regard to increases in the taxable income.

In the appended tables the occupations of income taxpayers are given, the summary table immediately following showing the percentage of each class paying the tax, and the proportion of the whole amount contributed by each :—

OCCUPATIONS OF INCOME TAXPAYERS SUMMARIZED,
1915-16.

Occupations in Classes.	Number of Taxpayers.			Amount of Tax.				
	Total.	Percentage of Taxpayers.	Percentage of each class in Population.	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Total.	Percentage of Total.	Average to each Taxpayer.
				£	£	£		£ s. d.
1. Professional	8,439	20·07	19·26	38,474	9,935	48,409	7·21	5 14 9
2. Domestic ...	1,466	3·49	2·36	9,677	1,887	11,564	1·72	7 17 9
3. Commercial	12,883	30·63	14·16	88,371	18,092	106,463	15·85	8 5 3
4. Transport...	2,608	6·20	6·65	6,223	726	6,949	1·04	2 13 3
5. Industrial...	7,068	16·81	3·77	42,168	7,713	49,881	7·43	7 1 2
6. Primary producers ...	2,726	6·48	1·89	20,112	14,488	34,600	5·15	12 13 10
7. Indefinite...	5,391	12·82	66·94	3,086	77,461	80,547	11·99	14 18 10
8. Companies	1,473	3·50	...	333,148	...	333,148	49·61	226 3 5
Total ...	42,054	100·00	...	541,259	130,302	671,561	100·00	15 19 5

Owing to the exemption of a section of land-owners from the payment of income tax, which probably affects the number paying the tax in other classes, but certainly reduces the number of primary producers considerably, the indication given by the table of the relative wealth possessed by persons attached to the different occupational groups is not so reliable as formerly. The table shows, however, that the commercial class, which embraces 16 per cent. of the total bread-winners in the population, contributes nearly 31 per cent. of the taxpayers; that the professional class, which forms $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the bread-winners, contributes 20 per cent. of the taxpayers; that the industrial class, representing $32\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the bread-winners, yields only 17 per cent. of the taxpayers; and that primary producers, amongst whom are included those following agricultural, pastoral, and mining pursuits, and who represent 25 per cent. of the bread-winners,

yield only about $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the taxpayers. Of the definite classes, that contributing the highest percentage of taxpayers in proportion to its number in the population is the professional, with $19\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. ; then comes the commercial class, with over 14 per cent. ; and the transport class, with about $6\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. ; the smallest proportion is contributed by primary producers with about 2 per cent. Of the amount paid as tax, companies yielded $49\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total ; whilst the indefinite class, forming about $12\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the taxpayers, yielded 12 per cent. of the tax. The commercial class, forming $30\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the taxpayers, gave slightly more than $15\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. of the tax ; primary producers, forming about $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the taxpayers, gave 5 per cent. of the tax ; the industrial class, forming about 17 per cent. of the taxpayers, gave almost $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the tax ; and the professional class, forming 20 per cent. of the taxpayers, gave $7\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of the tax.

The next table deals with the sources of the incomes of taxpayers for all the principal occupations under the heads of personal exertion and property.

SOURCES OF INCOMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF TAXPAYERS
1915-16.

Occupations.	Number of Taxpayers.				Amount of Tax.			
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Personal Exertion and Property combined.	Total.	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Total.	Average to each Taxpayer.
<i>1. Professional.</i>					£	£	£	£ s. d.
Civil Servants	1,527	3	86	1,616	5,108	620	5,728	3 10 11
Clergymen ...	570	1	35	606	1,431	149	1,580	2 12 2
Legal Practitioners ...	526	18	197	741	7,388	2,700	10,088	13 12 3
Medical Practitioners ...	411	4	221	636	8,380	2,686	11,066	17 8 0
Police ...	551	...	13	564	768	13	781	1 7 8
Teachers ...	1,479	...	55	1,534	3,306	238	3,544	2 6 2
Various ...	2,396	29	317	2,742	12,093	3,529	15,622	5 13 11
	7,460	55	924	8,439	38,474	9,935	48,409	5 14 9

SOURCES OF INCOMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF TAXPAYERS, 1915-16—
continued.

Occupations.	Number of Taxpayers.				Amount of Tax.			
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Personal Exertion and Property combined.	Total.	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Total.	Average to each Taxpayer.
<i>2. Domestic.</i>					£	£	£	£ s. d.
Hotelkeepers...	848	12	232	1,092	8,242	1,620	9,862	9 0 7
Various ...	326	1	47	374	1,435	267	1,702	4 11 0
	1,174	13	279	1,466	9,677	1,887	11,564	7 17 9
<i>3. Commercial.</i>								
Agents ...	618	22	169	809	4,642	1,819	6,461	7 19 9
Brokers ...	125	...	41	166	3,368	372	3,740	22 10 7
Butchers ...	215	3	46	264	1,479	833	2,312	8 15 2
Clerks ...	4,486	12	347	4,845	19,178	2,219	21,397	4 8 4
Drapers ...	324	2	84	410	4,905	749	5,654	13 15 10
Grocers ...	331	...	72	403	2,073	516	2,589	6 8 6
Merchants ...	836	10	390	1,236	31,042	6,096	37,138	30 0 11
Salesmen ...	2,581	9	228	2,818	9,577	1,718	11,295	4 0 2
Storekeepers...	374	1	86	461	2,631	461	3,092	6 14 2
Various ...	1,183	31	257	1,471	9,476	3,309	12,785	8 13 10
	11,073	90	1,720	12,883	88,371	18,092	106,463	8 5 3
<i>4. Transport.</i>								
Carriers ...	200	3	52	255	1,166	296	1,462	5 14 8
Engaged in Postal Service	430	...	13	443	866	40	906	2 0 11
Engaged in Railways	1,565	...	34	1,599	2,684	92	2,776	1 14 9
Engaged in Shipping	276	2	33	311	1,507	298	1,805	5 16 1
	2,471	5	132	2,608	6,223	726	6,949	2 13 3
<i>5. Industrial.</i>								
Carpenters ...	442	18	132	592	3,941	1,590	5,531	9 6 10
Engine-drivers	133	...	4	137	156	3	159	1 3 3
Engineers ...	639	1	52	692	3,121	282	3,403	4 18 4
Managers ...	665	...	59	724	3,023	1,183	4,206	5 16 2
Manufacturers	630	8	249	887	17,443	2,894	20,337	22 18 7
Printers ...	642	...	32	674	2,499	431	2,930	4 6 11
Various ...	3,053	11	298	3,362	11,985	1,330	13,315	3 19 2
	6,204	38	826	7,068	42,168	7,713	49,881	7 1 2

SOURCES OF INCOMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF TAXPAYERS, 1915-16—
continued.

Occupations.	Number of Taxpayers.				Amount of Tax.			
	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Personal Exertion and Property combined.	Total.	Personal Exertion.	Property.	Total.	Average to each Taxpayer.
6. Primary Producers.					£	£	£	£ s. d.
Engaged in Agriculture, &c —								
Dairy Farmers	134	9	21	164	522	140	662	4 0 9
Farmers ...	751	120	308	1,179	7,438	3,230	10,668	9 1 0
Graziers ...	262	122	348	732	9,957	10,259	20,216	27 12 4
Various ...	299	31	45	375	1,081	656	1,737	4 12 8
	1,446	282	722	2,450	18,998	14,285	33,283	13 11 8
Engaged in Mining—								
Legal Managers	30	...	4	34	255	31	286	8 8 3
Miners ...	35	...	...	35	53	...	53	1 10 3
Mining Managers ...	80	...	6	86	311	19	330	3 16 9
Various ...	111	2	8	121	495	153	648	5 7 1
	256	2	18	276	1,114	203	1,317	4 15 5
	1,702	284	740	2,726	20,112	14,488	34,600	12 13 10
7. Indefinite.	556	4,490	345	5,391	3,086	77,461	80,547	14 18 10
8. Companies.								
Life Assurance	21	...	...	21	21,861	...	21,861	1,041 0 0
Mining ...	34	...	...	34	9,015	...	9,015	265 2 11
Other ...	1,418	...	...	1,418	302,272	...	302,272	213 3 4
	1,473	...	...	1,473	333,148	...	333,148	226 3 5
Total ...	32,113	4,975	4,966	42,054	541,259	130,302	671,561	15 19 5

Of the total taxpayers, 76 per cent. gained their incomes from personal exertion, about 12 per cent. from property, and about 12 per cent. from personal exertion combined with property. The proportion of taxpayers of definite occupations deriving incomes from personal exertion ranged from 59 per cent. in the case of primary producers engaged in agriculture to 94 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. in the case of those engaged in transport. Personal exertion combined with property was the source of income in a proportion ranging from 5 per cent. of those

engaged in transport to about $29\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of primary producers engaged in agriculture. The incomes of the indefinite class, which comprises persons of independent means and of no occupation and pensioners, are gained by about $10\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of their number from personal exertion, by about $83\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. from property, and by about $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from personal exertion combined with property. The tax on incomes obtained from personal exertion furnished $80\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total, the percentage being as low as $3\frac{3}{4}$ for indefinite occupations, and for the other classes ranging from 57 for primary producers engaged in agriculture to $89\frac{1}{2}$ in the case of those engaged in transport.

The taxable incomes of taxpayers in conjunction with occupations are shown in the following statement :—

TAXABLE INCOMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF TAXPAYERS, 1915-16.

Occupations.	Number of Taxpayers.				Amount of Tax.			
	With taxable incomes between—			Total.	On taxable incomes between—			Total.
	£51 and £500.	£501 and £1,000.	£1,001 and over.		£51 and £500.	£501 and £1,000.	£1,001 and over.	
1. Professional.					£	£	£	£
Civil Servants ...	1,399	199	18	1,616	2,563	2,418	747	5,728
Clergymen ...	565	37	4	606	983	459	138	1,580
Legal Practitioners ...	411	194	136	741	906	2,588	6,594	10,088
Medical Practitioners	216	261	159	636	569	3,515	6,982	11,066
Police ...	552	11	1	564	635	114	32	781
Teachers ...	1,448	76	10	1,534	2,292	954	298	3,544
Various ...	2,187	435	120	2,742	4,287	5,612	5,723	15,622
	6,778	1,213	448	8,439	12,235	15,660	20,514	48,409
2. Domestic.								
Hotelkeepers ...	682	300	110	1,092	1,631	3,914	4,317	9,862
Various ...	302	58	14	374	512	739	451	1,702
	984	358	124	1,466	2,143	4,653	4,768	11,564
3. Commercial.								
Agents ...	599	144	66	809	1,285	2,050	3,126	6,461
Brokers ...	79	45	42	166	190	644	2,906	3,740
Butchers ...	212	37	15	264	442	451	1,419	2,312
Clerks ...	4,159	469	217	4,845	7,055	5,933	8,409	21,397
Drapers ...	297	73	40	410	549	955	4,150	5,654
Grocers ...	319	62	22	403	629	799	1,161	2,589
Merchants ...	564	295	377	1,236	1,189	4,075	31,874	37,138
Salesmen ...	2,453	295	70	2,818	4,357	3,754	3,184	11,295
Storekeepers ...	328	104	29	461	724	1,341	1,027	3,092
Various ...	1,126	228	117	1,471	2,269	3,271	7,245	12,785
	10,136	1,752	995	12,883	18,689	23,273	64,501	106,463

TAXABLE INCOMES AND OCCUPATIONS OF TAXPAYERS, 1915-16—
continued.

Occupations.	Number of Taxpayers.				Amount of Tax.			
	With taxable incomes between—			Total.	On taxable incomes between—			Total.
	£51 and £500.	£501 and £1,000.	£1,001 and over.		£51 and £500.	£501 and £1,000.	£1,001 and over.	
					£	£	£	£
4. Transport.								
Carriers	198	47	10	255	342	633	487	1,462
Engaged in Postal Service	422	20	1	443	611	232	63	906
Engaged in Railways	1,542	54	3	1,599	2,069	620	87	2,776
Engaged in Shipping	255	38	18	311	387	502	916	1,805
	2,417	159	32	2,608	3,409	1,987	1,553	6,949
5. Industrial.								
Carpenters	473	77	42	592	846	1,120	3,565	5,531
Engine-drivers	136	1	...	137	142	17	...	159
Engineers	601	63	28	692	958	789	1,656	3,403
Managers	607	94	23	724	1,181	1,181	1,844	4,206
Manufacturers	479	197	211	887	1,049	2,635	16,653	20,337
Printers	619	31	24	674	941	411	1,578	2,930
Various	3,001	259	102	3,362	4,656	3,418	5,241	13,315
	5,916	722	430	7,068	9,773	9,571	30,537	49,881
6. Primary Producers.								
Engaged in Agriculture, &c.—								
Dairy Farmers	145	11	8	164	298	146	218	662
Farmers	757	288	134	1,179	1,834	3,623	5,211	10,668
Graziers	292	212	228	732	861	3,133	16,222	20,216
Various	316	45	14	375	640	669	428	1,737
	1,510	556	384	2,450	3,633	7,571	22,079	33,283
Engaged in Mining—								
Legal Managers	23	8	3	34	47	121	118	286
Miners	35	...	...	35	53	...	...	53
Mining Managers	73	10	3	86	136	112	82	330
Various	104	9	8	121	171	116	361	648
	235	27	14	276	407	349	561	1,317
	1,745	583	398	2,726	4,040	7,920	22,640	34,600
7. Indefinite.	3,922	984	485	5,391	14,515	22,707	43,325	80,547
8. Companies.								
Life Assurance	5	1	15	21	37	50	21,774	21,861
Mining	3	5	26	34	38	202	8,775	9,015
Other	582	189	647	1,418	4,957	6,704	290,611	302,272
	590	195	688	1,473	5,032	6,956	321,160	333,148
Total	32,488	5,966	3,600	42,054	69,836	92,727	508,998	671,561

Of the number of taxable incomes assessed, $77\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. were under £500, $14\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. between £501 and £1,000, and $8\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. over £1,000; but the tax levied on these incomes formed 10·4, 13·8, and 75·8 per cent. respectively of the total. A perusal of the above table reveals that the occupational group which contributes the largest amount of tax is that of merchants, 1,236 of whom were taxed £37,138, and that of these 377 had taxable incomes of over £1,000, and were called upon to pay £31,874. The group paying the next largest amount of tax is that of clerks, 4,845 of whom were taxed £21,397. Of these, 217 had taxable incomes of over £1,000, and were called upon to pay £8,409.

The Federal Income Tax Assessment Act, which was first imposed on incomes earned in the financial year 1914-15, is one relating to the imposition, assessment, and collection of tax on incomes in the Commonwealth exceeding a gross amount of £156 in the case of residents and on any amount in excess of £1 in the case of absentees and companies.

Provision is made that, in addition to the deduction of expenses incurred in the earning of the income, there shall be a deduction in the case of persons (other than a company or an absentee) receiving income from personal exertion, of £156 in respect of incomes up to that amount, this exemption diminishing by £1 for every £4 by which the income exceeds £156. In respect of income derived from property, there is a deduction of £156 in respect of incomes up to that amount, but for every £11 by which the income exceeds £156 the exemption is reduced by £5.

For income earned during 1915-16, a person who is not married, has no dependants, and is not an absentee and who has a gross income of £100, or a person carrying on business, who has an income therefrom which, after the allowance of deductions, amounts, together with his income from other sources to not less than £100, shall pay a tax of £1. In respect to the foregoing income the exemption of £100 diminishes by £1 for every £4 of the excess over £100.

In respect of incomes derived from a composite source, the deductions are first calculated as though the income from each source were the only income received, and the total of the deduction is apportioned *pro rata* between the income from each source.

Companies are taxable on the undistributed income. Where companies derive income from both in and out of Australia, the proportion earned only in Australia is taxed.

Persons on active service during the present war with the military or naval forces of the Commonwealth or any part of the King's Dominions, or of an ally of Great Britain, are exempt from tax so far as regards income derived from personal exertion prior to the commencement of this Act or during the present war.

The rate of tax for income derived from personal exertion is $3\frac{3}{800}$ d. where the taxable value is £1, the rate increasing uniformly by $\frac{3}{800}$ d. with each increase of £1 of the taxable income. For every £1 in excess of £7,600 the rate of tax is 5s.

On income derived from property, up to £546 the rate is $3\frac{1}{81}$ d. where the income is £1, the rate increasing uniformly by $\frac{1}{81}$ d. for each increase of £1 in the taxable income. From £546 up to £6,500 the rates are arranged so as to provide for an average rate of tax of 10·5333d. at £1,000, 18·9333d. at £2,000, 25·8944d. at £3,000, 31·7833d. at £4,000, 36·5233d. at £5,000, 40·222d. at £6,000, and 41·7305d. at £6,500. For amounts in excess of £6,500 the rate of tax is 5s. per £1.

In addition to the foregoing rates, a further tax of 25 per cent. is payable on incomes earned during 1915-16.

The rate of tax payable in respect of income from companies is 1s. 10½d. in the £1. The income of a company distributed to members or shareholders of the company who are absentees, and interest paid or credited by the company to any absentee in respect of debentures of the company, or on money lodged at interest with the company, is taxable at the rate of 6d. in the £1.

Where the income is earned partly from personal exertion and partly from property the tax payable is at a rate that would have been applicable if the total income from both sources had been derived exclusively from each source.

LAND TAX.

State Land Tax.

The State Land Tax Act of 1915 provides for a tax on the unimproved value of land and for the assessment of land and other purposes. Unimproved value for the purposes of this Act means the sum which might be expected to be realized at the time of valuation if the land were offered for sale on such terms as a seller might in ordinary circumstances be expected to require, and assuming that the improvements (if any) had not been made. The nature of the taxation is a duty upon land for every pound sterling of the unimproved value thereof, as assessed under the Act at a rate declared for each year by Act of Parliament. The rate of tax for 1911 and the succeeding years was one halfpenny on every pound sterling of the unimproved value of all land having an unimproved value exceeding £250, and the same rate has been imposed for 1916. No tax is chargeable when the unimproved value does not exceed £250. Where the assessed unimproved value exceeds the amount of exemption (£250) the exemption diminishes at the rate of £1 for every £1 of such excess, so as to leave no exemption when the unimproved value amounts to, or exceeds

£500. The present land tax is a complete departure from the principles of the former one, under which only the lands of estates over 640 acres in extent and over £2,500 in value were taxed, and such lands were valued on a purely pastoral basis, varying from £1 to £4 per acre according to their sheep-carrying capacity, irrespective of whatever value might have attached to them for dairying or agricultural purposes.

The Assessment Roll at 31st December of each of the last five years showed the following particulars:—

Assessment.	Taxpayers.					Net Assessment of Tax.
1912	80,847	...	£305,713
1913	82,001	...	£307,377
1914	83,161	...	£311,005
1915	83,916	...	£303,542
1916	85,895	...	£304,317

In addition to the State Land Tax there is upon the lands in the State a Commonwealth Land Tax, which was assented to on 17th November, 1910.

Commonwealth Land Tax Act 1910. The Federal Land Tax is a graduated progressive tax levied on the unimproved values of all lands within the Commonwealth save those which are exempt from taxation under the Act. When the owner was a resident of Australia, after allowing for an exemption of £5,000, the tax for the four years 1910-11, 1911-12, 1912-13, and 1913-14 was 1d. on the first £1 sterling of taxable value, and increased at a uniform rate, so that the tax was equal to an average rate of 1½d. in the £1 on an estate having a taxable value of £15,001, 2d. in the £1 on an estate having a taxable value of £30,001, 2½d. in the £1 on an estate having a taxable value of £45,001, 3d. in the £1 on an estate having a taxable value of £60,001, and 3½d. in the £1 on an estate having a taxable value of £75,001. For every £1 sterling of taxable value in excess of £75,000 the rate of tax was 6d. in the £1.

When the owner was an absentee no exemption was allowed, and the tax was 1d. in the £1 on the first £5,000, and 2d. on the first £1 above £5,000, after which it increased at a uniform rate, so that the tax

was equal to an average rate of $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 on the excess over £5,000 for an estate having a taxable value of £20,001, 3d. in the £1 on the excess over £5,000 for an estate having a taxable value of £35,001, $3\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 on the excess over £5,000 for an estate having a taxable value of £50,001, 4d. in the £1 on the excess over £5,000 for an estate having a taxable value of £65,001, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 on the excess over £5,000 for an estate having a taxable value of £80,001. For every £1 sterling of taxable value in excess of £80,000 the rate of tax was 7d. in the £1.

For the financial year 1914-15 and subsequent years, when the owner is a resident of Australia, an exemption of £5,000 is allowed as formerly, but the rate of tax is fixed at $1\frac{1}{18750}$ d. on the first £1 sterling of taxable value, and increases uniformly with each £1 sterling of taxable value by $\frac{1}{18750}$ of a penny until the taxable value reaches £75,000. For every £1 of taxable value in excess of £75,000 the rate is 9d. When the owner is an absentee no exemption is allowed, and the tax is fixed at 1d. in the £1 on the first £5,000, and at $2\frac{1}{18750}$ d. in the first £1 above £5,000, and increases uniformly by $\frac{1}{18750}$ of a penny with each increase of £1 in the taxable value until such value reaches £80,000. For every £1 of taxable value in excess of £80,000 the rate is 10d.

The definition of unimproved value is the capital sum which the fee-simple of the land might be expected to realize if offered for sale on such reasonable terms and conditions as a *bonâ fide* seller would require, assuming that the improvements (if any) thereon or appertaining thereto, and made or acquired by the owner or his predecessor in title, had not been made.

The following particulars of land tax assessment for Victoria for the financial year 1914-15 were furnished by the Federal Commissioner of Land Tax. The estates assessed numbered 5,093, of which 4,372 belonged to resident and 721 to absentee taxpayers. The unimproved value of these estates, as ascertained by the Department, was £49,509,923. The taxable value, after allowing for all statutory deductions from the unimproved value, was £34,350,309, on which the tax payable was £336,543. In addition there were 827 central office taxpayers who held an unimproved value of £8,643,821 representing their Victorian interests, on which the tax payable was £136,970.

RAILWAY REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Victorian
Railways,
financial
results.

A summary of the results of the working of the Victorian Railways during the last five years is given in the annexed statement. The figures have been taken from the Railway Report and represent the actual business done each year, not the receipts and payments brought to account by the Treasury within the year. They include particulars of the St. Kilda-Brighton Electric Street Railway.

RAILWAY BALANCES : 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

—	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
Gross Revenue ...	5,233,979	5,222,271	5,581,474	5,183,687	5,730,743
Working Expenses ...	3,323,767	3,492,765	3,773,493	4,134,878	4,020,256
Pensions, Gratuities, &c.	131,319	112,236	112,855	123,438	121,332
Net Receipts ...	1,773,893	1,617,270	1,695,126	925,371	1,589,155
Interest on Cost of Construction	1,513,102	1,595,020	1,677,369	1,767,807	1,927,107
Surplus ...	265,791	22,250	17,757	...	...
Deficit ...	...	...	...	842,436	337,952

The decrease in the surpluses of 1912-13 and 1913-14 as compared with the preceding year is due to concessions in freight charges, to the improved train facilities provided, to the higher cost of materials, &c., and to the improved scale of payment and better working conditions provided for the staff. In 1914-15 these factors again operated and expenditure was further increased by efforts to minimize unemployment, also there was a loss in revenue on account of the adverse conditions occasioned by the drought. The result was that a deficit of £842,436, the first since 1907-8, was shown for that year, and, although there was an improvement during 1915-16, that year's transactions showed a deficit of £337,952.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT AND FIRE INSURANCE FUND.

The establishment of a permanent fund to be kept at the Treasury, and called the Railway Accident and Fire Insurance Fund, was effected by provision in the *Railways Act 1907*. This provision requires the Railway Commissioners to pay into such fund the sum of 10s. for every £100 sterling of the revenue of the Victorian Railways until the fund amounts to £100,000, at which amount it is to be maintained. During the year ended 30th June, 1916, the receipts of the fund amounted to £28,654; whilst the payments made therefrom were £3,623 for compensation, damages, costs, &c., to persons other than employees injured, £17,143 as compensation on account of injuries to or deaths of employees; and £13,883 as compensation for goods or parcels lost, and for damages caused by fire, &c.

STATE EXPENDITURE.

The following table shows for the last five years the principal heads of State expenditure from Consolidated Revenue:—

SUMMARY OF STATE EXPENDITURE FROM CONSOLIDATED REVENUE: 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

Heads of Expenditure.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>General Government.</i>					
Governor	11,519	9,877	10,755	7,756	7,816
Parliament and Ministry	80,291	74,740	74,354	83,238	73,867
Civil Establishment ...	264,289	300,687	327,632	333,663	320,930
Pensions and Gratuities	376,870	347,600	340,863	367,718	371,031
<i>Law, Order, and Protection.</i>					
Judicial and Legal ...	182,271	201,931	197,099	206,016	175,188
Police	329,312	357,396	363,692	370,381	343,546
Penal Establishments and Gaols	50,814	53,189	56,555	58,864	58,395
<i>Education, &c.</i>					
State Schools, &c. ...	986,633	987,212	1,033,256	1,081,461	1,052,506
Technical Schools ...	36,871	36,153	41,592	55,673	46,771
University	43,223	34,900	30,413	17,576	39,212
Libraries, &c. ...	53,343	39,531	40,839	36,069	28,119
Art and Science ...	15,345	11,220	12,630	11,969	9,739
<i>Recreation and Health.</i>					
Parks, Gardens, and Public Resorts	30,731	29,227	29,475	27,229	24,436
Public Health ...	45,513	47,582	53,632	49,192	39,718
Charitable Institutions, &c.	470,588	483,427	497,642	540,259	563,990

SUMMARY OF STATE EXPENDITURE FROM CONSOLIDATED REVENUE :
1911-12 TO 1915-16—*continued.*

Heads of Expenditure.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
<i>Crown Lands, &c.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Crown Lands ...	189,906	210,866	176,917	180,400	151,659
Agriculture and Stock	195,576	176,074	188,826	189,784	286,081
Mining ...	268,779	290,242	317,632	360,044	334,761
<i>Public Works.</i>					
Railways ...	3,356,714	3,459,832	3,781,671	4,144,959	4,028,449
Water Supply ...	105,905	117,632	115,524	133,059	125,574
Harbors, Rivers, and Lights	89,741	113,694	164,814	155,530	111,217
Roads and Bridges ...	12,780	15,108	13,777	16,690	9,509
Country Roads Board Fund	...	45,303	49,276	54,785	62,270
Municipal Endowment, &c.	131,554	137,608	124,915	127,828	73,797
Surplus Revenue appropriated to "Revenue Services"	91,662	...	...	...	...
Land Sales by Auction Fund	14,988	...	...	...	...
Works and Buildings, n.e.i.	82,645	65,130	51,997	48,064	45,349
Interest and Expenses of Public Debt	2,096,198	2,178,055	2,298,005	2,439,180	2,706,313
Interest on Advances from Savings Banks	23,849	21,395	16,293	7,887	7,689
Redemption Funds, &c.	215,909	237,269	204,745	211,117	266,599
<i>Other Expenditure.</i>					
Mint Subsidy ...	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Fire Brigades ...	24,875	26,688	27,753	29,656	31,822
Immigration ...	68,183	122,901	67,848	75,600	19,315
Licensing Fund ...	108,804	110,149	108,912	107,752	95,606
Licensing Act Compen- sation Fund	55,275	58,948	60,139	63,624	60,396
Expeditionary Forces — Allowance to Railway Depart- ment for carriage	...	...	...	32,232	45,997
Assurance Fund ...	3,628	2,625	3,052	2,564	2,127
Miscellaneous ...	36,802	55,550	42,193	59,149	43,569
Total ...	10,171,386	10,479,741	10,944,718	11,706,968	11,683,363
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per Head of Population	7 11 11	7 11 10	7 15 0	8 3 8	8 4 10

Compared with the previous year the ordinary expenditure of the State for 1915-16 shows a decrease of £23,605. The heads of expenditure showing the largest decreases are—Railways, £116,510; Immigration, £56,285; Municipal Endowment, £54,031; and Harbors,

Rivers, and Lights, £44,313. The most important increases are— Interest and Expenses of Public Debt, £267,133; Agriculture and Stock, £96,297; and Redemption Funds, £55,482.

PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES.

The bestowal of pensions or superannuation allowances was abolished on the 24th December, 1881, in the case of persons, except Supreme Court Judges and police, entering the Public Service after that date.

During the year 1915-16, 3,109 pensions, amounting to £325,369, were paid to ex-public servants not including police, viz., 2,939 under special appropriations, amounting to £316,326; and 170 from annual votes, amounting to £9,043. Fifty-seven compensations and gratuities were also paid, the amount being £15,509. The following statement summarizes the numbers and amounts of payments made in the last financial year :—

PENSIONS, SUPERANNUATION ALLOWANCES, AND GRATUITIES, ETC., PAID : 1915-16.

Division of Service.	Special Appropriations.		Annual Votes.		Total.	
	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.	Number.	Amount.
		£		£		£
Education Department ...	1,069	106,710	16	736	1,085	107,446
Railways ...	1,195	100,120	132	7,492	1,327	107,612
Defence ...	7	559	...	...	7	559
Lunacy ...	38	3,809	...	...	38	3,809
Under Constitution Act ...	2	2,270	...	...	2	2,270
Commissioners of Audit ...	1	667	...	...	1	667
Officers of Parliament ...	1	509	...	...	1	509
Public Service Board ...	1	175	...	...	1	175
Under Act 1988 ...	1	283	...	...	1	283
Under Civil Service Act 160	297	56,516	...	...	297	56,516
" Public Service Act 773	132	22,824	...	...	132	22,824
Commonwealth Service— Officers of transferred Departments	195	21,884	...	...	195	21,884
Various allowances ...	...	...	22	815	22	815
Total Pensions and Superannuation Al- lowances	2,939	316,326	170	9,043	3,109	325,369
Compensations and Gra- tuities	11	1,354	46	14,155	57	15,509
Subsidy to Police Super- annuation Fund	...	8,153	...	22,000	...	30,153
Total amount paid ...	...	325,833	...	45,198	...	371,031

In 1915-16 the payments out of the Police Superannuation Fund were as follows:—371 pensions, amounting to £49,804, and 8 gratuities, amounting to £3,795. The Police Superannuation Fund is maintained by an annual subsidy of £2,000 from the consolidated revenue; by a moiety of the fines inflicted by the Courts of Petty Sessions; by a deduction, not exceeding 2½ per cent., from the pay of the members of the force entitled to pensions; by transfers from the Licensing Fund under the provisions of Act No. 2068; and, should the foregoing sources prove insufficient, by a further grant in aid from the consolidated revenue.

Pensions are payable only to those members of the police force who joined prior to the 25th November, 1902.

In the year 1915-16, 29 pensions amounting to £3,388 were paid out of the Port Phillip Pilot Sick and Superannuation Fund, towards which, however, the Government does not contribute, the fund being maintained by deductions from pilots' earnings and the annual income from investments belonging to the fund.

South Africa Contingent pensions. Pensions to members and relatives of members of the South African war contingents amounted to £687 in 1915-16.

EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During the year 1915-16 the State expended on education generally the sum of £1,462,230. This amount includes the interest payable on loan moneys expended on buildings and expenditure in connexion with pensions and gratuities. The expenditure for the five years 1911-12 to 1915-16 is as follows:—

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION: 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

Expenditure on—	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education—Primary ..	692,950	762,692	763,351	787,834	783,540
Intermediate and secondary	39,832	55,747	64,257	72,690	73,339
Special Subjects	20,056	20,536	23,951	25,581	26,436
Training of Teachers ..	20,867	21,372	22,106	20,928	19,796
Administration	45,999	45,915	47,180	49,265	49,243
Buildings	167,657	158,028	198,377	315,869	220,042
Technical Schools (including Building Grants)	42,541	49,139	73,654	78,902	94,098
University (including Building Grants)	46,902	38,460	34,777	33,126	31,330
Interest on Loan Money expended on Buildings	39,784	39,784	39,784	53,086	56,499
Miscellaneous	95,905	99,362	104,617	107,551	107,907
Total	1,212,493	1,291,035	1,372,054	1,544,832	1,462,230

The foregoing statement deals with the expenditure by the State on education generally, and includes expenditure connected with the University and technical schools, but the statement which follows

relates to that portion of the expenditure which has been incurred in connexion with the State schools of Victoria, primary and secondary, of which the details as arranged are available only for the last five years:—

EXPENDITURE ON STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM: 1911-12
TO 1915-16.

Items.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education:					
Primary—					
Day Schools	691,711	760,966	760,330	784,148	779,612
Night Schools	239	67	64	64	65
Schools for Deaf Mutes, Blind, and Feeble-minded Children	..	659	1,957	2,622	2,863
	691,950	761,692	762,351	786,834	782,540
Intermediate—					
Higher Elementary Schools ..	3,222	10,420	10,631	7,679	6,773
Evening Continuation Classes..	617	903	697	1,053	875
Secondary—					
High Schools	14,202	22,024	26,714	33,481	36,894
Agricultural High Schools ..	13,200	13,698	21,116	22,840	20,872
	36,241	52,045	59,158	65,053	65,414
Special Subjects—					
Cookery	6,780	6,582	8,779	9,826	11,018
Manual Training	11,145	11,542	12,267	12,184	11,608
Physical Training	510	764	951	800	874
Medical Inspection	1,621	1,648	1,738	2,328	2,458
Dressmaking and Needlework ..	..	..	216	222	244
School Gardening .. .. .	..	..	..	221	234
	20,056	20,536	23,951	25,581	26,436
Training of Teachers—					
Training College	8,209	9,149	10,897	11,180	9,994
University Practising School ..	2,547	2,626	2,570	2,586	2,686
Miscellaneous	10,111	9,597	8,639	7,162	7,116
	20,867	21,372	22,106	20,928	19,796
Administration	45,999	45,915	47,180	49,265	49,243
Buildings—					
Primary Schools	135,387	119,301	152,275	270,156	189,399
Primary Schools (expended by School Committees)	12,191	12,693	14,794	13,144	9,709
Rent	5,100	5,098	7,097	8,711	6,442
Higher Elementary Schools ..	1,510	13,075	5,994	8,776	3,033
High Schools	469	1,097	16,048	13,686	8,017
Agricultural High Schools ..	13,000	6,764	2,169	1,396	3,442
	167,657	158,028	198,377	315,869	220,442
Interest on Loan Money ex- pended on Buildings.. .. .	39,700	39,700	39,700	53,002	56,415
Miscellaneous—					
Pensions and Gratuities	95,770	97,361	101,567	105,810	107,220
Grant to State Schools Decora- tion and Equipment Society ..	..	2,000	2,000	1,000	..
Grant to State Schools Horti- cultural Society .. .. .	..	..	300	300	300
Subsidies, sparsely populated districts .. .. .	..	..	..	83	233
Total	1,118,240	1,198,649	1,256,690	1,423,725	1,327,639

The following return summarizes the expenditure and revenue connected with the State educational system, and shows the cost per scholar for the last ten years :—

**COST OF INSTRUCTION IN VICTORIAN STATE SCHOOLS :
1906-7 TO 1915-16.**

Year.	Expenditure by the State.	Revenue of the Education Department.	Net Expenditure.	Number of Scholars—Average Attendance.	Cost per Scholar to the State.
	£	£	£		£ s. d.
1906-7 ..	794,627	14,277	780,350	147,270	5 6 0
1907-8 ..	850,646	17,003	833,643	143,551	5 16 2
1908-9 ..	941,029	17,849	923,180	146,106	6 6 4
1909-10 ..	959,160	19,138	940,022	145,968	6 8 10
1910-11 ..	1,002,415	20,707	981,708	146,464	6 14 1
1911-12 ..	1,118,240	24,540	1,093,700	154,807	7 1 4
1912-13 ..	1,198,649	23,646	1,170,003	156,965	7 9 1
1913-14 ..	1,256,690	26,175	1,230,515	163,200	7 10 10
1914-15 ..	1,423,725	28,607	1,395,118	166,407	8 7 8
1915-16 ..	1,327,639	26,399	1,301,240	167,989	7 14 11

This table includes the amount payable each year as interest on loan moneys expended on school buildings.

TRUST FUNDS.

The following are the amounts to the credit of the Trust Funds, trust funds, and the manner of their investment, at the end of each of the last five financial years :—

TRUST FUNDS: 1912 TO 1916.

Accounts.	Credit Balance on 30th June.				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£	£	£	£	£
Deposits in Savings Banks	640,040	261,365	248,365	248,365	248,790
Deposits in Savings Banks Security Account	3,477,319	3,389,819	3,818,855	3,668,355	3,608,355
Victorian Loans Redemption Fund	330,090	369,079	390,437	391,286	446,216
Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund	733,858	786,680	893,858	1,029,740	1,176,152

TRUST FUNDS : 1912 TO 1916—*continued.*

Accounts.	Credit Balance on 30th June.				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£	£	£	£	£
Railway Stores Suspense Account	203,658	123,162	119,951	101,647	141,260
Railway Rolling-stock Replacement Fund	46,291	59,499	68,419	73,522	46,644
Licensing Act 1906 Compensation Fund	43,217	47,462	56,473	66,775	64,877
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board	68,024	73,211	93,436	98,503	103,720
Port Phillip Pilot Sick and Superannuation Fund	57,941	57,946	57,900	57,900	57,900
Unused Roads and Water Frontages Fund	58,781	35,477	19,776	13,310	8,393
Municipal Sinking Funds	712,805	719,600	683,049	657,373	606,076
Assurance Fund (Land Titles)	192,371	168,384	177,213	185,596	121,071
Intestate Estates ...	78,504	79,979	85,686	78,773	84,896
Lunatic Patients' Estates	47,140	34,040	40,920	41,632	41,158
Trustee and Assurance Companies	131,390	126,390	131,390	412,390	419,890
Closer Settlement Fund	38,098	15,220	89,217	61,125	66,516
Mallee Land Account	29,484	55,688	65,999	53,670	70,093
Coal Mines Sinking Fund	6,046	16,962	26,953	38,535	50,490
Coal Mines Depreciation Fund	14,490	25,001	45,638	75,977	95,858
Country Roads Board Fund	...	43,766	79,905	36,191	51,628
Developmental Railways Account	...	62,120	9,459	39,858	64,155
Other Funds ...	1,492,118	1,672,265	1,298,257	1,337,611	1,180,056
Total ...	8,401,665	8,223,115	8,501,156	8,768,134	8,754,194
How Invested :—					
In State Debentures, Bonds, or Stock	2,853,954	2,967,456	3,014,424	3,515,867	3,591,724
In Bank Deposit Receipts, Cash, and Advances to Revenue, &c.	5,547,711	5,255,659	5,486,732	5,252,267	5,162,470

Of the accumulated revenue deficiency on 30th June, 1916, £288,805 has been met from the last item in the above return.

The Municipalities' Loans Extension Act was passed in 1898 to relieve any municipality which desired relief from further contributions to its loan sinking fund. The amount already to the credit of the sinking fund of any municipality which takes advantage of the Act is allowed to accumulate with interest, and at the maturity of the loan the Government will, by the sale of inscribed stock, pay the difference between the amount at credit of the fund and the amount of the loan to be redeemed, the municipality repaying to the Government, in half-yearly instalments, the amount so paid. The amount of stock inscribed under the Municipalities' Loans Extension Act, which was not sold on 30th June, 1916, was £1,009,208. The amount of money to the credit of the municipal sinking funds, which has not materially altered during recent years, was, on 30th June, 1916, £606,076.

COMMONWEALTH FINANCE IN VICTORIA.

A statement of the Commonwealth revenue and expenditure in Victoria for the last five years is as follows:—

COMMONWEALTH REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE IN THE STATE OF VICTORIA (ESTIMATED): 1911-12 to 1915-16.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
REVENUE.					
Customs Duties... ..	£ 3,566,891	£ 4,091,761	£ 3,783,064	£ 3,539,654	£ 4,214,997
Excise Duties	892,929	655,558	645,345	817,175	927,701
Post, Telegraph, &c. ...	1,049,362	1,119,417	1,191,191	1,220,578	1,350,922
Income Tax ... ..	...	...	...	...	890,000
Land Tax	357,279	393,664	422,127	483,826	469,821
Probate Duty ... ..	...	...	...	8,588	198,043
Miscellaneous	119,539	121,609	149,273	190,179	498,516
Total	5,986,000	6,382,000	6,191,000	6,260,000	8,550,000
EXPENDITURE.					
Trade and Customs	74,994	83,179	82,062	80,991	84,978
Post, Telegraph, &c. ...	1,208,848	1,334,295	1,497,170	1,488,969	1,448,041
Defence ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
New Expenditure	2,795,501	2,946,693	2,684,488	7,048,146	5,116,514
Miscellaneous ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Payment to the State Government	1,667,657	1,691,833	1,733,280	1,757,894	1,743,467
Total	5,747,000	6,106,000	5,997,000	10,376,000	8,393,000

As the Federal Treasurer has abandoned the practice of recording the Commonwealth revenue and expenditure according to the State in which it was earned or incurred since 30th June, 1910, only an estimate can be given of the Commonwealth revenue and expenditure in Victoria. The figures relating to Customs and Excise duties shown in the above table are by comparison with those

for 1909-10 and earlier years somewhat high, as they represent the total amounts collected within the State, less drawbacks and refunds, whereas in the years prior to 1910-11, in addition to the deductions on account of drawbacks and refunds, the duties collected on goods which were subsequently transferred to another State were debited to the exporting and credited to the importing State. The balance of trade between the States in goods of other than Australian origin is against Victoria from a Customs revenue stand-point.

COMMONWEALTH AND STATE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Commonwealth and State Finance.

The total Government revenue and expenditure within the State of Victoria is shown by combining State and Commonwealth receipts and expenditure. The figures relating to the principal items, subject to the qualification mentioned in the preceding paragraph, are given in the following table:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF COMMONWEALTH AND STATE COMBINED: 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
REVENUE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs and Excise ...	4,459,820	4,747,319	4,428,409	4,356,829	5,142,698
Post, Telegraph, &c. ...	1,049,362	1,119,417	1,191,191	1,220,578	1,350,922
Railways ...	5,237,466	5,250,599	5,568,039	5,170,020	5,727,275
State Taxation ...	1,597,266	1,672,686	1,693,336	1,762,041	2,074,839
Other sources ...	2,156,269	2,409,091	2,534,782	2,521,655	3,981,674
Total Revenue ...	14,500,183	15,199,112	15,415,757	15,031,123	18,277,408
EXPENDITURE.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Customs and Excise ...	74,994	83,179	82,062	80,991	84,978
Post, Telegraph, &c. ...	1,208,848	1,384,295	1,497,170	1,488,969	1,448,041
Railways ...	3,356,714	3,499,832	3,781,671	4,144,959	4,028,449
Public Instruction*	1,066,727	1,058,265	1,105,261	1,154,710	1,138,489
Public Debt (Victoria)— Interest and Expenses	2,096,198	2,178,055	2,298,005	2,439,180	2,706,313
Redemption ...	215,909	237,269	204,745	211,117	266,599
Other Expenditure ...	6,231,339	6,493,013	6,239,524	10,805,148	8,660,027
Total Expenditure	14,250,729	14,893,908	15,208,438	20,325,074	18,332,896

* Primary and Technical Schools, and University.

In 1900-1901, when the State Tariff was in force, the Customs and Excise revenue was £2,558,290, and under the Commonwealth

Tariff this was not exceeded until 1906-7, when an increase of £161,141 was shown. The figures for the last five years are somewhat overstated for the reasons mentioned on pages 170 and 171, and show, when compared with 1900-1, an average increase of £2,068,725.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

Commonwealth, State, and Local Finance. A statement of the ordinary revenue and expenditure and of the loan expenditure of the Federal Government in Victoria, also of the State Government and of the municipal and local bodies, during the last five years will be found in the next table. From the totals of revenue and expenditure the amounts received by one body from another have been deducted:—

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE: 1912 TO 1916.

	Financial Year ended in—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Revenue.</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Government—					
Federal ..	5,986,000	6,382,000	6,191,000	6,260,000	8,550,000
State ..	8,449,313	8,752,242	9,162,474	8,711,427	9,667,712
Municipal ..	1,703,125	1,858,322	1,952,534	1,988,189	2,104,987
Harbor Trusts ..	307,776	315,104	328,011	281,333	290,355
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works ..	613,345	652,229	716,772	797,930	769,542
Fire Brigades Boards	33,418	36,994	37,447	48,631	47,296
Total ..	17,092,977	17,996,891	18,388,238	18,087,510	21,429,892
<i>Ordinary Expenditure.</i>					
Government—					
Federal ..	5,747,000	6,106,000	5,997,000	10,376,000	8,393,000
State ..	8,438,859	8,723,038	9,149,155	9,889,378	9,880,200
Municipal ..	1,808,715	1,850,737	1,984,486	2,020,380	2,138,727
Harbor Trusts ..	444,847*	491,735*	515,229*	209,436	273,269
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works ..	575,266	594,425	636,892	648,734	738,246
Fire Brigades Boards	38,393	32,111	38,623	44,428	42,071
Total ..	17,053,080	17,798,046	18,321,385	23,188,356	21,465,513

* Including expenditure from loans.

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE :
1912 TO 1916—*continued.*

	Financial Year ended in—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Loan Expenditure.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Government—					
Federal	193,446	346,507	624,681	623,824	11,580,148
State	2,974,149	2,693,844	3,276,994	5,351,830	4,473,569
Municipal	311,956	407,477	344,811	439,973	549,714
Harbor Trusts .. .. .	..	..	..	321,262	327,147
Melbourne and Metro- politan Board of Works	420,091	647,441	441,285	454,680	426,768
Fire Brigades Boards	418	14,796	19,373	28,808	14,711
Total	3,900,060	4,110,065	4,707,144	7,220,377	17,372,057
 <i>Expenditure—Grand Total</i>	 20,953,140	 21,908,111	 23,028,529	 30,408,733	 38,837,570
 Per Head of Popula- tion—					
Revenue	£ s. d. 12 15 3	£ s. d. 13 0 9	£ s. d. 13 0 5	£ s. d. 12 12 10	£ s. d. 15 2 4
 Ordinary Expen- diture	 12 14 8	 12 17 10	 12 19 6	 16 4 2	 15 2 10
Loan Expenditure	2 18 3	2 19 6	3 6 8	5 0 11	12 5 1

The loan expenditure of the Federal Government for 1915-16, exclusive of loans to the States, amounted to £40,282,909; the proportion shown in the table above as being chargeable to Victoria has been calculated on a population basis.

The total revenues in Victoria of the Federal and State Governments, the municipalities, and other corporations in the financial year 1916 amounted to 21½ millions sterling, which was £3,342,382 more than the revenues of the previous year. The total expenditure in 1916 exceeded that of 1915 by £8,428,837, or 28 per cent.

PUBLIC DEBT.

The following statement shows the result of loan transactions including Treasury Bonds in aid of revenue to 30th June, 1916, with the exception of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures taken over, which are not treated in the Treasury accounts as a loan raised by the State :—

**CASH RECEIPTS AND LOANS RAISED AND REDEEMED TO
30TH JUNE, 1916.**

	£	s.	d.
Cash received	123,571,815	11	1
Discount and expenses after deducting pre- miums received	2,309,570	2	9
<hr/>			
Securities issued	125,881,385	13	10
Securities redeemed	49,107,353	7	4
<hr/>			
Loans outstanding	76,774,032	6	6*
<hr/>			

It will be seen that upon the transactions to date, for cash amounting to £123,571,816, securities representing £125,881,386 were issued, which is equivalent to the State receiving £98 3s. 4d. in cash for every £100 bond given.

Excluding London debentures for £388,100 taken over with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway and since paid off, the total amount of the loans which have been raised in London at varying rates of interest is £79,318,376 after allowing for conversion operations. The amount which has been paid off by means of new loans is £34,921,730 and by means of appropriations from revenue, &c., £1,822,775, while £413,305 has been transferred to the Melbourne register, leaving a balance due in London on 30th June, 1916, of £42,160,566, consisting of debentures amounting to £2,497,400, and inscribed stock £39,663,166. The following table gives particulars respecting the various loans which have been raised in London since 1859, together with the average prices obtained

* There are, in addition to this amount, the overdue debentures for £1,000, which are referred to further on.

after deducting flotation expenses as well as accrued interest, and the rates of interest to which such prices are equivalent :—

LOANS FLOATED IN LONDON : 1859 TO 1916.

When Raised.	Debentures or Stock.				Average Price Obtained per £100 Debenture Stock or Bond.		Actual Rate of Interest per £100 net.
	Currency.		Amount Sold.	Rate of Interest.	Ex Accrued Interest.	Ex Interest and Expenses. (Net Proceeds.)	
	When Due.	No. of Years.					
1859	1883	24	£ 1,000,000	6	£ s. d. 105 1 11½	£ s. d. 103 18 11½	£ s. d. 5 14 0
"	"	"	750,000	6	107 17 7½	106 14 7½	5 9 10
1860	"	23	1,837,500	6	104 17 10½	103 14 10½	5 14 1
"	1884	"	812,500				
1861	1885	24	1,000,000	6	103 1 6½	101 18 6½	5 17 0
1862	"	23	1,600,000	6	102 19 7	101 16 7	5 17 2
1866	1891	25	850,000	6	100 8 11½	99 5 11½	6 1 1
1869	1894	"	588,000	6	98 4 2½	97 1 2½	5 4 3
1870	"	24	1,518,400	5	100 17 6½	99 14 6½	5 0 5
1874	1899	25	1,500,000	4	90 2 7	88 19 7	4 15 5
1876	1901	"	500,000	4	94 16 10½	93 18 11½	4 8 1
"	"	"	2,500,000				
1878	1904	26	457,000	4	"	"	"
1879	"	25	3,000,000	4½	97 17 5½	96 19 2½	4 14 0
1880	"	24	2,000,000	4½	103 3 8½	102 5 11	4 6 11
1915	1920-25	5-10	784,700	4½	100 0 0	98 2 9	4 18 6
1916	1920-22	4-6	550,000	5½	"	"	"
"	"	"	100,000	5½	"	"	"
			<i>Stock.</i>				
1883	1907	24	4,000,000	4	98 16 8½	97 13 7½	4 8 0
"	1908	"	2,000,000	4	97 14 1½	96 10 11½	4 4 6
"	1913	29	1,957,500	4	98 5 7	97 2 8½	4 8 3
1884	1918-22	34	2,042,500				
1885	1919	34	3,180,620	4	98 18 6½	97 15 9½	4 2 5
"	"	"	819,380	4	105 12 3½	104 9 0	3 15 5
1886	1920	"	1,500,000				
1887	"	33	3,000,000	4	102 5 6½	101 2 9	3 18 9
1888	"	32	1,500,000	4	108 1 1½	106 18 0½	3 12 9
1889	1923	34	3,000,000	3½	102 14 10	101 11 11½	3 8 5
1890	"	33	4,000,000	3½	100 2 4	98 19 6	3 11 1
1891	1921-6	30-35	850,000	3½	96 3 7	95 0 10	3 15 6
"	"	"	2,150,000				
1892	"	29-34	2,000,000	3½	91 13 7	90 10 8	4 1 5
1893	1911-26	17-32	2,107,000	4	94 7 5	93 4 8	4 11 7
1899	1929-49	30-50	1,600,000	3	94 7 1	93 4 2	3 7 3
1901	"	28-48	3,000,000	3	92 2 1	89 14 5	3 11 10
1902	"	27-47	1,000,000	3	95 16 6½	93 8 3½	3 7 6
1903	"	26-46	3,148,176	3½	91 14 9½	89 8 0	4 3 8
1906	"	23-43	587,808				
1907	"	22-42	702,140	3	100 0 0	98 19 1	3 11 5
1909	"	20-40	1,500,000				
1910	"	19-39	538,352	3½	99 2 6	97 10 0	3 13 8
1913	1918-22	5-9	3,000,000	4	98 0 0	96 4 7	4 17 4
"	1940-60	27-47	1,000,000	4	97 15 0	95 7 5	4 5 10
"	"	"	2,000,000	4	96 18 9	94 9 10	4 7 0
1915	1920-25	5-10	1,465,300	4½	100 0 0	98 4 3½	4 18 2
			<i>Treasury-bonds</i>				
1892	1893	1	1,000,000	4½	99 3 11	99 1 5	5 0 0
1898	1900	2	500,000	3½	100 0 0	100 0 0	3 15 0
1903	1906	3	2,254,800	4	99 10 8½	96 18 10	5 2 7
Total			78,752,276				
Paid off			36,178,405				
Transferred to Melbourne register ..			413,305				
Outstanding			42,160,566				

The figures in the last column represent the rates of interest payable by the State for the actual amount of money which was obtained after deduction of all expenses that had been incurred in connexion with the flotation, and with allowance for redemption at par on maturity.

The nominal rate of interest has varied from 6 per cent. for earlier loans to 3 per cent. for those of later date, and the actual rate paid by the Government has varied from 6 per cent. in 1866 to $3\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. in 1899 and 1902. The first six loans raised were obtained at about $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., but money was secured in 1870 at 5 per cent. In 1883 it was obtained at about $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., in 1885 at $4\frac{1}{2}$, in 1888 at $3\frac{5}{8}$, and in 1889 at less than $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. In 1891 there was a reaction, when the money obtained cost $3\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and the rate was further increased to over $4\frac{1}{2}$ in 1893, while 5 per cent. was paid on short-dated Treasury bonds issued in 1892. Some later loans show a marked improvement, as in 1899 the actual rate of interest was less than $3\frac{3}{8}$ per cent., being the lowest rate realized on loans raised in London, while for loans floated in 1901 and 1907 the money was obtained at slightly over $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; for a loan in 1902 the rate was $3\frac{3}{8}$ per cent., for one in 1909 it was $3\frac{7}{8}$ per cent., and in 1910 portion of a loan falling due was converted at $3\frac{3}{8}$ per cent. On the other hand, the interest on loans raised in 1903 was as high as $5\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. on short-dated Treasury bonds, and $4\frac{1}{8}$ per cent. on stock sold, on loans obtained in 1913 the average rate was $4\frac{3}{8}$ per cent., and on those raised in 1915 it was nearly 5 per cent. Particulars in regard to loans raised in 1916 are not yet available.

Excluding Treasury bonds in aid of revenue and Victorian debentures for £63,000 taken over with the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway, of which £62,000 have since been paid off, the total amount of the loans which have been floated in Melbourne after conversion operations is £40,902,927. Of this amount £4,825,843 has been redeemed by loans, and £3,147,393 by revenue, &c., leaving due a balance of £32,929,691 on 30th June, 1916, consisting of debentures, £18,597,277, inscribed stock, £9,347,554, and Treasury bonds, £4,984,860. In addition, outstanding inscribed stock for £412,805 and debentures for £500 have been transferred from the London to the Melbourne register, so that of the debt outstanding the total amount payable in Melbourne is £33,342,996. The outstanding balance of loans payable in Melbourne amounted to £2,994,088 on 30th June, 1898, but during the last eighteen years the local debt has been increased by over 30 millions sterling. This increase has been brought about principally by the replacing of certain London loans as they fell due by local issues and by the raising of local loans to acquire estates for Closer Settlement purposes, &c.

Loans
Floated in
Melbourne.

The following is a statement of these loans, showing the amounts originally raised, the amounts converted or paid off, and the amounts outstanding on 30th June, 1916 :—

LOANS FLOATED IN MELBOURNE TO 30TH JUNE, 1916.

Authorization.		Loans.			Amounts.		Loans Outstanding on 30th June, 1916.
Act No.	Year.	Rate of Interest.	When due.	Amount.	Converted into Stock or Debentures.	Paid off.	
		Per cent.		£	£	£	£
<i>Debentures.</i>							
13 & 23	1854	6	1855-75	735,000	...	735,000	...
40	1855	6	1857-72	299,100	...	299,100	...
15	1856	6	1872-4	2,900	...	2,900	...
36	1857	6	1883-5-8	1,000,000	52,780	947,220	...
150	1862	6	1889	300,000	23,900	276,100	...
332	1868	5	1894	610,000	297,100	312,900	...
371	1870	5	...	100,000	100,000	...	...
1296	1893	4	1913-23	746,795	...	40	746,755
1440	1896	3	1913-22	63,000	...	...	63,000
1659	1900	3	1921-30	1,000,000	16,962	13,188	969,850
1753	1901	3	1923-32	500,000	3,948	128,152	367,900
1816	1903	3½	1907-8	93,869	...	93,869	...
1901	1904	3	1934-54	457,000	...	333,126	123,874
		3½	1913	18,000	...	18,000	...
		3½	1914-23	50,000	...	15,000	35,000
		3½	1918	18,000	...	...	18,000
		5	1919-20	50,000	...	...	50,000
		3½	1921	447,980	...	...	447,980
		3½	1922	366,660	...	...	366,660
		3½	1923	70,000	...	...	70,000
		3½	1923	4,700	...	...	4,700
		3½	1924	1,600	...	...	1,600
2629		4	1924	2,000	...	...	2,000
1962	1904	4	1925	8,200	...	...	8,200
		3½	1926-42	186,300	800	20,300	165,200
		3½	1925-40	60,000	...	...	60,000
		3½	1926-40	160,000	...	...	160,000
		3½	1927-32	72,100	...	...	72,100
		3½	1927	150,000	...	...	150,000
		3½	1928	77,000	...	...	77,000
		3½	1929	162,650	...	...	162,650
		3½	1930	182,000	...	...	182,000
		3½	1931	1,000,000	...	...	1,000,000
		3½	1931-46	15,400	...	...	15,400
		4	1936	300,000	300,000	...	...
		4	1926-41	285,880	2,400	...	283,480
1990	1905	3½	1926	100,000	...	...	100,000
		3½	1927-42	500	...	...	500
		3½	1927	52,000	...	...	52,000
		5	1917	9,040	...	...	9,040
		5	1918	473,000	...	...	473,000
		4	1919	56,400	...	...	56,400
		5	1920	10,000	...	...	10,000
2026	1906	4	1924	10,000	...	...	10,000

LOANS FLOATED IN MELBOURNE TO 30TH JUNE, 1916—continued.

Authorization.		Loans.			Amounts.		Loans Outstanding on 30th June, 1916.
Act No.	Year.	Rate of Interest.	When due.	Amount.	Converted into Stock or Debentures.	Paid off.	
		Per cent.		£	£	£	£
<i>Debentures—continued.</i>							
2026	1906	4½	1925	500,000	...	...	500,000
		3½	1926-41	9,000	...	...	9,000
		3½	1927-42	380,000	...	...	380,000
		4	1927	185,400	...	...	185,400
		3½	1928	400,000	...	...	400,000
		3½	1930	500,000	...	...	500,000
		3½	1931	61,648	...	...	61,648
		3½	1931-46	150,500	...	...	150,500
		3½	1932-46	51,500	...	...	51,500
		4	1934-49	5,300	...	...	5,300
		4	1916	400	...	...	400
		4	1918	12,700	...	...	12,700
		4	1919	51,000	...	...	51,000
		4	1921	7,500	...	...	7,500
041	1906	4	1923	600	...	...	600
		4	1924	15,600	...	...	15,600
		3½	1928-43	3,600	...	...	3,600
		3½	1929	16,000	...	...	16,000
		4	1929	210,000	...	...	210,000
		3½	1930	100,000	...	...	100,000
		3½	1928	75,500	...	...	75,500
		3½	1929	40,000	...	...	40,000
		3½	1928	345,000	...	...	345,000
		3½	1929	154,000	...	...	154,000
2053	1906	3½	1910-20	250,000	...	150,000	100,000
			1919	130,650	...	...	130,650
2116	1907	3½	1929	4,850	...	...	4,850
			1929-44	400	...	...	400
2163	1909	3½	1921	1,788,220	...	...	1,788,220
			1922	1,307,100	...	...	1,307,100
2286	1911	3½	1932	514,350	...	...	514,350
			1918	350,000	...	...	350,000
2323	1911	3½	1918-19	25,000	...	...	25,000
			1919-20	75,000	...	...	75,000
2635	1912	4	1920	14,400	...	...	14,400
			1921-3	1,000	...	...	1,000
2415	1912	4½	1927	60,000	...	...	60,000
			1930	40,000	...	...	40,000
2429	1912	4	1919	170,000	...	...	170,000
			1920	4,000	...	...	4,000
2429	1912	3½	1922	59,590	...	...	59,590
			1923	56,250	...	...	56,250
2429	1912	4	1925	500	...	...	500
			1925	3,400	...	...	3,400
			1927	800	...	...	800
			1929	20,000	...	...	20,000

LOANS FLOATED IN MELBOURNE TO 30TH JUNE, 1916—continued.

Authorization.		Loans.			Amounts.		Loans Out- standing on 30th June, 1916.			
Act No.	Year.	Rate of Interest.	When due.	Amount.	Converted into Stock or Debentures.	Paid off.				
		Per cent.		£	£	£	£			
<i>Debentures—continued.</i>										
		4	1915	249,000	...	249,000	...			
2481	1914	4½	1917	575,000	...	...	575,000	
		4	1924	8,400	...	...	8,400	
		4	1925	500	...	...	500	
		4	1929	140,000	...	...	140,000	
2531	1914	4½	1917	100,000	...	...	100,000	
		4½	1918	2,575,000	...	...	2,575,000	
2568	1914	4½	1918	200,000	...	...	200,000	
		4½	1919	150,000	...	...	150,000	
		4½	1919	45,000	...	...	45,000	
2591	1915	4½	1920	179,530	...	...	179,530	
		4½	"	55,000	...	...	55,000	
		5	1918-19	1,000	...	...	1,000	
2772	1915	5	1919	3,500	...	...	3,500	
		5	1919-20	3,200	...	...	3,200	
		5	1919-21	1,100	...	...	1,100	
2794	1915	4½	1918	100,000	...	...	100,000	
		5	1919-20	125,000	...	...	125,000	
		4½	1920	20,000	...	...	20,000	
<i>Inscribed Stock.</i>										
428	1872	4	1897	1,113,000	} 2,659,613	...	...	
439	1872	4	"	86,780						
			"	13,102						
741	1882	4	"	167,600						
963	1887	4	"	130,000						
1015	1889	4	"	750,000						
1341	1893	4	"	150,000						
1369	1895	4	"	249,131						
1468	1896	3	1917*	2,290,482						
1564	1898	3	"	500,000						
1623	1899	3	"	500,000	...	878,905	2,517,773			
1552	1898	3	"	106,196	} ...	24,947	186,188			
1602 } 1749 }	1898	3	"	211,135						
1659	1900	3	1917*	14,162				14,162
			1921-30	2,800				2,800
1753	1901	3	1917*	3,948				3,948
		3½	1917*	326,406				326,406
		4	"	10,800				10,800
		3½	1919	351,697				351,697
		4	1920	1,706				1,706
2629	1904	3½	1921	32,525				32,525
1962		4½	1922	98,500	...	...	98,500	
		3½	1923	268,000	...	...	268,000	
		3½	"	3,383	...	...	3,383	
		4	"	1,905	...	...	1,905	

* Or at any time thereafter, at option of the Government, upon twelve months' notice.

LOANS FLOATED IN MELBOURNE TO 30TH JUNE, 1916—continued.

Authorisation.		Loans.			Amounts.		Loans Outstanding on 30th June, 1916.	
Act No.	Year.	Rate of Interest.	When due.	Amount.	Converted into Stock or Debentures.	Paid off.		
		Per cent		£	£	£	£	
<i>Inscribed Stock—continued.</i>								
2629	1904	3½	1924	85,859	...	...	85,859
		3½	1927-42	800	...	...	800
1962		4	1927	1,000	...	...	1,000
		4	1936	300,000	...	...	300,000
1980	1905	3½	1917*	113,735	...	5,000	108,735	
		3½	1926-41	2,400	...	...	2,400
		4½	1916	25,000	...	...	25,000
		5	1917*	35,257	...	...	35,257
		3½	"	779,885	...	100,000	679,885	
		4½	"	20,000	...	...	20,000
		5	"	25,000	...	...	25,000
		5	1918	44,418	...	...	44,418
		5	1918-19	35,000	...	...	35,000
2026	1906	4	1917*	33,128	...	...	33,128
		4	1919	42,200	...	...	42,200
		5	"	89,185	...	...	89,185
		5	1919-20	500	...	...	500
		5	1921	64,000	...	...	64,000
		4	"	75,000	...	...	75,000
		4	1923	700	...	...	700
		4	1924	4,750	...	...	4,750
		4	1927	241,300	...	...	241,300
		3½	1917*	163,916	...	2,850	161,066	
		4	"	400	...	...	400
		5	1918	26,100	...	...	26,100
		5	1919	11,000	...	...	11,000
	4	"	22,240	...	...	22,240	
	4	1920	2,400	...	...	2,400	
2041	1906	4½	1922	12,000	...	...	12,000
		3½	1923	151,515	...	...	151,515
		4	"	19,045	...	...	19,045
		4	1924	36,500	...	...	36,500
		3½	"	1,737	...	...	1,737
		4	1927	750	...	...	750
		4	1930	20,000	...	...	20,000
2053		1906	3½	1917*	46,026	46,026
2116		1907	3½	"	1,000	1,000
2161		1909	3	"	500,000	...	350	499,650
2163	1909	3½	"	80,000	...	22,209	57,791	
2218	1910	3½	"	29,750	...	...	29,750
2240	1910	3½	"	150,000	...	7,050	142,950	
		"	"	11,800	...	...	11,800
		"	"	70,707	...	...	70,707
2286		1911	3½	1919	30,000	30,000
			3½	1922	75,758	75,758
	3½		1923	23,515	...	...	23,515

* Or at any time thereafter, at option of the Government, upon twelve months' notice.

LOANS FLOATED IN MELBOURNE TO 30TH JUNE, 1916—continued.

Authorization.		Loans.			Amounts.		Loans Outstanding on 30th June, 1916.
Act No.	Year.	Rate of Interest	When due.	Amount.	Converted into Stock or Debentures.	Paid off.	
		Per cent.		£	£	£	£
<i>Inscribed Stock—continued.</i>							
2308	1911	4	1931†	376,004	...	2,400	378,604
		4	1916	1,500	...	250	1,250
		4	1917*	6,000	...	...	6,000
		3½	"	28,550	...	...	28,550
2323	1911	4	1918	2,500	...	...	2,500
		3½	1919	77,778	...	...	77,778
		4	"	700	...	...	700
		4	1920	400	...	...	400
		4	1922	10,000	...	...	10,000
		5	1919	14,680	...	...	14,680
		4	"	6,000	...	...	6,000
		5	1919-20	1,000	...	...	1,000
		5	1919-21	1,000	...	...	1,000
2635	1912	4½	1920	25,000	...	...	25,000
2415		5	1921	25,000	...	...	25,000
		3½	"	75,717	...	...	75,717
		4½	1922	6,000	...	...	6,000
		3½	1923	26,818	...	...	26,818
		4	1925	8,500	...	...	8,500
		4	1914-15	7,750	...	7,750	...
		3½	1915-18	20,000	...	...	20,000
		3	1917*	5,400	...	...	5,400
		3½	"	46,940	...	...	46,940
		4	"	8,000	...	...	8,000
		4	1918	86,150	...	...	86,150
2429	1912	3½	1919	249,818	...	...	249,818
		4	1921	1,000	...	...	1,000
		4½	1922	30,000	...	...	30,000
		3½	"	35,000	...	...	35,000
		3½	1923	87,909	...	...	87,909
		4	"	70,000	...	...	70,000
		3½	1924	30,303	...	...	30,303
		4	"	6,750	...	...	6,750
		4	1925	440	...	...	440
		4	1916	1,100	...	...	1,100
		4	1915-17	200	...	...	200
		4	1917*	173,516	...	28,500	145,016
2481	1914	4	1918	1,200	...	130	1,070
		4	1919	54,400	...	50,000	4,400
		4	1920	2,200	...	...	2,200
		3½	1921	16,758	...	...	16,758
		4	"	14,300	...	...	14,300

* Or at any time thereafter, at option of the Government, upon twelve months' notice.

† Or at any time thereafter, at option of either party, upon twelve months' notice.

LOANS FLOATED IN MELBOURNE TO 30TH JUNE, 1916—continued.

Authorization.		Loans.			Amounts.		Loans Outstanding on 30th June, 1916.
Act No.	Year.	Rate of Interest.	When due.	Amount.	Converted into Stock or Debenture.	Paid off.	
		Per cent.		£	£	£	£
<i>Inscribed Stock—continued.</i>							
2481	1914	4½	1921-22	34,500	...	...	34,500
			1924	201,717	...	...	201,717
			„	27,009	...	...	27,009
2531	1914	4	1927	200	...	...	200
			1917*	31,137	...	...	31,137
			1921-22	90,000	...	...	90,000
2568	1914	4	1917*	1,814	...	...	1,814
			1920	100,000	...	...	100,000
			1917*	15,554	...	...	15,554
2591	1915	4	„	11,450	...	...	11,450
			1918	20,000	...	...	20,000
			1919	5,500	...	...	5,500
			1920	6,600	...	...	6,600
			1922	7,500	...	...	7,500
			1925	1,200	...	...	1,200
			1917*	1,660	...	...	1,660
2772	1915	5	1918	9,082	...	...	9,082
			1918-19	24,000	...	...	24,000
			1919	4,540	...	...	4,540
2794	1915	5	1919-20	2,600	...	...	2,600
			1918-19	5,000	...	...	5,000
			1919	5,630	...	...	5,630
			1919	5,630	...	...	5,630
<i>Treasury Bonds.</i>							
1574	1898	3½	1901	500,000	...	500,000	...
1800	1902	3½	1907	1,000,000	...	1,000,000	...
			1915	500,000	...	500,000	...
1982	1905	3½	1916	2,767,000	...	1,249,000	1,518,000
			1917	3,014,860	...	...	3,014,860
			1921	352,000	...	...	352,000
			1922	100,000	...	...	100,000
			1922	100,000	...	...	100,000
Overdue debentures				1,000	...	...	1,000
Total, floated in Melbourne				44,361,430	3,457,503	7,973,236	32,930,691
Transferred from London Register ... ..				...	...	...	413,305
Total, payable in Melbourne				...	...	...	33,343,996

* Or at any time thereafter, at option of the Government, upon twelve months' notice.

Of the Victorian loans (exclusive of Treasury bonds in aid of revenue and of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway debentures) £2,337,000, *i.e.*, the total of those authorized prior to 1863, was at 6 per cent.; £1,864,975 was at 5 per cent.; and the balance (£40,158,455) was at rates varying from 3 to 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ per cent. Of the amount outstanding on 30th June, 1916, £1,154,975 is bearing interest at 5 per cent., £20,000 at 4 $\frac{7}{8}$ per cent., £440,100 at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., £279,530 at 4 $\frac{3}{8}$ per cent., £505,500 at 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ per cent., £3,900,000 at 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ per cent., £3,665,604 at 4 per cent., £267,683 at 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., £18,022,228 at 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and £5,087,376 at 3 per cent.

In addition to the ordinary expenditure from revenue, certain sums are disbursed annually for various purposes from amounts raised by means of loans. The following table shows the details of such expenditure in each of the last five years:—

LOAN EXPENDITURE: 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

(Excluding Loans in Aid of Revenue.)

Works.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
Railways	1,703,453	1,700,309	2,361,600	2,809,926	2,440,317
Water Supply ..	259,281	267,560	229,127	304,766	347,135
Closer Settlement and Small Holdings ..	889,000	576,610	303,935	173,752	86,938
Wire Netting ..	21,116	54,061	62,428	19,732	3,078
State Coal Mine ..	48,369	446	69,992	20,764	..
State Schools ..	..	..	84,786	200,951	134,441
Country Roads ..	..	..	18,424	274,362	495,062
Other Public Works	52,930	94,858	146,642	647,577	521,128
Total ..	2,974,149	2,693,844	3,276,994	4,451,830	4,028,099
Per Head of Population ..	£ s. d. 2 4 6	£ s. d. 1 19 0	£ s. d. 2 6 5	£ s. d. 3 2 5	£ s. d. 2 16 10

The following statement shows the average annual amount expended in each decade since 1881, and in each of the last five years:—

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF LOAN EXPENDITURE PER ANNUM.

	£
10 years ended 30th June, 1891	2,270,128
10 years ended 30th June, 1901	755,194
10 years ended 30th June, 1911	976,497
Year ended 30th June, 1912	2,974,149
Year ended 30th June, 1913	2,693,844
Year ended 30th June, 1914	3,276,994
Year ended 30th June, 1915	4,451,830
Year ended 30th June, 1916	4,028,099

The amount of the loans raised to 30th June, 1916, exclusive of temporary Treasury bonds in aid of revenue, but inclusive of Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures taken over, was £120,672,403, and of this sum a total of £45,167,841 (exclusive of conversion loans) had been repaid, viz., £4,970,168 out of the general revenue, and £40,197,673 out of the proceeds of redemption loans. The balance outstanding on 30th June, 1916, was £75,504,562. The purposes for which the amount outstanding was borrowed and the annual interest payable thereon are as follows:—

PURPOSES FOR WHICH LOANS WERE RAISED.

Public Borrowings Contracted for—	Amount of Loans Outstanding on 30th June, 1916	Annual Interest Payable.
	£	£
REVENUE-YIELDING WORKS.		
Railways and Tramways	54,297,366	2,013,103
Waterworks—Melbourne	1,559,786	55,884
" Country	8,494,630	300,222
Harbors	970,869	36,137
Graving Dock	287,759	9,923
Agriculture and Advances to Farmers, &c.	593,060	24,697
Closer Settlement	4,878,785	173,316
Development of Mining	312,538	11,036
Total Revenue-yielding Works	71,394,793	2,624,318
OTHER WORKS OF A PERMANENT CHARACTER.		
Public Offices, Law Courts, and Parliament Houses	510,018	17,884
Defence Works	151,469	5,044
State Schools, Technical Schools, and University	1,651,075	56,499
Other	1,797,207	72,317
Total other Permanent Works	4,109,769	151,744
Net Borrowings	75,504,562	2,776,062

Out of the proceeds of these loans outstanding on 30th June, 1916, sums not yet expended amount in the aggregate to £914,934 of which £496,628 is for railways, £119,018 for country water supply, £38,913 for State Schools, &c., and £260,375 for different other services. Of the amount of the loans outstanding, 94½ per cent. has been allotted to revenue-yielding works, as detailed above.

The total amount of loans outstanding on 30th June, 1916, exclusive of debentures for £1,000 overdue since 1897 and of Treasury bonds in aid of revenue, was £75,503,562, and of this sum £21,095,177 was in the form of debentures; £39,663,166 of inscribed stock (London Register); £9,760,359 of inscribed stock (Melbourne Register); and £4,984,860 of Treasury bonds. The following are the dates on which these loans are repayable, the place where repayable (Melbourne or London) being indicated:—

TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916, AND DATES WHEN REPAYABLE.

Under Act No.	When Repayable.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Amount Repayable.		
			In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
	<i>Debentures.</i>		£	£	£
1296	1st April, 1913-23 ...	4	746,755	...	746,755
1440	" 1913-22 ...	3	63,000	...	63,000
1659	1st July, 1921-30 ...	3	969,850	...	969,850
1753	1st Jan., 1923-32 ...	3	367,900	...	367,900
1901	" 1934-54 ...	3	123,874	...	123,874
	15th April, 1914-23 ...	3½	35,000	...	35,000
	1st March, 1918 ...	3¾	18,000	...	18,000
	1st April, 1919-20 ...	5	50,000	...	50,000
	" 1921 ...	3½	447,980	...	447,980
	" 1922 ...	3½	300,000	...	300,000
	1st July, 1922 ...	3½	66,660	...	66,660
	" 1923 ...	3½	70,000	...	70,000
	29th Aug., 1923 ...	3¾	3,200	...	3,200
	22nd Oct., 1923 ...	3¾	1,500	...	1,500
	1st April, 1924 ...	3¾	1,600	...	1,600
	1st Oct., 1924	4	2,000	...	2,000
	1st April, 1925 ...	4	8,200	...	8,200
2629	29th Nov., 1925-40 ...	3¾	60,000	...	60,000
1962	24th May, 1926 ...	3½	3,000	...	3,000
	27th Feb., 1926, to 29th Nov., 1940 ...	3¾	160,000	...	160,000
	2nd April, 1926-29th Nov., 1940 ...	3½	28,900	...	28,900
	December, 1926-1941 ...	3½	24,500	...	29,500
	1st Feb., 1927-1942 ...	3½	103,800	...	103,800
	April, 1927 ...	3½	150,000	...	150,000
	1st Nov., 1927-32 ...	3½	41,400	...	41,400
	2nd Dec., 1927-32 ...	3½	30,700	...	30,700
	1st July, 1928 ...	3½	77,000	...	77,000
	1st Jan., 1929 ...	3½	60,000	...	60,000
	30th June, 1929 ...	3½	2,650	...	2,650
	31st Dec., 1929 ...	3½	100,000	...	100,000

TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916, AND DATES WHEN
REPAYABLE—*continued.*

Under Act No.	When Repayable.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Amount Repayable.		
			In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
	<i>Debentures—continued.</i>		£	£	£
2629	1st July, 1930	3½	82,000	...	82,000
	1st Oct., 1930	3½	100,000	...	100,000
	1st March, 1931-46	3½	15,400	...	15,400
1962	1st April, 1931... ..	3½	800,000	...	800,000
	1st Oct., 1931	3½	200,000	...	200,000
1990	1st April, 1926-41	3½	283,480	...	283,480
	18th Oct., 1926	3½	100,000	...	100,000
	1st April, 1927-42	3½	500	...	500
	1st July, 1927... ..	3½	6,000	...	6,000
	1st October, 1927	3½	46,000	...	46,000
	28th Feb., 1917	5	9,040	...	9,040
	1st April, 1918	5	473,000	...	473,000
	1st March, 1919	4	40,000	...	40,000
	1st April, 1919	5	16,400	...	16,400
	„ 1920	5	10,000	...	10,000
1st March, 1924	4	10,000	...	10,000	
1st July, 1925... ..	4½	500,000	...	500,000	
1st Oct., 1926-41	3½	9,000	...	9,000	
1st April, 1927	4	185,400	...	185,400	
2026	16th April, 1927-42	3½	280,000	...	280,000
	1st July, 1927-42	3½	100,000	...	100,000
	„ 1928	3½	400,000	...	400,000
	1st Oct., 1930	3½	500,000	...	500,000
	1st Jan., 1931	3½	61,648	...	61,648
	24th Oct., 1931-46	3½	100,000	...	100,000
	29th Dec., 1931, to 24th Oct., 1946	3½	50,500	...	50,500
	7th Feb., 1932, to 24th Oct., 1946	3½	50,500	...	50,500
	1st May, 1932, to 24th Oct., 1946	3½	1,000	...	1,000
	1st Jan., 1934-49	4	5,300	...	5,300
2041	1st Oct., 1916	4	400	...	400
	1st Dec., 1918	4	12,700	...	12,700
	1st March, 1919	4	51,000	...	51,000
	1st July, 1921	4	7,500	...	7,500
	1st Oct., 1923	4	600	...	600
	1st April, 1924	4	200	...	200
	1st July, 1924	4	2,300	...	2,300
	1st Oct., 1924	4	13,100	...	13,100
	1st Jan., 1928-43	3½	3,600	...	3,600
	„ 1929	3½	16,000	...	16,000
2053	„ 1928	4	50,000	...	50,000
	1st April, 1929	4	20,000	...	20,000
	1st May, 1929	4	100,000	...	100,000
	1st June, 1929	4	30,000	...	30,000
	1st Oct., 1929... ..	4	10,000	...	10,000
	1st Oct., 1930	3½	100,000	...	100,000
	1st July, 1928	3½	75,500	...	75,500
	1st Jan., 1929	3½	40,000	...	40,000

**TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916, AND DATES WHEN
REPAYABLE—continued**

Under Act No.	When Repayable.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Amount Repayable.		
			In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
	<i>Debentures—continued.</i>		£	£	£
2116	1st July, 1928 ...	3½	345,000	...	345,000
	1st Jan., 1929 ...	3½	154,000	...	154,000
2163	1st Aug., 1915, to 1st Feb., 1920 ...	3½	100,000	...	100,000
	1st April, 1919 ...	3½	130,650	...	130,650
	30th June, 1929 ...	3½	4,850	...	4,850
2286	1st Oct., 1929-44 ...	3½	400	...	400
	1st April, 1921... ..	3½	788,220	...	788,220
	1st May, 1921 ...	3½	1,000,000	...	1,000,000
2323	1st April, 1922 ...	3½	1,307,100	...	1,307,100
	" 1932 ...	3½	514,350	...	514,350
2635	15th " March, 1918 ...	4½	50,000	...	50,000
	15th May, 1918 ...	4½	100,000	...	100,000
	15th Oct., 1918 ...	4½	100,000	...	100,000
	29th Dec., 1918 ...	4½	100,000	...	100,000
	1st July, 1918-19 ...	4½	25,000	...	25,000
2415	1st April, 1919-20 ...	5	75,000	...	75,000
	1st July, 1920 ...	4	14,400	...	14,400
2429	1st April, 1921-3 ...	4½	1,000	...	1,000
	1st Aug., 1920-22 ...	5½	...	100,000	100,000
	1st July, 1927 ...	4½	60,000	...	60,000
	1st April, 1930 ...	4	20,000	...	20,000
	1st July, 1930 ..	4	20,000	...	20,000
	1st March, 1919 ...	4	170,000	...	170,000
	1st Oct., 1920 ...	4	4,000	...	4,000
	1st July, 1922 ..	3½	59,590	...	59,590
	" 1923 ...	3½	56,250	...	56,250
	1st Oct., 1923 ...	4	500	...	500
	1st Jan., 1925 ...	4	3,400	...	3,400
	2481	1st April, 1927 ...	4	800	...	800
1st Jan., 1929 ...		4	20,000	...	20,000
28th Nov., 1917 ...		4½	350,000	...	350,000
16th Dec., 1917 ...		4½	225,000	...	225,000
" 1924 ...		4	8,400	...	8,400
1st Jan., 1925 ...		4	500	...	500
1st July, 1929 ...		4	110,000	...	110,000
1st Aug., 1929 ...		4	30,000	...	30,000
15th Dec., 1917 ...		4½	100,000	...	100,000
" Jan., 1918 ...		4½	225,000	...	225,000
2531	15th Feb., 1918 ...	4½	225,000	...	225,000
	15th March, 1918 ...	4½	275,000	...	275,000
	15th April, 1918 ...	4½	325,000	...	325,000
	15th May, 1918 ...	4½	225,000	...	225,000
	15th July, 1918 ...	4½	325,000	...	325,000
	16th Aug., 1918 ...	4½	325,000	...	325,000
	15th Sept., 1918 ...	4½	325,000	...	325,000
	15th Oct., 1918 ...	4½	225,000	...	225,000
	29th Dec., 1918 ...	4½	100,000	...	100,000
	1st April, 1920-25 ..	4½	...	784,700	784,700

TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916, AND DATES WHEN
REPAYABLE—*continued.*

Under Act No.	When Repayable.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Amount Repayable.		
			In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
	<i>Debentures—continued.</i>		£	£	£
2568	1th Jan., 1918 ...	4½	100,000	...	100,000
	15th Feb., 1918 ...	4½	100,000	...	100,000
	28th April, 1919 ...	4½	25,000	...	25,000
	28th May, 1919 ...	4½	25,000	...	25,000
	28th June, 1919 ...	4½	25,000	...	25,000
	28th July, 1919 ...	4½	25,000	...	25,000
	28th Aug., 1919 ...	4½	25,000	...	25,000
	28th Sept., 1919 ...	4½	25,000	...	25,000
2591	28th Oct., 1919 ...	4½	15,000	...	15,000
	29th Nov., 1919 ...	4½	15,000	...	15,000
	29th Dec., 1919 ...	4½	15,000	...	15,000
	1st Jan., 1920 ...	4½	179,530	...	179,530
	28th Jan., 1920 ...	4½	15,000	...	15,000
	28th Feb., 1920 ...	4½	15,000	...	15,000
	28th March, 1920 ...	4½	15,000	...	15,000
	28th April, 1920 ...	4½	10,000	...	10,000
2772	1st April, 1918-19 ...	5	1,000	...	1,000
	„ 1919 ...	5	3,500	...	3,500
	„ 1919-20 ...	5	3,200	...	3,200
	„ 1919-21 ...	5	1,100	...	1,100
2794	29th Dec., 1918 ...	4½	100,000	...	100,000
	1st April, 1919-20 ...	5	125,000	...	125,000
	„ 1920 ...	4½	20,000	...	20,000
	1st Aug., 1920-22 ...	5½	...	550,000	550,000
	<i>Inscribed Stock (London).</i>				
760	1st Oct., 1918-22 ...	4	1,112*	2,998,888	3,000,000†
2026					
805					
845	„ 1919 ...	4	33,300*	3,966,700	4,000,000
989	„ 1920 ...	4	45,800*	5,954,200	6,000,000
1032	1st Oct., 1923 ...	3½	19,800*	6,980,200	7,000,000
1196	1st Jan., 1921-26 ...	3½	22,050*	4,977,950	5,000,000
1217					
1560	„ 1929-49 ...	3	250,883*	4,211,331	4,462,214
	1st Oct., 1929-49 ...	3½	30,160*	4,701,797	4,731,957
	1st April, 1940-60 ...	4	...	979,700	979,700
1562	1st Jan., 1929-49 ...	3	...	1,000,000	1,000,000
2167	1st Oct., 1929-49 ...	3½	...	1,500,000	1,500,000
2428	1st April, 1940-60 ...	4	10,200*	1,989,800	2,000,000
2480	1st April, 1920-25 ...	4½	...	1,465,300	1,465,300

* Transferred from London to Melbourne register.

† Debentures convertible into inscribed stock at option of holder. The amount so converted to 30th June, 1916, was £1,936,900.

TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916, AND DATES WHEN REPAYABLE—continued.

Under Act No.	When Repayable.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Amount Repayable.		
			In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
	<i>Inscribed Stock (Melbourne)</i>		£	£	£
1468	29th Sept., 1917, or after	3	2,517,773	...	2,517,773
1552					
1564					
1623	" " "	3	186,188	...	186,188
1602					
1749	" " "	3	14,162	...	14,162
1659	1st July, 1921-30	3	2,800	...	2,800
1753	29th Sept., 1917, or after	3	3,948	...	3,948
	" " "	3½	326,406	...	326,406
	" " "	4	10,800	...	10,800
	1st April, 1919	3½	351,697	...	351,697
	1st April, 1920	4	1,000	...	1,000
	1st July, 1920 ...	4	706	...	706
	1st April, 1921	3½	32,525	...	32,525
	April to May, 1922	4	98,500	...	98,500
2629	1st April, 1923	3½	1,963	...	1,963
1962	1st Aug., 1923	3½	1,420	...	1,420
	1st April, 1923	4	1,000	...	1,000
	1st Oct., 1923	3½	268,000	...	268,000
	" " "	4	905	...	905
	" " 1924	3½	85,859	...	85,859
	1st Feb., 1927-42	3½	800	...	800
	1st April, 1927	4	1,000	...	1,000
	11th March, 1936	4	300,000	...	300,000
1990	29th Sept., 1917, or after	3½	108,735	...	108,735
	1st April, 1926-41	3½	2,400	...	2,400
	30th Dec., 1916	4½	25,000	...	25,000
	11th Jan., 1917	4½	20,000	...	20,000
	1st April, 1917	5	25,000	...	25,000
	29th Sept., 1917, or after	3	35,257	...	35,257
	" " "	3½	679,885	...	679,885
	" " "	4	33,128	...	33,128
	1st April, 1918	5	44,418	...	44,418
	— Feb., 1918-19	5	35,000	...	35,000
2026	1st Feb., 1919	4	42,00	...	42,200
	1st April, 1919	5	89,185	...	89,185
	— April, 1919-20	5	500	...	500
	1st April, 1921	5	64,000	...	64,000
	1st July, 1921	4	75,000	...	75,000
	1st Oct., 1923	4	700	...	700
	1st Jan., 1924	4	4,750	...	4,750
	1st April, 1927	4	241,300	...	241,300

TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916, AND DATES WHEN REPAYABLE—*continued.*

Under Act No.	When Repayable.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Amount Repayable.		
			In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
	<i>Inscribed Stock (Melbourne)</i> —continued.				
			£	£	£
	29th Sept., 1917, or after	3½	161,066	...	161,066
	" " " "	4	400	...	400
	1st April, 1918	5	1,100	...	1,100
	1st June, 1918	5	25,000	...	25,000
	1st Feb., 1919	4	8,000	...	8,000
	1st April, 1919	5	11,000	...	11,000
	28th Oct., 1919	4	14,240	...	14,240
	1st April, 1920	4	2,400	...	2,400
2041	8th and 12th May, 1922	4½	12,000	...	12,000
	1st Oct., 1923	3	151,515	...	151,515
	" " " "	4	19,045	...	19,045
	1st Jan, 1924	4	14,000	...	14,000
	1st Feb., 1924	4	1,500	...	1,500
	1st July, 1924	4	21,000	...	21,000
	1st Oct., 1924	3½	1,737	...	1,737
	1st April, 1927	4	750	...	750
	" " 1930	4	20,000	...	20,000
2053	29th Sept., 1917, or after	3½	46,026	...	46,026
2116	" " " "	3½	1,000	...	1,000
2161	" " " "	3	499,650	...	499,650
2163	" " " "	3½	57,791	...	57,791
2218	" " " "	3½	29,750	...	29,750
2240	" " " "	3½	142,950	...	142,950
	" " " "	3½	11,800	...	11,800
	1st April, 1919	3½	70,707	...	70,707
2286	1st June, 1922	3½	30,000	...	30,000
	1st October, 1923	3½	75,758	...	75,758
	" " 1924	3½	23,515	...	23,515
2308	1st June, 1931, or after	4	373,604	...	373,604
	— July, 1916...	4	1,250	...	1,250
	29th Sept., 1917, or after	3½	28,550	...	28,550
	" " " "	4	6,000	...	6,000
2323	1st July, 1918 ...	4	2,500	...	2,500
	1st April, 1919	3½	77,778	...	77,778
	1st Oct., 1919	4	700	...	700
	" " 1920	4	400	...	400
	24 June, 1922	4	10,000	...	10,000
	1st April, 1919	5	14,680	...	14,680
	28th Oct., 1919	4	6,000	...	6,000
	1st April, 1919-20	5	1,000	...	1,000
	" " 1919-21	5	1,000	...	1,000
2635	1st Aug., 1920	4½	25,000	...	25,000
2415	1st April, 1921	3½	75,717	...	75,717
	1st June, 1921	5	25,000	...	25,000
	14th April, 1922	4	6,000	...	6,000
	1st Oct., 1923	3½	26,818	...	26,818
	1st April, 1925	4	8,500	...	8,500

TOTAL LOANS OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916, AND DATES WHEN
REPAYABLE—*continued.*

Under Act No.	When Repayable.	Rate of Interest per cent.	Amount Repayable.		
			In Melbourne.	In London.	Total.
	<i>Inscribed Stock (Melbourne)</i> —continued.		£	£	£
2772	29th Sept., 1917, or after	4	1,660	...	1,660
	1st April, 1918 ...	5	9,082	...	9,082
	„ 1918-19 ...	5	24,000	...	24,000
	„ 1919-20 ...	5	4,540	...	4,540
2794	1st April, 1918-19 ...	5	2,600	...	2,600
	„ 1919 ...	5	5,000	...	5,000
	<i>Treasury Bonds.</i>				
1982	1st July, 1916 ...	3½	1,518,000	...	1,518,000
	— 1917 ...	3½	3,014,860	...	3,014,860
	— 1921 ...	3½	352,000	...	352,000
	1st April, 1922...	3½	100,000	...	100,000
617	<i>Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Debentures.</i> (Overdue since 1897) ...	...	1,000	...	1,000
	<i>Treasury Bonds in Aid of Revenue.</i>				
2563	1917 ...	4½	125,000	...	125,000
	1917-19 ...	4½	425,000	...	425,000
2784	1918-19 ...	4½	320,470	...	320,470
	1917-23 ...	4½	150,000	...	150,000
2785	1918-19 ...	5	100,000	...	100,000
	1919-20 ...	5	150,000	...	150,000
	Total (including loans in aid of revenue)	...	34,614,466	42,160,566	76,775,032

In regard to due dates it may be mentioned that in several instances, where they cover a series of years, the Government by giving twelve months' notice has the option of fixing the particular year of redemption. If it be assumed that loans at the higher rates of interest will be redeemed at the earliest and those at the lower rates at the latest dates of option, or that all optional loans will be redeemed at the latest dates, the following table shows the years in which the outstanding debt will be met.

DUE DATES OF VICTORIAN LOANS ON 30TH JUNE, 1916.

(Including Treasury Bonds in aid of Revenue.)

When Payable.	Amount Payable, assuming that—		
	3 per cent. loans are redeemed at latest, and all others at earliest date of option.	Loans at 3½ per cent. and under are redeemed at latest, and all others at earliest date of option.	All loans are redeemed at latest date of option.
	£	£	£
Overdue and Unclaimed	1,000	1,000	1,000
1916	2,325,205	2,325,205	1,558,250
1917	6,033,067	4,392,168	4,174,100
1918	7,813,020	7,313,020	4,243,020
1919	6,347,495	6,347,495	6,028,995
1920	9,338,736	9,338,736	6,846,036
1921	3,030,500	3,030,500	2,907,100
1922	2,130,350	2,130,350	5,904,850
1923	7,942,083	7,942,083	8,689,838
1924	455,740	455,740	455,740
1925	582,240	582,240	2,772,240
1926	616,280	5,263,000	5,103,000
1927	1,248,650	691,450	691,450
1928	90,100	897,500	897,500
1929	6,979,857	747,500	747,500
1930	1,814,650	1,814,650	1,814,650
1931	1,601,152	1,435,252	1,061,648
1932	933,750	954,350	954,350
1934	5,300	5,300	
1936	300,000	300,000	300,000
1940	2,979,700	3,008,600	248,900
1941 ... ..	...	324,380	324,380
1942 ... ..	...	485,100	485,100
1943 ... ..	...	3,600	3,600
1944 ... ..	...	400	400
1946 ... ..	...	217,400	217,400
1949	5,462,214	11,694,171	11,694,471
1951	123,874	123,874	123,874
1960 ... ..	...	...	2,99,700
Indefinite	3,309,069	4,949,968	5,541,840
To end of 1925	50,499,436	43,858,537	43,580,269
After 1925... ..	26,275,596	32,916,495	33,194,763
Total	76,775,032	76,775,032	76,775,032

In connexion with the replacing of London loans as they fall due by local issues, and the practice which, except in a few instances, has been followed of late years, of borrowing money in the State

instead of going to London for it, the following particulars are of interest :—

PUBLIC DEBT AND INTEREST PAYABLE THEREON IN LONDON AND MELBOURNE: 30TH JUNE, 1900, AND 1907 TO 1916.
(Including Treasury Bonds in aid of Revenue.)

On 30th June.	Amount of Loans Payable in—		Annual Interest Payable in—	
	London.	Melbourne.	London.	Melbourne.
	£	£	£	£
1900	44,655,579	4,669,306	1,735,307	152,046
1907	39,629,869	13,475,120	1,450,950	450,952
1908	37,533,136	15,772,351	1,367,800	531,616
1909	38,592,431	16,074,766	1,404,875	543,219
1910	39,012,436	16,564,289	1,419,579	560,520
1911	37,417,128	20,566,636	1,353,208	701,154
1912	37,392,128	23,345,088	1,352,333	799,227
1913	37,281,578	25,495,146	1,343,306	875,621
1914	39,275,178	26,855,548	1,428,076	926,666
1915	41,333,738	31,750,189	1,520,762	1,131,811
1916	42,160,566	31,614,466	1,562,884	1,270,886

An important point in relation to the London loans is that certain expenses occur each year in connexion with the payment of interest on them which are not common to local issues. In the last financial year the amount was £6,265, which was paid as commission; the corresponding totals in the immediately preceding years were:—£6,310 in 1909-10, £6,079 in 1910-11, £5,625 in 1911-12, £5,611 in 1912-13, £10,740 in 1913-14, and £6,276 in 1914-15.

The average rate of interest on the outstanding loans of the State is substantially less than it was a few years ago, and the following table, comparing the figures for 1900 (the year before Federation) with those for each of the last four years, illustrates this fact:—

AMOUNT OF OUTSTANDING LOANS AT EACH RATE OF INTEREST: 1900 AND 1913 TO 1916.

(Including Treasury Bonds in aid of Revenue.)

Rates of Interest per cent	Nominal amount outstanding on 30th June—				
	1900.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£	£	£	£	£
5½ ...	...	...	...	...	650,000
5 ...	...	...	...	...	1,404,975
4½ ...	...	...	...	...	20,000
4 ...	5,000,000	...	...	2,974,760	3,265,100
4 ...	...	...	...	300,000	600,000
4 ...	...	100,000	...	150,000	630,500
4 ...	...	...	...	2,300,000	3,900,000
4 ...	27,060,795	15,375,117	18,207,001	19,500,706	19,554,892
3½ ...	...	248,000	267,683	267,683	267,683
3½ ...	12,250,000	36,759,065	37,354,586	37,314,973	36,182,175
3½ ...	300,000	...	...	...	...
3 ...	4,714,090	10,293,542	10,300,456	10,274,805	10,298,707
Overdue*	...	1,000	1,000	1,000	1,000
Total	49,324,885	62,776,724	66,130,726	73,083,927	76,775,032

* Not bearing interest.

The difference between the interest in 1900 and in 1916 represents a saving of £103,927 per annum on the debt of £76,775,032 at 30th June, 1916.

The loans authorized, but not raised, on 30th June, 1916, amounted to £7,446,046, which sum represents the unflouted balance of loans authorized since 1895. The following return gives the particulars of these loans :—

**LOANS AUTHORIZED, BUT NOT RAISED :
30TH JUNE, 1916.**

Under Loan Act No.	Total.		
	Authorized.	Raised to 30th June, 1916.	Balance not raised.
	£	£	£
1440	100,000	63,000	37,000
1552	1,116,608	106,196	1,010,412
1816	100,000	93,869	6,131
2041	1,250,000	885,003	364,997
2163	500,000	465,900	34,100
2308	2,000,000	376,004	1,623,996
2323	2,000,000	1,948,878	51,122
2635	800,000	755,115	44,885
2415	800,000	755,115	44,885
2480	2,500,000	1,465,300	1,034,700
2531	3,600,000	3,580,837	19,163
2568	800,000	451,814	348,186
2591	500,000	347,334	152,666
2772	75,000	50,682	24,318
2794	3,500,000	805,630	2,694,370
Total	18,841,608	11,395,562	7,446,046

The next return shows the growth of the funded debt and interest since the date of the establishment of responsible government in 1855. The average rate of interest payable on the indebtedness has declined from 6 per cent. in 1855 to a little over $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. in recent years. In relation to population the annual interest per head substantially

increased from 1855 to 1900, from that year to 1914 there was only a slight increase, but since 1914 there has again been a marked advance.

GROWTH OF FUNDED DEBT AND INTEREST: 1855 TO 1916.

End of Financial Year in—	Loans Outstanding.			Amount per head of population.		
	Amount.	Annual Interest Payable.		Debt.	Annual Interest.	
		Total.	Average rate per cent.			
£	£		£ s. d.	£ s. d.		
1855	480,000	28,800	6·00	1 6 4	0 1 7	
1860	5,118,100	306,405	5·99	9 10 4	0 11 5	
1870	11,924,800	688,740	5·78	16 8 3	0 19 0	
1880	20,056,600	1,004,436	5·01	23 11 9	1 3 7	
1890	41,377,693	1,649,465	3·99	36 19 11	1 9 6	
1900	48,774,885	1,867,604	3·83	40 17 4	1 11 3	
1901	49,546,275	1,861,547	3·76	41 2 5	1 10 11	
1902	50,408,957	1,887,877	3·74	41 10 4	1 11 1	
1903	51,097,900	1,904,514	3·73	42 0 10	1 11 4	
1904	51,519,962	1,876,011	3·64	42 6 11	1 10 10	
1905	51,513,767	1,875,249	3·64	42 2 0	1 10 8	
1906	52,904,800	1,915,499	3·62	42 15 9	1 11 0	
1907	52,954,989	1,897,027	3·58	42 5 10	1 10 4	
1908	53,180,487	1,895,354	3·56	42 0 6	1 10 0	
1909	54,567,197	1,944,844	3·56	42 12 3	1 10 5	
1910	55,501,725	1,977,662	3·56	42 14 6	1 10 5	
1911	57,933,764	2,052,737	3·54	43 17 9	1 11 1	
1912	60,712,216	2,150,748	3·54	44 17 7	1 11 10	
1913	62,776,724	2,223,927	3·54	45 3 0	1 12 0	
1914	66,130,726	2,354,742	3·56	46 10 1	1 13 1	
1915	72,183,927	2,612,698	3 62	50 12 1	1 16 8	
1916	75,504,562	2,776,062	3·68	53 14 1	1 19 5	

SINKING FUNDS.

Sinking Funds
of Australian
States and
the Common-
wealth.

On 30th June, 1916, the sinking funds in Australia were as follows:—

SINKING FUNDS IN AUSTRALIA: 30TH JUNE, 1916.

Held in—	Sinking Funds in Connexion with—	
	Funded Debts.	Municipal and Other Debts.*
	£	£
Victoria	1,758,977	1,127,155
New South Wales	439,612	586,009
Queensland	258,897	..
South Australia	1,318,500	23,112
Western Australia	4,528,432	277,098
Tasmania	704,312	195,713
The Commonwealth	303,434	..
Total	9,312,164	2,209,087

* Figures for 1915

The following table shows for Victoria the various funds having balances to their credit on 30th June, 1916:—

	Balance at Credit.
Mallee Land Account	£70,093
Closer Settlement Fund	66,516
Victorian Loans Redemption Fund	446,216
Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redem- tion Fund	1,176,152
Total	£1,758,977

By Act No. 1428 of 1896, the moneys accruing from licensing, leasing, or selling of land in the Mallee country, or Mallee border, are to be paid into the Treasury and placed to the credit of a separate account, to be called the "Mallee Land Account." The sums standing at credit of this account are available solely for the repurchase, redemption, or paying off of any Victorian stock or debentures. The amount in hand on 30th June, 1915, was £53,670, and during 1915-16 the receipts amounted to £74,423, and the expenditure to £58,000, so that the balance in the fund on 30th June, 1916, was £70,093.

Closer Settlement Fund. By Act No. 1749 of 1901, it was provided that all moneys received by the Board of Land and Works, from lessees or purchasers of farm allotments, or purchasers of any land acquired by the Board, pursuant to the general provisions of the Act, should be paid into the Treasury, and placed to the credit of a separate account to be called "The Farm Settlements Fund," which fund should be applied principally to the redemption of stock and debentures issued for Closer Settlement purposes, and the payment of interest thereon. Under the Closer Settlement Act of 1904, this fund was transferred to the Board appointed to administer that Act, and is called the "Closer Settlement Fund."

Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund. By Act No. 1561 of 1898, it was enacted that a "Victorian Government Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund" should be kept in the Treasury, and should be applied to the purchase or repurchase, and ultimately to the redemption of consolidated stock—that is, stock on the London Register—and to the payment of expenses connected with such purchase or redemption. The fund is made up of money derived from special appropriations from revenue, from repayments by Water Trusts, and from the Mallee Land Account, &c. During 1915-16 there was no expenditure from this fund and receipts amounted to £146,412. Transactions to 30th June, 1916, were as follows:—

THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT CONSOLIDATED INSCRIBED STOCK REDEMPTION FUND: 30TH JUNE, 1916.

Transactions.	To 30th June, 1916.
RECEIPTS.	
Waterworks Trusts	£ 230,163
Mallee Land Account	632,000
Revenue	417,885
Interest on Investments	174,679
Miscellaneous	97,046
Total receipts	1,551,773
EXPENDITURE.	
Purchase of Stock	374,398
Commission, &c.	1,211
Investment Expenses	12
Total expenditure	375,621
Balance in the Fund	1,176,152
Amount of stock repurchased and cancelled	397,305

The miscellaneous receipts include £62,827, surplus after redemption of loans, Acts 531 and 608. Of the balance in the fund, £1,119,461 was invested in Victorian Government debentures and stock, and £56,691 held in cash.

Loans
Redemption
Fund.

By Act No. 1565 of 1898, it was enacted that a "Victorian Loans Redemption Fund" should be kept in the Treasury, and should be available for the purchase, repurchase, or redemption of Victorian Government stock and debentures payable at Melbourne, and for the payment of expenses, costs, &c., incurred. This fund is derived from special appropriations from revenue, repayments on account of resumption of land in the Mallee district and of sundry loans made by the Government to municipalities, &c. During 1915-16 receipts amounted to £280,684, and £225,754 was expended in the purchase for cancellation of £225,988 stock and debentures, of which £141,308 bore interest at 3 per cent., £25,500 at 3½ per cent., and £59,180 at 4 per cent. Transactions in this fund to 30th June, 1916, are shown in the following statement:—

THE VICTORIAN LOANS REDEMPTION FUND :
30TH JUNE, 1916.

Transactions.	To 30th June, 1916.
RECEIPTS.	
	£
From Revenue	1,306,531
Resumption of land in Mallee Districts and valuation of improvements	24,338
Payments by Municipalities	33,226
Geelong Municipal Waterworks Trust	265,000
Interest on Investments	76,357
Repayment of Loans—	
Bush fires relief	22,263
Floods relief	1,453
Seed advances	172,989
New pilot steamer	9,343
Yarrowee Channel	12,667
Wire Netting	187,755
Cool stores	500
Municipalities	74
Cattle advances	10,431
Excess of face value of securities over amount invested	409
Total receipts	2,123,336
EXPENDITURE.	
Purchase of stock and debentures	1,677,120
Balance in the fund	446,216
Amount of stock and debentures repurchased and cancelled	1,692,853

The balance in the fund was represented by the face value of Victorian Government debentures and stock amounting to £364,020, and by £82,196 held in cash.

DEBTS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

The following is a summary of the funded debts of the Australian States, the Commonwealth, and New Zealand on 30th June, 1916, showing the amounts, the amounts per head of population, the total interest payable, the average rate per cent., and the rate *per capita*. The amounts are exclusive of Treasury bonds or bills issued for revenue purposes:—

FUNDED DEBTS OF THE AUSTRALIAN STATES, THE COMMONWEALTH, AND NEW ZEALAND: 30TH JUNE, 1916.

	Funded Debt.		Interest Payable.		
	Amount.	Per Head of Population.	Amount.	Per Head of Population.	Average Rate per cent.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.	
Victoria ..	75,504,562	53 14 0	2,776,062	1 19 6	3·68
New South Wales	130,514,018	70 6 0	4,848,971	2 12 3	3·72
Queensland ..	55,786,196	81 2 11	2,159,361	3 2 10	3·87
South Australia ..	37,743,289	87 1 1	1,435,976	3 6 3	3·80
Western Australia	39,139,676	124 7 6	1,439,621	4 11 6	3·68
Tasmania ..	13,903,913	70 8 0	528,933	2 13 7	3·80
The Commonwealth	78,044,097	15 18 4	3,479,929	0 14 2	4·46
Total ..	430,635,751	87 16 8	16,669,353	3 8 0	3·67
New Zealand (31.3.16)	109,637,397	99 12 8	4,181,297	3 16 0	3·81

In the next statement will be found the indebtedness per head of the various States of Australia and New Zealand at the close of each of the last five financial years:—

GOVERNMENT FUNDED DEBTS PER HEAD OF POPULATION IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND: 1912 TO 1916.

	At 30th June—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Victoria ..	44 17 7	45 3 0	46 10 1	50 12 1	53 14 0
New South Wales ..	57 15 6	58 14 10	62 17 9	68 7 2	70 6 0
Queensland..	69 18 2	76 15 10	76 16 10	78 17 5	81 2 11
South Australia ..	69 19 3	69 10 4	76 12 0	80 1 2	87 1 1
Western Australia ..	86 18 8	96 8 10	106 5 0	114 15 10	124 7 6
Tasmania ..	59 1 8	58 14 4	62 6 1	66 3 9	70 8 0
New Zealand (31st March)	81 15 7	84 16 6	91 10 2	90 18 4	99 12 3

The following is a statement of the total indebtedness of the Australian States and the Commonwealth in 1916:—

FUNDED AND UNFUNDED DEBTS OF AUSTRALIA : 1916.

	State and Federal Debts.		Municipal and Corporation Debts (exclusive of Loans from Government).	Grand Total.	
	Funded.	Unfunded.		Amount.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.
Victoria.. ..	75,504,562	1,642,091	19,004,244	96,150,897	68 7 9
New South Wales	130,514,018	5,616,065	8,389,491	144,519,574	77 16 11
Queensland* ..	55,786,196	1,125,350	1,376,033	58,287,579	84 15 9
South Australia ..	37,743,289	854,857	344,875	38,943,021	89 16 5
Western Australia	39,139,676	1,360,965	1,840,961	42,341,602	134 11 0
Tasmania ..	13,903,913	5,000	970,121	14,879,034	75 6 9
The Commonwealth	78,044,097	9,568,391	..	87,612,488	17 17 5
Total ..	430,635,751	20,172,719	31,925,725	482,734,195	98 9 2

* Excluding Government Savings Bank Stock and Debentures, £1,349,500.

The figures in the table show the full public indebtedness of the Commonwealth, including Federal, State, municipal, and corporation debts, to the latest date at which comparison can be made. Victoria has the smallest amount of debt *per capita*, Tasmania has the next smallest, and Western Australia the largest. There are, of course, private debts to a considerable extent and private investments by British capitalists; but there is no reliable information as to the amount of this class of indebtedness.

The State debts are those for the year ended in 1916, while the municipal and corporation debts are for the year ended in 1915, figures for 1916 for other States than Victoria not being available. The complete figures for Victoria for 1916 appear in the succeeding statement:—

STATE AND LOCAL DEBTS: 1916.

State Debts (Funded)—	£	£
London Register	42,160,566	
Melbourne Register	33,342,996	
State Debts (Unfunded)	1,642,091	
Overdue Debentures, late Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway—unpresented	1,000	
Total State Debts	77,146,653	
Municipal	5,869,260	
Harbor Trusts	2,640,000	
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board	230,000	
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	10,573,160	
Total Debts of Municipalities and Corporations	19,312,420	
Total Debts.. .. .	96,459,073	

This sum (£96,459,073) is equal to a debt of £68 12s. 1d. per head of the population on 30th June, 1916.

DEBTS OF VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

In order that a comparison may be instituted between the States of Australia and other countries of the world in regard to indebtedness, the following table showing the latest available figures is furnished. It must be remembered, when making comparisons with other countries, that the large indebtedness of the Australian States is the result of expenditure on railways, roads, irrigation, and water supply works, harbors, and other public works, required for the speedy development of an entirely new country, whilst in the older countries of the world much of this class of work is left to private enterprise. It

Debts of
various
countries.

will be seen that the figures in the table relate to dates prior to or soon after the commencement of the war. There have since been large increases in the indebtedness of some of the countries mentioned:—

GOVERNMENT DEBTS PER HEAD OF POPULATION IN
VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year ended—	Public Debt.	
		Total Amount.	Amount per Head of Population.
		£	£ s. d.
United Kingdom	31.3.1915	1,165,801,700	25 2 10
South African Union	31.3.1915	138,210,800	21 7 7
Canada	31.3.1915	143,986,500	17 16 7
British India	31.3.1915	304,765,300	1 5 0
France.. ..	31.12.1912	1,073,369,000	27 1 3
Belgium	31.12.1912	163,684,800	21 12 5
Austria	31.12.1912	519,631,000	17 18 5
Hungary	31.12.1912	274,702,000	12 18 8
German States	1912	771,772,500	11 13 4
German Empire (Imperial)	31.3.1912	242,743,000	3 13 5
Italy	30.6.1912	537,174,000	15 6 9
Norway	30.6.1912	20,156,000	8 6 1
United States of America (Federal)	30.6.1912	211,152,700	2 4 3
United States of America (States, Territories, &c.)	1902	383,228,000	4 17 6
Sweden	31.12.1912	33,455,500	5 19 5
Russia	31.12.1911	945,553,000	5 12 7
Japan	31.3.1913	254,593,000	4 17 4

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXATION.

The subjoined table shows for the last five financial years the amount of revenue collected under the various heads of taxation by the Commonwealth, the State, and local bodies in Victoria:—

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXATION: 1911-12
TO 1915-16.

Heads of Taxation.	Amount Received.				
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
Federal—					
Customs Duties... ..	3,566,891	4,091,761	3,783,064	3,539,654	4,214,997
Excise Duties	892,929	655,558	645,345	817,175	927,701
Income Tax ... ..	...	...	...	...	89,000
Land Tax	357,279	393,664	422,127	483,826	469,821
Probate Duty ... ..	...	...	...	8,588	198,043
Total Federal Taxation	4,817,099	5,140,983	4,850,536	4,849,243	6,700,562
State—					
Licences	117,973	116,559	116,678	112,953	98,302
Probate & Succession Duties	448,283	443,682	457,042	536,869	510,032
Duties on Bank Notes ...	8,376	2,922	2,401	2,215	2,078
Stamp Duties	276,836	249,485	275,839	287,169	397,978
Land Tax	293,823	308,275	302,224	303,550	352,353
Income Tax	443,248	542,236	527,705	506,214	702,745
Race Clubs' percentage ...	8,727	9,527	11,447	13,071	11,351
Total State Taxation ...	1,597,266	1,672,686	1,693,336	1,762,041	2,074,839
Municipal Taxation ...	1,145,067	1,244,507	1,303,448	1,325,117	1,397,761
Total Taxation ...	7,559,432	8,058,176	7,847,320	7,936,401	10,173,162

The relative pressure of taxation in successive years evidently depends, not on its amount or on its amount per head of population, but on the ability of the community to meet it. The figures in the above table should be read in conjunction with the wealth of the people, as indicated by the banking and probate returns and by income-tax returns, also with alterations in value of property as shown in municipal returns.

The taxation in Victoria per head of population by the Commonwealth, the State, and local bodies is as follows:—

COMMONWEALTH, STATE, AND LOCAL TAXATION PER HEAD OF POPULATION: 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

Division.	Taxation per Head of Population in—				
	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Federal	3 12 0	3 14 6	3 8 8	3 7 10	4 14 6
State	1 3 10	1 4 3	1 4 0	1 4 7	1 9 3
Local	0 17 1	0 18 0	0 18 6	0 18 5	0 19 9
Total	5 12 11	5 16 9	5 11 2	5 13 10	7 3 6

In the return following will be found, for the purpose of comparison, particulars of taxation by Government and local bodies throughout the States of Australia:—

TAXATION BY GOVERNMENT AND LOCAL BODIES IN THE STATES OF AUSTRALIA.

	Amount of Taxation.	Rate per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.
Victoria	10,100,518	7 2 6
New South Wales	15,951,267	8 10 11
Queensland	4,660,352	6 17 0
South Australia	2,458,844	5 10 8
The Northern Territory		
Western Australia.. ..	1,910,070	6 0 1
Tasmania	889,378	4 8 6
Total	35,970,429	7 5 10

In this return the Commonwealth and the State taxation have been taken for the year 1915-16, and the local taxation for the year 1914-15, and it is shown that the total taxation for Australia is £35,970,429, or an average of £7 5s. 10d. per head per annum. The lowest rate, £4 8s 6d. per head, prevails in Tasmania; South Australia (combined with The Northern Territory owing to difficulty in separating some of the Federal items) and West Australia are next in order, the former with £5 10s. 8d., and the latter with £6 0s. 1d. per head; then follow Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales, with £6 17s., £7 2s. 6d., and £8 10s. 11d. per head respectively. In the United Kingdom, the taxation for the year 1914-15 amounted to £268,222,000, or an average of £5 16s. 5d. per head per annum.

No adjustments on account of Inter-State transfers of dutiable goods have been made in the Customs figures used in this table, and consequently the taxation given for a State such as Victoria, which has a considerable trade in the export to other States of imported goods, is an exaggeration, whilst in the case of a State such as Tasmania, which receives large quantities of dutiable goods through Victoria, the taxation as shown above is without doubt less than the real amount. No other figures are available, however, and, although those given are correct for Australia as a whole, yet they should be regarded as being only fairly accurate for the individual States.

Additional taxation for the financial year 1915-16 comprised a Federal Income Tax which is fully referred to on page 158, and increases in State Income Tax and Stamp Duties.

From 1st July, 1915, until 30th June, 1919, the Victorian Stamp Duties on the following items are double those imposed in 1914-15 :— Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes drawn in and payable in Victoria (except cheques), Receipts for £2 and upwards, Deeds of Settlement or Gift, Transfers of Real Property, and Fire, Fidelity, Guarantee, or Marine Insurance Licences. For the same period Bills of Exchange (except Bank Notes) drawn in Victoria and payable at any place outside the State, and those drawn at any place outside Victoria and payable in Victoria are dutiable as follows :—

Bills payable on demand (cheques, &c.)	..	1d.
Other Bills not exceeding £25 .. .. .	..	6d.
Other Bills between £25 and £50 .. .. .	..	1s.
Other Bills between £50 and £75 .. .. .	..	1s. 6d.
Other Bills between £75 and £100 .. .. .	..	2s.
Other Bills over £100, 1s. for every £50 or fractional part of £50 of the amount.		

In 1915-6 and the three following years the State Income Tax is increased on incomes over £500 (see page 149). For 1916-17 a Federal Entertainments Tax was imposed by an Act passed on 21st December, 1916, and is levied upon payments for admission to entertainments. The rate is fixed at 1d. when the payment for admission exceeds 6d. and does not exceed 1s. When the payment exceeds 1s. the rate is 1d. for the first shilling and $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for every 6d. or part of 6d. by which it exceeds 1s. On the 23rd October, 1916, the State Legislature passed an Act imposing certain Stamp Duties on Bookmakers' Licences or Permits and on Betting Tickets. The Stamp Duty on the Betting Tickets is as follows :—

Any betting ticket issued by a bookmaker on any race-course within twenty miles of the General Post Office, Melbourne—		
In the grand-stand enclosure .. .. .	..	3d.
Elsewhere in the race-course grounds .. .. .	..	1d.
Any betting ticket issued by a bookmaker on any other race-course .. .. .	..	1d.

LICENCES.

The following is a statement showing, as far as practicable, the number of licences issued for various purposes in 1916, and the amount of fees, under each head, collected during the year. Municipal licences for slaughtering, dairies, noxious trades, the carriage of passengers and goods, &c., are not shown.

LICENCES—NUMBER AND REVENUE: 1916.

Description of Licence.	Number of Licences Granted.	Amount of Fees Collected.
<i>Excise.</i>		
Distilling—		£ s. d.
General Distillers	4	200 0 0
Wine Distillers	6	150 0 0
Vignerons	17	85 0 0
Test Stills	30	3 8 0
Brewers	20	500 0 0
Manufacturing Tobacco, Cigars, Cigarettes, and Snuff	34	1,130 15 6
<i>Licensing.</i>		
Victuallers*	3,556	69,791 0 0
Railway Refreshment Rooms	33	825 0 0
Australian Wine	273	1,365 0 0
Clubs	121	242 0 0
Packet (passenger boat)	12	240 0 0
Grocers (single bottle)	284	2,840 0 0
Wine and Spirit Merchants (two gallon)	366	9,150 0 0
Brewers	25	25 0 0
Vignerons	21	105 0 0
Billiard Tables	362	1,810 0 0
<i>Customs.</i>		
Carriage	1,107	273 17 6
Lighter and Boat	31	6 15 0
Custom House Agents	71	143 15 0
Bond	55	4,026 0 0
<i>Explosives.</i>		
Importation	81	570 0 0
Manufacture of Rackarock and Lithyte	16	4 0 0
Manufacture of other Explosives	9	13 10 0
Magazine	244	157 0 0
Fireworks, Sale of	490	24 10 0
Other than Fireworks, Sale of	1,490	372 10 0
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>		
Auctioneers—General†	855	15,181 9 11
Gold-buyers and Assayers	605	318 7 6

* Including temporary licences, which numbered 976, on which the fees collected amounted to £1,921.

† Including 233 temporary licences, on which the fees collected were £233.

In addition to the preceding there are other licences, particulars of which cannot be obtained for the calendar year 1916; the fees collected in respect of these during the financial year 1915-16 were as follows:—

Description of Licence.	Amount of Fees collected
	£ s. d.
Insurance	43,092 11 4
Sale of Tobacco, &c.	1,861 2 11
Pawnbrokers	900 0 0
Hawkers	947 5 2
Carriers	48 1 0
Stage Carriage	149 15 0
Marine Store	163 8 0
Forwarding Agents	80 0 0
Permits to Fish	0 7 6
Race Clubs	407 0 0

POPULATION.

According to manuscript notes made by Captain Lonsdale (afterwards the first Colonial Secretary of Victoria), the first enumeration of the people of this State was made within a year after the arrival of Batman (29th May, 1835) by an officer from Sydney, George Stewart, Esq., who came in the revenue cutter *Prince George*, with orders from His Excellency Sir Richard Bourke to report upon the state of things in the new district. It was then found (25th May, 1836) that the band of first arrivals consisted of 142 males and 35 females, or, in all, 177 residents of European origin. This was the first official census of what was at that time known as Port Phillip. The settlers came from Tasmania and New South Wales. The second enumeration was made on the 8th November of the same year (1836) by order of Captain Lonsdale, who on the 29th of the previous September arrived in H.M.S. *Rattlesnake* (Captain Hobson), which anchored in that part of the port now called Hobson's Bay. Captain Lonsdale had been appointed police magistrate, with instructions to take general charge of the district. On the 5th October the *Stirlingshire* (brig) arrived with the remainder of the Government establishment, consisting of a detachment of Captain Lonsdale's regiment (the 4th), a principal officer of Customs, three surveyors, an officer in charge of commissariat stores, a small number of Crown prisoners for public service, and three constables. Notwithstanding these additions to the population, the census of the following month showed an increase of 47 persons only—making a total of 224 persons (186 males and 38 females). The third census was taken nearly two years after, in September, 1838, when it was ascertained that the

Population of
Victoria, 1836
to 1916.

number of inhabitants had increased to 3,511, and at the end of 1840 it was estimated that the Port Phillip district contained 10,291 persons. During each of the years 1840 and 1841 the population doubled itself, owing principally to the number of assisted immigrants who arrived in the district, and good progress continued to be made to the end of 1850, when the community numbered 76,162 persons. The discovery of gold in 1851, however, was the greatest factor in populating Victoria. When the discoveries were announced diggers came in thousands from New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania, and later on crowds of emigrants from the United Kingdom and other European countries joined in the rush. America contributed its quota, too, even Californians leaving their own gold-bearing country to try their fortunes in Australia. Some idea of this influx may be gathered from the official figures, which show that the population numbered 463,135 at the end of 1857, or more than six times that of 1850. During the decade 1861 to 1870, the population increased by 188,752, all but 39,000 of which was due to the excess of births over deaths. In the next decennial period, 1871 to 1880, there was an increase of 133,468, but this would have been nearly 13,000 greater if the arrivals in had equalled the departures from the colony. Between 1881 and 1890 an addition of 273,000 was made to the population, about 112,000 being due to immigration. The latter portion of this decennium is known as the "boom period," when land values were highly inflated, wages and prices were exceptionally high, and expenditure by the Government and the people generally was conducted in a most lavish manner. The inevitable reaction followed, and this is reflected in the records, the net migration from the State during the ten years following 1890 amounting to 109,000 persons, the increase of 64,000 in the total population being accounted for by the fact that the births exceeded the deaths by 173,000. Most of the emigrants left for Western Australia, where gold had been discovered in large quantities. In 1902-3 a year of unexampled drought was experienced, which was felt severely by this as well as all the other Eastern States. From 1903 to 1913 the seasons were usually good, with the result that employment was plentiful and that the State was not only able to retain its own people; but also to attract others from outside in increasing numbers. In the year 1914 there was a severe drought, and the outbreak of war led to the despatch of a

large number of men to places outside Australia. The increase in population was therefore retarded in that year. Although there were record harvests in 1915 and 1916 there was a decrease of population in both of these years on account of the departure of soldiers for the front. The subjoined table gives a statement of the population in various years from 1836 to 1916:—

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF VICTORIA, 1836 TO 1916.

Year.	Estimated Population, 31st December.			Estimated Mean Population.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1836 (25th May) ...	142	35	177	} 200
1836 (8th Novr.) ...	186	38	224	
1840	7,254	3,037	10,291	8,056
1850	45,495	30,667	76,162	71,191
1855	234,450	129,874	364,324	338,315
1860	328,251	209,596	537,847	534,055
1870	398,755	327,844	726,599	713,195
1880	451,456	408,611	860,067	850,343
1890	596,064	537,202	1,133,266	1,118,500
1900	602,487	594,719	1,197,206	1,193,338
1901	610,005	602,608	1,212,613	1,204,909
1902	609,246	606,594	1,215,840	1,214,226
1903	607,092	608,110	1,215,202	1,215,521
1904	607,285	611,323	1,218,608	1,216,905
1905	612,488	616,497	1,228,985	1,223,796
1906	620,125	624,349	1,244,474	1,236,729
1907	627,631	632,837	1,260,468	1,252,471
1908	633,104	637,993	1,271,097	1,265,782
1909	643,642	647,377	1,291,019	1,281,058
1910	652,285	655,826	1,308,111	1,299,565
1911	668,759	670,343	1,339,102	1,320,374
1912	689,825	690,736	1,380,561	1,356,387
1913	706,948	705,171	1,412,119	1,393,180
1914	712,594	718,073	1,430,667	1,423,513
1915	693,490	725,526	1,419,016	1,426,613
1916	666,931	732,848	1,399,779	1,409,282

The decrease of population in 1916 of 19,237 persons was more than accounted for by the departure of soldiers to take part in the war—no fewer than 49,413 having left Victoria for that purpose in the year. Another factor which has contributed to the decrease is the great decline in State-assisted immigration which has occurred since the outbreak of war. Whilst the struggle continues there is

no probability of any material increase in the population of the State from this source. The rates of increase in population in different years are given on page 234.

The elements of increase in the population of Victoria during 1916 are shown in the following table :—

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF VICTORIA, 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Estimated Population, 31st December, 1915 .. ..	..	..	693,490	725,526	1,419,016
Births, 1916	17,623	16,612			
Deaths, 1916	8,901	7,588			
Natural Increase .. ..	..	..	8,722	9,024	17,746
Migration by Sea, 1916*—					
Arrivals	54,684	34,068			
Departures (as adjusted)	93,288	33,606			
Loss Seawards .. ..	..	..	38,604	462†	38,142
Migration by Land, 1916—					
Arrivals	140,840	59,836			
Departures (as adjusted)	137,517	62,000			
Gain Overland .. ..	..	..	3,323	2,164‡	1,159
Estimated Population, 31st December, 1916 .. ..	..	..	666,931	732,848	1,399,779
Full-blooded aborigines at the date of the 1911 Census not included in the estimate .. ..	..	..	103	93	196

* Including 8,294 members of the Australian Expeditionary Forces, who arrived in and 49,413 who departed from Victoria during the year 1916. † Gain. ‡ Loss.

The population of Victoria on 5th April, 1891, when the census of that year was taken, was 1,140,405, in 1901 it was 1,201,341 and in 1911, 1,315,551. The table which follows shows the increase of population by excess of births over

Increase of
Population.
1891-1916.

deaths, and the loss by emigration each year since the first-mentioned date:—

INCREASE OF POPULATION BY EXCESS OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS, AND LOSS BY EMIGRATION, 1891 TO 1916.

Year.	Natural Increase (i.e., Excess of Births over Deaths).	Loss by Emigration.	Net Increase.
1891 (from 5th April, Census)	15,859	+ 1,414	17,273
1892	21,980	11,058	10,922
1893	20,044	12,484	7,560
1894	18,828	12,698	6,130
1895	18,070	14,410	3,660
1896	16,464	22,134	- 5,670
1897	16,184	13,754	2,430
1898	11,477	11,127	350
1899	14,430	8,020	6,410
1900	15,564	7,828	7,736
1901 (to 31st March, Census)	3,613	+ 251	3,864
Total Intercensal period (10 years)..	172,513	111,848	60,665
1901 (from 1st April)	11,491	+ 52	11,543
1902	14,284	11,057	3,227
1903	13,974	14,612	- 638
1904	15,370	11,964	3,406
1905	15,431	5,054	10,377
1906	15,607	118	15,489
1907	16,827	833	15,994
1908	15,334	4,705	10,629
1909	17,113	+ 2,809	19,922
1910	16,701	+ 391	17,092
1911 (to 2nd April, Census)	4,689	+ 2,751	7,440
Total Intercensal period (10 years)..	156,821	42,340	114,481
1911 (from 3rd April)	13,121	+ 10,430	23,551
1912	19,207	+ 22,252	41,459
1913	20,496	+ 11,062	31,558
1914	19,719	1,171	18,548
1915	19,186	30,837	- 11,651
1916	17,746	36,983	- 19,237
Total (25½ years)	438,809	179,435	259,374

NOTE.—The plus sign (+) indicates that the arrivals in exceeded the departures from the State by the number against which it is placed.

It will be seen that Victoria has since 1891 suffered a serious loss by emigration. The State which has been by far the greatest gainer is Western Australia. In the *Year-Book* for 1915-16 the arrivals from and departures to that State are shown for the years 1891 to 1915 inclusive. Since 1905 the arrivals from Western Australia have exceeded the departures thereto in each year except two, when there was a small excess of departures.

There was a large migration between South Africa and Victoria for some years, which, during the period 1895-1903, resulted in a loss to Victoria of 10,002 of her population. During the five years ended 1908 and in 1913 and 1914 this State gained from South Africa, but in the four years 1909 to 1912 and in 1915 and 1916 there was a loss due to emigration to that colony. Details of migration to and from South Africa are given in the *Year-Book* for 1910-11.

The following table shows the total migration by sea to and from Victoria during the five years 1912 to 1916 :—

RECORDED IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION BY SEA, 1912 TO 1916.

Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of Immigrants.
1912	124,527	99,933	24,594
1913	114,586	101,718	12,868
1914	109,149	99,043*	10,106
1915	85,977*	82,189*	3,788
1916	80,458*	76,687*	3,771

* Exclusive of members of the Australian Expeditionary Forces.

The Inter-State railway passenger traffic is also taken into account in framing estimates of population, and the effect of this traffic during the past five years is shown in the following return :—

RECORDED MIGRATION BY RAIL, 1912 TO 1916.

Year.	Arrivals.			Departures.			Excess of Arrivals.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1912 ..	100,153	52,036	152,189	100,326	52,042	152,368	- 173	- 6	- 179
1913 ..	132,718	53,778	186,496	130,536	55,486	186,022	2,182	- 1,708	474
1914 ..	139,694	56,608	196,302	132,873	57,135	190,008	6,821	- 527	6,294
1915 ..	131,677	51,399	183,076	129,835	54,788	184,623	1,842	- 3,389	- 1,547
1916 ..	140,840	59,836	200,676	137,017	62,000	199,017	3,823	- 2,164	1,659
Total	645,082	273,657	918,739	630,587	281,451	912,038	14,495	- 7,794	6,701

Since the beginning of 1913 a systematic count has been made of the passengers who travel by rail between the States of Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and South Australia.

In 1916 Victoria gained by rail 323 persons from New South Wales and 1,336 from South Australia.

Gain by
Immigration
from various
countries and
vice versa.

The net result of the recorded immigration and emigration by sea between Victoria and the neighbouring States, the United Kingdom, and foreign countries (exclusive of soldiers) during each of the five years ended 1916 is shown in the following table. Where a minus sign (—) appears, it indicates that the emigrants exceeded the immigrants by the number against which it is placed:—

RECORDED NET IMMIGRATION TO VICTORIA BY SEA,
1912 TO 1916.

Year.	Excess of Immigration over Emigration between Victoria and—										Crews of Vessels.	Net Immigration.	
	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.	South Africa.	United Kingdom.	Other British Dominions.	United States.			Other Foreign Ports.
1912	- 765	- 535	- 420	1,192	2,587	287	- 68	19,549	193	85	2,489	..	24,594
1913	- 1,962	- 1,506	205	- 87	605	- 791	321	14,453	570	59	1,001	..	12,868
1914	- 2,923	- 1,707	635	1,306	4,657	- 230	264	7,548	56	6	494	..	10,106
1915	- 1,600	- 885	125	1,516	4,533	- 475	- 23	953	- 251	- 49	- 56	..	3,788
1916	- 1,078	- 370	12	1,623	3,791	28	- 130	- 215	150	104	- 106	- 38	3,771
Total	- 8,328	- 5,003	557	5,550	16,173	- 1181	364	42,288	718	205	3,822	- 38	55,127

The net result of the seaward migration for the five years has been an increase to Victoria of 55,127 persons, the principal gains being from the United Kingdom, Tasmania, Western Australia, and Foreign Ports; New South Wales and Queensland, on the other hand, have attracted persons from this State during that period.

The number of persons who have been assisted to come to Victoria from the foundation of the State to the end of 1916 will be found in the next table :—

STATE-ASSISTED IMMIGRATION TO VICTORIA TO THE END OF 1916.

Period.	Number of State-assisted Immigrants.	Period.	Number of State-assisted Immigrants.
1838-50 ...	28,632	1907	127
1851-60 ...	87,963	1908	360
1861-70 ...	46,594	1909	652
1871-80 ...	5,545	1910	1,690
1881-90 ...	2	1911	6,776
1891-00 ...	...	1912	15,119
1901 ... ..	...	1913	12,146
1902 ... ..	...	1914	7,496
1903 ... ..	...	1915	1,724
19 4 ... ..	...	1916	327
1905 ... ..	...	
1906 ... ..	...	Total	215,153

In 1916 the nominated immigrants numbered 193, and the assisted 129. Of the former 62, and of the latter 18, were married persons. The sex distribution of the State-assisted immigrants was—males 111, and females 216.

Upon the outbreak of war at the beginning of August of 1914 instructions were issued by the Victorian Government that no men who were within the limits of the recruiting ages should be accepted for assisted passages by its representatives in England. Partly for this reason and partly because of the existence of prosperous conditions in Great Britain during the last three years the total number of assisted immigrants to Victoria has fallen off, and no improvement can be hoped for until settled conditions again prevail.

A statement of the arrangements which have been made for assisting immigrants to come to Victoria is given in a later portion of this volume under the heading "Immigration, Intelligence, and Labour Bureau."

CENSUS OF 1911.

The populations, enumerated in each county of the State at the Censuses of 1901 and 1911, are given in the following statement, and the increases or decreases are shown:—

POPULATION OF COUNTIES IN VICTORIA, 1901 AND 1911.

County.	Enumerated Population in—						Increase (+) or Decrease (—) in 1911 compared with 1901.					
	1901.			1911.			Males.	Females.	Total.			
	Males.	Females	Total.	Males.	Females	Total.						
Anglesey ..	4,783	4,249	9,032	4,772	4,180	8,952	—	11	—	69	—	80
Benambra ..	4,006	3,068	7,074	3,625	2,957	6,582	—	381	—	111	—	492
Bendigo ..	28,896	29,164	58,060	26,771	27,729	54,500	—	2,125	—	1,435	—	3,560
Bogong ..	17,019	13,466	30,485	14,681	13,224	27,905	—	2,338	—	242	—	2,580
Borong ..	15,864	14,856	30,720	16,289	14,562	30,851	+	425	—	294	+	131
Bourke ..	248,387	274,546	522,933	295,309	327,502	622,811	+	46,922	+	52,956	+	99,878
Buln Buln ..	18,608	15,122	33,730	22,283	18,774	41,057	+	3,675	+	3,652	+	7,327
Croajingo- long ..	1,271	876	2,147	1,510	1,190	2,700	+	239	+	314	+	553
Dalhousie ..	10,552	9,826	20,378	8,917	8,724	17,641	—	1,635	—	1,102	—	2,737
Dargo ..	3,445	2,484	5,879	3,077	2,441	5,518	—	368	—	7	—	361
Delatite ..	10,957	9,587	20,544	11,491	10,574	22,065	+	534	+	987	+	1,521
Dundas ..	4,450	4,381	8,831	5,298	5,152	10,450	—	848	—	771	—	1,619
Evelyn ..	7,443	6,075	13,518	9,026	8,265	17,291	+	1,583	+	2,190	+	3,773
Follett ..	1,359	1,356	2,715	1,372	1,339	2,711	+	13	—	17	—	4
Gladstone ..	9,538	8,415	17,953	8,752	7,961	16,713	—	786	—	454	—	1,240
Grant ..	34,877	36,157	71,034	34,991	36,486	71,477	+	114	+	329	+	443
Grenville ..	23,730	24,416	48,146	20,503	22,567	43,070	—	3,227	—	1,849	—	5,076
Gunbower ..	4,333	3,834	8,167	5,083	4,181	9,264	+	750	+	347	+	1,097
Hampden ..	5,375	4,949	10,324	6,707	6,188	12,895	+	1,332	+	1,239	+	2,571
Heytesbury ..	3,413	3,045	6,458	3,705	3,261	6,966	+	292	+	216	+	508
Kara Kara ..	8,673	7,758	16,431	8,265	7,274	15,539	—	408	—	484	—	692
Karkaroc ..	5,551	3,852	9,403	9,618	6,562	16,180	+	4,067	+	2,710	+	6,777
Lowan ..	7,327	6,863	14,190	7,082	6,231	13,313	—	245	—	632	—	877
Millewa ..	68	44	112	56	28	84	—	12	—	16	—	28
Moira ..	18,515	16,148	34,663	16,814	15,028	31,842	—	1,701	—	1,120	—	2,821
Mornington ..	14,174	12,385	26,559	19,034	16,279	35,313	+	4,860	+	3,894	+	8,754
Normanby ..	6,031	5,837	11,868	5,900	6,007	11,907	—	131	—	170	—	39
Polwarth ..	5,932	4,733	10,665	7,367	6,533	13,900	+	1,435	+	1,800	+	3,235
Ripon ..	6,941	5,743	12,689	7,464	6,448	13,912	+	523	+	700	+	1,223
Rodney ..	10,315	8,825	19,140	10,399	9,089	19,488	+	84	+	264	+	348
Talbot ..	29,390	28,003	57,398	23,567	24,364	47,931	—	5,823	—	3,644	—	9,467
Tambo ..	1,523	1,125	2,648	1,650	1,329	2,979	+	127	+	204	+	331
Tanjil ..	10,484	9,626	20,110	10,130	9,562	19,692	—	354	—	84	—	418
Tatchera ..	4,833	3,692	8,575	6,318	4,519	10,837	+	1,435	+	627	+	2,262
Villiers ..	11,032	10,993	22,025	11,430	11,297	22,727	—	398	—	304	—	702
Weeah ..	219	141	360	1,255	697	1,952	+	1,036	+	556	+	1,592
Wonnan- gatta ..	1,856	915	2,271	998	733	1,731	—	358	—	182	—	540
Migratory (County not speci- fied) ..	1,096	729	1,825	..	..	..	—	1,096	—	729	—	1,825
Outside Counties Shipping	2,067	214	2,281	4,032	723	4,805	+	2,015	+	509	+	2,524
Total ..	603,883	597,458	1,201,341	655,591	659,960	1,315,551	+	51,708	+	62,502	+	114,210

NOTE.—Full-blooded aborigines, to the number of 271 in 1901, are included in the foregoing statement, but those enumerated in 1911, viz., 196, are excluded.

Decreases of population are shown in 16 of the 37 counties during the ten years 1901-1911. The largest of these are in the counties of Talbot, Grenville, Bendigo, Dalhousie, Bogong, and Gladstone, where the mining industry has not been so prosperous as in former years. The north-eastern county of Moira, which is principally dependent on agriculture, also shows a decline of about 8 per cent. The county of Bourke, which includes the metropolis, contained nearly 100,000 more people at the later census than at the earlier one. There were also large increases in the counties of Mornington and Buln Buln, and in the mallee county of Karkaroc.

Ag^es of the
people.

The following table shows the ages of the people in the three census years 1891, 1901, and 1911 :—

AGES OF THE PEOPLE AT CENSUSES, 1891, 1901, AND 1911.

Age Group (Years).	1891.		1901.		1911.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0-5 ..	75,229	73,505	66,807	65,179	73,061	70,417
5-10 ..	64,989	63,251	72,052	70,493	65,615	63,904
10-15 ..	58,536	57,528	67,389	66,640	63,586	62,523
15-20 ..	56,889	57,560	58,896	59,717	67,804	67,719
20-25 ..	63,356	62,185	50,593	57,632	61,895	65,217
25-30 ..	62,910	54,999	45,469	52,832	51,955	55,651
30-35 ..	47,632	39,667	46,635	48,156	44,928	48,694
35-40 ..	31,672	26,398	46,723	43,390	41,308	44,549
40-45 ..	23,924	21,332	37,118	33,551	42,512	42,480
45-50 ..	22,007	19,567	24,137	21,810	41,015	38,477
50-55 ..	22,676	19,290	18,348	17,601	31,866	29,420
55-60 ..	22,135	16,132	15,351	15,157	19,486	18,457
60-65 ..	20,091	12,847	14,979	14,292	13,834	14,316
65-70 ..	11,075	7,140	16,080	13,843	11,432	12,603
70-75 ..	7,194	4,775	11,781	8,360	9,415	9,972
75-80 ..	3,191	2,253	5,733	4,231	7,275	6,934
80-85 ..	1,378	1,006	2,453	2,065	3,903	3,387
85-90 ..	459	356	603	587	1,133	1,129
90-100 ..	168	124	160	152	301	321
100 and over ..	5	5	12	11	8	10
Unspecified ..	2,898	2,071	2,564	1,759	3,259	3,780
Total ..	598,414	541,991	603,883	597,458	655,591	659,960

AGES OF THE PEOPLE AT CENSUSES, 1891, 1901, AND 1911—continued.

Age Group (Years).	1891.		1901.		1911.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
PROPORTIONS PER CENT.						
0-5 ..	12·63	13·61	11·11	10·94	11·20	10·73
5-10 ..	10·91	11·72	11·98	11·83	10·06	9·74
10-15 ..	9·83	10·65	11·21	11·19	9·74	9·53
15-20 ..	9·55	10·66	9·80	10·03	10·40	10·32
20-25 ..	10·64	11·52	8·41	9·68	9·48	9·94
25-30 ..	10·56	10·19	7·56	8·87	7·96	8·48
30-35 ..	8·00	7·35	7·76	8·08	6·89	7·42
35-40 ..	5·32	4·89	7·77	7·28	6·33	6·79
40-45 ..	4·02	3·95	6·17	5·63	6·52	6·47
45-50 ..	3·70	3·62	4·02	3·66	6·29	5·87
50-55 ..	3·81	3·57	3·05	2·96	4·89	4·48
55-60 ..	3·72	2·99	2·55	2·54	2·99	2·81
60-65 ..	3·37	2·38	2·49	2·40	2·12	2·18
65-70 ..	1·86	1·32	2·67	2·32	1·75	1·92
70-75 ..	1·21	·88	1·96	1·40	1·44	1·52
75-80 ..	·53	·42	·95	·71	1·11	1·06
80-85 ..	·23	·49	·41	·35	·60	·52
85-90 ..	·08	·07	·10	·10	·18	·17
90 and over ..	·03	·02	·03	·03	·05	·05
Specified Ages	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Persons at dependent and supporting ages.

By adopting larger groups a clearer idea is obtained of the age distribution of the population at the three census periods. The subjoined table shows the numbers and proportions of males and females at ages 0-15, 15-45, 45-65, and 65 and upwards. Persons of unspecified ages have been omitted:—

NUMBER OF PERSONS AT DEPENDENT AND SUPPORTING AGES IN VICTORIA AT THREE CENSUS ENUMERATIONS.

Census Year.	Number of Persons at—							
	Dependent Ages (Under 15 years).		Supporting Ages.				Old Age (65 years and upwards).	
	Males.	Females.	15 to 45 years.		45 to 65 years.		Males.	Females.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.		
1891	198,754	194,284	286,383	262,141	86,909	67,836	23,470	15,659
1901	206,248	202,312	285,434	295,278	72,815	68,860	36,822	29,249
1911	202,262	196,844	310,402	324,310	106,201	100,670	33,467	34,356
Proportions per cent.								
1891	33·37	35·98	48·09	48·56	14·60	12·56	3·94	2·90
1901	34·30	33·96	47·47	49·57	12·11	11·56	6·12	4·91
1911	31·00	30·00	47·59	49·42	16·28	15·34	5·13	5·24

The features which are most noticeable in the age distribution of the population in 1911, as compared with that of ten years previously, are the decrease in the proportion of dependents (i.e., persons under the age of 15 years), and the increase in the proportionate number

at the supporting ages from 45 to 65 years. The proportion of old persons in the community was slightly less in 1911 than in 1901.

For the sake of comparison, similar particulars are given for England and Wales for 1911:—

Age Group.	Number of—		Proportion Per Cent. for—	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Dependent ages —				
Under 15 years	5,531,039	5,519,828	31·70	29·64
Supporting ages—				
15 to 45 years	8,325,710	8,988,745	47·73	48·26
45 to 65 years	2,779,489	3,047,165	15·93	16·36
Old-age—				
65 years and upwards ..	809,370	1,069,146	4·64	5·74
Total	17,445,608	18,624,884	100·00	100·00

Australian born and other population in State. Of the Victorian population at the last census date, 85 per cent. were Australian born. There were only 20,630 persons living in the State who had been resident in Australia for less than five years. The following table shows the length of residence in Australia of the population in the metropolis and in the remainder of the State.

POPULATION OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 2ND APRIL, 1911, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO LENGTH OF RESIDENCE IN AUSTRALIA.

(Exclusive of Full-blooded Aboriginals.)

Length of Residence in Australia in Years.	Melbourne and Suburbs.			Remainder of State.			The Whole State.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
0-5 ..	7,308	4,847	12,155	6,190	2,285	8,475	13,498	7,132	20,630
5-10 ..	2,031	1,496	3,527	1,435	681	2,116	3,466	2,177	5,643
10-15 ..	2,775	1,393	4,168	1,692	625	2,317	4,467	2,018	6,485
15-20 ..	2,633	2,141	4,774	2,007	1,117	3,124	4,640	3,258	7,898
20-25 ..	9,151	7,031	16,182	5,763	2,956	8,719	14,914	9,987	24,901
25-30 ..	7,868	5,343	13,211	4,557	2,189	6,696	12,425	7,482	19,907
30-35 ..	4,267	2,976	7,243	3,250	1,548	4,798	7,517	4,524	12,041
35-40 ..	2,582	2,281	4,813	2,153	1,427	3,580	4,685	3,708	8,393
40-45 ..	2,816	3,463	6,279	3,447	2,868	6,315	6,263	6,331	12,596
45-50 ..	2,958	3,879	6,837	4,643	4,406	9,049	7,001	8,285	15,886
50-55 ..	3,482	4,905	8,387	6,040	5,485	11,525	9,522	10,390	19,912
55-60 ..	4,812	6,347	11,159	8,428	7,611	16,039	13,240	13,958	27,198
60-65 ..	898	1,274	2,172	1,654	1,590	3,244	2,552	2,864	5,416
65-70 ..	133	261	394	373	355	728	506	616	1,122
70-75 ..	100	167	267	246	223	469	346	390	736
75-80 ..	14	31	45	36	34	70	50	65	115
80-85 ..	3	5	8	11	13	24	14	18	32
85-90 ..	1	3	4	2	3	5	3	6	9
90-95 ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	1
95-100 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
100 and upwards ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Unspecified ..	2,855	4,826	7,681	5,367	4,639	10,006	8,222	9,465	17,687
Australian born ..	221,319	258,346	479,665	320,340	308,940	629,280	541,659	567,286	1,108,945
Total ..	277,956	311,015	588,971	377,635	348,945	726,580	655,591	659,960	1,315,551

The number of breadwinners in each class of occupation of the people, at the last two censuses, and of the persons dependent on them, are shown hereunder:—

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AS RETURNED AT THE CENSUSES OF 1901 AND 1911.

Occupation.	1901.	1911.
Breadwinners—		
Professional	35,224	43,819
Domestic	66,815	62,175
Commercial	79,048	91,611
Transport and Communication	31,516	39,238
Industrial	146,233	187,773
Primary Producers	165,147	144,384
Indefinite	10,066	8,053
Total Breadwinners	534,049	577,053
Dependents	662,355	721,137
Occupation not stated	4,937	17,361
Total Population	1,201,341	1,315,551

The conjugal condition of the people of Victoria at various periods of life (exclusive of full-blooded Aborigines) was returned as follows at the last census:—

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE, 1911.

(Exclusive of Full-blooded Aborigines.)

Ages.	MALES.					Total Number.
	Never Married.	Married.	Widowed.	Divorced.	Un-specified.	
Under 15 years ..	202,261	1	..	..	..	202,262
15 to 20 years ..	67,590	214	..	..	..	67,804
20 " 25 " ..	55,140	6,592	62	5	96	61,895
25 " 30 " ..	31,498	20,069	281	32	75	51,955
30 " 35 " ..	17,720	26,557	525	63	63	44,928
35 " 40 " ..	12,285	28,022	860	69	72	41,308
40 " 45 " ..	10,070	31,054	1,230	89	69	42,512
45 " 50 " ..	7,897	31,120	1,827	109	62	41,015
50 " 55 " ..	5,430	24,182	2,111	82	61	31,866
55 " 60 " ..	3,182	14,455	1,768	46	35	19,486
60 " 65 " ..	2,204	9,779	1,790	30	31	13,834
65 " 70 " ..	1,867	7,396	2,131	14	24	11,432
70 " 75 " ..	1,696	5,411	2,266	17	25	9,415
75 " 80 " ..	1,170	3,684	2,396	3	22	7,275
80 " 85 " ..	571	1,626	1,688	7	11	3,903
85 " 90 " ..	165	385	580	..	3	1,133
90 " 100 " ..	58	89	154	..	..	301
100 years and over ..	..	3	5	..	..	8
Unspecified ..	1,800	1,111	146	9	193	3,259
All ages ..	422,604	211,750	19,820	575	842	655,591
Under 21 years ..	282,916	567	2	..	..	283,485
21 years and upwards ..	139,688	211,183	19,818	575	842	372,106

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE, 1911—*continued.*

Ages.	FEMALES.					
	Never Married.	Married.	Widowed.	Divorced.	Un-specified.	Total Number.
Under 15 years ..	196,838	6	..	..	..	196,844
15 to 20 years ..	65,961	1,712	6	..	40	67,719
20 " 25 " ..	49,328	15,700	121	19	49	65,217
25 " 30 " ..	26,521	28,595	442	64	29	55,651
30 " 35 " ..	16,354	31,290	930	98	22	48,694
35 " 40 " ..	12,085	30,541	1,799	107	17	44,549
40 " 45 " ..	9,214	30,266	2,870	112	18	42,480
45 " 50 " ..	6,902	27,318	4,138	108	11	38,477
50 " 55 " ..	4,572	19,793	4,965	82	8	29,420
55 " 60 " ..	2,391	11,316	4,718	21	11	18,457
60 " 65 " ..	1,409	7,368	5,508	20	11	14,316
65 " 70 " ..	966	5,153	6,459	15	10	12,603
70 " 75 " ..	539	3,196	6,220	4	13	9,972
75 " 80 " ..	312	1,662	4,949	7	4	6,934
80 " 85 " ..	150	578	2,652	1	6	3,387
85 " 90 " ..	51	120	953	..	5	1,129
90 " 100 " ..	9	38	273	..	1	321
100 years and over ..	..	1	9	..	..	10
Unspecified ..	1,255	1,812	504	7	202	3,780
All ages ..	394,857	216,465	47,516	665	457	659,960
Under 21 years ..	275,008	3,309	25	4	62	278,408
21 years and upwards	119,849	213,156	47,491	661	395	381,552

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE, 1911—*continued.*

Ages.	PROPORTION PER 100 LIVING AT EACH AGE.					
	Males.			Females.		
	Never Married.	Husbands.	Widowers.	Never Married.	Wives.	Widows.
Under 15 years ..	100·0	..	..	100·0	..	..
15 to 20 years ..	99·7	·3	..	97·5	2·5	..
20 " 25 " ..	89·2	10·7	·1	75·7	24·1	·2
25 " 30 " ..	60·8	38·7	·5	47·7	51·5	·8
30 " 35 " ..	39·6	59·3	1·1	33·7	64·4	1·9
35 " 40 " ..	29·8	68·1	2·1	27·2	68·8	4·0
40 " 45 " ..	23·8	73·3	2·9	21·7	71·5	6·8
45 " 50 " ..	19·3	76·2	4·5	18·0	71·2	10·8
50 " 60 " ..	16·8	75·6	7·6	14·6	65·1	20·3
60 " 70 " ..	16·2	68·2	15·6	8·8	46·6	44·6
70 " 80 " ..	17·2	54·7	28·1	5·0	28·8	66·2
80 years and upwards	14·9	39·5	45·6	4·3	15·3	80·4
All ages ..	64·6	32·4	3·0	60·1	32·7	7·2
Under 21 years ..	99·8	·2	..	98·8	1·2	..
21 years and upwards	37·7	57·0	5·3	31·5	56·0	12·5

According to this tabulation there were, on 2nd April, **Married persons.** 1911, 428,215 persons, or 32½ per cent. of the population, in the marriage state. The wives exceeded the husbands by 4,715.

The single males of 20 years and upwards, and the single **Marriageable persons.** females of 17 years and upwards, or, in other words, the bachelors and spinsters, numbered respectively 152,753 and 171,514. If to these be added the widowers, widows, and divorcees, it will be found that the whole marriageable population at the census was 173,148 males and 219,694 females, the latter thus exceeding the former by 46,546.

At the census, therefore, the marriageable females were **Proportion of marriageable females.** in the proportion of 127 to every 100 marriageable males. In 1901 the proportion of females was 117; in 1891, 88; in 1881, 89; and in 1871 only 52.

It will be noticed that 569 youths (of whom 2 had lost **Married persons under 21 years of age.** their wives) had become husbands, and 3,334 girls (of whom 25 had lost their husbands) had become wives, before they reached the age of 21. One male aged 14 years,

4 males aged 16 years, 6 females aged 14 years, and 13 females (one of whom was widowed) aged 15 years were the youngest married persons in the State.

**Centenarians
in Victoria.**

widowed.

There were 18 persons—8 males and 10 females—aged 100 years and upwards in Victoria when the census was taken. Of the men 5, and of the women 9, were

**Population
in different
dwellings,
1911.**

Particulars of the materials of which houses were composed and the population living therein were ascertained when the census was taken in 1911. A majority of the people (63 per cent.) occupy wooden houses, and about 30 per cent. reside in brick structures. The following is a summary of the information collected :—

**INMATES OF PRIVATE AND OTHER DWELLINGS IN THE
STATE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1911.**

Materials.	People Living in—		
	Private Dwellings.	Other than Private Dwellings.	All Dwellings.
Stone	29,707	9,597	39,304
Brick	328,362	63,111	391,473
Concrete	2,840	418	3,258
Iron	11,008	354	11,362
Wood	806,687	24,452	831,139
Sun-dried Bricks	10,593	84	10,677
Pisé	310	...	310
Lath and Plaster	2,647	39	2,736
Wattle and Dab	1,341	...	1,341
Bark	1,565	...	1,565
Bushes, Rushes, Spinnifex, etc.	8	...	8
Calico, Canvas, Hessian	7,842	51	7,893
Ruberoid and other compositions	126	7	133
Unspecified	4,630	2,899	7,529
Waggons, Carts, Trains, etc. ....	...	287	287
Aboriginal Camps in which whites or Half castes were living .....	...	1	1
Other Camps without Dwellings .....	...	1,730	1,730
Shipping .....	...	4,805	4,805
Total	1,207,716	107,835	1,315,551

Rental value of houses.

The weekly rental value of private dwellings in 1911, according to statements by the occupiers of the premises, was as under :—

WEEKLY RENTAL VALUE OF PRIVATE DWELLINGS IN VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1911.

Weekly Rental Value.		Number.	Weekly Rental Value.		Number.
Under 1s.	..	641	30s. and under 31s.	..	2,186
1s. and under 2s.	..	4,324	31s. "	32s.	40
2s. "	3s.	8,191	32s. "	33s.	271
3s. "	4s.	7,106	33s. "	34s.	42
4s. "	5s.	9,300	34s. "	35s.	66
5s. "	6s.	24,887	35s. "	36s.	566
6s. "	7s.	16,927	36s. "	37s.	31
7s. "	8s.	19,136	37s. "	38s.	68
8s. "	9s.	17,984	38s. "	39s.	56
9s. "	10s.	9,331	39s. "	40s.	6
10s. "	11s.	30,166	£2 "	£2 5s.	1,044
11s. "	12s.	7,508	£2 5s. "	£2 10s.	160
12s. "	13s.	15,333	£2 10s. "	£2 15s.	323
13s. "	14s.	4,601	£2 15s. "	£3	40
14s. "	15s.	4,391	£3 "	£3 5s.	277
15s. "	16s.	11,264	£3 5s. "	£3 10s.	23
16s. "	17s.	3,641	£3 10s. "	£3 15s.	49
17s. "	18s.	3,551	£3 15s. "	£4	17
18s. "	19s.	2,079	£4 "	£4 5s.	107
19s. "	20s.	251	£4 5s. "	£4 10s.	4
20s. "	21s.	7,929	£4 10s. "	£4 15s.	12
21s. "	22s.	1,004	£4 15s. "	£5	1
22s. "	23s.	1,619	£5 "	£6	110
23s. "	24s.	495	£6 "	£7	35
24s. "	25s.	146	£7 "	£8	17
25s. "	26s.	3,945	£8 "	£9	16
26s. "	27s.	187	£9 "	£10	1
27s. "	28s.	693	£10 and upwards	..	17
28s. "	29s.	117	Unspecified	..	41,264
29s. "	30s.	38			
			Total	..	263,634

In the following return the persons and dwellings to the square mile, persons and rooms to a dwelling, and persons to a room, are shown for the six census years 1861-1911 :—

DENSITY OF POPULATION.—RETURN FOR SIX CENSUS YEARS.

Year of Census.	Persons to the Square Mile (exclusive of Persons in Ships).	Inhabited Dwellings to the Square Mile.	Persons to the Inhabited Dwelling (exclusive of Persons in Ships).	Rooms to a Dwelling (Inhabited and Uninhabited).	Persons to a Room.
1861 ..	6·126	1·470	4·16	2·96	1·35
1871 ..	8·298	1·714	4·84	3·89	1·18
1881 ..	9·791	1·935	5·06	4·44	1·08
1891 ..	12·948	2·549	5·08	5·10	·92
1901 ..	13·643	2·747	4·97	5·25	·90
1911 ..	14·915	3·112	4·79	..	..

The population returned at the census of 1911 furnishes a proportion of 14·9 persons to the square mile. In 1901 the proportion was 13·6; in 1891, 12·9; in 1881, 9·8; in 1871, 8·3; and in 1861, 6·1. There were 479 persons to every 100 inhabited dwellings in 1911, a number smaller than in any of the four preceding census years, but greater than in 1861.

Males are being enlisted for service in the great war between the ages of 18 and 45 years. Up to 31st March, 1917, the troops despatched from Australia for active service numbered 292,969, and there were at that date 18,662 in training throughout Australia for service abroad. The numbers of males remaining in each State at the beginning of 1917 from whom recruits could still be obtained are estimated as follows:—

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF MALES IN AUSTRALIA AGED 18 TO 45 YEARS, DISTINGUISHING MARRIED AND SINGLE, AT THE BEGINNING OF 1917 (EXCLUSIVE OF MEN IN TRAINING CAMPS).

State.	Males Aged 18 to 45 Years.		
	Married.	Single.	Total.
Victoria	120,493	97,218	217,711
New South Wales	178,184	142,764	320,948
Queensland	62,353	64,047	126,400
South Australia	39,380	28,855	68,235
Western Australia	35,203	30,225	65,428
Tasmania	18,990	13,526	32,516
Northern Territory	352	1,141	1,493
Federal Territory	154	353	507
Australia	455,109	378,129	833,238

The above numbers include all those who had offered their services but had been rejected, also those who had not, at the date mentioned, taken steps to enlist, but who would probably have been rejected had they done so. The numbers in these two sections would represent a large portion of those nominally available according to the statement. As no official record has been kept of the number who have offered their services and been rejected, it is not possible to say how many fit men were available at the beginning of 1917.

Birthplaces
of the
people, 1911.

The census of 1911 gives the principal birthplaces of the people as follows :—

BIRTHPLACES OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA, 1911.

Birthplaces.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria	495,490	514,729	1,010,219
Other Australian States	46,169	52,557	98,726
New Zealand	4,968	5,099	10,067
England and Wales	49,558	39,824	89,382
Scotland	14,200	12,377	26,577
Ireland	19,169	22,308	41,477
British India	1,179	427	1,606
Other British Possessions	2,201	1,723	3,924
Total British	632,934	649,044	1,281,978
Germany	4,343	1,799	6,142
Italy	1,140	359	1,499
Sweden	1,138	82	1,220
Norway	726	81	807
Russia	777	296	1,073
United States	1,085	665	1,750
China	4,246	56	4,302
Other Foreign Countries	3,347	1,112	4,459
Total Foreign	16,802	4,450	21,252
At Sea	630	673	1,303
Unspecified	5,225	5,793	11,018
Grand Total	655,591	659,960	1,315,551

Victorian born. Persons of Victorian birth were in the proportion of 77 to every 100 persons in 1911, as compared with 73 in 1901. These, combined with the natives of the other Australian States and New Zealand, amounted to 85 per cent. of the total population of Victoria.

Decrease of natives of the United Kingdom. The decrease of natives of all parts of the United Kingdom resident in Victoria during the ten years ended 1911 was considerable, amounting to 56,935. This decrease is equivalent to 24 per cent. of the natives of England and Wales, 26 per cent. of the natives of Scotland, and 33 per cent. of the natives of Ireland, who were resident in the State in 1901.

Foreign born. The number of persons in the State in 1911 who were born in countries outside the British dominions was 21,252, or 1·6 per cent. of the population. This is a decrease as compared with 1901, when they numbered 25,582, or 2·1 per cent. of the population.

Chinese. In the interval between the censuses of 1901 and 1911 natives of China decreased from 6,230 to 4,302. These figures however, do not represent all the Chinese in the State, as there are persons of this race born in places outside of China who are resident in Victoria. The total number of the Chinese race in Victoria was 7,349 in 1901 and 5,601 in 1911.

Victorians in each Australian State and New Zealand. Persons of Victorian birth living in other Australian States and New Zealand numbered 191,892—107,723 males and 84,169 females—at the census of 1911, as compared with 136,638 at the previous census in 1901, thus showing an increase of 55,254. Particulars are given below:—

VICTORIANS LIVING IN EACH AUSTRALIAN STATE AND NEW ZEALAND, 1911.

State in which Living.	Numbers Born in Victoria.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Victoria	495,490	514,729	1,010,219
New South Wales	42,701	34,835	77,536
Queensland	10,479	5,464	15,943
South Australia	7,490	7,017	14,507
Western Australia... ..	30,864	23,749	54,613
Tasmania	4,590	4,189	8,779
Northern Territory	123	20	143
Federal Capital Territory	39	8	47
Australia	591,776	590,011	1,181,787
New Zealand	11,437	8,887	20,324
Total	603,213	598,898	1,202,111

Natives of other States and New Zealand living in Victoria. The number of Australians other than Victorians and of New Zealanders who were resident in this State at the 1911 census date was 108,775—51,127 males and 57,648 females. It will be seen that the number of persons of Victorian birth in the other States and New Zealand exceeded the number of persons born in those places who were living in Victoria by 83,117. More detailed information in regard to this matter is given in the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1915-16.

The enumerated population at each of the last six censuses and the decennial increases, numerical and centesimal, are as under :—

POPULATION OF VICTORIA (INCLUDING ABORIGINES) AT SIX CENSUS PERIODS.

Year of Census or Estimate.	Both Sexes.			Males.			Females.		
	Population.	Increase since last Census.		Population.	Increase since last Census.		Population.	Increase since last Census.	
		Numerical.	Centesimal.		Numerical.	Centesimal.		Numerical.	Centesimal.
1861	540,322	129,556	31·54	328,651	64,317	24·33	211,671	65,239	44·55
1871	731,528	191,206	35·39	401,050	72,399	22·03	330,478	118,807	56·13
1881	862,346	130,818	17·88	452,083	51,033	12·72	410,263	79,785	24·14
1891	1,140,405	278,059	32·24	598,414	146,331	32·37	541,991	131,728	32·11
1901	1,201,341	60,936	5·34	603,883	5,469	·91	597,458	55,467	10·23
1911	1,315,747	114,406	9·52	55,694	51,811	8·58	660,053	62,595	10·48

Between the censuses of 1901 and 1911 the increase in population (114,406) was smaller than in any intercensal period since 1851, with the exception of the decennium 1891-1901, when it was only 60,936 persons. The increases in other periods were 278,059 between 1881 and 1891, and 130,818 and 191,206 respectively in the two decennial periods prior to 1881.

The masculinity of the population, or the ratio of males to females at the last six census enumerations, was as follows :—

Year.					Males to 100 Females.	
1861	155·26
1871	121·36
1881	110·19
1891	110·41
1901	101·08
1911	99·34

The ratios for different age groups for the last three census years are given in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16, also the proportions existing between males and females at the last census date in other parts of Australasia and England and Wales.

The statistics for the year 1916 show that in Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia the females exceed the males, whilst in Tasmania and New Zealand they are about equal. This will be seen from the following tabulation, which shows that, while in South Australia there are 115

Proportions of sexes in Australia and New Zealand, 1916.

females and in Victoria 110 females to every 100 males, in Queensland the corresponding proportion is 94, and in Western Australia 93.

PROPORTION OF THE SEXES IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1916.

	Females to 100 Males.		Females to 100 Males.
Victoria	109·88	Western Australia	93·01
New South Wales	101·23	Tasmania	100·25
Federal Capital Territory	86·18		
Queensland	94·29	Australia	103·05
South Australia	114·72	New Zealand	100·02
Northern Territory	24·17		

The following table shows the area in acres, the enumerated population, and the number of persons to the acre at the census of 1911, also the estimated population at the end of 1916, of the various municipalities in Greater Melbourne:—

POPULATION, ETC., OF GREATER MELBOURNE, 1916.

Sub-District.	Area in Acres.	Enumerated Population at the Census of 1911.	Persons to the Acre, 1916.	Estimated Population, 31st Decem- ber, 1916.
Melbourne City	7,552	103,593	14·2	107,170
Fitzroy City	923	34,283	38·1	35,200
Collingwood City	1,139	34,190	31·5	35,900
Richmond City	1,430	40,442	28·7	41,000
Brunswick City	2,722	32,215	14·3	38,810
Northcote City	2,850	17,519	8·8	25,120
Prahran City	2,320	45,367	20·9	48,570
South Melbourne City	2,303	46,190	21·2	48,760
Port Melbourne Town	2,366	13,515	5·6	13,200
St. Kilda City	2,049	25,334	15·3	31,420
Brighton Town	3,288	12,083	5·5	18,000
Essendon City	4,000	23,749	8·0	31,850
Hawthorn City	2,400	24,450	11·7	28,170
Kew Town	3,553	11,152	3·8	13,550
Footscray City	2,577	23,643	11·6	29,920
Williamstown Town	2,775	15,275	6·6	18,200
Oakleigh Borough	2,178	2,151	2·3	4,940
Caulfield City	6,080	15,919	4·2	25,400
Malvern City	4,000	15,969	6·5	26,000
Camberwell City	8,320	12,551	2·2	18,030
Preston Shire	8,800	5,049	·9	7,590
Coburg Town	4,800	9,505	3·0	14,320
Remainder of District	84,941	24,873	·4	31,940
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River	...	4,220	...	2,580
Total, including Shipping	163,366	593,237	4·3	695,640

Density of
metropolitan
population.

Fitzroy is the most thickly populated municipality, with about 38 persons to the acre; Collingwood has 32; Richmond, 29; Prahran and South Melbourne have about 21;

St. Kilda City, 15; and Melbourne City 14 persons. There are large areas devoted to parks, gardens, and other reserves in many of the municipalities, so that the population is really living closer together than the figures in the table indicate. Melbourne City contains 1,968 acres of such reserves; Kew, 643; South Melbourne, 497; Williamstown, 441; St. Kilda, 297; Caulfield, 305; Richmond, 202; and Brighton, 192 acres. There are smaller areas in other districts, but they do not appreciably affect the question of density of population. The total area of all the reserves is 6,112 acres, and, if these be excluded, the number of persons to the acre in the places named will be as follows:—Richmond, 33; South Melbourne, 27; Melbourne City, 19; St. Kilda, 18; Williamstown, 8; and Kew, 5; in Brighton and Caulfield the proportions will remain about the same.

In the following return Victoria is shown in three divisions, the first being the Metropolitan (Greater Melbourne) District, or the area extending in all directions for a distance of 10 miles from the centre of the city; the second, the other urban districts, including the total space embraced in cities, towns, and boroughs (present or former) outside the limits of Greater Melbourne; and the third, rural districts, including the remaining portions of the State. The population of each of those divisions at the end of 1916, the ratio of its population to that of the whole State, and the number of persons to the square mile were as follows:—

URBAN AND RURAL POPULATION, 1916.

Divisions.	Estimated Area in Square Miles.	Estimated Population, 31st Dec., 1916.		
		Total.	Proportion per cent.	Persons to the Sq. Mile.
Metropolitan	255	695,640	49.70	2,728
Other Urban	376	204,176	14.59	543
Total Urban	631	899,816	64.29	1,426
Rural	87,253	499,963	35.71	5.7
Total State	87,884	1,399,779	100.00	15.9

The urban is greater than the rural population, and the population of the metropolis alone is almost 50 per cent. of that of the whole State. The corresponding proportions for the years 1910-16 are shown in the following statement:—

PROPORTION OF POPULATION OF GREATER MELBOURNE TO THAT OF THE WHOLE OF VICTORIA.

Year.	Per cent.	Year.	Per cent.
1910	44.4	1914	47.1
1911	45.1	1915	48.2
1912	45.7	1916	49.7
1913	46.1		

The next return gives the populations of the municipal districts in Greater Melbourne in 1891, 1901, and 1911, the totals for these three years being 490,896, 496,079, and 593,237 respectively. There was a falling off in the cities of Melbourne, Fitzroy, Collingwood, Richmond, Footscray, and South Melbourne between 1891 and 1901, but a recovery between the latter year and 1911. North Melbourne and Flemington and Kensington were annexed by Melbourne during 1905, and the figures for that city in 1891 and 1901 have been adjusted to include those districts. In Prahran, St. Kilda, Brunswick, Essendon, and Hawthorn, there has been a continued increase. Of the towns, Port Melbourne and Williamstown fell away before 1901, but slightly recovered between that year and 1911. There has been a continued increase in Northcote, Brighton, Malvern, Caulfield, Camberwell, and Kew. In the borough of Oakleigh the increase has been continuous. The same remark applies to Coburg, which was a shire in 1891 and 1901, but became a borough in 1905 and a town in 1912. In the shire of Preston there has been an increase in each period. In the parts of shires included in the Greater Melbourne area, the population was 14,217 in 1891; 15,445 in 1901; and 24,873 in 1911.

RETURN SHOWING THE POPULATION OF GREATER MELBOURNE IN 1891, 1901, AND 1911.

Municipal Districts.	Population at the Census of—		
	1891.	1901.	1911.
Cities—			
Melbourne	104,316	97,440	103,593
Fitzroy	32,453	31,687	34,283
Collingwood	35,070	32,749	34,190
Richmond	38,797	37,824	40,442
Brunswick (Town 1891 and 1901)	21,961	24,141	32,215
Prahran	39,703	40,441	45,367
South Melbourne	41,724	40,619	46,190
St. Kilda	19,838	20,542	25,334
Essendon (Town 1891 and 1901)	14,411	17,426	23,749
Hawthorn	19,585	21,430	24,450
Footscray	19,149	18,318	23,643
Towns—			
Northcote	7,458	9,677	17,519
Williamstown	15,960	14,052	15,275
Port Melbourne (Borough 1891)	13,067	12,176	13,515
Brighton	9,858	10,047	12,083
Malvern (Shire 1891)*	8,136	10,619	15,969
Caulfield (Shire 1891)	8,005	9,541	15,919
Camberwell (Shire 1891 and 1901)	6,204	8,602	12,551
Kew (Borough 1891 and 1901)	8,462	9,469	11,152

* Proclaimed a city, 30th May, 1911.

RETURN SHOWING THE POPULATION OF GREATER MELBOURNE IN 1891, 1901, AND 1911—continued.

Municipal Districts.	Population at the Census of—		
	1891.	1901.	1911.
Boroughs—			
Oakleigh	1,236	1,273	2,151
Coburg (Shire 1891 and 1901)* ..	5,752	6,772	9,505
Shires—			
Preston	3,569	4,059	5,049
Parts of Shires, forming remainder of District	14,217	15,445	24,873
Shipping in Hobson's Bay and River ..	1,965	1,730	4,220
Total	490,896	496,079	593,237

* Constituted a town, 9th September, 1912.

Outside Melbourne and suburbs, the most important towns in Victoria are Ballarat, comprising three municipalities; Bendigo, two; Geelong, three; Castlemaine, two; and Warrnambool, Mildura, Maryborough, Hamilton, and Stawell, one each. The populations of these, with their immediate suburbs, according to the census of 1911 and as estimated in 1916, were as follows:—

POPULATION OF CHIEF TOWNS IN VICTORIA, 1911 AND 1916.

Name of Town.	1911 (Census).	1916 (Estimated).
Ballarat	42,403	40,691
Bendigo	39,417	35,790
Geelong	30,273	34,524
Castlemaine	7,020	7,412
Warrnambool	7,010	7,400
Mildura	4,608	5,200
Maryborough	5,675	5,000
Hamilton	4,900	4,700
Stawell	4,410	4,410

There are many other important towns in Victoria, and the following is a list of those which contained a population of 3,000 persons or over in 1916:—

Town.	Estimated Population in 1916.	Town.	Estimated Population in 1916.
Ararat ...	4,500	Horsham ...	3,550
Colac ...	4,250	Sale	3,519
Wangaratta ...	4,030	Camperdown ...	3,470
Echuca ...	4,000	Beechworth ...	3,450
St. Arnaud ...	3,900	Bairnsdale ...	3,350
Daylesford ...	3,820	Kyneton ...	3,300
Wonthaggi ...	3,700	Shepparton ...	3,175

The average annual rates at which the population has increased (1) in the whole State, (2) in Melbourne and Suburbs, and (3) in remainder of the State, are shown hereunder :—

AVERAGE ANNUAL RATE OF INCREASE OF POPULATION IN THE WHOLE STATE, IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, AND IN REMAINDER OF STATE, 1851 TO 1916.

Period.	In Victoria.		In Melbourne and Suburbs.		In Remainder of State.	
	Rate of Natural Increase.	Rate of Total Increase.	Rate of Natural Increase.	Rate of Total Increase.	Rate of Natural Increase.	Rate of Total Increase.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1851-60 ...	2.01	21.59	*	13.62	*	26.67
1861-70 ...	2.46	3.05	1.96†	3.91	2.63†	2.74
1871-80 ...	1.87	1.70	1.33	3.31	2.11	1.01
1881-90 ...	1.66	2.80	1.53	5.56	1.74	1.17
1891-1900...	1.47	.55	1.36	.25	1.55	.77
1901 ...	1.26	1.28	.98	1.35	1.46	1.24
1902 ...	1.18	.26	.99	.25	1.31	.26
1903 ...	1.15	-.06	.95	.58	1.29	-.51
1904 ...	1.27	.28	1.05	1.14	1.42	-.34
1905 ...	1.27	.85	1.05	1.64	1.43	.27
1906 ...	1.27	1.26	1.02	2.06	1.46	.67
1907 ...	1.35	1.28	1.14	2.35	1.51	.49
1908 ...	1.22	.84	1.02	2.62	1.37	-.51
1909 ...	1.35	1.56	1.16	2.85	1.49	.56
1910 ...	1.29	1.31	1.07	2.57	1.47	.30
1911 ...	1.36	2.37	1.18	2.07	1.51	2.62
1912 ...	1.44	3.10	1.38	4.71	1.48	1.79
1913 ...	1.49	2.29	1.50	3.59	1.47	1.20
1914 ...	1.40	1.31	1.41	3.53	1.39	-.58
1915 ...	1.34	-.90	1.36	1.48	1.33	-3.02
1916 ...	1.25	-1.36	1.27	1.70	1.23	-4.21

* Not available.

† Average 1862-1870.

It will be observed that the rate of natural increase (excess of births over deaths) has during all periods except the last four years been less in Melbourne than in other portions of the State, while the rate of total increase has usually been greater. It would appear from this that the metropolis has been gaining population at the expense of the country districts. The higher rate of natural increase in extra-metropolitan areas is due principally to the low death rates there prevailing, and this favorable mortality can only be partially accounted for by the migration from country to town of persons in indifferent health. The greater vitality in

country districts shows the advantage to be derived from a large increase in the population of these portions of the State.

The following table shows the population of each Australian State and New Zealand at each census from 1851 to 1911:—

POPULATION OF THE SIX STATES OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1851-1911.

State.	1851.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.
Victoria ..	77,345	540,322	731,528	862,346	1,140,405	1,201,070	1,315,551
New South Wales ..	191,099	350,860 30,059	503,981	751,468	1,132,234	1,354,846	1,648,448
Queensland }			117,960	213,525	393,718	498,129	605,813
South Australia ..	63,700	126,830	185,626	279,865	320,431	363,157	411,868
Western Australia ..	5,886	15,100	25,270	29,708	49,782	184,124	282,114
Tasmania ..	70,130	89,977	101,020	115,705	146,667	172,475	191,211
Australia ..	408,160	1,153,148	1,665,385	2,252,617	3,183,237	3,773,801	4,455,005
New Zealand	22,108	84,536	257,810	489,933	626,658	772,719	1,008,407

In the next table is shown the estimated population of each Australian State (excluding aborigines) at the end of 1916, also the increase of population since the census of 1911, and the number of persons to the square mile.

POPULATION OF EACH AUSTRALIAN STATE AND NEW ZEALAND, 31st DECEMBER, 1916.

State.	Estimated Population, 31st December, 1916.			Increase since Census of 1911. (2nd April.)	Persons to the Square Mile.
	Males.	Females.	Total.		
Victoria ..	666,931	732,848	1,399,779	84,228	15.9
New South Wales ..	923,603	934,941	1,858,544	211,810	6.0
Queensland ..	344,557	324,910	669,467	63,654	1.0
South Australia ..	201,103	230,711	431,814	23,256	1.1
Western Australia ..	159,998	148,808	308,806	26,692	.3
Tasmania ..	99,839	100,086	199,925	8,714	7.6
Territories—					
Northern ..	3,839	928	4,767	1,457	.01
Federal ..	1,194	1,029	2,223	509	2.5
Australia ..	2,401,064	2,474,261	4,875,325	420,320	1.6
New Zealand ..	550,033	550,125	1,100,158	91,754	10.5

Australian States —
Increase of
population,
1851 to 1911.

The subjoined table contains particulars as to the movement of population by immigration and emigration, and as to the natural increase by excess of births over deaths in each of the Australian States since 1851:—

TABLE SHOWING INCREASE OF POPULATION IN AUSTRALIAN STATES, 1851 TO 1911.

Period.	Increase by Excess of Immigration over Emigration.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania	Australia.
1851-61 (Census period)	400,045	126,314		35,750	6,510	7,709	576,328
1861-71 "	41,789	48,247	68,581	17,060	6,386	- 5,183	176,880
1871-81 "	- 15,322	107,536	58,904	45,032	- 135	- 770	195,245
1881-91 "	116,950	171,061	114,835	- 28,275	12,973	5,993	393,537
1891-01 "	- 111,848	- 4,064	16,693	- 15,568	118,441	- 2,179	1,475
1901-11 "	- 42,340	45,564	19,708	- 5,406	53,723	- 14,592	56,657
Total ..	389,274	494,658	278,721	48,593	197,898	- 9,022	1,400,122
Natural Increase (i.e., Excess of Births over Deaths).							
1851-61 (Census period)	62,932	63,506		27,380	2,704	12,138	168,660
1861-71 "	149,417	104,874	19,320	41,736	3,784	16,226	335,357
1871-81 "	146,140	139,951	36,661	49,207	4,573	15,455	391,987
1881-91 "	161,109	209,705	65,358	68,841	7,101	24,969	537,083
1891-01 "	172,513	226,676	87,718	58,294	15,901	27,987	589,089
1901-11 "	156,821	248,038	87,976	54,117	44,267	33,328	624,547
Total ..	848,932	992,750	297,033	299,575	78,330	130,103	2,646,723
Total Increase.							
1851-61 (Census period)	462,977	189,820		63,130	9,214	19,847	744,988
1861-71 "	191,206	153,121	87,901	58,796	10,170	11,043	512,237
1871-81 "	130,818	247,487	95,565	94,239	4,438	14,685	587,232
1881-91 "	278,059	380,766	180,193	40,566	20,074	30,962	930,620
1891-01 "	60,665	222,612	104,411	42,726	134,342	25,808	590,564
1901-11 "	114,481	293,602	107,684	48,711	97,990	18,736	681,204
Total ..	1,238,206	1,487,408	575,754	348,168	276,228	121,081	4,046,845

Some very interesting results are disclosed by this table. During the ten years 1901-11 Australia gained 56,657 persons by immigration—there being increases from this source in Western Australia, New

South Wales, and Queensland, and decreases through excess of emigration over immigration in the other States, Victoria losing no less than 42,340 persons. Over the whole period of 60 years the excess of births over deaths contributed 65½ per cent. to the total increase of population, excess of immigration over emigration being responsible for the remaining 34½ per cent. Tasmania is the only State which has suffered a loss of population by migration over the whole period since 1851, the departures since that date having exceeded the arrivals by 9,022 persons.

The tabulation which follows shows, according to the census of 1911, the number of persons at the supporting and dependent ages, in each of the Australian States and in New Zealand, in every 10,000 of the population :—

Effective strength of population in Australasia.

STRENGTH OF AUSTRALASIAN POPULATION, 1911.

State, Dominion, or Territory.	Numbers in every 10,000 Persons living.		
	At Supporting Ages (15 to 65 Years).	At Dependent Ages.	
		Under 15 Years.	65 Years and upwards.
Western Australia	6,639	3,124	237
Victoria	6,432	3,050	518
South Australia	6,414	3,119	467
New Zealand	6,395	3,131	474
New South Wales	6,383	3,212	405
Queensland	6,312	3,313	375
Tasmania	6,084	3,504	412
Northern Territory	8,197	1,470	333
Federal Capital Territory	6,272	3,227	501

Leaving out of account the Northern Territory, where the conditions are abnormal, and the Federal Capital Territory, Western Australia stands, as might be expected, far ahead of all the States in the relative strength of its population, and this is undoubtedly due to the development of gold mining there in recent years, and the consequent large immigration of adult males from all the adjoining States. Victoria, which in 1901 had fallen to the fifth place on the list, now occupies the position next to Western Australia. Tasmania has relatively the weakest population of any of the States.

Victoria has the largest proportion of old people in its population, viz., 518 per 10,000, and is followed by New Zealand with 474, South Australia with 467, Tasmania with 412, and New South Wales with 405. In Queensland and Western Australia the proportions are much lower.

Relative strength of population of Australasia.

Old persons in Australasia.

The enumerated populations of Australasian capital cities during the past 55 years are shown in the following table. Melbourne during that time has made good progress, more especially in the decennial period, 1881-91, when the increase was 73 per cent. Between 1891 and 1901 the population remained almost stationary, but in the intercensal period 1901 to 1911 there was an increase of 97,158. Sydney, which since 1902 has been the most populous city in Australasia, had 761,600 inhabitants in 1916. These two cities contain about 30 per cent. of the population of the Commonwealth.

POPULATION OF AUSTRALASIAN CAPITAL CITIES, 1861 TO 1916.

Capital City (with Suburbs).	Enumerated Population at the Census of—						Estimated Population, 31st Dec., 1916.	Persons to the Acre 1916.
	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.		
Melbourne	139,916	206,780	282,947	490,896	496,079	593,237	695,640	4·26
Sydney ..	95,789	137,776	224,939	383,283	481,830	636,355	764,600	6·46
Brisbane ..	6,051	15,029	31,109	101,554	119,428	140,977	168,393	·86
Adelaide ..	18,303	42,744	103,864	133,252	162,094	191,312	223,718	1·31
Perth ..	*	*	*	*	66,832	109,375	120,000	1·35
Hobart ..	24,773	26,004	27,248	33,450	34,604	40,335	39,632	·85
Wellington	4,176	7,908	20,563	34,190	49,344	70,729	95,208	5·43

* Not available.

It will be noticed that the population of Sydney is more concentrated than that of any other metropolitan city, the population of Melbourne being spread over about one and a half times the corresponding area. In Adelaide and Perth there is only about one person, and in Brisbane and Hobart less than one person, to the acre.

The populations of the principal towns in Australia and New Zealand are given in the following statement. In the case of the capital cities, and of several of the larger towns mentioned, the suburbs are included:—

POPULATION OF PRINCIPAL TOWNS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1916.

VICTORIA.		VICTORIA—continued.	
	Population.		Population.
Melbourne and Suburbs (in- cluding Shipping)	.. 695,640	Warrnambool ..	.. 7,400
Ballarat and Suburbs	.. 40,691	Mildura ..	.. 5,200
Bendigo ..	.. 35,790	Maryborough ..	.. 5,000
Geelong ..	.. 34,524	Hamilton ..	.. 4,700
Castlemaine ..	.. 7,412	Stawell ..	.. 4,410

POPULATION OF PRINCIPAL TOWNS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND,
1916—continued.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

	Population.
Sydney and Suburbs (including Shipping) ..	764,600
Newcastle and Suburbs ..	58,750
Broken Hill ..	26,200
Parramatta ..	12,200
Maitland East and West ..	11,600
Granville ..	11,100
Auburn ..	10,850
Goulburn ..	9,900
Lithgow ..	9,900
Bathurst ..	8,450
Lismore ..	8,000
Lidcombe ..	7,950
Tamworth ..	7,700
Orange ..	7,000
Wagga Wagga ..	6,900
Katoomba ..	6,500
Grafton and Grafton South ..	6,350
Albury ..	6,350

QUEENSLAND.

Brisbane and Suburbs* (including Shipping) ..	168,393
Ipswich* ..	25,000
Toowoomba* ..	24,200
Rockhampton* ..	20,915
Charters Towers† ..	17,295
Townsville* ..	13,835
Gympie* ..	12,419
Mount Morgan* ..	12,023
Bundaberg* ..	11,988
Maryborough* ..	11,626

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Adelaide and Suburbs (including Shipping) ..	223,718
Port Pirie ..	10,376
Mount Gambier ..	3,332
Walleroo ..	3,240

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

(Census 1911.)

	Population.
Perth and Suburbs (including Shipping) ..	109,375
Kalgoorlie (including Boulder) ..	31,666
Fremantle ..	14,499
Bunbury ..	3,763
Albany ..	3,586
Geraldton ..	3,478
Northam ..	3,361

TASMANIA.

Hobart and Suburbs (including Shipping) ..	39,632
Launceston ..	24,577
New Norfolk ..	6,424
Zeehan ..	6,001
Devonport ..	5,096

NEW ZEALAND.

(Census 1916.)

Auckland and Suburbs ..	134,099
Wellington and Suburbs ..	95,208
Christchurch and Suburbs ..	92,413
Dunedin and Suburbs ..	68,729
Wanganui ..	19,546
Invercargill ..	17,870
Napier ..	14,743
Palmerston North ..	14,003
Timaru ..	13,939
Gisborne ..	12,664
Nelson ..	9,890
New Plymouth ..	9,795
Grey Valley Boroughs ..	8,356
Hastings ..	7,918
Hamilton ..	7,533

* Ten mile-radius.

† Five-mile radius.

Populations
of British
Dominions.

The next table gives the distribution of population throughout the whole of the British Empire, and includes all protectorates except the Soudan:—

BRITISH DOMINIONS.—AREAS AND POPULATIONS.

Territory.	Estimated Area, Square Miles.	Year of Census (c) or Estimate.	Ascertained or Estimated Population.	Population per Square Mile.
EUROPEAN.				
England and Wales	58,324	1914	36,960,684	634
Scotland	29,796	1914	4,747,167	159
Ireland	32,605	1914	4,381,398	134
Isle of Man	227	1911 c	52,034	229
Channel Islands	75	1911 c	96,900	1,292
Total United Kingdom	121,027	..	46,238,183	382
Gibraltar	2	1914	18,036	9,018
Malta	117	1914	218,542	1,868
Total	121,146	..	46,474,761	384
ASIATIC.				
British India	1,092,994	1911 c	244,221,377	223
Feudatory Native States	709,118	1911 c	70,864,995	100
British North Borneo	31,106	1911 c	208,183	7
Brunei	4,000	1913	22,000	5.5
Ceylon	25,481	1914	4,317,022	169
Cyprus	3,584	1914	290,738	81
Federated Malay States	27,506	1914	1,136,500	41
Hong Kong	391	1914	392,700	1,004
Labuan	28	1914	6,746	241
Sarawak	42,000	1914	500,000	12
Straits Settlements	1,572	1914	752,359	479
Weihaiwei	285	1911 c	147,133	516
Others	26,432	1915	962,147	36
Total	1,964,497	..	323,821,900	165

BRITISH DOMINIONS.—AREAS AND POPULATIONS—*continued.*

Territory.	Estimated Area, Square Miles.	Year of Census (c) or Estimate.	Ascertained or Estimated Population.	Population per Square Mile.
AFRICAN.				
Basutoland	11,716	1911 c	404,507	35
Bechuanaland Protectorate..	275,000	1911 c	125,350	46
British East Africa Protec- torate	207,909	1914	2,783,925	13
Egypt	12,226	1907 c	11,189,978	915
Mauritius and Dependencies	809	1914	383,257	474
Nigeria	336,080	1914	17,500,000	52
Nyasaland	39,315	1914	1,089,298	28
Rhodesia.. .. .	439,575	1914	1,612,500	4
Somaliland	68,000	1914	359,819	5
Union of South Africa	473,100	1914	6,465,000	14
Uganda Protectorate	109,119	1914	2,927,494	27
Zanzibar	1,020	1913	199,462	196
Others	115,535	1911 c	3,179,089	28
Total	2,089,404	..	48,219,679	23
AMERICAN.				
Bermudas	19	1914	20,443	1,076
British Guiana	89,480	1914	309,938	3
Canada	3,729,665	1914	8,075,000	2.17
Falkland Islands	7,500	1914	3,301	.44
Honduras	8,598	1914	41,543	5
Labrador	120,000	1914	4,016	.03
Newfoundland	42,734	1914	247,710	6
West Indies	12,228	1914	1,781,534	146
Total	4,010,224	..	10,483,485	2.6
AUSTRALASIAN.				
Australia.. .. .	2,974,581	1916	4,875,325	1.6
New Zealand	104,751	1916	1,100,158	10.5
Papua	90,540	1914	380,000	4.2
Total	3,169,872	..	6,355,483	2.0
OCEANIC.				
Fiji	7,435	1914	155,167	21
Tonga	390	1914	23,325	60
British Solomon Islands	14,800	1915	150,660	10
Gilbert and Ellice Islands	180	1914	31,518	175
Total	22,805	..	360,670	16
GRAND TOTAL of British Dominions	11,377,948	..	435,715,978	38.3

Populations of
countries
engaged in
the War.

The following table contains the latest estimated populations of the countries engaged in the great war:—

POPULATIONS OF COUNTRIES ENGAGED IN THE WAR.

The Allies.	Population.	Central Powers.	Population.
Great Britain and Ireland	46,238,000	Germany	67,812,000
Canada	8,075,000	Austria-Hungary	49,882,000
Australia	4,875,000	Turkey	21,273,000
New Zealand	1,100,000	Bulgaria	4,752,000
South Africa (exclusive of native population)	1,390,000		
France	39,601,000		
Russia in Europe	128,864,000		
Italy	36,120,000		
Belgium	7,571,000		
Japan (including Japanese residing abroad)	54,283,000		
Serbia	4,547,000		
Montenegro	516,000		
Portugal	5,957,000		
Roumania	7,508,000		
United States (exclusive of negroes)	91,285,000		
Total	437,930,000	Total	143,719,000

The populations of colonies and dependencies are not included except where stated, also no account has been taken of the population of Siberia and other outlying portions of Russia.

Population of
the world.

The estimated population of the world is given below. Arctic regions are included in the continents to which they belong; Antarctic regions are too ill-defined to enable an approximate calculation of the distribution of land and water to be made.

THE WORLD.—ESTIMATES OF AREA AND POPULATION.

Divisions	Area in Square Miles (000's omitted).	Estimated Population (000's omitted).	Population per Square Mile.
Europe	3,860,	440,864,	114·2
Asia	17,000,	950,000,	55·9
Africa	11,500,	150,000,	13·0
North America	8,548,	130,000,	15·2
South America	7,342,	47,000,	6·4
Australasia and Polynesia	3,400,	7,400,	2·2
Total	51,650,	1,725,264,	33·4

Populations of the principal cities of the world.

The following list contains the latest estimated populations of some of the principal cities of the world. In most cases capital cities have been selected, but, where their importance has warranted it, others have been included:—

POPULATION OF THE PRINCIPAL CITIES OF THE WORLD.

City.	Country.	Year of Enumeration or Estimate.	Population.
Greater London	England	1911	7,252,963
New York	United States	1915	5,468,190
Paris	France	1911	2,888,110
Chicago	United States	1915	2,447,875
Vienna	Austria	1914	2,149,834
Petrograd	Russia	1914	2,133,100
Berlin	Prussia	1912	2,083,391
"	"	1916	1,828,418
Tokio	Japan	1913	2,050,126
Moscow	Russia	1915	1,817,100
Philadelphia	United States	1915	1,683,664
Buenos Aires	Argentine Republic	1916	1,598,571
Osaka	Japan	1913	1,395,823
Calcutta	India	1911	1,222,313
Constantinople	Turkey	1915	1,203,000
Glasgow	Scotland	1914	1,047,000
Hamburg	Germany	1914	1,040,400
Rio de Janeiro	Brazil	1914	983,259
Bombay	India	1911	979,445
Manchester (with Salford)	England	1914	973,513
Buda-Pest	Hungary	1914	950,784
Canton	China	1911	900,000
Birmingham	England	1914	868,430
Tient-sin	China	1911	800,000
Warsaw	Russia	1915	769,299
Brussels	Belgium	1914	780,852
Liverpool	England	1914	767,992
Sydney	New South Wales	1916	764,600
Boston	United States	1915	745,139
Cairo	Egypt	1914	726,075
Naples	Italy	1915	697,917
Melbourne	Victoria	1916	695,640
Pekin	China	1912	692,500
Milan	Italy	1915	663,059
Munich	Bavaria	1914	653,827
Bangkok	Siam	1909	628,675
Leipzig	Saxony	1914	627,199
Amsterdam	Holland	1914	609,984
Montreal	Canada	1913	600,000
Madrid	Spain	1910	599,897
Rome	Italy	1915	590,960
Madras	India	1911	518,660
Dublin	Ireland	1914	406,000
Belfast	Ireland	1914	399,000
Toronto	Canada	1911	376,538
Washington	United States	1915	358,679
Edinburgh	Scotland	1914	321,900

It will be seen from the above table that Sydney is the eighth and Melbourne the ninth city in the British Empire.

Chinese and
aborigines in
Victoria.

In the subjoined table is given the population of Victoria at each of the last six census enumerations, Chinese and Aborigines being distinguished :—

POPULATION OF VICTORIA, DISTINGUISHING CHINESE AND ABORIGINES, AT SIX CENSUS PERIODS.

Year of Census.	Total Population—including Chinese and Aborigines.			Chinese.			Aborigines.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1861	540,322	328,651	211,671	24,732	24,724	8	1,694	1,046	648
1871	731,528	401,050	330,478	17,935	17,899	36	1,330	784	546
1881	862,346	452,083	410,263	12,128	11,869	259	780	460	320
1891	1,140,405	598,414	541,991	9,377	8,772	605	565	325	240
1901	1,201,341	603,883	597,458	7,349	6,740	609	652	367	285
1911	1,315,551	655,591	659,960	5,601	4,956	645	643	340	303

Chinese first began to arrive in Victoria in 1853, and at the census of 1854, 2,000 were enumerated. In 1857, when the next census was taken, they had increased to 25,424; and at the end of 1859 it was estimated that they numbered no less than 42,000. Soon after this an exodus of Chinese took place, chiefly to New South Wales, it being estimated that, besides those who departed by sea, as many as 11,000 went over the frontier to work at the Lambing Flat diggings in that colony. In consequence of this the census of 1861 showed the number of Chinese remaining in Victoria to be only 24,732, or 692 less than in 1857. Since 1861 there has been a continuous decrease in the Chinese population. At the census of 1901 they reached a total of 7,349, and at the census of 1911 they numbered only 5,601 (including 894 half-castes). The Chinese Immigration Restriction Act passed in December, 1888 (afterwards *Chinese Restriction Act* 1890) was largely instrumental in later years in limiting the number of immigrants. This Act provided that no vessel should enter any portion of the State having on board more than one Chinese to every 500 tons of her burden, and that, in the event of any vessel bringing more than this proportion, her owner, master, or charterer would be liable to a penalty of £500 for every one by which it should be exceeded; also that any Chinese who should enter Victoria by land should obtain a permit in writing from an officer duly appointed to grant it, and failing to do so should be liable to a penalty ranging from £5 to £20. Under the Immigration Restriction Act of the Commonwealth the practice is not to permit the landing of Chinese unless they pass the prescribed dictation test, or hold permits dispensing with that condition.

Arrivals and departures of Chinese.

During each of the years in the four year period ended 1915 the number of Chinese who left Victoria was greater than the number entering the State, but in 1916 the reverse was the case. The net decrease in the Chinese population in the last five years by excess of emigration over immigration was 271. The figures for each year are :—

CHINESE IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION, 1912 TO 1916.

Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of— Arrivals (+). Departures (-).
1912	545	556	- 11
1913	475	579	- 104
1914	323	501	- 178
1915	530	592	- 62
1916	481	397	+ 84
Total	2,354	2,625	- 271

Decrease of Aborigines.

At the first colonization of Victoria the Aborigines were officially estimated to number about 5,000, but according to other and apparently more reliable estimates they numbered at that time not less than 15,000. When the colony was separated from New South Wales, the number was officially stated to be 2,693. At the 1911 census there were enumerated 643 Aborigines, consisting of 196 of pure blood and 447 half-castes. These figures indicate that the race is gradually but surely dying out, for, although the half-castes increased by 66 between 1901 and 1911, the pure race showed a decrease of 75 in the ten years. From the records of the Aborigines Board it would appear that all the pure race and a number of half-castes are under the care of that body, in the following stations :—

NUMBER OF ABORIGINES UNDER CARE AT STATIONS IN VICTORIA, 1915-16.

Station.	Area of Reserves.	Total Number under care.
	Acres.	
Coranderrk	2,400	58
Lake Condah	2,050	49
Lake Tyers	4,000	70
Framlingham	548	37
Colac and Lake Moodemere	41	8
Depôts .. .. .	..	55
Total	9,039	277

Of the Aborigines not enumerated in the table, some are residing elsewhere than at the stations, but receive supplies of food and clothing when they call; while others prefer to lead a wandering life, and but rarely come under the notice of the Board.

During the year 1915-16 11 deaths occurred, 3 at Lake Condah, 4 at Lake Tyers, 1 at Framlingham, 2 at Coranderrk, and 1 at Wahgunyah. There were 5 births — 4 at Coranderrk and 1 at Lake Tyers.

The amount expended on the maintenance of Aborigines during the year was £4,601. The following statement contains particulars of the net cost of Aborigines in Victoria (including cost of administration) from 1851 to 1916 :—

Amount expended	£391,447
Revenue from stations paid into the Consolidated Revenue ..	13,152
Net cost	378,295

The following is a statement of the number of Chinese and Aborigines in each State and Territory of the Commonwealth and in the Dominion of New Zealand at the census of 1911 :—

CHINESE AND ABORIGINES IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1911.

States and Territories.	Chinese.		Aborigines.			
	Males.	Females.	Full Blood.		Half-caste.	
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
States—						
Victoria	4,956	645	103	93	237	210
New South Wales ..	8,500	855	1,152	860	2,335	2,177
Queensland	6,138	576	5,145	3,542	1,361	1,147
South Australia .. .	291	68	802	637	346	346
Western Australia..	1,808	64	3,433	2,936	760	715
Tasmania	450	79	2	1	123	104
Territories—						
Northern Territory	1,228	111	743	480	117	127
Federal Capital Territory	3	..	5	5	4	4
Australia	23,374	2,398	11,385	8,554	5,283	4,830
New Zealand	2,542	88	24,184	21,479	2,291	1,890

There are more Chinese in New South Wales and Queensland than in the other States, but they appear to be steadily diminishing in Australia as a whole. In each State except Western Australia the number enumerated in 1911 was smaller than in

Decrease of Chinese in Australia.

1901—the total decrease in Australia in the decade amounting to 7,785 persons. In Western Australia they increased from 1,569 to 1,872 in the same period.

The enumeration of Aborigines, owing to their nomadic habits, was incomplete. The numbers given represent only those who were in the employ of whites at the date of the census, or were living in a civilized or semi-civilized condition in the vicinity of settlements of whites at that time. No attempt was made to count those who were living in a purely wild state. The Maoris enumerated at the census of 1911 in New Zealand show an increase of 2,113 over those returned in 1906, and this increase the authorities in New Zealand state may be taken as a fair index of the position.

With a view to restricting the immigration of Asiatics and other coloured persons, the Commonwealth Parliament passed the Immigration Restriction Act in 1901, which provides that any person, who, when asked to do so by a public officer, fails to write out from dictation and sign in the presence of the officer a passage of fifty words in any prescribed language, is prohibited from landing in Australia. Certificates of exemption are granted in certain cases, and members of the military and naval forces, as well as the master and crew of any public vessel of any government, are excepted. The Act appears to have achieved its purpose, judging by the small number of coloured persons who have been admitted to the Commonwealth since it commenced to operate. The following are the numbers of coloured persons, other than Chinese, who have entered or left Victoria since 1st April, 1901:—

IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION OF COLOURED PERSONS (OTHER THAN CHINESE) FROM 1st APRIL, 1901, TO 31st DECEMBER, 1916.

Year.	Immigrants.	Emigrants.	Excess of— Arrivals (+) Departures (-).
From 1st April, 1901, to 31st Dec., 1901	609	483	+ 126
1902	307	525	- 218
1903	96	92	+ 4
1904	48	75	- 27
1905	58	136	- 78
1906	71	129	- 58
1907	41	79	- 38
1908	64	62	+ 2
1909	69	69	..
1910	137	156	- 19
1911	104	77	+ 27
1912	133	74	+ 59
1913	117	91	+ 26
1914	58	67	- 9
1915	79	97	- 18
1916	80	92	- 12
Total	2,071	2,304	- 233

The number of coloured persons in Victoria was ascertained at the census of 1911. Chinese were found to number 5,601, and other coloured persons 1,583—a total of 7,184, as compared with 8,622 at the previous census in 1901.

NUMBER OF PERSONS OF COLOURED RACES (EXCLUSIVE OF ABORIGINES) IN VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1911.

Race.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Full-blood.	Half-caste.	Full-blood.	Half-caste.	Full-blood.	Half-caste.
Asiatic—						
Chinese	4,491	465	216	429	4,707	894
Hindus	720	73	9	32	729	105
Japanese.. .. .	39	13	8	7	47	20
Syrians	244	11	197	5	441	16
Cingalese.. .. .	14	1	1	3	15	4
Other	31	8	2	9	33	17
African—						
Negroes	44	27	11	36	55	63
Other	3	..	..	..	3	..
American—						
American Indians	3	1	..	1	3	2
Other	3	3	..	4	3	7
Polynesians—						
Maoris	5	2	2	2	7	4
Other	2	..	3	1	5	1
Indefinite	1	2	..	..	1	2
Total	5,600	606	449	529	6,049	1,135

Coloured persons in Australia.

Persons of non-European race (exclusive of Aborigines) in Australia were found to number 42,230 in 1911. If to this be added 19,939 full-blooded aborigines and 10,113 half-castes, the total of the enumerated coloured persons in the Commonwealth as at the date mentioned will be 72,282. Details are given in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16.

Aliens arriving in and departing from Australia.

According to the statistics for the Commonwealth prepared in connexion with the Immigration Restriction Act, the number of persons of coloured races who arrived in Australia in 1916 was 4,307, and of those who departed 3,429, the excess of arrivals over departures thus being 878. Most of the coloured persons who left Australia were Chinese, Japanese, Malays, Hindoos, and Papuans, and, of those who arrived, the greater number were formerly domiciled in the Commonwealth.

Naturalization. Under the "Commonwealth Naturalization Act No. 11 of 1903," the right to issue certificates of naturalization was taken from the States, and vested in the Commonwealth. This Act came into force on 1st January, 1904. All persons who, prior to that date, had been granted letters or certificates of naturalization in the various States, are to be deemed naturalized. To obtain a certificate a person, not being an aboriginal native of Asia, Africa, or any of the islands of the Pacific (excepting New Zealand), must have resided in Australia continuously for the two years immediately preceding the application, and must produce, in support of his application, a statutory declaration stating his name, age, birthplace, occupation, and residence, the length of his residence in Australia, and that he intends to settle in the Commonwealth, in addition to a certificate of good character signed by a justice of the peace, postmaster, State school teacher, or police officer. If a person has been naturalized in the United Kingdom, he must produce the certificate, also a declaration that he is the person named in it, that he obtained it without any fraud or misstatement, and that he intends to settle in the Commonwealth. An alien woman who marries a British subject becomes naturalized thereby. Children of naturalized parents, who have at any time resided in Australia with their father or mother, have all the rights, powers, and privileges of naturalized persons, and this provision also applies to the children of an alien mother married to a natural-born British subject, or to a person who has obtained a certificate of naturalization. Under the State Act Chinese were allowed to take out

letters of naturalization, but owing to the large increase in such applications, 1,178 of which were granted in 1885, it was decided in 1886 to issue no more "unless a sufficient reason was assigned," with the result that only 173 were issued in 1886, and 16 in 1887. None have been granted since the latter date. The following are the native countries of persons naturalized in Victoria from 1871 to 1916, from which it will be seen that about 33 per cent. of the total were Germans, and 20 per cent. Chinese:—

NATURALIZATION, 1871 TO 1916.

Native Places.	Numbers Naturalized in each Year.					Total Naturalized, 1871 to 1916.
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	
France	17	17	15	11	5	353
Belgium	2	4	7	1	...	62
Austria	13	21	66	1	1	374
Germany	110	173	648	60	39	4,860
Russia	13	38	111	18	4	690
Norway and Sweden ...	29	74	142	104	57	4,751
Other European Countries	80	92	190	142	90	
United States	6	13	16	15	11	266
China ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2,060
Other Countries	16	2	7	26	4	214
Total	295	434	1,202	378	211	14,539

MUNICIPAL STATISTICS.

Early legislation. Amongst the various enactments which became law for Victoria on its separation from New South Wales, was a provision in the Imperial Act authorizing the Governor to incorporate the inhabitants of every county, to form districts for the purpose of local government, and to establish elective District Councils, with power to frame by-laws for making and maintaining roads, establishing schools, levying local tolls and rates, &c. Many of the provisions of the Act were found to be unworkable and expensive in the details, and the District Councils therefore discontinued their meetings and practical working under the Act. Improved legislation being required, an Act was passed in 1853, establishing a central Road Board for the whole Colony, with an Inspector-General and staff, and also providing for the creation of local Road Districts under the management of Road Boards. This Act made provision chiefly for local government in country districts, and the greater part of it remained in force until 1863, when it was repealed, and replaced by the Roads Districts and Shires Act. In the meanwhile suburban districts and towns were growing up, and in 1859 an Act was passed for the establishment of municipal institutions in Victoria. This Act also continued in force till 1863, when its chief provisions were merged into the Municipal Corporations Act. Further improvements and extensions have been made from time to time in the Acts dealing with local government, and it is now practically universal throughout Victoria, the whole area of the State (except French Island) being divided into urban or rural municipal districts. The former are called cities, towns, and boroughs, and the latter shires.

The laws relating to local government were amended and consolidated by the *Local Government Act* 1915. The councils of municipalities have power to levy rates, which, together with licence-fees, subsidies received from the State, market dues, rents, and sanitary charges, form their chief sources of income. Their principal functions are to make, maintain, and control streets, roads, bridges, ferries, culverts, sewers, drains, water-courses, and jetties within their respective boundaries; and, under proper by-laws, to control the traffic and regulate the markets, pounds, abattoirs, baths, and places of recreation; also to make arrangements for sewerage,

lighting, water supply, and carrying on of noxious trades, and to act as local Boards of Health.

Any portion of Victoria, not exceeding in area nine square miles, and having no point in such area distant more than six miles from any other point therein, which contains at least 500 inhabitant householders, and rateable property capable of yielding £300 per annum upon a rate of one shilling in the pound, may be constituted a borough. Any borough having during the preceding financial year a revenue of £10,000 may be declared a town; or, having a revenue of £20,000, may be declared a city. Any portion of Victoria containing rateable property capable of yielding £1,500 on a rate of one shilling in the pound may be constituted a shire. There are 51 cities, towns, and boroughs in Victoria, and 139 shires. The Governor in Council may unite any two or more boroughs which form one contiguous area so as to form one borough, notwithstanding that the area would exceed the limits above specified; may unite any number of municipalities, one of which is a shire, which form one contiguous area, so as to form one shire; and may sever any portion of a municipal district and attach it to another, annex an outlying district, subdivide any municipal district into any number of divisions not exceeding eight, alter the boundaries, or abolish the subdivisions.

Townships.

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

Municipal councillors.

Each municipality existing at the commencement of the original Act, 29th December, 1854—now incorporated in the Act of 1915—is allowed the number of councillors then assigned to it; but in other cases the number must be some multiple of three, not less than six nor more than 24. The number is usually nine. If the district is subdivided, the number of councillors is three for each subdivision. If at any time in any municipality there is no council or there are not enough councillors to form a quorum, a commissioner may be appointed by the Governor in Council to exercise the powers of the council. Male persons liable to be rated in respect of property in the municipal district of the rateable annual value of £20 at least, whether consisting of one or more tenements, are qualified to hold the office of councillor. The election of councillors takes place annually. One-third of the councillors retire each year by rotation, but retiring councillors may be re-elected. The councillors elect their own chairman; who, in the case of cities, towns, and boroughs, is called the mayor; in the case of shires, the president.

Municipal electors.

Every person (male or female) 21 years of age or upwards, liable to be rated in respect of property within a municipal district, in respect of which all rates, made before 10th

March of the year, have been paid, shall be entitled to be enrolled as a voter. Plurality of votes is allowed upon the following scale :—

IN CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES.

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

IN SHIRES.

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

No person may be enrolled in respect of property rated under £5 a year, unless there is a house on the property, and he resides there. The occupier and the owner are not to be both enrolled in respect of the same property, the former having the prior right of enrolment. Corporations liable to be rated may nominate not more than three persons to be enrolled in their stead, and joint occupiers and owners, not exceeding three, are each entitled to be enrolled. If there be more than three, then the three standing first on the last rate valuation or return are so entitled. The *Voting by Post Act* 1915 may be made applicable to the elections for any municipality on the petition of the councillors.

Rateable property. All land situated in a municipal district is rateable property except the following :—Crown lands; land used exclusively for commons, mines, public worship, mechanics' institutes, public libraries, cemeteries, primary free schools, and charitable purposes; land vested in or held by or in trust for any municipality, local governing body, or commissioners under the Water Acts; and land vested in fee in the Railways Commissioners, Minister of Public Instruction, Board of Land and Works, Harbor Trust Commissioners, and Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works. The expression "land" includes, of course, all buildings and improvements thereon. For the purpose of rating the valuation of property is computed at its net annual value, that is to say, at the rent at which the same might reasonably be expected to let from year to year, free of all usual tenants' rates and taxes, and deducting therefrom the probable annual average cost of insurance and other expenses (if any) necessary to maintain the property in a state of command such rent: provided that no rateable property shall be computed as of an annual value of less than £5 per centum upon the fair capital value of the fee-simple thereof. In the case of certain Crown lands, held for pastoral purposes only, the provision that the annual value

must not be less than 5 per cent. on the capital value does not apply, but the occupier is rated on the actual net annual value of the property.

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

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

Melbourne and Geelong—the latter of which for many years ranked next in importance to the metropolis—having been incorporated under special statutes prior to the establishment of municipal government on a large scale throughout the State, are not subject to the Local Government Acts, except in a few comparatively unimportant particulars. Melbourne was incorporated as a town in 1842, and was ordained a city in 1847. Geelong was incorporated as a town in 1849, and proclaimed a city in 1910.

**Amalgamation
of
Municipalities.**

Under the provisions of the *Local Government Acts Amendment Act 1914* the following municipalities were united from the 1st October, 1915:—

BOROUGHS.

Majorca, united with Shire of Tullaroop
 Carisbrook, united with Shire of Tullaroop
 Raywood, united with Shire of Marong
 Buninyong, united with Shire of Buninyong
 Browns and Scarsdale, united with Shire of Grenville
 Smythesdale, united with Shire of Grenville
 Tarnagulla, united with Shire of Bet Bet
 Malmsbury, united with Shire of Kyneton
 Talbot, united with Shire of Talbot.

SHIRES.

Epping, united with Whittlesea
 Mount Alexander, united with Newstead
 Meredith, united with Bannockburn
 Mount Franklin, united with Glenlyon
 Templestowe, united with Doncaster
 Merriang, united with Broadmeadows.

From the 31st May, 1916, the following municipalities were united:—

BOROUGH.

Chewton, united with Shire of Metcalfe.

SHIRES.

Lancefield, united with Romsey.
 Springfield, united with Romsey.

New Municipality. A portion of the Shire of Moorabbin was excised on 26th February, 1917, and constituted a separate municipality with the title of Borough of Sandringham.

Municipalities: 1912-13 to 1916-17. The total number of municipalities throughout the State in which local government was being administered at the end of the year 1916 was 190. Of these, 18 ranked as cities, 7 as towns, 26 as boroughs, and the remainder (139) as shires. The following is a summary of the estimated population, number of ratepayers, estimated number of dwellings (inhabited and

uninhabited), total and annual value of rateable property, and annual revenue of cities, towns, boroughs, and shires in each of the five years ended 1916-17.

MUNICIPALITIES : 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Popula- tion.	Number of Rate- payers.	Estimated Number of Dwellings.		Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue.
			In- habited.	Unin- habited.	Total.	Annual.	
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs—							
1912-13 ..	777,696	200,679			£ 127,743,501	£ 7,270,972	£ 1,259,569
1913-14 ..	802,479	203,773	173,646	2,895	137,649,219	7,790,654	1,320,545
1914-15 ..	825,078	209,276	180,410	3,725	147,205,224	8,218,040	1,378,006
1915-16 ..	824,170	208,759	182,445	3,293	149,235,137	8,335,553	1,407,021
1916-17 ..	829,368	213,520	184,417	3,377	154,105,571	8,537,302	..
Shires—							
1912-13 ..	583,909	173,271			160,128,933	8,152,473	840,080
1913-14 ..	600,431	175,637	152,654	3,748	164,268,467	8,255,505	854,433
1914-15 ..	608,828	181,480	134,349	3,530	167,405,523	8,517,938	827,466
1915-16 ..	617,587	184,374	137,799	3,619	169,724,979	8,606,509	847,206
1916-17 ..	618,896	187,894	138,801	3,196	172,309,539	8,732,116	..
Total—							
1912-13 ..	1,361,605	373,950			237,872,434	15,423,445	2,099,649
1913-14 ..	1,402,910	379,410	326,300	6,643	301,917,636	16,046,159	2,175,023
1914-15 ..	1,433,906	390,756	314,759	7,255	314,610,747	16,735,978	2,205,472
1915-16 ..	1,441,757	393,133	320,244	6,912	318,960,116	16,942,062	2,254,227
1916-17 ..	1,448,264	401,414	323,218	6,573	326,415,110	17,319,418	..

**Increases in
value of
rateable
properties and
municipal
revenue.**

It will be observed from the following figures that there has been a very substantial increase in the estimated value of rateable property and in the revenue of municipalities during the period covered by the foregoing table :—

INCREASE IN VALUE OF PROPERTIES AND IN MUNICIPAL REVENUE.

	Increase.		
	1916-17 over 1912-13.		1915-16 over 1912-13.
	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Revenue from all sources.
	Total.	Annual.	
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs	£ 26,362,070	£ 1,316,330	£ 147,452
Shires	12,180,606	579,643	7,126
Total Increase	38,542,676	1,895,973	154,578

The number of ratepayers returned for 1916-17 was 401,414, and the total capital value of rateable property £326,415,110, which is equivalent to about 18½ years' purchase on the basis of the annual value of £17,319,418.

Properties rated in municipalities.

The properties upon which the municipalities have levied rates during the past five years have steadily increased, as is shown in the following statement:—

NUMBER OF PROPERTIES RATED IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Properties Rated.		
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	In Shires.	Total.
1912-13	233,939	231,904	465,843
1913-14	240,077	247,923	482,000
1914-15	247,802	249,434	497,236
1915-16	248,100	255,958	504,058
1916-17	251,050	260,297	511,347

The following is a statement of the estimated population, number of ratepayers, total and annual value of rateable property, annual endowment payable by the Government, total revenue, and amount of rate levied in the £1 in each city, town, and borough in Victoria. The information relates to the municipal year, 1916-17, except as regards the item "revenue," which is for 1915-16:—

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHES, 1916-17.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Ratepayers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1915-16.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
CITIES.							
			s. d.	£	£	£	£
Ballarat ..	20,546	5,831	2 3	2,598,960	173,264	34,539	..
Bendigo ..	25,000	6,520	2 0	2,939,302	209,943	39,101	..
Brunswick ..	38,810	9,603	2 4	5,496,020	274,801	43,234	..
Camberwell ..	18,030	5,491	2 0	4,358,980	217,949	29,887	..
Caulfield ..	25,400	10,000	2 4	5,786,160	289,308	46,697	..
Collingwood ..	35,900	7,870	2 0	4,602,016	276,121	31,530	..
Essendon ..	31,850	9,020	2 0	4,958,900	247,945	29,937	..
Fitzroy ..	35,200	7,686	1 8	6,118,650	339,925	34,429	..
Footscray ..	29,920	6,318	2 4	4,452,900	222,645	43,275	..
Geelong ..	15,393	4,374	2 4	2,833,540	141,677	27,062	..
Hawthorn ..	23,170	6,334	2 0	5,797,080	289,854	32,355	..
Malvern ..	26,000	7,186	2 3	6,103,100	305,155	39,418	..
Melbourne ..	107,170	23,927	1 2	44,813,620	2,240,681	467,761	..
Northcote ..	25,120	6,800	2 3	3,427,400	171,370	35,852	..
Prahran ..	48,570	11,639	1 9	7,355,256	612,938	62,470	..
Richmond ..	41,000	9,221	2 1	5,868,504	326,028	39,991	..
South Melbourne ..	48,760	10,341	2 0	9,665,700	483,285	63,253	..
St. Kilda ..	31,420	7,043	2 0	4,698,480	391,540	44,838	..
TOWNS.							
Ballarat East ..	15,515	3,871	2 0	1,276,335	85,089	14,437	..
Brighton ..	18,000	3,890	2 3	3,747,780	187,389	23,799	..
Coburg ..	14,320	6,320	2 3	1,426,350	95,090	14,058	..
Kew ..	13,550	3,650	2 1	2,048,835	136,589	17,632	..
Port Melbourne ..	13,200	2,900	2 3	1,238,750	99,100	20,737	..
Warrnambool ..	7,400	1,608	2 0	1,190,440	59,522	20,973	..
Williamstown ..	13,200	6,200	2 3	1,958,400	130,560	18,198	..

CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGH—continued.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1915-16.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
BOROUGHES.							
			<i>s. d.</i>	£	£	£	£
Ararat ..	4,500	1,064	2 6	262,070	26,207	12,422	25
Castlemaine ..	5,650	1,650	2 0	456,787	38,543	6,114	25
Clunes ..	1,700	346	1 6	60,452	8,636	3,083	37
Creswick ..	2,100	591	1 9	80,210	8,021	2,455	38
Daylesford ..	1,820	796	2 3	279,600	18,644	3,957	25
Dunolly ..	1,150	330	1 6	60,540	6,054	1,102	25
Eaglehawk ..	7,500	1,950	2 0	388,728	32,394	7,045	25
Echuca ..	4,012	1,080	2 0	303,312	24,265	6,205	25
Geelong West ..	8,651	2,244	1 10	1,016,140	50,807	12,037	25
Hamilton ..	4,700	1,162	2 3	732,140	36,607	7,294	25
Horsham ..	3,550	790	2 6	448,800	26,400	6,460	50
Inglewood ..	1,260	330	1 6	77,760	6,480	1,782	25
Koroit ..	2,387	433	2 0	322,420	16,121	3,464	25
Maryborough ..	5,000	1,201	1 6	260,600	26,060	5,448	25
Newtown and Chilwell ..	6,900	1,696	1 9	873,600	43,680	5,259	25
Oakleigh ..	4,940	1,967	2 3	807,780	40,389	7,248	60
Portland ..	2,240	664	2 2	377,580	18,379	4,341	25
Port Fairy ..	2,000	487	2 0	289,000	14,450	4,061	25
Queenscliff ..	1,625	524	2 0	248,040	12,402	2,188	50
Rutherglen ..	1,300	375	1 6	112,560	11,256	2,241	40
Sale ..	3,519	960	1 9	400,200	20,010	8,187	25
Sebastopol ..	2,380	455	2 0	83,904	6,992	1,335	40
Stawell ..	4,410	900	2 3	197,310	19,731	7,235	25
St. Arnaud ..	3,900	988	1 9	367,880	18,394	2,963	25
Wangaratta ..	4,030	903	1 10	588,240	29,412	4,316	25
Wonthaggi ..	3,700	991	2 0	248,400	20,700	3,375	..
Total ..	829,368	213,620	..	154,105,571	8,587,302	1,407,021	755

Shires,
1916-17.

The next table gives a list of the shires, and similar particulars to those shown for the cities, towns, and boroughs:—

SHIRES, 1916-17.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1915-16.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
			<i>s. d.</i>	£	£	£	£
Alberton ..	5,300	1,236	1 3	1,679,220	83,961	7,706	706
Alexandra ..	3,000	752	1 3	898,040	44,902	4,114	393
Arapiles ..	2,713	682	1 0	837,280	41,864	2,554	154
Ararat ..	7,500	1,900	1 3	3,211,080	160,554	12,931	650
Avoca ..	4,000	1,470	1 3	800,520	40,026	3,444	243
Avon ..	2,900	780	1 0	800,020	40,001	2,407	293
Bacchus Marsh ..	3,150	720	1 6	830,880	41,544	3,982	206
Bairnsdale ..	8,500	1,950	1 0	1,996,420	99,821	10,195	714
Ballan ..	4,000	1,040	1 3	721,720	36,086	3,076	287
Ballarat ..	4,475	931	1 0	1,212,660	60,633	3,931	227
Bannockburn ..	3,050	805	1 0	1,065,780	53,289	4,506	288
Barrabool ..	2,070	455	1 4	752,900	37,645	3,317	213
Beechworth ..	6,000	1,400	1 4	846,980	28,915	7,159	273
Belfast ..	2,620	653	1 4	1,058,760	52,938	4,321	325

SHIRES—continued.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.		Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1915-16.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
			s.	d.	Total.	Annual.		
			s.	d.	£	£	£	£
Bellarine ..	4,820	1,796	1	3	1,037,800	51,890	3,977	243
Benalla ..	8,000	2,850	1	0	2,507,340	125,367	15,537	725
Berwick ..	7,500	2,500	1	6	1,630,240	81,512	7,882	500
Bet Bet ..	4,600	1,015	1	0	649,580	32,479	2,472	213
Birchip ..	1,900	525	1	0	1,035,540	51,777	3,888	200
Borong ..	6,000	1,390	1	0	2,519,080	125,954	9,677	540
Braybrook ..	2,200	2,200	1	3	1,016,580	50,829	6,158	160
Bright ..	5,400	1,400	1	3	707,620	35,331	3,956	375
Broadford ..	2,120	484	1	6	378,020	18,901	1,499	150
Broadmeadows ..	3,403	1,951	1	3	1,149,480	57,474	6,568	270
Bulla ..	2,600	418	1	3	612,600	30,630	3,636	175
Buln Buln ..	4,800	1,412	1	6	1,152,220	57,611	5,804	625
Bungaree ..	4,800	925	1	9	629,260	31,463	3,682	400
Buninyong ..	6,385	2,100	1	4	1,269,500	63,475	5,287	300
Charlton ..	3,350	733	1	0	1,056,660	52,833	4,311	275
Chiltern ..	2,997	825	1	0	453,000	30,200	2,416	196
Colac ..	14,500	3,260	1	3	5,273,540	263,677	23,791	600
Corio ..	3,045	963	1	6	1,374,140	68,707	7,439	350
Cranbourne ..	4,600	1,546	1	6	1,153,620	57,681	5,199	235
Creswick ..	5,000	1,074	1	0	1,103,440	55,172	3,882	388
Dandenong ..	7,000	4,420	2	0	1,491,200	74,560	13,785	262
Deakin ..	3,300	922	1	0	1,290,580	64,529	3,758	223
Dimboola ..	6,200	1,265	1	6	1,709,880	85,494	6,854	309
Donald ..	3,219	783	1	0	974,400	43,720	4,677	233
Doncaster ..	2,146	801	1	6	621,980	31,099	2,992	197
Dundas ..	3,350	1,162	1	0	2,032,820	101,641	5,865	525
Dumunkle ..	5,000	1,087	1	0	1,857,760	92,888	6,063	600
East Loddon ..	1,700	500	1	3	920,000	46,000	3,606	275
Eitham ..	3,575	1,405	1	6	770,540	38,527	4,223	210
Euroa ..	5,500	1,136	1	6	1,125,660	56,283	5,702	325
Fernfree Gully ..	5,000	2,400	2	0	961,560	48,073	6,173	450
Flinders ..	3,600	2,850	1	6	870,080	43,504	4,251	130
Frankton ..								
Frankton and Hastings ..	3,600	2,139	1	9	753,860	37,943	4,114	212
Glaborne ..	2,250	700	1	3	597,420	29,871	2,298	170
Glanalg ..	5,950	1,533	1	0	2,429,620	121,481	8,529	600
Glanlyon ..	5,378	1,178	1	3	325,020	32,502	2,524	227
Gordon ..	3,800	857	1	0	1,032,100	51,605	4,363	370
Goulburn ..	3,000	562	1	0	674,180	33,709	3,059	175
Gressville ..	5,995	1,660	1	3	718,440	47,896	4,420	302
Hampden ..	9,850	2,320	1	6	5,523,820	276,191	27,454	375
Healesville ..	2,100	860	2	0	458,260	22,913	3,300	240
Heidelberg ..	11,750	4,950	1	6	2,379,480	118,974	28,710	250
Heytesbury ..	5,000	1,176	1	6	1,713,260	85,663	7,992	550
Howqua ..	1,300	281	1	6	80,120	4,006	847	100
Huntly ..	3,500	994	1	0	908,780	45,439	3,188	200
Kara Kara ..	4,200	1,350	1	6	1,183,560	59,428	6,277	338
Karkaroc ..	5,500	1,310	1	0	2,324,840	114,242	8,866	475
Kellar ..	1,025	550	1	3	426,540	21,327	1,462	50
Kerang ..	9,300	2,358	1	0	3,003,840	150,192	12,781	500
Kilmore ..	2,000	545	1	6	204,840	20,484	2,230	137
Korong ..	6,300	1,396	1	6	1,088,300	54,415	4,845	325
Kowree ..	3,852	1,313	1	0	1,351,163	84,448	5,579	435
Kyneton ..	7,020	2,130	1	0	1,366,280	69,314	8,947	360
Lawliot ..	3,300	624	1	6	544,005	36,267	3,431	193
Leld ..	1,500	605	1	3	1,023,500	51,175	3,718	275
Lexton ..	1,900	584	1	0	803,360	40,413	3,073	200
Lilydale ..	6,650	2,775	1	9	1,388,800	69,480	8,725	400
Lowan ..	4,100	1,300	1	6	820,000	41,000	3,903	300
Maffra ..	4,250	1,090	1	0	1,451,460	72,573	6,356	500
Maldon ..	4,000	1,236	1	0	704,000	35,200	2,901	187
Manasfield ..	3,500	986	1	3	1,182,820	59,116	5,738	450
Marong ..	6,700	2,290	1	3	1,789,680	89,484	6,902	460
Melton ..	1,750	331	1	3	437,655	29,177	2,379	118
Metcalf ..	3,650	960	1	0	470,337	37,627	2,650	164

SHIRES—continued.

Name.	Estimated Population.	Number of Rate-payers.	Amount of General Rate levied in the £1.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Total Revenue 1915-16.	Annual Endowment payable by the Government.
				Total.	Annual.		
Mildura ..	6,750	1 432	8 4.	£ 1,386,100	£ 69,305	£ 11,835	£ 238
Minhamite ..	2,000	562	1 0.	1,330,480	66,524	5,001	325
Mirboo ..	1,350	351	1 6	483,740	24,187	2,360	350
Moorabbin ..	15,500	6,450	2 0	3,354,280	167,714	32,763	300
Mornington ..	1,000	777	1 9	447,480	22,374	3,563	115
Mortlake ..	2,912	683	1 3	2,200,660	110,033	8,385	350
Morwell ..	3,200	849	1 3	915,080	45,754	4,414	450
Mount Rouse ..	2,480	700	1 0	1,569,200	78,460	5,981	200
Mulgrave ..	2,558	935	2 0	567,480	28,374	3,486	225
McIvor ..	4,160	1,138	1 0	756,200	37,810	3,082	225
Narracan ..	5,400	1,335	1 6	1,281,740	64,087	6,592	650
Newham and Woodend ..	2,480	553	1 6	425,200	21,260	3,128	150
Newstead and Mount Alexander ..	4,450	1,019	1 0	529,320	26,466	2,147	168
Namurkah ..	6,750	1,582	1 0	2,451,640	122,582	9,348	600
Nunawading ..	9,846	3,720	2 2	1,937,080	96,854	13,600	475
Omco ..	3,200	1,470	1 6	853,180	42,659	5,248	850
Orbost ..	3,200	950	1 6	740,000	37,000	5,028	478
Oxley ..	4,670	1,034	1 0	1,078,920	53,946	3,226	375
Phillip Island and Woolamal ..	3,870	2,300	1 6	1,128,720	56,436	5,843	550
Poowong and Jeetho ..	7,500	1,537	1 3	1,832,000	91,600	10,082	1,000
Portland ..	5,300	1,980	1 0	1,729,420	86,471	5,743	500
Preston ..	7,590	3,418	2 0	1,178,920	58,946	10,821	325
Pyalong ..	1,150	345	1 6	422,480	21,124	2,371	115
Ripon ..	4,400	1,190	1 3	1,769,640	88,482	8,051	225
Rochester ..	5,307	1,574	1 0	1,267,400	63,370	5,680	250
Rodney ..	6,718	1,634	1 0	2,114,980	105,749	7,723	437
Romsey ..	3,750	889	1 3	1,265,600	63,280	4,436	307
Rosedale ..	4,000	1,100	1 0	1,545,580	77,279	5,440	544
Rutherglen ..	4,800	750	1 3	794,860	39,743	3,408	225
Seymour ..	4,100	1,111	1 0	828,500	41,425	4,164	425
Shepparton ..	8,300	1,702	1 0	2,149,300	107,465	10,514	475
South Barwon ..	3,000	1,315	1 9	570,920	28,546	3,222	139
South Gippsland ..	4,125	1,020	1 6	989,540	49,477	5,601	525
Stawell ..	3,698	1,230	1 3	1,455,800	72,790	5,931	312
Strathfieldsaye ..	3,800	1,080	1 3	476,760	23,838	2,298	139
Swan Hill ..	6,800	2,600	1 0	2,214,020	110,701	9,363	275
Talbot ..	2,000	630	1 3	476,220	23,811	2,476	135
Tambo ..	3,100	1,014	1 9	673,480	33,674	4,372	520
Towong ..	6,300	1,600	1 0	1,895,920	94,796	8,423	900
Traralgon ..	3,300	864	1 6	986,840	49,342	7,719	446
Tullaroop ..	4,536	1,339	1 0	495,330	33,022	2,695	209
Tungamah ..	5,568	1,562	1 0	1,768,220	88,411	7,013	450
Upper Yarra ..	3,500	1,069	2 4	528,260	26,413	2,863	225
Violet Town ..	3,000	690	1 0	765,380	38,269	2,306	225
Walhalla ..	2,000	383	2 0	45,864	5,733	1,071	285
Walpeup ..	3,025	1,452	1 0	1,397,560	60,878	5,535	..
Wangaratta* ..	2,700	802	1 0	656,840	32,842	2,364	148
Wannon ..	2,700	782	1 0	1,975,960	98,798	6,470	431
Warraga ..	4,800	1,315	1 0	1,655,860	82,793	6,122	375
Warragul ..	4,000	1,063	1 10	1,165,880	58,294	7,487	900
Warrnambool ..	8,700	2,012	1 0	3,888,400	194,420	14,608	690
Werribee ..	5,000	3,860	1 6	1,632,000	76,600	8,762	300
Whittlesea ..	3,620	1,002	1 3	968,160	48,408	4,336	230
Wimmera ..	4,250	1,040	1 0	1,637,460	81,873	5,787	365
Winehelea ..	4,350	1,370	1 3	1,476,540	73,827	6,171	425
Woodonga ..	2,100	588	1 3	500,660	25,033	2,608	171
Woorayl ..	4,495	1,239	1 9	1,335,300	66,765	8,090	1,050
Wycheproof ..	4,200	1,081	1 0	1,304,960	65,248	6,351	332
Yackandandah ..	4,000	980	1 3	757,620	37,881	3,238	358
Yarrowonga ..	3,310	802	1 0	756,280	37,814	5,280	285
Yea ..	2,520	720	1 6	880,700	44,035	3,427	382
Total ..	618,896	187,894	..	172,309,539	8,732,116	847,206	48,467

* Formerly North Ovens.

The following is the number of cities, towns, and boroughs, and the number of shires in which rates were struck in each of the last five years at the amounts set down in the first column:—

RATINGS IN MUNICIPALITIES, 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

Amount levied in the £1.	Number of Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.					Number of Shires.				
	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.
s. d.										
1 0	6	6	6	..	..	68	60	67	58	53
1 1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
1 2	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
1 3	2	1	1	2	..	38	39	39	38	33
1 4	..	..	..	..	..	2	3	2	2	4
1 6	11	11	10	4	5	26	31	25	26	31
1 7	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
1 8	2	2	2	2	1	..	..	..	..	8
1 9	6	3	3	4	5	7	8	7	7	8
1 10	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	1
2 0	19	22	22	19	17	5	5	6	7	7
2 1	2	2	1	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
2 2	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	1
2 3	8	8	10	11	11	..	..	..	..	..
2 4	1	2	2	4	4	..	..	..	..	..
2 6	3	3	2	2	2	1	1	..	..	1
Total ..	61	61	61	52	51	147	147	147	141	139

These figures give an average rating of 1s. 10½d. in the £1 in cities, towns, and boroughs, and of 1s. 3d. in shires. The rating in the urban districts is thus shown to be over 7d. in the £1 more than in the rural districts. It will be observed that no municipality during the last five years imposed the minimum rate allowed by law, viz., 6d., but that several reached the maximum of 2s. 6d. in the £1.

The following return shows the proportion of properties at different rateable values at the different rateable values at three dates. It will be seen that there was very little alteration in the eight years intervening between the first and last dates:—

PROPORTION OF PROPERTIES AT DIFFERENT RATEABLE VALUES, 1901-2, 1905-6, AND 1909-10.

Rateable Values.	Number of Properties in every 100 Rated.								
	In Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			In Shires.			In Victoria.		
	1901-2.	1905-6.	1909-10.	1901-2.	1905-6.	1909-10.	1901-2.	1905-6.	1909-10.
Under £25 ...	72.6	72.9	70.1	63.1	64.6	63.9	67.8	68.8	67.0
£25 to £50 ...	18.3	18.0	20.3	23.4	20.6	18.8	20.9	19.3	19.5
£50 " £75 ...	4.2	4.2	4.9	5.6	6.2	7.3	4.9	5.2	6.1
£75 " £100 ...	1.7	1.8	1.5	3.5	3.5	3.5	2.6	2.6	2.5
£100 " £200 ...	2.0	2.0	2.0	3.1	3.6	4.6	2.5	2.8	3.3
£200 " £300 ...	.6	.5	.5	.6	.7	1.0	.6	.6	.8
£300 " £400 ...	.2	.2	.2	.2	.3	.3	.2	.2	.3
£400 " £500 ...	.1	.1	.1	.1	.1	.2	.1	.1	.1
£500 and upwards	.3	.3	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4	.4

Municipal
revenue and
expenditure.

The ordinary revenue and expenditure for each of the last three financial years was as follows:—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF MUNICIPALITIES,
1914 TO 1916.

Sources of Revenue.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Taxation—	£	£	£
Rates	1,251,649	1,277,063	1,346,439
Licences	108,106	104,634	105,772
Dog Fees	21,807	20,158	20,528
Government Endowment and Grants	144,374	140,545	74,372
Contributions for Streets, Footpaths, &c.	63,260	52,472	52,045
Market and Weighbridge Dues	70,620	63,646	63,812
Sanitary Charges	83,982	85,971	91,125
Rents	76,803	72,133	59,006
Other Sources	354,427	388,850	441,128
Total	2,175,028	2,205,472	2,254,227
Heads of Expenditure.			
Salaries, &c.	192,066	199,872	206,353
Sanitary Work, Street Cleansing, &c.	206,271	225,919	236,766
Lighting	89,926	93,381	95,420
Contributions to Fire Brigades	28,361	30,277	32,086
Public Works—			
Construction	315,480	274,593	238,773
Maintenance	814,459	811,608	847,505
Formation of Private Streets, &c.	70,465	62,012	68,024
Redemption of Loans	80,576	92,738	101,461
Interest on Loans	239,737	252,912	262,760
Charities	18,026	19,406	18,801
Other Expenditure	151,613	174,945	180,018
Total	2,206,980	2,237,663	2,287,967

As compared with 1915, the revenue of 1916 increased by £48,755, as follows:—Rates increased by £69,376, sanitary charges by £5,154, licences by £1,138, dog fees by £370, market and weighbridge dues by £166, and “other sources” by £52,278. The revenue from contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., decreased by £427; Government endowment and grants by £66,173; and rents by £13,127. The expenditure was in excess of the amount for the previous year by £50,304. The following items showed increases:—Salaries, £6,481; sanitary work and street cleansing, £10,847; lighting, £2,039; contributions to Fire Brigades, £1,809; public works maintenance, £35,897; formation of private streets, £6,012; redemption of loans, £8,723; interest on loans, £9,848; and other expenditure, £5,073. There were decreases under the headings of public works construction, £35,820; and charities, £605.

Sixty per cent. of municipal revenue in 1916 was derived from rates, 5 per cent. from licences of all kinds, 3 per cent. from market and weighbridge dues, 1 per cent. from dog fees, 3 per cent. from Government endowments and grants, 2 per cent. from contributions for streets, footpaths, &c., 4 per cent. from sanitary charges, 3 per cent. from rents, and 19 per cent. from all "other sources."

Salaries. In 1916 the salaries of the municipal officers amounted to £206,353, or 9 per cent. of the entire revenue.

Local charities. A sum of £18,801, or less than 1 per cent. of the revenue, was devoted to the local charities; the greater part of this disbursement was in aid of hospitals, benevolent asylums and associations, and orphan asylums.

Assets and liabilities of municipalities. The assets of the municipalities are shown under three heads—(1) Municipal Fund, (2) Loan Fund, (3) Property; and the liabilities under two heads—(1) Municipal Fund, (2) Loan Fund.

MUNICIPAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 1914 TO 1916.

Assets.	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£	£	£
Municipal Fund—			
Uncollected Rates	120,200	147,886	146,491
Other Assets	652,530	760,685	392,876
Loan Funds—			
Sinking Funds—			
Amount at Credit	878,322	839,951	792,445
Arrears Due	1,327	1,326	834
Unexpended Balances	351,923	378,278	209,363
Property—			
Halls, Buildings, Markets, &c.	3,799,038	3,863,556	3,750,947
Waterworks	180,485	175,267	177,050
Gasworks	103,435	99,107	105,124
Total Assets	6,087,260	6,266,056	5,575,130
Liabilities.	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£	£	£
Municipal Fund—			
Due on Current Contracts	74,451	71,729	73,005
Arrears due to Sinking Funds	1,327	1,326	834
Overdue Interest	19,771	13,776	14,456
Bank Overdrafts	206,694	213,330	252,130
Other Liabilities	356,884	410,576	221,183
Loan Funds—			
Loans Outstanding	5,617,056	5,739,084	5,869,260
Due on Loan Contracts	69,181	237,765	15,888
Total Liabilities	6,345,364	6,687,586	6,446,756

**Municipal
assets and
liabilities
compared.**

The total assets of municipalities in 1916 amounted to £5,575,130, and the total liabilities to £6,446,756. The aggregate of the current liabilities (Municipal Fund) was £561,608, against which there were assets amounting to £539,367. The gross liability on account of loan expenditure for works completed and in progress was £5,885,148, which, after deducting sinking funds and unexpended balances, was reduced to £4,882,506. If credit were taken for the value of municipal properties in markets, halls, buildings, gasworks, electric light works, waterworks, &c. (£4,033,121), the net burden on account of loan moneys would be £849,385.

The valuation of municipal properties is probably an underestimate, as the particulars furnished under this heading were not in every case complete.

**Endowment of
municipalities.** An annual endowment to municipalities of £310,000 was authorized by the *Local Government Act* 1874, and it ceased to be payable in 1879. A subsidy, however, in lieu of such endowment, amounting to £310,000, was voted by Parliament annually, and this vote was gradually increased until £450,000 was reached in 1889-90 and 1890-91. Under the *Local Government Act* 1891, £450,000 was provided as an annual endowment for the municipalities. This amount was reduced to £405,000 per annum from 1st January, 1893; to £310,000 from 1st July, 1893; to £100,000 from 1st July, 1894; and to £50,000 from 1st July, 1902. Under Act No. 2025 it was increased to £75,000 for the year 1906-7, and from the 1st July, 1907, it was increased under Act No. 2129 to £100,000. Payments were made on the basis of this amount to 30th June, 1915, but for the financial years 1915-16 and 1916-17 it was reduced to £50,000 under the authority of Acts Nos. 2805 and 2872. The endowment is payable in equal moieties in March and September of each year, and no city or town is entitled to receive any part of it. The distribution amongst the boroughs and shires is based on the amount of general and extra rates received in the twelve months ended on the last day of September next preceding the financial year 1907-8, according to the following scale :—

To every borough or first-class shire	..	3s. in the £1	
„ second-class shire	..	5s.	„
„ third-class shire	..	6s.	„
„ fourth-class shire	..	8s.	„
„ fifth-class shire	..	10s.	„
„ sixth-class shire	..	12s.	„

RATING ON UNIMPROVED VALUES BY MUNICIPALITIES.

Rating on unimproved values. An Act was passed by the State Parliament on 3rd February, 1914, to provide for optional rating by municipalities on the basis of the unimproved values of rateable property. This measure does not come into operation until proclaimed by the Governor in Council, which proclamation may be made when the values of land made by assessors in the various parts of the State under the *Land Tax Act* 1910 are available for adoption.

Any municipality may adopt the method of rating set forth in the Act, but two months before doing so must publish in the *Government Gazette* and twice in some newspaper circulating in the district a notice of its intention to take such course. If one-tenth of the ratepayers in writing demand a poll the proposal must be submitted by the council to the ratepayers, and it shall not be deemed to be carried unless affirmed by a majority of the valid votes recorded, and unless the number of valid votes recorded forms at least one-third of the number of persons on the roll. Where a council of a municipality has not published a notice that it intends to adopt the Act one-tenth of the ratepayers may demand a poll. If a proposal is adopted or rescinded it cannot be again submitted to the ratepayers for three years. Special properties such as railways, tramways, waterworks, hydraulic works, electric light and power works, gas works, and any undertaking extending continuously beyond the boundaries of any municipal district which is subject to more than one separate valuation, although there is no actual separation of the different parts of the property, are not rateable on unimproved values.

WORKERS' DWELLINGS.

Workers' dwellings. An Act to enable municipal councils to provide workers' dwellings was passed by the State Parliament in February, 1914.

The houses are to be leased to persons who are not owners of dwelling houses in Victoria or elsewhere and who are not in receipt of incomes of more than £200 a year. Sub-letting by tenants is not permitted. In fixing rents of dwelling houses account is to be taken of interest, depreciation, rates, repairs, and insurance. Before constructing new houses plans showing the classes of houses to be built are to be submitted for the approval of the Governor in Council. The amount that may be borrowed for the purposes of the Act by any one municipality is not to exceed £50,000. Power is given to increase the general rate

to recoup advances from the municipal fund, but so far as practicable all advances are to be repaid out of the profits accruing from transactions under the Act. Once in every year a balance-sheet has to be prepared showing receipts and expenditure relating to all operations undertaken during the previous year; also assets and liabilities.

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD.

Country Roads Board. With the object of improving the main roads of the State an Act was passed on 23rd December, 1912 (Consolidated Act No. 2635), which empowers the Governor in Council to appoint a board to consist of three members. The chairman is to be paid an annual salary not exceeding £800, and each of the other members a salary not exceeding £600.

Duties. The duties of the board are to ascertain by survey and investigation what roads are main roads; the nature and extent of the resources of Victoria in metals, minerals, and materials suitable for the purposes of road-making and maintenance, and the most effective and economical methods of dealing with the same, and of supplying and utilizing the material in any part of Victoria; the most effective methods of road construction and maintenance; what deviations (if any) in existing roads or what new roads should be made so as to facilitate communication and improve the conditions of traffic; and to record, publish, and make available for general information the results of all such surveys and investigations. The duty of furnishing information that may be required is imposed on the municipal authorities.

The construction of permanent works and the maintenance of main roads are likewise to be carried out by the municipalities to the satisfaction of the board, but power is reserved to the Governor in Council to direct that permanent works and maintenance shall be carried out by the board.

Finance. For the purpose of making permanent works, power is given to the Governor in Council to issue stock or debentures to the amount of £400,000 a year for five years, and the principal and interest are a charge upon the Consolidated Revenue of the State. The money so raised is to be placed to the credit of an account to be called "the Country Roads Board Loan Account," which will be debited with all payments made by the Treasurer towards the cost of permanent works. A sinking fund of 1 per cent. per annum on half the amount borrowed is authorized to be paid out of the Consolidated Revenue until half the amount borrowed is redeemed. The total cost of the works, in the first instance, is to be paid by the Treasury, but subsequently half the amount expended

is to be refunded by the municipalities affected. In the case of expenditure on permanent works, an annual payment to the Treasurer of 6 per cent. on the amount due by each municipality is provided for, and the cost of maintenance, allocated to each municipality, must be paid out of the municipal fund before the 1st July in each year. A special rate not to exceed 6d. in the £1 on the net annual value of rateable property, to meet the cost of permanent works and maintenance, may be levied in any ward or riding of a municipality as the council may direct. In the event of default of payment by a municipality the board may levy a rate to meet the amount owing. All fees and fines paid under the Motor Car Act, all moneys standing to the credit of the Municipal Fees and Fines Trust Fund, all fees paid on the registration or renewal of the registration of traction engines, and all fees received by the Crown after the 30th June, 1912, under the *Unused Roads and Water Frontages Act 1903* (incorporated in the *Local Government Act 1915*), are to be credited to the Country Roads Board Fund.

Since the appointment of the Board in March, 1913, the members have inspected the principal highways throughout the State. Every Shire Council and Borough Council, with which the Board is likely to have dealings relating to the construction or maintenance of roads declared main roads under the Act, has been interviewed and the provisions of the Act have been explained to it.

During the year 1915-16, constructional work to the value of £464,787, and maintenance work involving an expenditure of £98,878, were undertaken.

A system for the continuous maintenance of all main roads is also gradually being evolved, by which it is hoped that those that are now being constructed or reconstructed will be kept in good condition, while those that are in a fair state of efficiency will be kept up to that standard.

As soon as practicable after the termination of each year the board must present a report to the Minister setting forth its proceedings, the permanent works constructed, the mileage of the roads maintained, and an account of all moneys received and expended under the provisions of the Act.

The rates of fees on registration or renewal of registration of motor cars, motor cycles, and traction engines are as follows:—The owners of motor cycles must pay an annual registration fee of 5s.; of traction engines, £3 3s.; and of motor cars, £1 1s. to £6 6s., according to the horse-power of the vehicles.

Registration
of motors,
&c.

Loan receipts and expenditure.

The expenditure out of loan money on the construction of permanent works for the year ended 30th June, 1916, is shown below:—

COUNTRY ROADS BOARD LOAN ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1916.

Receipts.			Expenditure.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
To Balance	7,424	19 9	By Permanent Works	464,737	2 11
„ Proceeds of Loans	553,650	0 0	„ Temporary Advance — Country Roads Board Fund refunded ..	74,135	15 7
„ Advance from Country Roads Board Fund	44,725	6 8	„ Balance	66,907	7 11
Total	£605,830	6 5	Total	£605,830	6 5

LICENSING FUND.

Licensing fund.

The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Licensing Fund for the year ended 30th June, 1916:—

LICENSING FUND.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1915-1916.

RECEIPTS.			EXPENDITURE.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Voted from Revenue	10,000	0 0	Expenses of officers carrying out the Licensing Act	7,029	8 5
Licences	74,674	18 1	Equivalent to municipalities (see succeeding table)	75,154	0 0
Fees	2,090	3 6	Transferred to Police Superannuation Fund under section 313 of Act No. 2683	23,422	15 9
Fines	4,417	8 6			
Sale of confiscated liquor	50	11 1			
Club certificates and percentage fees	1,361	1 1			
Permits	1,370	0 0			
Expenses of holding extended annual sitting of court	12	5 0			
Compensation assessments	11,629	16 11			
	£105,606	4 2		£105,606	4 2

Licence fees. In addition to the endowment of £50,000 the municipalities received from the Government in 1915-16 a sum of £75,154 out of the Licensing Fund, under Act No. 2683, Section 313, this being the equivalent for (1) fees for licences; (2) fees for the registration of brewers and spirit merchants; and (3) fines, penalties, and forfeitures incurred under the *Licensing Act* 1915. The particulars of this payment are as follows:—

EQUIVALENT FOR LICENCE FEES, ETC., 1915-16.

	£	s.	d.
Paid to Cities	32,093	0	0
" Towns	4,795	0	0
" Boroughs	9,407	0	0
" Shires—			
1st Class	288	0	0
2nd "	12,464	0	0
3rd "	10,137	0	0
4th "	773	0	0
5th "	3,400	0	0
6th "	1,519	0	0
Total	£74,876	0	0
Add payments on account of 1914-15	278	0	0
Amount paid in 1915-16	£75,154	0	0

MUNICIPAL LOANS.

In connexion with loans raised by municipalities, Section 375 of the *Local Government Act* 1915 provides that, when any municipality incurs a loan and the debentures are payable in different years, the Council shall obtain from the Auditor-General a certificate, in writing, that the amounts proposed to be provided in each year will be sufficient to pay all principal moneys and interest as they fall due. The repayments of principal have to be so provided for, that each year of the currency of the loan shall bear its full share towards liquidation.

Councils may borrow for not more than 40 years upon the credit of the municipality for permanent works or undertakings or to liquidate moneys owing on account of any previous loan.

The amount of money borrowed by any municipality is not to exceed ten times the average income of the municipality for the previous three years from general rates not exceeding 1s. 6d. in the £1. But, in addition, loans having a currency of not more than 30 years may be raised upon the security of certain income and not upon the credit of the municipality, by the issue of debentures or by mortgage. These loans are not to exceed five times the average amount of such income.

Municipal indebtedness.

The total loan indebtedness of the municipalities at the end of their financial year was £5,869,260, due to the Government and the public respectively as follows :—

MUNICIPAL INDEBTEDNESS, 1916.

		Due to the Government.	Due to the Public.
		£	£
Cities, Towns, and Boroughs	...	362,714	4,573,089
Shires	... ..	141,751	791,706
Total		504,465	5,364,795
		5,869,260	

Municipal loan receipts and expenditure.

The succeeding statements show the loan receipts and expenditure:—

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1916.

	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.	Shires.	Total.
	£	£	£
Receipts during the year	430,581	69,781	500,312
Balance unexpended from previous year	228,218	30,547	258,765
Expenditure during the year	472,337	77,377	549,714
Balance unexpended at the end of 1916	186,462	22,901	209,363

Municipal loan expenditure 1912 to 1916.

The municipal expenditure of loan moneys during the year 1916 amounted to £549,714, of which £472,337 was spent by cities, towns, and boroughs, and £77,377 by shires.

MUNICIPAL LOAN RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE : RETURN FOR FIVE YEARS.

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditure.
	£	£
1912	284,234	311,956
1913	276,544	407,477
1914	573,291	348,661
1915	460,228	439,973
1916	500,312	549,714

Loans raised
by municipal-
ities,
1916.

The loan receipts for the year amounted to £500,312, of which £183,548 was obtained from the Government. The unexpended balance of loan moneys at the end of the year 1915-16 was £209,363—£186,462 to the credit of cities, towns, and boroughs, and £22,901 to the credit of shires. The following are the particulars:—

LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES, 1916.

	Loans from—		Unexpended Balance of Loan Moneys.
	Government.	Public.	
CITIES, TOWNS, AND BOROUGHS—	£	£	£
Ararat	2,167	..	..
Ballarat	14,500	..	..
Ballarat East	6,450	..	338
Bendigo .. .. .	..	..	3,768
Brighton	8,250	..	..
Brunswick .. .. .	..	..	3,687
Camberwell	2,590	..	1,135
Castlemaine	300	..	85
Caulfield	14,800	..	1,849
Coburg	1,040	4,000	575
Collingwood .. .. .	..	..	917
Dunolly .. .. .	..	..	66
Echuca	1,500	..	385
Essendon	400	..	987
Fitzroy .. .. .	..	..	876
Footscray	2,500	..	..
Geelong	5,000	..	1,484
Hawthorn	1,500	9,000	17,108
Kew .. .. .	..	7,000	8,706
Malvern .. .. .	..	..	15,596
Maryborough .. .. .	..	..	365
Melbourne	50,000	229,614*	85,753
Newtown and Chilwell	2,500	..	..
Northcote	2,870	..	..
Oakleigh	400	..	..
Portland .. .. .	..	1,100	502
Port Melbourne .. .. .	..	..	6,644
Prahran .. .. .	..	6,000	9,550
Queenscliff .. .. .	..	..	129
Richmond	5,000	12,000	1,082
South Melbourne	5,000	..	8,155
St. Arnaud .. .. .	..	..	183
St. Kilda	6,000	..	4,372
Warrnambool	1,100	..	..
Williamstown	7,500	20,500	12,165
Total	141,387	289,214	186,462

* Amount transferred from Electric Supply Depreciation and Renewals Fund to Loan and Capital Accounts.

LOANS TO MUNICIPALITIES, 1916—*continued.*

	Loans from—		Unexpended Balance of Loan Moneys.
	Government.	Public.	
SHIRES—	£	£	£
Alexandra	900	..	..
Avoca	615	..	..
Ballarat .. .. .	..	..	672
Beechworth .. .. .	..	..	59
Bet Bet	1,205	..	..
Borong .. .. .	..	100	..
Bright	390	..	144
Buninyong	1,500	..	..
Corio .. .. .	..	2,000	606
Dandenong .. .. .	..	1,500	428
Dimboola	1,000	5,500	..
Doncaster .. .. .	..	2,750	11
Eltham	3,000	..	1,501
Ferntree Gully .. .. .	..	..	326
Glenelg	1,500	..	..
Heidelberg .. .. .	..	..	9,553
Huntly .. .. .	..	..	1,099
Keilor .. .. .	..	..	16
Korong	1,380	..	..
Kyneton	1,342	..	20
Lexton	1,600	..	..
Lillydale .. .. .	..	..	228
Mansfield	1,200	300	..
Melton .. .. .	..	..	200
Mildura	800	..	244
Moorabbin	5,000	..	..
Mulgrave	1,000	..	..
Nunawading	6,183	2,350	..
Phillip Island and Woolamai .. .. .	..	..	167
Poowong and Jeetho .. .. .	..	700	58
Preston	3,000	..	1,037
Ripon	2,100	..	6
Rodney .. .. .	..	2,500	77
Romsey	500	..	..
Rutherglen .. .. .	..	350	350
Shepparton	1,000	2,500	1,279
South Barwon	691	..	135
Tungamah .. .. .	..	..	27
Upper Yarra .. .. .	..	..	237
Warragul	200	..	..
Werribee .. .. .	..	1,000	105
Whittlesea	5,700	..	1,843
Wycheproof	375	..	..
Yea .. .. .	..	6,000	2,473
Total	42,181	27,550	22,901

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE CITIES OF MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, AND BENDIGO.

Particulars of the receipts and expenditure for 1916 of the City of Melbourne and of the principal cities in the country—Ballarat and Bendigo—are given in the following statements:—

Of the total revenue of the City of Melbourne in 1916, about 32 per cent. was derived from rates, 40 per cent. from the sale of electric light, 8 per cent. from the rental of city property—chiefly markets, and shops—7 per cent. from market and weighbridge fees, 5 per cent. from licences, and 8 per cent. from other sources. For public works maintenance, such as roads and bridges, markets, abattoirs, &c., about 24 per cent. of the total expenditure was incurred; for interest on loans and on bank overdraft and expenses of paying interest, 19 per cent.; for payments to sinking funds and repayment of loans, 6 per cent.; for electric supply, 27 per cent.; for lighting, 4 per cent.; for street cleansing, 9 per cent.; for salaries, allowances, and commissions, 6 per cent.; and for miscellaneous expenditure, 5 per cent.

CITY OF MELBOURNE : REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1916.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
Rates—	£
General	130,646
Lighting	18,666
Licences—	
Publicans'—Equivalent for—From Licensing Act	11,576
Abattoirs—Slaughtering Dues and Meat Supervision Fees	10,855
Drays, Hackney Carriages, Trams, and Motors	1,814
Other Licences	383
Fees under Dog Act	949
City Baths	3,361
Market and Weighbridge Fees	30,381
Lighting—Sale of Electric Current and Rent of Meters, &c.	189,507
Fines and Costs	2,258
Rents—	
Markets and Weighbridges	32,412
Town Hall Premises and Rooms	3,144
Other	1,368

CITY OF MELBOURNE: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE, 1916—
continued.

Heads of Revenue.	Amount.
	£
Interest on Fixed Deposits, &c.	10,391
Miscellaneous—	
Desiccators	6,141
Public Conveniences, &c.	4,984
Fees under Building Act	1,057
Sundries	7,871
Total	467,761
Heads of Expenditure.	Amount.
	£
Salaries (including clerical assistance, expenses of audit, collection of statistics, making valuation, and commissions paid in lieu of salaries, &c.)	26,460
Allowance to Lord Mayor	1,500
Closet Cleansing and Sanitary Works	157
Street Cleansing, &c.	40,278
Lighting—Electric and Gas	21,000
Fire Brigades Board—Contribution	7,989
Public Works—Maintenance—	
Roads and Bridges	62,882
Markets and Weighbridges	13,820
Public Buildings (including Abattoirs, Baths, &c.)	24,810
Parks and Planting Trees in Streets	10,434
Interest on Loan from the Government	503
" " Loans from the Public	88,715
Repayment of Public Loans	10,000
" " Government Loan	210
Sinking Funds—Loans from the Public	17,668
Electric Supply—Maintenance, &c.	127,440
Expenses of paying Interest on Loans	622
Interest on Bank Overdrafts	1,557
Contributions to Charitable Institutions	1,400
" " Infectious Diseases Hospital	2,897
" " Heatherton Sanatorium	940
Law Costs	763
Printing, Advertising, and Stationery	3,559
Miscellaneous—	
Rat Destruction	651
Gas Conference	172
Fees—Dog Act	537
Insurance and Guarantee Premiums	2,340
Elections	140
Sundries	3,175
Total	472,619

City of
Ballarat,
revenue and
expenditure,
1916.

Of the total revenue received by the City of Ballarat in 1916, about 56 per cent. was obtained from rates, 7 per cent. from licences, 13 per cent. from sanitary rates, 6 per cent. from market and weighbridge dues, 5 per cent. from rents, and 13 per cent. from all other sources. The expenditure was incurred in connexion with the following services in the proportions mentioned:—40 per cent. for public works, 14 per cent. for interest, sinking funds, and repayment of loans, 14 per cent. for sanitary work, 7 per cent. for lighting, 5 per cent. for salaries and allowances, 7 per cent. for street cleaning, &c., and 13 per cent. for all other items.

CITY OF BALLARAT: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1916.

Revenue.	Amount. £	Expenditure.	Amount. £
Special Grants—From Government	242	Salaries	1,510
General Rates	19,350	Allowance to Mayor	400
Licences—From Licensing Fund... ..	2,392	Sanitary Expenses	4,997
Other	163	Street Cleaning, &c.	2,506
Market and Weighbridge Dues	2,060	Lighting	2,470
Contributions for Formation of Private Streets, Roads, Lanes, &c.	455	Fire Brigades Board—Contribution	734
Dog Fees	223	Public Works { Construction	1,793
Pound Fees	43	{ Maintenance	12,243
Closet Cleansing and Sanitary Rates and Fees	4,657	Repayments of Loans—	
Rents	1,594	To Government	433
Interest	125	To the Public	1,616
Botanic Gardens	264	Payment to Sinking Funds—	
Other Sources	2,971	Loans from the Public	240
		Interest—Government Loan	258
		" Loans from the Public	2,345
		" Bank Overdraft	120
		Contributions to Charitable Institutions	384
		Printing, Advertising, and Stationery	329
		Other Expenditure	3,149
Total	£34,530	Total	£35,527

Revenue and
expenditure
of City of
Bendigo,
1916.

In the City of Bendigo in 1916, the following were the proportions of total revenue obtained under the different headings:—General rates, 54 per cent.; licences, 12 per cent.; sanitary rates and fees, 16 per cent.; market and weighbridge dues, 6 per cent.; rents, 7 per cent.; and other sources, 5 per cent. The proportions of the total expenditure on various services were:—Public works, construction and maintenance, 30 per cent.; sanitary expenses, 16 per cent.; interest on loans, 7 per cent.; payments to sinking funds and redemption of loans, 11 per cent.; salaries and allowances, 5 per cent.; lighting,

8 per cent.; formation of private streets, &c., 6 per cent.; street cleansing, 8 per cent.; and miscellaneous expenditure, 9 per cent.

CITY OF BENDIGO: REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1916.

Revenue.	Amount. £	Expenditure.	Amount. £
Special Grants—From Govern- ment	645	Salaries	1,712
General Rates	21,105	Allowance to Mayor	400
Licences—From Licensing Fund	3,132	Sanitary Expenses	6,531
„ Other	1,378	Street Cleansing	3,453
Market and Weighbridge Dues	2,407	Lighting	3,411
Dog Fees	228	Fire Brigades Board—Contri- bution	674
Closest Cleansing and Sani- tary Rates and Fees	6,337	Public Works { Construc- tion	1,370
Rents	2,633	{ Maintenance	10,806
Interest	399	Formation of Private Streets, Roads, &c.	2,281
Sports Grounds	106	Payments to Sinking Fund— Loans from the Public	3,643
Other Sources	731	Repayment of Loans— To the Public	782
		Interest on Loans from the Public	2,617
		Interest on Bank Overdraft	399
		Contributions to Charitable Institutions	177
		Printing, Advertising, and Stationery	567
		Other Expenditure	2,372
Total	39,101	Total	41,195

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS' FIDELITY GUARANTEE FUND.

An Act was passed in 1907 (No. 2080) incorporating the Municipal Association of Victoria, and authorizing it to institute a "Municipal Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund," to which any municipality, any authority constituted under any Water Act or any Weights and Measures Union may contribute such sum as may be fixed by the association for a guarantee against loss by the dishonesty of its officers. The Act provided, however, that the fund could not be established until three-fifths of the municipalities in Victoria had agreed in writing to contribute and that the amount to be contributed for a guarantee must not be less than that payable in 1907 for a like guarantee to any incorporated company or society in Victoria. At any time after the fund has reached £3,500 the rates of contribution may be altered, so that it will be maintained at that sum, and, in the event of the amount at credit being at any time insufficient to pay all the liabilities and expenses, the difference must be made up by payments from all the contributors, each paying *pro rata* to its contributions. If the association determines to discontinue business, the funds are to be divided proportionately to the sums contributed during the preceding five years.

Payment of contributions is to be made within one month after a written notification has been sent by the secretary. Full and accurate accounts are to be kept of all moneys received and expended, and of the details of the transactions. A balance-sheet, made up to the 30th September of each year, must be prepared, exhibiting a true statement of receipts and expenditure and the balance to the credit of the fund.

More than the required number of municipalities agreed to cooperate, and the fund was inaugurated on 1st January, 1908. The operation of the fund was, at first, restricted by the association to guarantees in respect of municipal officers, but the rules have been altered, and since 1st October, 1914, they have permitted of guarantees being obtained by any waterworks authority or Weights and Measures Union; such authority or union is required, however, to make a preliminary payment into capital account. The premium revenue for the year ended 30th September, 1914, in respect of guarantees amounting to £198,320, was £1,115, but under the reduced scale of premiums which came into force on 1st October of that year, guarantees for the year ended 30th September, 1916, amounting to £223,320, were obtained from the Association for £732. The amount to the credit of the fund on 30th September, 1916 (including amount invested in purchase of inscribed stock and debentures and accrued interest, £6,771), was £7,008. The claims paid from the inception of the fund to 30th September, 1916, amounted to £1,269.

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.

Melbourne
Harbor Trust
—receipts and
expenditure.

The Melbourne Harbor Trust is a corporate body, established in 1876 to regulate, manage, and improve the Port of Melbourne and portions of the Yarra and Saltwater Rivers adjacent, for which purpose certain lands and properties are vested in Commissioners. On 31st December, 1912, an Act was passed by the State Parliament which altered the constitution of the Trust. Instead of seventeen Commissioners, of whom six were appointed by the municipalities concerned, three by the owners of ships registered at Melbourne, three by merchants and traders paying wharfage rates, and five by the Governor-in-Council, there are substituted five Commissioners to be appointed by the Governor-in-Council. Other than the chairman, one member is to be an owner of ships registered at some British port and trading at Melbourne, one a person engaged in the business of an exporter by sea of Victorian produce, one an importer by sea of goods into Victoria, and one identified with primary production in Victoria. The chairman's salary is not to exceed £1,500; and the attendance fees of the other Commissioners are fixed at £2 2s. per meeting, the remuneration not to exceed £250 in any year. The borrowing power of the Trust is increased from £2,000,000 to £3,000,000. The payment to the Consolidated Revenue is not to be greater than £60,000 per annum for five years from 1st January, 1913. The following are particulars of the ordinary receipts

and ordinary and capital expenditure during each of the last five years:—

MELBOURNE HARBOR TRUST.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: 1912 TO 1916.

Heads of Revenue and Expenditure.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
REVENUE.					
Wharfage and Quayage	£	£	£	£	£
Rates	314,447	312,151	317,543	272,279	273,731
Rents	19,001	20,424	22,833	23,834	30,360
Interest	2,375	665	2,284	1,293	170
Other Revenue	3,792	4,299	11,194	13,092	17,273
	339,615	337,539	353,854	310,498	321,534
Less Amount paid to Consolidated Revenue	68,344	60,960	60,000	60,000	60,000
Total	271,271	276,579	293,854	250,498	261,534
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.					
General Management and Expenses	27,453	28,622	34,163	36,067	47,224
Flotation and Redemption of Loans Expenses .. .. .	..	..	5,289	5,936	..
Maintenance—Dredging	32,559	32,014	24,758	20,298	20,496
" Harbor	1,159	2,107	1,698	1,754	1,957
" Wharfs	17,350	20,583	13,370	25,469	20,928
" Approaches	11,666	9,207	10,835	7,999	9,994
Interest on Loans*	69,264	59,494	69,981	72,934	76,278
Depreciation, Renewals Account, and Sinking Fund	17,500	29,188	30,058	30,415	51,364
Total	176,951	181,215	190,152	200,872	228,241
Surplus on Revenue Account	94,320	95,364	103,702	49,626	33,293
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.					
Land and Property	1,119	46,007	5,534	2,060	1,316
Deepening Waterways	21,845	49,620	96,198	93,615	82,429
Wharfs Construction	85,227	115,244	87,885	120,627	105,803
Approaches Construction	9,854	16,354	7,029	10,921	8,960
Other Harbor Improvements	2,735	2,713	1,376	4,275	35,946
Floating Plant	72,078	9,744	33,451	3,112	25,190
General Plant	102	2,910	3,364	4,107	2,853
Stock Account	14,543	44,572	32,070	25,451	21,784
Total	207,503	287,164	266,907	264,168	284,281

* Exclusive of interest on cost of plant debited to works carried out by day labour.

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST.

Geelong
Harbor Trust
—receipts and
expenditure.

An Act to provide for the construction of works in connexion with the harbor at Geelong was passed on 12th December, 1905. This measure made provision for the constitution of the Geelong Harbor Trust and the appointment of three commissioners, the chairman to receive £400 per annum, and each of the other commissioners £200 per annum. The management of the port and shipping is vested in the commissioners. Power is given to the Trust to borrow £550,000 and to issue debentures, which may be made payable in London or Melbourne. The following is a summary of the receipts and expenditure for the last three years, the expenditure from ordinary revenue being distinguished from loan expenditure:—

GEELONG HARBOR TRUST—REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE.

	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£	£	£
REVENUE.			
Wharfage and Quayage Rates	13,495	10,200	9,171
Rents, Fees, and Licences	3,750	3,776	4,113
Sparrovale Farm	7,281	6,710	4,930
Corio Freezing Works and Abattoirs	12,404	9,543	9,777
Other Revenue	1,064	606	830
	37,994	30,835	28,821
REVENUE EXPENDITURE.			
General Management and Expenses	6,610	5,950	7,540
Maintenance—Wharfs and Approaches	2,101	196	755
" Harbor	831	587	455
" Floating Plant	326	82	182
" Other	676	992	988
Interest on Loans and Sinking Fund	19,167	21,870	24,288
Sparrovale Farm	6,221	5,786	6,447
Corio Freezing Works and Abattoirs	1,934	1,576	710
Corio Quay Power-house	2,548	1,805	3,055
Miscellaneous	894	211	608
Total	41,308	39,055	45,028
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.			
Land and Property	19,611	2,224	22,992
Deepening Waterworks	11,970	15,882	8,804
Wharfs and Approaches Construction	7,303	6,617	365
Other Harbor Improvements	9,480	28,983	9,873
Floating and General Plant	2,137	1,358	..
Stock Account	455	..	..
Miscellaneous	696	2,030	832
Total	51,652	57,094	42,866

MELBOURNE AND METROPOLITAN BOARD OF WORKS.**Creation and constitution of Board.**

The Board was established by Act of Parliament No. 1197, which came into force on 20th December, 1890, and it entered upon its duties on 18th March, 1891.

It consists of 40 members, of whom one is the Chairman, who is elected every four years by the other members, the retiring Chairman being eligible for re-election. The other members must be also members of the respective councils which they represent, and are elected as follows:—Nine by the Melbourne City Council, four by the South Melbourne Council, three by the Prahran Council, two each by the Fitzroy, Richmond, St. Kilda, and Collingwood Councils, and one each by the other fifteen suburban municipal councils returning a representative, viz., Footscray, Hawthorn, Brunswick, Essendon, Malvern, Brighton, Northcote, Port Melbourne, Williamstown, Caulfield, Camberwell, Kew, Coburg, Heidelberg, and Preston.

Thirteen of the members retire annually in the month of February, but are eligible for re-election if they remain members of their respective councils.

Functions of the Board.

The functions of the Board are to control and manage the Metropolitan water supply system, including watersheds, reservoirs, weirs, aqueducts, pipes, &c.; to provide the metropolis with an efficient system of sewerage and drainage; and to prevent the pollution of the River Yarra and other public streams and water-courses within the metropolis.

Area under Board's control, and population.

The sewerage area over which the Board exercises control consists of fifteen cities, five towns, one shire, and parts of four other municipalities, or twenty-five municipalities in all, embracing a total area of 90,821 acres. The Board also exercises control (by *Gazette* notices) for water supply purposes of an additional 2,949 acres in four municipalities. The Board further supplies water to the Metropolitan Farm at Werribee, and the outfall sewer area. Various other shires also arrange for bulk supplies of water. The total estimated population supplied with water on 31st December, 1916, was 720,577.

Board's borrowing powers and liability on loans.

The Board is authorized to borrow £10,750,000, exclusive of loans amounting to £2,389,934 contracted by the Government and taken over by the Board.

The liability for Government loans on 30th June, 1916, was £1,559,786, and for loans raised by the Board, £10,573,160, a portion of the latter amount having been applied in repayment of Government loans falling due. The Board was at that date empowered to borrow £1,006,988 before reaching the limit of its borrowing powers.

WATER SUPPLY FINANCE.**Water supply assessments and rates.**

By Act of Parliament the rate to be paid in respect of any lands and tenements for the supply of water for domestic purposes, otherwise than by measure, is limited to an amount not exceeding 8d. in the £1 on the annual valuation of

the lands and tenements served. The water rate levied in the year 1915-16 was 6d. in the £1 on the annual value of property served. Assessments of £20 and under are charged a minimum rate of 10s. per annum. There is a charge of 1s. per 1,000 gallons for water supplied by meter, with the assessed rate as a minimum. For shipping at Melbourne wharfs the charge is 3s. per 1,000 gallons, and at special berths at Melbourne wharfs, with fixed meters, it is 1s. 6d. per 1,000 gallons.

Water meters. Water meters may be hired from the Board at the following annual rentals, payable quarterly in advance:—
For a $\frac{1}{2}$ -in. meter, 5s.; $\frac{3}{4}$ -in., 6s.; 1-in., 8s.; $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in., 10s. 6d.; and $1\frac{1}{2}$ -in., 14s.

Garden rate. Areas not exceeding 100 square yards (including paths) are supplied with water without meters on payment of a special rate of 10s. per annum each.

Assessed value of property. The total annual value of property assessed for water supply purposes and liable to water rates was £6,905,842 in 1915-16.

Water rate receipts. In 1915-16 the water rate receipts were as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Water rate (including arrears)	152,453	16	4
Meters	159,689	3	5
Special rates	3,730	13	2
Total	315,873	12	11

Revenue and expenditure of water supply system. The total revenue amounted to £334,181, as against £350,549 in the previous year. The cost in 1915-16 of maintenance and management was £54,580*, and of interest £134,915, the total charges being £189,495*, compared with a cost in 1914-15 of £60,547 for maintenance and management, and of £130,268 for interest, or a total charge of £190,815.

Cost of the Melbourne and Metropolitan waterworks system. The total cost of the water supply system up to 30th June, 1916, was as follows:—

Original water supply works, tank pumping station, &c.	£84,885
Yan Yean system	632,432
Maroondah system	785,524
O'Shanassy system	444,621
Service reservoirs	249,424
Large mains	1,188,226
Reticulation	1,450,516
Total	£4,835,628

* Not including Renewals, £7,349, and Special War Expenditure, £7,728.

SEWERAGE FINANCE.

In 1891 the annual value of rateable property within the area then to be seweraged was £6,866,313, of which about £1,000,000 related to vacant lands. The collapse of the land boom was followed by a heavy shrinkage in the value of rateable property. A recovery in values has since taken place, and the total of the sewerage assessments for 1916-17 is £7,530,397, inclusive of assessments on vacant lands.

By Act of Parliament the Board is empowered to levy a general sewerage rate not exceeding 1s. 2d. in the £1 in seweraged areas. The sewerage rate for 1915-16 was 11d. in the £1 in the seweraged area. The total annual value of property assessed for sewerage purposes and liable to the 11d. rate was, in 1915-16, £6,430,370.

The receipts from the general sewerage rate in 1915-16 amounted to £299,360.

The sewerage revenue for 1915-16 was £358,112, as against £382,458 in the previous year. The cost in 1915-16 of management, working expenses and repairs was £70,783*, and of interest £321,640, the total charges being £392,423*, compared with a cost in 1914-15 of £72,030 for management, working expenses, repairs, and renewals, and £316,788 for interest, or a total charge of £388,818.

The cost of sewerage works and house connexions up to 30th June, 1916, was £7,315,580, divided as follows:—

Farm purchase and preparation	£553,668
Outfall sewer and rising mains	423,034
Pumping station buildings and engines	244,702
Main and branch sewers	2,117,647
Street reticulation	2,176,591
Reticulation of rights-of-way	989,868
House connexions branches	394,100
Cost of house connexions chargeable to capital	415,970
<hr/>	
Cost of sewerage system	£7,315,580
Householders' debts for house connexions	134,850
River improvements	3,781
<hr/>	
Total	£7,454,211

DESCRIPTION OF WATER WORKS.

The metropolis is supplied with water from three independent sources—one known as the Yan Yean system, fed by the watershed of the Plenty River and Jack's Creek from the southern slopes of the Great Dividing Range, supplemented by the Wallaby and Silver Creeks, tributaries of the Goulburn, whose waters have been diverted over the range by means of weirs, aqueducts, and tunnels; a second, known as the

* Not including Renewals, £3,424, and Special War Expenditure, £2,925.

Maroondah system, whose watershed is in the Healesville district and which takes in the water of the Maroondah or Watts River, the Graceburn, Donnelly's and Coranderrk Creeks, and other smaller streams; and a third, known as the O'Shanassy and Upper Yarra system, whose watersheds are in the Upper Yarra above Warburton. As regards the last-mentioned system, at present only the O'Shanassy River, a main tributary of the Upper Yarra, has been tapped.

Total catchment area. The total catchment area from which water is collected at present from the three systems is 102,000 acres, the whole of which is vested in the Board, and free from settlement or grazing.

Total daily supply. The total daily quantity of water which can be sent into Melbourne at present from the three systems is 90,000,000 gallons.

YAN YEAN SYSTEM.

Yan Yeau system. The Yan Yeau watershed embraces Silver and Wallaby Creeks, 12,000 acres; Plenty River and Jack's Creek, 12,000 acres; and the catchment areas of Yan Yeau Reservoir, 5,000 acres, totalling 29,000 acres. The water is collected into the Toorourrong Reservoir, and taken thence to the Yan Yeau Reservoir, where it is stored. This reservoir is an artificial lake situated 22 miles northerly from the city, and 602 feet above sea-level. It is formed by the construction of an earthen bank 49 chains long, 30 feet high, and 20 feet wide on top, with a slope next the water of three to one and an outside slope of two to one. The reservoir when full covers an area of 1,360 acres, or $2\frac{1}{8}$ square miles, with a maximum depth of 26 feet, and an average depth of 18 feet. The maximum depth of water in the reservoir in 1916 was 25 ft. $11\frac{1}{2}$ in. on 22nd October, and the minimum depth 19 ft. $9\frac{3}{4}$ in. on 25th March. Its total capacity is 6,400,000,000 gallons, of which 5,400,000,000 gallons are available for consumption. In the year ended 31st December, 1916, the total intake of the Yan Yeau Reservoir was 4,640,391,000 gallons, and the total output was 2,623,884,000 gallons exclusive of loss by evaporation.

From this reservoir the water is forwarded to Morang Pipe Head Reservoir through an open aqueduct capable of delivering 33,000,000 gallons a day when full, and thence to Preston Reservoir, or to Melbourne direct, by a series of pipes.

High-level system. There is also a direct main, called the high-level system, from Yan Yeau to Surrey Hills Reservoir, for supplying the high levels of the eastern suburbs of Melbourne in conjunction with the O'Shanassy and Upper Yarra System. It is capable of delivering 9,000,000 gallons a day.

MAROONDAH SYSTEM.

The Maroondah water is taken by means of small weirs from the watershed of 40,000 acres situated above Healesville, and it is thence conveyed to the Preston Service Reservoirs along an aqueduct (about $41\frac{1}{4}$ miles of open channels, tunnels, and syphons), which is capable of delivering 28,000,000 gallons daily.

O'SHANASSY AND UPPER YARRA SYSTEM.

O'Shanassy and Upper Yarra watershed.

The watershed of the O'Shanassy River comprises 33,000 acres, situated near Warburton. The water is diverted by means of a weir and conveyed to Surrey Hills by way of Mitcham in an aqueduct, and in tunnels, syphons, and pipe line of an aggregate length of 48½ miles. The aqueduct is capable of delivering 20,000,000 gallons daily, but it has been completed in the tunnels and some other parts to a capacity of 60,000,000 gallons to provide for further diversions from the Upper Yarra and its tributaries.

Storage and service reservoirs.

There are two storage and thirteen service reservoirs (also four other service reservoirs proposed) as under :—

STORAGE RESERVOIRS.

Description.	Capacity.	Reduced Level at By-wash.
	Gallons.	
Yan Yean	6,400,000,000*	602 feet above L.W.M.
Toorourrong	60,000,000	747 " " "
Total (storage)	6,460,000,000	

* Of this quantity 5,400,000,000 gallons are available for consumption.

SERVICE RESERVOIRS.

Description.	Capacity.	Reduced Level at By-wash.
	Gallons.	
Preston No. 1	13,500,000	326·50 feet
„ No. 2	24,500,000	326·50 „
„ No. 3	26,300,000	326·50 „
Essendon No. 1	1,000,000	209·25 „
„ No. 2	4,000,000	209·25 „
Caulfield	10,000,000	166·00 „
Kew	3,000,000	281·50 „
Surrey Hills No. 1	9,000,000	429·50 „
„ No. 2	15,000,000	429·50 „
Morang (Pipe Head)	3,000,000	485·00 „
Heidelberg	1,000,000	325·00 „
Notting Hill	10,000,000	332·50 „
Olinda	11,000,000	671·00 „
Total (service)	131,300,000	..
North Essendon (proposed provision for 10,000,000 gallons)	..	290·00 „ (approx.)
Mitcham (proposed provision for three reservoirs with a capacity of from 20 to 25 million gallons each)	..	515·00 „ „

Aqueducts, &c., mains, and reticulation pipes. The following is the mileage return of aqueducts, &c., mains, and reticulation pipes up to the 30th June, 1916:—

	Miles	Chs.	Miles	Chs.
YAN YEAN SYSTEM—				
Aqueducts, &c., between watersheds and Reservoir	23	62		
Aqueduct—Yan Yeau Reservoir to Morang	6	33½		
Total			30	15½
MAROONDAH SYSTEM—				
Main Maroondah Aqueduct	41	28		
Tributary Aqueducts	6	8		
Scours at Preston Reservoirs	2	52½		
Total			50	8½
O'SHANASSY SYSTEM—				
O'Shanassy Aqueduct	22	68½		
O'Shanassy Pipe line	25	69½		
Scour Channel at Warburton	0	32½		
Scour at Olinda Reservoir	0	31		
Scour at Surrey Hills Reservoir	0	49		
Total			50	10½
Grand Total, Aqueducts, &c.			130	34½
*Large Mains, 54-in to 12-in. diameter (inclusive)			230	21½
Reticulation under 12-in. diameter			1,298	53½
Grand Total, Aqueducts, &c., Mains, and Reticulation			1,659	29½

The average number of people supplied with water during 1916 was 713,957, and the average daily consumption was 51·69 gallons per head. Some districts are supplied outside the Board's sewerage area. The total consumption and average consumption per day are shown hereunder for each month during 1916:—

TOTAL AND DAILY AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS DURING EACH MONTH OF THE YEAR, 1916.

Month.	Total Consumption of Water.	Daily Average Consumption of Water.
	Gallons.	Gallons.
January	1,479,821,000	47,736,161
February	1,191,142,000	41,073,862
March	1,318,547,000	42,533,774
April	1,046,082,000	34,869,400
May	1,082,729,000	34,926,742
June	1,020,033,000	34,001,100
July	1,002,478,000	32,338,000
August	968,822,000	31,252,322
September	1,011,894,000	33,729,800
October	1,064,133,000	34,326,870
November	1,105,423,000	36,847,433
December	1,218,205,000	39,296,935
Total for the year	13,509,309,000	...
Daily average for the year	...	36,910,680

* Exclusive of O'Shanassy Pipe line and Maroondah Aqueduct syphons.

The following table shows for each year since the establishment of the Board in 1891 the daily average consumption of water, and the daily average per head:—

DAILY AVERAGE QUANTITY OF WATER CONSUMED IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1891 TO 1916.

Year.	Population supplied with Water to 30th June.	Houses supplied with Water to 30th June.	Tenements Connected with Sewerage System to 30th June.	Daily Average of Annual Consumption of Water to 31st December.	No. of Gallons of Water per Head Daily.
1891 ...	482,600	99,364	...	25,747,761	53·35
1892 ...	486,620	106,772	...	23,476,780	48·24
1893 ...	469,390	107,125	...	24,290,041	51·75
1894 ...	449,560	107,764	...	27,071,106	60·22
1895 ...	444,340	107,260	...	26,689,683	60·07
1896 ...	452,210	106,486	...	23,837,695	52·71
1897 ...	458,300	105,710	...	24,665,607	53·82
1898 ...	466,895	104,861	3,899	28,253,294	60·51
1899 ...	480,390	103,981	13,593	27,068,465	56·37
1900 ...	489,600	104,050	28,300	28,230,690	57·66
1901 ...	494,905	104,548	38,696	29,427,589	59·46
1902 ...	501,580	105,051	47,172	29,080,027	57·98
1903 ...	502,840	106,176	55,929	28,858,633	57·39
1904 ...	505,760	107,701	64,487	29,523,153	58·37
1905 ...	511,520	109,393	71,689	32,400,286	63·34
1906 ...	519,925	111,494	79,597	33,479,900	64·39
1907 ...	530,655	114,049	87,853	35,212,222	66·36
1908 ...	543,115	116,781	94,067	31,559,830	58·11
1909 ...	557,350	119,650	99,955	33,047,340	59·29
1910 ...	573,255	123,227	105,993	33,272,490	58·04
1911 ...	588,000	128,036	112,293	36,110,115	61·41
1912 ...	604,275	133,122	118,350	38,569,566	63·83
1913 ...	628,430	140,351	125,103	41,842,926	66·27
1914 ...	651,000	147,442	131,168	40,778,844	62·64
1915 ...	674,000	150,825	138,108	36,567,614	54·25
1916 ...	713,957	155,208	143,737	36,910,680	51·69

DESCRIPTION OF SEWERAGE SYSTEM.

Sewerage system.

While the Board took over from the State Government the branch which had the management of the Melbourne Water Supply, still the chief object of its creation was to carry out the long-called-for and pressing want of an efficient system of sewerage in the Metropolitan area. The plans and estimates of the cost of the Metropolitan sewerage scheme were originally prepared by the late Mr. James Mansergh, an expert civil engineer from England, and were furnished to the Board on its creation. The scheme recommended by the designer and selected by the Board's Engineer-in-Chief (the late Mr. William Thwaites) was estimated to cost £5,030,000, but was modified by Mr. Thwaites, with the concurrence of the Board, so as to reduce the estimated cost to £3,451,000.

The original Act of Parliament contemplated only the construction of sewers in the streets, but this was altered by an Act passed in 1897, which added the duty of constructing sewers in rights-of-way and the branches from the sewers to the building line of each property, and in consequence has added considerably to the original estimate of cost.

Tenements
connected
with the
sewerage
system.

The first tenement was connected in Port Melbourne in August, 1897. On 31st December, 1916, 148,637 tenements had been gazetted as within sewerage areas, and applications received *re* 464 outside gazetted areas, making a total of 149,101 tenements. Out of this number 148,660 were provided with sanitary fittings which required to be connected with the sewerage system, and 146,207 had been connected, including the 464 outside gazetted areas. Of the remaining 2,453 tenements, 1,466 were in progress of connexion, while on 987 tenements connexions work had not been commenced.

The following statement shows the progress of house connexions to the 31st December, 1916:—

PROGRESS OF HOUSE CONNEXIONS WITH THE SEWERAGE SYSTEM IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS.

Municipality.	No. of Tenements connected on 31st December, 1916.
Melbourne City	26,690
South Melbourne City	10,731
Prahran City	11,696
Fitzroy City	7,912
Richmond City	10,184
St. Kilda City	6,982
Collingwood City	8,375
Footscray City	6,377
Hawthorn City	6,184
Brunswick City	8,394
Essendon City	6,986
Malvern City	5,137
Caulfield City	4,196
Northcote City	5,030
Camberwell City	3,159
Brighton Town	3,643
Port Melbourne Town	2,994
Williamstown Town	3,541
Kew Town	2,610
Coburg Town	1,817
Heidelberg Shire (part of)	1,166
Preston Shire	971
Moorabbin Shire (part of)	1,207
Nunawading Shire (part of)	225
Total	146,207

PROGRESS REPORT OF SEWERAGE WORK.

On the 31st December, 1916, the sewerage system was practically completed in the following districts within the Board's Metropolitan area, *viz.*:—

Melbourne, South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, Collingwood, Fitzroy, Richmond, Prahran, St. Kilda, Moorabbin, Nunawading, and the thickly populated portions of Essendon and Malvern.

The sewerage system was nearly completed in Brighton, Hawthorn and Footscray, and the thickly populated portions of Brunswick, Camberwell, Northcote, Preston, and Williamstown, together with the greater portions of Coburg and Kew, and, in a lesser degree, Caulfield. A fair proportion of Heidelberg had also been completed.

During the past twelve months the work has progressed principally in Caulfield and Malvern, and in a lesser degree in Hawthorn, Footscray, Brighton, Preston, Northcote, St. Kilda and Essendon.

Main and branch sewers have been extended in Malvern and Caulfield to meet the requirements of new reticulation areas.

Reticulation contracts have been completed in Caulfield, Malvern, Hawthorn, Footscray, Brighton, Preston and Northcote, and numerous reticulation extensions to provide for new buildings or fresh subdivisions have been carried out in various portions of the metropolitan area. Reticulation contracts and day labour extensions are now being carried out in Caulfield, St. Kilda and Fairfield.

The whole system was so far advanced that on the date mentioned above the sewage from 149,101 tenements could be collected, including those inside and outside gazetted areas, and 148,660 tenements could be connected. Of these, 146,207 tenements were connected, and work was in progress on 1,466 other premises. The total number of fittings connected with the system was as follows:—59 public conveniences and 82 public urinals, 169,570 water closets, 126,802 baths, 98,634 sinks, 97,027 sets of wash troughs, 47,568 lavatories, 16,061 stables, 9,646 urinals, 8,230 polluted areas and paved yards, 1,956 cellars, 1,081 slop hoppers, 299 latrines, and 341 dairies, there being also 441 tenements with no fittings to connect. The house connexions pipes join the 9-inch reticulation pipes, which are gradually collected into 12-inch, 15-inch, and 18-inch pipes, and then again into brick and concrete branch sewers, which join the sub-mains and mains. In all 1,400½ miles of reticulation and 153¾ miles of mains and branch sewers have been completed, making a total length of 1,554 miles.

Particulars of the system are as follows:—

The sewage of the metropolis is delivered into two main sewers and a subsidiary main leading to the pumping station at Spotswood.

The two main sewers are—

1. The North Yarra main sewer (North Yarra system), which commences with Heidelberg, and thence takes up East Kew, Preston, Coburg, Northcote, Brunswick, the Clifton Hill part of Collingwood, also Fitzroy, and the North Carlton, North Melbourne, and Flemington and Kensington parts of Melbourne, together with Essendon and Footscray.

2. The Hobson's Bay main sewer (South Yarra system), which starts at Sandringham, picking up Brighton, Caulfield, Malvern, St. Kilda, Camberwell, and a small part of Nunawading, besides the remaining part of Kew, also Hawthorn, Prahran, South Melbourne, Port Melbourne, Richmond, and the remaining part of Collingwood, with East Melbourne, and other remaining parts of Melbourne.

The subsidiary main, which takes in Williamstown, joins the Hobson's Bay main before it enters the pumping station.

PUMPING STATION, RISING MAINS, AND OUTFALL SEWER.

Pumping station. When collected at Spotswood the two systems are dealt with in separate buildings, and are arranged to be worked either separately or unitedly. The sewage enters the pumping station at a level of 50 feet below low-water mark through straining wells, one of which is established on each system. The wells are of 22 feet internal diameter, and each contains two straining cages, one of which is always in position. The solid matter caught in them is transferred to a drier in the building over the wells, where it is subject to steam pressure and consequently to a high temperature, which renders the material innocuous. The material from the drier is of no manurial value and is destroyed in a furnace. The sewage is raised by the pumps 125 feet through two 6-foot and one 4-foot wrought-iron rising mains—the three lengths running side by side, each 2·794 miles long (an aggregate length of 8·38 miles)—to the head of the outfall sewer, at Brooklyn, 75 feet above low-water mark, whence it gravitates to the Metropolitan Sewage Farm at Werribee in a partly-open and partly-closed channel 16 miles long, of 11 feet diameter, and having a grade of 2 feet to the mile. The full capacity of the outfall sewer is 18,000 cubic feet a minute.

METROPOLITAN SEWAGE FARM.

Sewage farm. The purification of the sewage of Melbourne and Suburbs is effected by filtration and aeration through the natural soil of the Sewage Farm, which contains 11,153 acres 30½ perches of land situated about 24 miles south-west of Melbourne and 4 miles south-west of the township of Werribee in open plain country, and had an average rainfall to 31st December, 1916, of 18·07 inches. The farm has the Werribee River for its eastern boundary, with a long frontage to Port Phillip Bay on the south (extending from the mouth of the Werribee River to the mouth of the Little River), to which the land gradually slopes from the north, the highest point being 44 feet above low-water mark. The head of the rising main at Brooklyn is, as has been mentioned, 75 feet above low-water mark and the sewage flows by gravitation from there to the farm, a distance of 16 miles, where the point of delivery is 37·25 feet above low-water mark.

To irrigate the portion of the farm above that level necessitates pumping, and in the meantime most of the high land is being used for dry farming, cereal crops being grown.

The farm originally comprised 8,847 acres 5½ perches of virgin unimproved land, which (together with a strip 11¼ miles long, containing 168¼ acres, on which the greater portion of the main outfall sewer from the pumping station to the farm is constructed) cost the Board £159,873 in 1892. By an Act of Parliament passed on 11th August, 1911, the Crown was authorised to sell to the Board at £2 per

acre an area of 305 acres 3 roods 11 perches of low-lying Crown land along the foreshore of the bay adjoining the sewage farm. By another Act of Parliament, passed on 11th December, 1912, a further area of 815 acres 1 rood 8 perches of foreshore land was acquired from the Government at £2 per acre. This land, extending westerly to the mouth of the Little River, gave the Board a frontage to the bay, extending from that river to the Werribee River. An area of 252 acres 3 roods 7 perches of irrigable land adjoining the sewage farm on the south-west was acquired by private treaty at £15 per acre during 1913; 120 acres 2 roods 23 perches of private land adjoining the above area has since been acquired at £5 12s. 6d. per acre, and 811 acres 2 roods 16 perches at the north-east corner of the original farm area has been purchased from the Lands Purchase and Management Board at £25 per acre. The last two purchases were made in 1914. The acquirement of these areas has increased the size of the Sewage Farm to 11,153 acres 30½ perches.

Before being required for sewage disposal the greater portion of the farm was leased by the Board to hay and grain growers, and proved highly productive under wheat, oats, and barley. The rents ranged up to about 30s. per acre, and for a number of years averaged over £1 per acre over the whole area let.

The method followed by the Board was to gradually resume the land from the tenants as it was required for sewage filtration purposes in order to keep pace with the progress of the sewerage house connexions work in the Metropolis. It has now all been resumed, but there is a considerable area yet to be brought under irrigation, preparation for which is carried on continuously.

The process of preparation generally followed is as follows:—After being divided by roads into rectangular blocks of 80 acres the blocks are again subdivided into paddocks of 20 acres (20 chains by 10 chains). The soil is broken up by steam ploughs, the bottom being subsoiled to a depth of about 2 ft. 6 in., and, where necessary, underdrained with agricultural pipes. The blocks are then graded into bays of about half an acre each, and commanded by distributing drains to facilitate rapid flooding—where the natural contour of the country is uneven it is found necessary to grade the blocks in small terraces; deep drainage channels are cut, the earth from same being thrown up to form embankments to carry the main supply carriers along the boundaries of these 20-acre blocks, which are at the same time securely fenced, and planted with trees for shelter and breakwinds. The main carriers and drains run parallel north to south through the farm being half a mile apart; the sub-carriers and drains branch east and west every 10 chains. The available area of the 20-acre block is reduced to about 18 acres by the space occupied by the carriers, drains, roads, and plantations. The prepared blocks are generally sown with lucerne or perennial grasses (chiefly prairie or rye) or a mixture of lucerne and prairie grass, and in a few months are ready to be flooded with sewage.

The resultant growth is very rapid, and (with the exception of a few hundred acres of lucerne reserved for hay) the irrigated lucerne and grasses are pastured with sheep, cattle, and horses; the practice being to keep the stock shifting from block to block (in flocks of about 500 sheep or an equivalent number of horses or cattle to each 18 acres) to eat the feed down in front of the sewage water. The filtered sewage is discharged into the bay by a series of main effluent channels running parallel north and south through the farm.

A large proportion of the farm lands will necessarily never be available for irrigation purposes. Eighty-four acres have been devoted to sites for townships and manager's and workmen's cottages, of which last there are 59 on the farm. There are at present 441 acres of plantations and reserves, and the private roads and channels account for a further 463 acres; the area so utilized must of course increase as additional sections of the farm are brought under irrigation. These three items—cottage and township sites (84 acres), plantations and reserves (441 acres), and private roads and channels (463 acres)—at present account for 988 acres.

As each acre of properly prepared land under irrigation suffices to deal with the sewage of only 100 persons, and as there are about 6,000 additional tenements connected with the sewerage system each year (in 1915-16 there were 5,629 additional tenements connected), it will be seen that it is only a matter of a few years before all the available land of the original purchase will be under intense irrigation; hence the necessity for the acquirement of the additional areas previously referred to.

The total area available for sewage disposal at 30th June, 1916, was 7,996 acres, and the average quantity of sewage delivered daily on to this area during the year 1915-16 was 29,170,233 gallons = 107.45 acre-feet per day = 4.92 feet per annum over the whole of the prepared part of the farm.

Of the area under irrigation, viz., 7,024 acres, 160 acres were sown with maize for grain, and 522 acres of lucerne were cut for hay, leaving 6,184 acres of grasses, and small areas under fodder crops of maize, and rape (totalling 158 acres). Of the 7,024 acres, 6,543 acres can be depastured with stock.

Notwithstanding the large quantity of sewage water required to be put on the pastures summer and winter alike, the effective filtration of which must be the Board's first consideration, a considerable profit is derived from the farming and grazing operations. The principal sources of revenue are from the fattening of store sheep and cattle and the grazing of horses on agistment. The maximum stock carried in spring was 950 horses, 4,000 sheep, and 5,500 cattle, and the minimum in winter 1,000 horses, no sheep, and 5,000 cattle, the general practice being to gradually reduce the stock from the spring maximum to the minimum in winter. The profits from transactions in sheep and cattle for the year 1915-16 were—from sheep, £5,813;

from cattle, £34,755. The revenue from agistment (principally horses) was £5,223. The fat stock from the farm always excite keen competition from butchers and freezers, and command high prices.

The following are particulars of the sales for the year ended 30th June, 1916 :—

	£	s.	d.
Lucerne (Chaff and Hay)	4,419	15	9
Barley (Grain and Straw)	1,278	5	3
Oaten Chaff	1,150	13	7
Maize	2,071	14	7
Wheat	746	5	3
Total	9,666	14	5

Experiments are being carried on to ascertain the varieties of lucerne and maize best suited for growing on the sewage farm, and the varieties of grasses likely to flourish under the largest amount of winter irrigation.

The total capital cost of the farm for purchase and preparation was at 30th June, 1916, £553,668, and after paying interest on this sum and all charges in connexion with the disposal of the sewage the net profit resulting from the various farming operations and the receipts from rents of cottages, &c., for the year 1915-16 amounted to £15,746. The estimated population served by the sewerage system during that year was 661,190. The profitableness of the farming and grazing operations is largely influenced by the climatic conditions of the State generally, and the net cost of sewage purification varies accordingly from year to year. The average for the five years 1911-12 to 1915-16 was 71d. per head of population per annum.

The sewage farm is supplied with water for stock and domestic purposes from the metropolitan water supply system.

Statistical details relating to the farm for the year 1915-16 or as at 30th June, 1916, are as follows :—

	Acres.
Total area of farm	11,153
Utilized as follows :—	
Area sown with grasses	6,184
Area of settling pits under fodder crops other than lucerne or grasses—	
Maize, 138 acres; rape, 20 acres	158
Area under lucerne for hay	522
" " maize for grain, 80 acres	160
" " " " " 80 acres in settling pits in foreshore land	
Total area under irrigation and intense culture ..	7,024

	Acres.
Area prepared for settling pits for winter sewage ..	972
<hr/>	
Total area prepared for irrigation and sewage disposal	7,996
Area under preparation for irrigation	145
<hr/>	
Total area prepared and under preparation for irrigation	8,141
Area under cereal crops (wheat, barley, and oats) not included above	220
Area under natural grasses	247
" " bare fallow	619
" " of swampy ground reserved for settling pits ..	938
Areas reserved for cottage sites (57 acres) and township sites (27 acres)	84
" " plantations and reserves	441
" " private roads and channels	463
<hr/>	
Total area of farm	11,153
<hr/>	
Lucerne hay—area cut	Acres 522
Total yield of lucerne hay for season	Tons 1,870
Maize for grain—area harvested	Acres 160
Average yield per acre	Bushels 45
<hr/>	
Fodder crops (other than lucerne or grasses)—	Acres.
Maize	138
Rape	20
<hr/>	
Total	158
Area sown with grasses	6,184
Portion of area under lucerne for hay	174
" " " maize for grain	27
<hr/>	
Total area of irrigated pasture available for grazing by stock	6,543
<hr/>	
Acresage carrying sheep	—
" " cattle	5,493
" " horses (on agistment)	1,050
<hr/>	
Total area carrying stock	6,543

	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
Stock carried—			
Maximum in spring—	950	5,500	4,000
Minimum in winter—	1,000	5,000	Nil
Number of sheep and cattle purchased and sold for year ended 30th June, 1916—			
		Cattle.	Sheep.
Purchased		6,678	2,049
Sold		5,434	7,888
Live stock on farm at 30th June, 1916—			
Horses owned by Board—			
Draughts—Stallions			2
" Mares			23
" Geldings			70
" 1 and 2 years old			17
" Foals			12
			<hr/>
Light saddle and harness horses			124
			24
			<hr/>
Total			148
			<hr/>
Horses agisted			1,032
Cattle owned by the Board			4,352
" agisted			93
Profits from transactions in live-stock—			
Sheep			£5,813
Cattle			34,755
			<hr/>
Total			£40,568
			<hr/>
Agistment fees (principally horses)			£5,223
			<hr/>
Men employed by Board on farm			No. 169
			<hr/>
Population resident on farm over 21 years of age			133
" " " under 21 years of age			171
			<hr/>
Total			304
			<hr/>
Houses on farm owned by Board			59
House rents received during the year			£1,220

PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION WORKS.

	Acres.
Area steam ploughed for irrigation	7,468
„ „ „ for plantations and reserves	188
„ mole-drained by steam plant	1,145
„ underdrained with pipes	619
	Miles. Chains.
Length of main carrier embankments—cement lined	8 10
„ „ „ „ unlined	24 56
Total	32 66
Length of subsidiary carriers—	
C.I. flumes	15 62
C.C. flumes	4 72
Embankments unlined	40 60
Total	61 34
Length of main drains	32 49
„ subsidiary drains	90 20
„ pipe drains	27 1
„ agricultural pipes	32 49
Total	182 39
Length of water pipes laid—6-inch	2 25
„ „ 4-inch	11 7
„ „ 3-inch	0 7
„ „ 2-inch	14 7
„ „ 1½-inch	2 33
„ „ 1-inch	3 53
Total	33 52
Length of roads formed.. ..	34 73
„ fencing erected—No. 7 gauge black fencing wire	321 56
„ „ wire netted—No. 17 gauge wire netting, 42 in. by 1½ in.	6 23
	No.
Trees planted	218,000
Rainfall for year ended 30th June, 1915	14·21 inches
„ „ „ „ 1916	14·47 „
Average rainfall for 24 years to 31st December, 1916	18·07 „

Average quantity of sewage delivered daily on to farm for year 1915-16 = in gallons ..	29,170,233
= 107.45 acre-feet per day = 4.92 feet per annum over the total area available for sewage disposal, viz., 7,996 acres.	
Total capital cost of farm to 30th June, 1916 ..	£553,668
Profit on farm trading account for the year after charging up working expenses	£15,970
Net profit (after charging working expenses of sewage disposal and £21,927 interest on capital cost) 1915-16	£15,746
<hr/>	
Population served by sewerage system	661,190
Average net cost of sewage purification for the five years, 1911-12 to 1915-16	71d per head of population per annum.

FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS.

Constitution of Fire Brigades Boards.

Connected with the water service of the State generally is the service of water required for fire extinction.

Under the *Fire Brigades Act* 1915, there are constituted a metropolitan fire district, controlled by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board, and nine country fire districts, controlled by the Country Fire Brigades Board. The supervisors are the chief officers of the respective Boards, who are aided by deputies and other assistants.

The arrangements for fire extinction in the metropolis are closely allied to those for the Melbourne water supply, the service having been provided under the clauses of the *Fire Brigades Act* 1915, and its amendments.

The Metropolitan Fire District embraces the area included in the various municipalities within a radius of ten miles from the General Post Office. The area vested in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is included in this area, but the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board has jurisdiction over portions of the shires of Werribee, Braybrook, Keilor, Broadmeadows, Heidelberg, Nunawading, Mulgrave, and Moorabbin, within the 10-mile radius, which are not vested in the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works. The Metropolitan Fire District includes the greater portion of the shire of Moorabbin, and it extends in a southerly direction as far as Mordialloc, that township being included.

The Metropolitan Fire Board is composed of nine members, of whom three are appointed by the Governor in Council, three by the municipal councils, and three by the insurance companies.

The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board on 31st December, 1916, had under its control the following:—Forty-three stations, 243 members of permanent staff, 39 members of special service staff, 7 members of clerical staff, 18 men engaged in the workshops, 110 partially paid firemen, 2 motor-drawn

steam fire engines, 8 horse-drawn steam fire engines, 3 gasolene engines, 4 petrol motor fire engines, 1 motor salvage waggon and chemical engine combined, 3 motor combination appliances, 33 motor hose waggons, 2 motor cycles, 1 motor lorry, 1 Chief Officer's motor car, 7 horse hose reels, 24 hand hose reels, 8 extension ladders and fire escapes, 6 Pompier ladders, 11 exercise and supply carts, 1 salvage van, 29 horses, 126,160 feet of hose, 41 hand pumps, 4 smoke helmets, 1 smoke jacket, and 274 fire alarm circuits having 900 street fire-alarms, of which 876 contained telephones, and the remaining 24 were fire alarms only. There were also 582 auxiliary boxes and 19 automatic systems in public and other buildings, 182 direct telephone lines, 56 of which were acting as fire alarms to buildings, and 33 circuits to sprinkler installations, with 67 sprinkler call transmitting instruments.

During 1916 the cost of maintenance of the Metropolitan Fire Brigade was £93,575, one-third being contributed by each of the contributing bodies, viz., Government of Victoria, municipalities within the Metropolitan Fire District, and the insurance companies carrying on business in that district. The municipalities' contribution is equal to .88d. in the £1 over an area wherein the property is valued at £7,536,802, and that of the insurance companies is equal to £5 7s. 1d. for every £100 of premiums on insured property. The premiums received in the Melbourne Fire District in 1915 amounted to £516,405, and the total of the payments made by the companies in 1916 for the maintenance of the fire brigade system was £27,657.

The closing of three stations during the year is in accordance with the motorisation policy of the Board in so far as its equipment is concerned, the ultimate result aimed at being economy and concentration of staff and equipment with increased efficiency.

The Country Fire Brigades Board consists of nine members. Three are appointed by the Governor in Council, two are elected by the municipal councils of the districts in which there are brigades registered under the Board, two are elected by the fire insurance companies carrying on business in such districts, and two by the registered fire brigades. The Board annually elects one of its members as president. The tenure of the Board members is two years. The Board's revenue in 1916 was £15,536, which was obtained from the following sources:—(a) Government, £5,156; (b) municipalities, £5,132; (c) insurance companies, £5,156; and (d) other sources, £92. The expenditure for the year amounted to £15,212. There are 107 municipal councils and 64 insurance companies included in the operation of the Act. The premiums received by the insurance companies in country districts during the year 1915 amounted to £205,874, and the total of their contributions in 1916 for the up-keep of the brigades was £5,156. The total value of rateable property assessed within the Board's district in 1916 was £1,823,705. All brigades under the control of the Board are volunteer brigades, but in the large towns a few permanent stationkeepers and watchmen are also employed. There are 129 registered brigades, and two more are about to be

Country Fire
Brigades
Board.

registered. The number of registered firemen is 2,871, but in many brigades there is, in addition to the registered firemen, a number of "reserve members." The Chief Officer of the Board frequently inspects the brigades, and also pays them "surprise visits." He reports monthly to the Board as to the efficiency of the service, and in regard to the equipment necessary to be supplied. In 1916 the chief items of the plant consisted of 5 steam engines, 4 motor tenders, 63 manual engines, 11 horse brakes, 61 apparatus carriages, 3 fire escapes, about 280 hose reels, and approximately 180,000 feet of canvas hose.

Powers of the Board.

A section of the Fire Brigades Act provides that for the purpose of extinguishing any fire the chief officers of the fire brigades may in the areas under their respective control "cause water to be shut off from any main or pipe in order to obtain a greater pressure and supply of water for the purpose of extinguishing any fire, and no person or body having the management of any water supply shall be liable to any penalty or claim by reason of any interruption of the supply of water occasioned by compliance with the provisions of this section."

Another section of the Act provides that "each Board, its officers and servants, any local committee, its officers and servants, and any brigade registered under this Act shall have the use of all water mains, water plugs, valves, pipes, vested in or belonging to the Board of Land and Works or any public or municipal corporation, or local body whatsoever, and of all water therein, or in any well or tank, free of charge, for the purpose of extinguishing any fire, or for the purpose of drills, competitions, and practice, conducted under the authority of either board or any local committee."

Local councils have the right, in the interests of fire prevention, with the approval of the Governor in Council, of making, altering, or repealing by-laws for the purpose of regulating the height of all buildings erected in their own municipality, or in any part of it, and also for providing means of escape from such buildings during a fire.

The general duties of the Fire Brigades Boards are defined to be those "of taking, superintending, and enforcing all necessary steps for the extinguishment of fires, and for the protection of life and property in case of fire, and the general control of all stations and of all fire brigades shall be vested in the Boards for the metropolis and country districts respectively. The Boards may purchase or lease property for fire brigade stations, and control the formation of permanent and volunteer fire brigades, and schools of instruction, the maintenance of fire alarms, and the establishment of communication, telephonic and other."

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is bound to keep all its pipes, to which fire plugs are affixed, charged with water, unless prevented by unusual drought or other unavoidable cause, or during necessary repairs, and shall allow all persons at all times to take and use such water for extinguishing fires. On 30th June, 1916, the Board had fixed to its 230 miles $21\frac{1}{2}$ chains of leading mains and 1,298 miles

53½ chains of reticulation mains 3,260 pillar hydrants, 120 Tregear patent hydrants, and 14,926 ball fire plugs, viz., 14,905 Bateman and Moore (of which 1,612 are with spring) and 21 Fowler patent—a grand total of 18,306. Except in case of accident, repairs, or cleaning, these mains are kept constantly full of water under pressure.

The Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, under the water supply provisions of the *Consolidated Act* of 1915, must, upon the request of any municipal council within its boundaries, fix proper fire plugs in the main and other pipes belonging to the Board, at convenient distances, and at such places as the Board may consider proper and convenient for the supply of water for extinguishing any fire which may break out within its limits. The cost of fixing fire plugs and notice boards, together with the cost of their maintenance, must be defrayed by the municipal council within whose limits the fire plug is fixed. The Board may also fix fire plugs for private owners, provided they pay the cost and maintenance.

Particulars of receipts and expenditure of both Boards during the five years ended 30th June, 1916, are as follows :—

**REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF FIRE BRIGADES BOARDS :
RETURN FOR FIVE YEARS.**

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Ordinary Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Contributions — Government, Municipal, and Insurance ...	78,206	82,540	85,036	93,831	102,215
Receipts for Services ...	5,172	5,941	8,241	6,634	7,595
Interest and Sundries ...	2,109	3,725	1,476	9,993	4,202
Total ...	85,487	92,206	94,753	110,458	114,012
<i>Ordinary Expenditure.</i>					
Salaries ...	48,798	50,426	54,285	56,104	59,162
Fire Expenses ...	3,183	3,233	3,312	3,261	3,331
Administrative Charges, &c.	16,517	15,584	19,515	24,056	21,476
Plant—Purchase and Repairs ...	7,176	4,592	4,112	4,224	6,003
Interest ...	5,995	5,928	7,217	8,838	9,871
Sinking Fund ...	2,000	2,430	2,215	2,735	3,526
Firemen's Accident Fund	550	550	650	604	311
Miscellaneous ...	6,243	4,580	4,624	6,467	5,107
Total ...	90,462	87,323	95,930	106,289	108,787
<i>Loan Expenditure.</i>					
Purchase of Land and Erection of Buildings, &c.	417	14,796	19,373	28,808	14,711

VITAL STATISTICS.

Law as to marriages in Victoria.

Marriages in Victoria can only be celebrated by a minister of religion whose name is registered in the office of the Government Statist, or by the Government Statist, or the Assistant Government Statist, or a duly appointed registrar of marriages. It is essential that every marriage be preceded by the parties making a declaration as to age and the absence of any legal impediment, and by three days' notice, except in cases of emergency, also that two witnesses of full age be present at the ceremony; but there is no residential qualification. To be married by a minister, one of the parties must give him at least three clear days' written notice, or—in cases of emergency—a written permission obtained from any Justice, dispensing with such notice; and the marriage may then be solemnized according to the rites of the religious denomination to which the minister belongs. To be married by a Registrar of Marriages, the parties to the marriage must give written notice, which has to be posted in, and a copy thereof at the outer door of, his office at least three clear days before the marriage. This can only take place in his office, with open doors, and between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. No fee is payable for the celebration of a marriage before a registrar. In the event of a minor (not being a widower or widow) wishing to marry, there must be obtained the written consent of the father or a guardian appointed by him; or, in the case of his absence, death, desertion, judicial separation, or divorce, of the mother, if the minor is under her care; and, in other cases, of a police magistrate or a guardian of minors appointed by the Chief Justice. If the minor is a ward of the Neglected Children's or Reformatory Schools' Department, the Departmental Secretary's consent is the authority.

In order to guard against the celebration of marriages by undesirable persons, the present law provides that no person shall be registered as a minister of religion unless he ordinarily officiates as such in one of the recognised religious denominations, is nominated by the recognised head of the denomination in Victoria, or, if there be no such head, then by at least two registered ministers; and unless he satisfies the

Government Statist that he is a fit and proper person to celebrate marriages. The Governor in Council may prohibit from celebrating marriages any minister who is proved guilty of any offence, misconduct, or impropriety unworthy of his calling, or who makes a business of celebrating marriages for the purpose of profit or gain, irrespective of carrying out the ordinary duties of a minister; and the Government Statist may, at the request of the head of a denomination, cancel the registration of any minister of that denomination who ceases to officiate or otherwise loses his qualifications. Any clergyman or person officiating as such who celebrates a marriage without being duly registered, or any person who obtains registration by untruly representing himself as an officiating minister, or who personates a registrar, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, punishable by a penalty not exceeding £500, or by imprisonment not exceeding five years, or by both; but, if the offence were accidental, he is subject to a maximum penalty of £20 on summary conviction. No marriage shall be invalid by reason of its having been celebrated by an unqualified person if either of the parties shall have believed at the time that such person was qualified, or by reason of any formal defect or irregularity.

Marriage with a deceased wife's sister was legalized in Victoria in 1873; but there is no provision to validate the marriage of a woman with a deceased husband's brother.

Marriages of Jews and Quakers are exempted from the foregoing provisions, and are deemed legal and valid if celebrated according to their respective usages.

Registration. The present official system of compulsory registration of births, deaths, and marriages in Victoria has been in force since 1853, and the registers—framed on the best models—are replete with all necessary information bearing on the family history of the people. The statutory duties under the Registration Acts are performed by the Government Statist, who has control over the local registrars of births and deaths, and (so far as regards their registration duties) over the officiating clergymen and registrars of marriages. Copies of entries certified by him or by the Assistant Government Statist are *prima facie* evidence in the Courts of Australia of the facts to which they relate. At the head office in Melbourne there is kept for reference a complete collection of all registrations effected since 1st July, 1853, as well as originals or certified copies of all existing church records relating to earlier periods, as far back as 1837. The indexes in use since the introduction of civil registration in 1853 contained up to the end of 1916 over 3,547,000 names, of which 1,814,000 related to births, 850,000 to deaths, and 883,000 to marriages. The indexes are at present growing at the rate of 76,000 names per annum. For the registration of births and deaths the State is divided into about 520 registration districts, for each of which a registrar is appointed, who (if not a public servant) is paid by fees at the rate of 2s. 6d. per

entry, but is not prevented from following his or her own private business; whilst the marriages are recorded by the clergyman or registrar of marriages who performs the ceremony: Registrations of marriages are made in triplicate, and of births and deaths in duplicate—each copy bearing the original signatures of the parties married and witnesses (in case of a marriage), or of the informant (in case of a birth or death), and of the minister or registrar. One copy is retained by the registrar or minister; one is forwarded to the Government Statist—to be kept as a permanent record; and the third (in case of marriage only) is given to one of the parties married.

Births must be registered within 60 days by the father or mother or the occupier of the house where the birth occurred, or by some person authorized by one of these. A person who fails in his duty to register within 60 days is liable to a penalty of £10, although he still may register within twelve months on payment of a fee of 5s. To insure registration of all births, parents and the occupiers of houses where births occur are required to, and doctors and nurses may, and are expected to, report cases to the registrars. After twelve months, registration can only be effected after proper legal authority has been obtained, and on payment of a fee of 10s.

Deaths must, under a penalty of £10, be notified within seven days to the local registrar by the occupier of the house where the death occurred, or the doctor or nurse, and must be registered within twenty-one days by some person present at death or in attendance during the last illness, or in default of such persons by the occupier of the house where the death occurred, or by some person authorized by one of these. An exception is made in regard to sudden deaths, and deaths of boarded-out children under the age of five years, which should be at once reported to the Coroner, and can only be registered by him or on his authority. This exception does not apply to wards of the State or infants retained by or received into any approved public charitable institution.

In addition to ordinary registration, every birth, or death under the age of five, of an illegitimate child must be notified in writing by the occupier of the house where the event occurred within three days to the local registrar, if in any city, town, or borough, or within seven days if elsewhere. If, however, the mother is the occupier, the period for notification is extended to three weeks. Offenders against this provision are liable to imprisonment for six months, or to a penalty of £25. Illegitimate children may be legitimized at any time after the marriage of the parents on the application of the father, or of the mother if the father be on war service or has died during the preceding period of two years, to the Government Statist or to any Registrar of Births and Deaths, and on the payment of fees varying from 10s. to 20s.—provided that there was at the time of the birth no impediment to the marriage.

Applicants for searches or certificates of births, deaths, or marriages should, in applying to the Government Statist, furnish particulars of the date and place of the event; also the names of the parties in the case of a marriage, or the name, age (if a death), and parentage in the case of a birth or death. The fee for a search in the Official Records, or an extract of an entry, is 2s. 6d., and that for a certificate 7s. 6d. (except where the case appears in the records of the current quarter, when 5s. only is charged). For a search in the early church records, prior to 1st July, 1853, the fee is only 1s., or 2s. if a certificate is required.

MARRIAGES.

Marriages in Victoria in 1916 numbered 11,341, which was 1,491 less than in the preceding year, the total for that year having constituted a record. The figures for each of the last twenty years are as follows:—

MARRIAGES IN EACH YEAR, 1897 TO 1916.

Year.	No. of Marriages.	Year.	No. of Marriages.
1897	7,568	1907	9,575
1898	7,620	1908	9,334
1899	8,140	1909	9,431
1900	8,308	1910	10,240
1901	8,406	1911	11,088
1902	8,477	1912	11,738
1903	7,605	1913	11,324
1904	8,210	1914	11,830
1905	8,774	1915	12,832
1906	8,930	1916	11,341

As the tendency to marry is necessarily influenced by the view taken of present and future prospects, the relatively large number of marriages in the five years—1910 to 1914—is an indication of the general prosperity of that period. The figures for 1915 include a large number of marriages of soldiers who were leaving to take part in the war. Under normal circumstances, many of these would have taken place at a later date, and this accounts in a large measure for the smaller number of marriages for 1916.

The ordinary marriage rate—per 1,000 of the total population—like birth and death rates similarly estimated, is somewhat unreliable in comparatively newly settled countries like Australia, especially in earlier periods, but, as it affords

Marriage rates.

a ready and approximate comparison between years not widely separated, the figures relating to Victoria are shown in the following table for the last ten years :—

MARRIAGE RATES, 1907 TO 1916.

Year.	Marriage Rate.	Year.	Marriage Rate.
1907	7·64	1912	8·65
1908	7·37	1913	8·13
1909	7·36	1914	8·31
1910	7·83	1915	9·00
1911	8·40	1916	8·05

The marriage rate for 1915 was the highest recorded since 1860. The reason for the lower rate in 1916 is given on the preceding page. A similar cause accounts for the reduced marriage rates in that year in the other Australian States, New Zealand, and England and Wales.

Marriages to marriageable men and women.

The marriages in proportion to the population, to the unmarried men and widowers aged 21 to 55, and to the unmarried women and widows aged 18 to 50 in each census year, 1857 to 1911, are given in the following table :—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 OF POPULATION AND OF SINGLE MEN AND WOMEN, 1857 TO 1911.

Year of Census.	Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.						
	Enumerated Population.	Number of Unmarried and Widowed.		Marriages.	Proportion of Marriages per 1,000 of the—		
		Men (aged 21 to 55).	Women (aged 18 to 50).		Population.	Unmarried and Widowed Men (aged 21 to 55).	Unmarried and Widowed Women (aged 18 to 50).
1857 ..	383,668	88,456	18,128	4,465	11·64	50·48	246·30
1861 ..	513,896	98,665	24,009	4,528	8·81	45·89	188·60
1871 ..	712,263	77,078	40,836	4,715	6·62	61·17	115·46
1881 ..	849,438	77,250	75,098	5,732	6·75	74·20	76·33
1891 ..	1,130,463	133,576	113,276	9,007	7·97	67·43	79·51
1901 ..	1,193,340	123,691	137,267	8,468	7·10	68·46	61·69
1911 ..	1,309,950	132,642	158,556	10,984	8·39	82·81	69·28

NOTE.—The figures in this table relate to the twelve months of which the date of census is the central point.

Factors in marriage rates.

The marriage rate for men in the last census year was the highest ever recorded, and the marriages in proportion to population were more numerous than in the preceding four census years. An examination of the figures for the seven census periods shows how the crude marriage rate is affected by the proportion of marriageable persons in the community. The maximum marriage rate (per 1,000 of population), which

occurred in 1857, was co-incident with the highest proportion of marriageable persons, while the minimum rate—in 1871—was associated with the lowest proportion of such persons. A further examination of the figures shows that the ordinary marriage rate is more directly affected by the proportion of eligible men than by that of eligible women in the population. Thus, the percentage of single women aged 18 to 50 rose from 4·7 in 1857 to 12·1 in 1911, whilst that of single men aged 21 to 55 fell from 23 to 10 in the same period. After allowing for the more uniform distribution of males and females of marriageable ages in the later years, the decrease in the percentage of marriageable men coincides fairly closely with the decline in the ordinary marriage rate. The female marriage rates show that the chances of a woman marrying are now very much smaller than at any earlier period, except 1901, the proportion entering wedlock each year having fallen from about 1 in 4 in 1857, and nearly 1 in 5 in 1861, to 1 in 16 in 1901, and 1 in 15 in 1911.

The marriage rates amongst marriageable men and women at different periods of life have been computed for various age groups at each of four census periods, and are shown in the following table:—

PROPORTION OF MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE MEN AND WOMEN AT EACH AGE.

Age Group.	Men.				Women.			
	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.
15—21 ..	..	..	..	..	24·6	23·6	18·8	23·3
21—25* ..	57·8	44·3	44·6	55·2	118·8	106·0	87·2	105·6
25—30 ..	114·2	85·9	90·5	118·6	105·7	100·5	84·7	112·1
30—35 ..	82·9	75·2	82·1	101·1	73·1	66·4	57·9	66·0
35—40 ..	56·4	51·1	62·6	72·9	53·8	46·4	37·2	43·0
40—45 ..	30·5	33·4	39·9	44·7	32·5	27·7	22·3	20·7
45—50 ..	21·8	25·9	29·8	34·9	22·1	17·8	14·3	15·5
50 and upwards	10·5	9·1	9·1	12·1	4·9	4·2	2·4	2·6

* In the case of men 20-25.

In 1911 the proportion of marriages to marriageable men at each age (except 20-25) was the highest experienced, and the marriages to marriageable women were more numerous in every age group except 40-45 than in the preceding census year. The men aged 25-30,

30-35, and 35-40 who entered into wedlock during the year under review represented 119, 101, and 73 per 1,000 respectively of the marriageable males at these ages, as against 90, 82, and 63 in 1901. The numbers of women aged 21-25, 25-30, and 30-35 who contracted marriage in 1911 were equal to 106, 112, and 66 per 1,000 respectively of the single and widowed women, as compared with 87, 85, and 58 for the corresponding ages in 1901. It thus appears that the chances of women aged 21-25 and 25-30 marrying within a year increased by 21 and 32 per cent. in Victoria during the last intercensal period. It will be noted that in 1911 the highest marriage rate among women obtained at the age period 25-30, whilst in each of the three earlier census years the maximum rate occurred between the ages 21 and 25.

Marriage rates of bachelors, widowers, spinsters, and widows.

The probabilities of bachelors and spinsters marrying and of widowers and widows re-marrying were obtained by comparing their marriages at specified ages with the respective numbers in the community at these ages at the last census. The marriages per 1,000 of the above-mentioned persons are given in the following table for the year 1911:—

MARRIAGES, PER 1,000, BACHELORS, WIDOWERS, SPINSTERS, AND WIDOWS, 1911.

Age Group.	Marriages to every 1,000—			
	Bachelors.	Widowers.	Spinsters.	Widows.
15-21 .. .. .	..	..	22.3	40.0
21-25*	55.3	64.5	105.3	145.6
25-30	118.8	120.1	111.1	147.6
30-35	99.6	151.2	63.8	80.8
35-40	69.0	113.2	38.9	60.5
40-45	38.1	94.4	16.5	30.7
45-50	27.0	66.8	12.6	17.2
50 and upwards	7.4	16.8	3.7	2.3

* In the case of men, 20-25.

The figures show that the probability of a widower marrying within a year is greater than that of a bachelor of similar age, and, further that the difference in favour of the former is much greater at ages over 30 than at earlier ages. Comparing the marriage rate for widows with that for spinsters it is seen that at every age under 50 the chance of a widow marrying is considerably greater than that of a spinster of the same age. As 76 per cent. of the widowers and 78 per cent. of the

widows are over 50 years—a period of life when the chance of re-marrying is small—and the great majority of the bachelors and spinsters are under that age—a period when the probability of marrying is much greater—it follows that the rate for each of the two former sections is much lower than that for each of the latter. In proportion to their respective numbers, the marriages of widowers were only slightly more than half as numerous as those of bachelors, and those of widows were only about one-fifth those of spinsters.

The ages of bridegrooms and brides who were married in 1916 are shown in combination for various groups in the table which follows:—

AGES OF BRIDEGROOMS AND BRIDES IN COMBINATION IN VICTORIA, 1916.

Ages of Bridegrooms.	Ages of Brides.															Total Bridegrooms.		
	15.	16.	17.	18.	19.	20.	21 to 25.	25 to 30.	30 to 35.	35 to 40.	40 to 45.	45 to 50.	50 to 55.	55 to 60.	60 to 65.		65 to 70.	70 and over.
16	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
17	...	1	1	1	1	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
18	...	1	2	3	15	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
19	...	1	1	7	19	17	26	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
20	...	2	2	13	26	29	63	5	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	174
21 to 25	...	7	13	49	145	236	287	1,593	457	64	6	3	...	...	...	...	...	2,860
25 to 30	...	1	6	24	66	133	188	1,738	1,559	273	65	9	3	...	...	...	...	4,065
30 to 35	...	2	4	3	23	27	44	476	396	116	25	8	1	...	...	...	...	1,876
35 to 40	1	...	5	11	12	157	303	260	176	47	14	4	1	...	...	991
40 to 45	3	3	2	53	99	125	117	77	21	9	1	...	...	510
45 to 50	...	1	...	...	1	...	3	18	47	77	80	66	44	10	2	...	...	349
50 to 55	1	...	1	9	12	26	39	33	23	14	4	...	...	171
55 to 60	1	...	1	1	8	6	17	20	32	16	8	5	...	115
60 to 65	2	...	...	8	8	9	14	4	6	3	1	56
65 to 70	2	1	...	3	4	5	2	2	20
70 to 75	2	2	1	2	5	6	4	22
75 and over	1	...	1	...	1	1	1	5
Total Brides...	14	32	101	306	461	586	4,143	3,242	1,239	628	296	164	64	33	21	8	3	11,341

The ages of bridegrooms ranged from 16 to 83 years, and those of brides from 15 to 81. Although age inequalities among contracting parties were relatively few, they were striking in degree. Thus a man between 50 and 55 married a girl of 18, while eight women between 45 and 50 were married to men who were their juniors by 15 years. The great majority of the parties were, however, of suitable ages. Of every

1,000 men married during the year, 694 were older and 195 younger than their brides, and 111 were of the same age as their partners.

The proportions of both sexes marrying in the various age groups are shown in the succeeding table for the averages of the periods 1881-90 and 1901-10, also for the year 1916 :—

PROPORTION OF MALES AND FEMALES MARRYING AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1881-90, 1901-10, AND 1916.

Age Group.	Proportion per 1,000 of total.					
	Bridegrooms.			Brides		
	1881-90.	1901-10.	1916.	1881-90.	1901-10.	1916.
Under 15 ... ..	...	...	...	·15	·14	...
15 to 16 ... ..	...	...	...	1·17	1·12	1·23
16 to 17	·03	·09	·18	6·53	5·16	2·82
17 to 18	·29	·34	·71	20·32	15·58	8·90
18 to 19	1·46	2·09	2·73	42·94	33·31	26·98
19 to 20	5·62	7·02	7·58	65·03	48·67	40·65
20 to 21	15·19	13·67	15·34	73·84	59·41	51·67
21 to 25	321·02	258·64	252·18	432·34	380·91	365·32
25 to 30	365·48	357·07	358·44	223·83	267·78	285·87
30 to 35	134·57	177·13	165·42	62·07	98·54	109·26
35 to 40	58·29	84·06	87·38	29·53	44·37	55·37
40 to 45	32·54	40·87	44·97	17·10	21·19	26·10
45 to 50	24·77	24·05	30·77	12·23	11·00	14·46
50 to 55	18·40	13·33	15·08	6·74	6·29	5·64
55 to 60	11·49	8·05	10·14	3·40	3·13	2·91
60 and over	10·85	13·59	9·08	2·78	3·40	2·82
Total	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00	1,000·00

The age constitution of brides shows a very marked alteration in recent periods. Of every 1,000 women who were married during 1916 498 were under 25 years, and 286 were aged 25-30, as against 642 and 224 at corresponding ages in 1881-1890. As fertility is considerably less at older than at younger ages, it is evident that, owing to the altered age distribution of wives, the potential births to every 1,000 marriages in the year under review are fewer than to marriages contracted during 1881-1890.

A high proportion of re-marriages has the effect of increasing the average marrying age of bridegrooms and brides. This is readily seen by comparing for 1916 the mean age at marriage of bachelors, 28·85, with that of divorced men and of widowers—42·91 and 46·86 respectively. The average age of spinsters marrying was 26·02, as against 35·58 for divorced women and 42·26 for widows. Although the ratio of re-marriages has declined, the average age of men marrying women under 45 and of their brides is greater than in the period 1890-4. The average age at marriage for certain periods since 1870 is shown in the following table:—

MEAN AGES AT MARRIAGE.

Period.	Average Age of—	
	Brides under 45.	Bridegrooms of Brides under 45.
	Years.	Years.
1870-4	24·13	29·93
1880-4	23·83	28·61
1890-4	24·66	28·66
1900-4	25·44	29·70
1905	25·77	29·76
1906	25·97	29·90
1907	25·82	29·78
1908	25·85	29·77
1909	25·99	29·78
1910	25·88	29·58
1911	25·81	29·46
1912	25·75	29·17
1913	25·66	29·01
1914	25·71	29·01
1915	25·68	28·75
1916	26·07	29·48

The mean age of women under 45 who married in 1916 was above the average of the previous five years, and it was greater by nearly one and a half years than that of women who married in 1890-4. In Victoria for 1916 the mean marrying age of all brides was 26·82, as compared with 26·80 in England and Wales and 26·69 in New Zealand. The mean ages of all bridegrooms in the same countries were 30·09, 29·11, and 30·09 years respectively.

The marriages in Australia for 1916 numbered 40,292, as against 45,264 in the previous year, 43,276 in 1914, 41,605 in 1913, 42,145 in 1912, and 39,473 in 1911. Of the total, 11,341 took place in Victoria, 16,320 in New South Wales, 5,208 in Queensland, 3,602 in South Australia, 2,365 in Western Australia, 1,433 in Tasmania, 19 in the Northern Territory, and 4 in the Federal Capital Territory. In the subjoined table are shown the marriage rates per 1,000 of the

Marriage rates in Australian States and New Zealand.

population in the Australian States and New Zealand for the period 1902-6 and for each of the last ten years :—

MARRIAGE RATES IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	6.92	7.33	6.15	6.73	9.02	7.58	7.11	8.26
1907 ..	7.64	7.84	7.58	7.94	8.02	7.91	7.78	8.91
1908 ..	7.37	7.97	7.22	7.84	7.50	7.74	7.64	8.82
1909 ..	7.36	8.21	7.96	8.30	7.54	8.13	7.86	8.33
1910 ..	7.83	8.81	8.05	9.21	7.75	7.98	8.37	8.30
1911 ..	8.40	9.18	8.41	9.82	8.45	7.77	8.78	8.67
1912 ..	8.65	9.58	8.91	9.62	8.37	7.86	9.07	8.85
1913 ..	8.13	9.01	8.68	9.44	8.19	8.27	8.67	8.25
1914 ..	8.31	9.37	8.73	9.11	8.22	7.62	8.80	8.51
1915 ..	9.00	9.70	8.94	9.01	8.01	8.03	9.14	9.12
1916 ..	8.05	8.74	7.61	8.29	7.51	7.23	8.21	7.30
Average 1912-16	8.43	9.29	8.57	9.09	8.06	7.80	8.78	8.41

All the States and New Zealand had lower marriage rates in 1916 than in the preceding year.

The average marriage rate in Australia—8.78—for the period 1912-16 was higher than in seventeen of the twenty-one countries shown in the following table for the latest five years for which this information is available :—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Marriage Rate.	Country.	Marriage Rate.
Ontario	9.7	Italy	7.5
Bulgaria	9.3	Austria	7.5
Roumania	9.2	The Netherlands	7.1
Hungary	8.9	Denmark	7.1
Servia	8.7	Scotland	7.1
Japan	8.4	Spain	7.0
Russia	8.4	Switzerland	6.9
England and Wales	8.2	Norway	6.3
Belgium	7.9	Sweden	5.9
France	7.8	Ireland	5.3
Germany	7.8		

For reasons already given, a better and more reliable index of the frequency of marriage in the different States is a comparison of the marriages with the number of marriageable males, aged 21 and upwards. This is shown in

Marriages to marriageable males in Australia.

the following statement for the period 1900-2 and for the year 1911 :—

MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE MALES IN AUSTRALASIA.

	1900-2.	1911.	Increase per cent. in 1911.
Victoria	56·0	67·3	20·2
New South Wales... ..	58·3	68·0	16·6
Queensland	41·6	54·9	32·0
South Australia	56·8	81·3	43·1
Western Australia	41·9	45·8	9·3
Tasmania	65·7	69·3	5·5
Australia	55·7	64·7	16·0
New Zealand	55·1	58·8	6·7

In each State the proportion of marriageable men who married during the year 1911 was greater than that for the period 1900-2, the excess amounting to 43 per cent. in South Australia, 32 in Queensland, 20 in Victoria, nearly 17 in New South Wales, 9 in Western Australia, and 5½ in Tasmania. The comparatively low marriage rates for men in Western Australia and Queensland were due to the unequal distribution of marriageable men and women. At the 1911 census, to every 1,000 unmarried and widowed women aged 18 to 50, the numbers of bachelors and widowers between 21 and 55 years of age in each State and Australia were as follows :—Victoria, 853 ; New South Wales, 1,116 ; Queensland, 1,449 ; South Australia, 946 ; Western Australia, 2,265 ; Tasmania, 950 ; and Australia, 1,096.

The following table gives the numbers and rates per 1,000 of the population of brides and of bridegrooms—whose usual place of residence (if in Victoria) was in Melbourne and suburbs, other urban districts, or rural districts respectively, or was outside the State—during the year 1916 :—

USUAL RESIDENCE OF BRIDES AND BRIDEGROOMS, 1916.

Usual Residence of Bridegrooms.	Usual Residence of Brides.				Total Bridegrooms.	Proportion of Bridegrooms per 1,000 of Population.
	Metropolitan.	Other Urban.	Rural.	Outside Victoria.		
In Victoria—						
Metropolitan Districts	5,312	189	330	66	5,897	8·5
Other Urban Districts	164	886	209	9	1,268	6·1
Rural Districts	690	278	2,645	32	3,645	7·1
Outside Victoria ..	230	36	127	138	531	..
Total Brides	6,396	1,389	3,311	245	11,341	..
Proportion of Brides per 1,000 of Population ..	9·3	6·7	6·5	..	..	..

Of the 393 men residing outside the State who married Victorian women, 212 were residents of New South Wales, 27 of Queensland, 52 of South Australia, 25 of Western Australia, 32 of Tasmania, 3 of New Zealand, 10 of the United Kingdom, 2 of India, 1 of the United States, and 9 of other countries, while 20 were seafaring men.

The extent to which the high crude marriage rates in Greater Melbourne, as compared with the country, are due to variations in age, sex, and conjugal condition may be ascertained by an examination of the results of the last census. The first striking fact disclosed is that, whether the comparison be made for all ages or for marriageable ages only, there is a great preponderance of women over men in the metropolis, whilst in the remainder of the State the men are in excess. In Greater Melbourne there were 55,347 unmarried men aged 21 to 55, as compared with 84,238 unmarried women aged 18 to 50. In the rest of the State the eligible men and women at the corresponding ages numbered 79,925 and 74,318 respectively. It is thus seen that, while there was a surplus of 28,891 marriageable females in the metropolis, there was a deficiency of 5,607 in the country. To obtain definite information regarding the frequency of marriage, the residents of these areas who entered into wedlock were compared with the marriageable population of each sex, and the resulting proportions for the average of the period 1910-12 are shown in the following statement:—

**YEARLY MARRIAGES PER 1,000 MARRIAGEABLE PERSONS
IN GREATER MELBOURNE AND THE REST OF THE
STATE, 1910-12.**

District.	Men.	Women.
Melbourne and Suburbs	95·8	66·6
Rest of the State	66·4	68·9

The results show that the chance of marrying within a year is slightly less for a woman residing in Greater Melbourne than for one living outside that area. On the other hand, the chance of a man marrying is 44 per cent. greater for a metropolitan than for a country resident.

Marrying age according to occupation.

In the *Year-Book* for 1915-16 a table is given showing the average age at marriage of persons engaged in various occupations. This was based upon 42,764 marriages for the period 1907-11, in connection with which the records gave definite occupations.

Birthplaces of persons marrying. Marriage records show that of the persons married in Victoria during 1916, 90·4 per cent. were born in Australia, 7·7 per cent. were born in the United Kingdom, and only small proportions, amounting to 1·5 per cent. of the bridegrooms and ·4 per cent. of the brides, were natives of foreign countries. The numbers born in Australia and other countries are shown in the following table for the years 1908 and 1916 :—

BIRTHPLACES OF PERSONS MARRIED, 1908 AND 1916.

Where Born.	Bridegrooms.		Brides.	
	1908.	1916.	1908.	1916.
Australia	8,013	9,929	8,709	10,582
New Zealand	173	111	106	64
England and Wales	635	835	301	465
Scotland	154	172	68	96
Ireland	141	98	81	69
Other British Possessions	31	31	20	16
Germany	56	20	15	4
Russia	7	24	2	6
Italy	15	12	6	8
United States	24	25	6	10
Other Foreign Countries	85	84	20	20
Total	9,334	11,341	9,334	11,341

Marriages in quarters.

Victorian experience shows that the Autumn quarter is the most frequently selected season for marrying. In 1916, however, the greatest proportion took place in the Summer, when 27·96 per cent. of the total marriages were solemnized, as against 27·08 per cent. in the Autumn, 23·36 per cent. in the Winter, and 21·60 in the Spring.

Conjugal condition of persons marrying. The proportion of re-marriages has shown during the last forty-five years a continuous decline, owing to the decreasing ratio of persons who have become widowed at the younger and probable marrying ages, and also to the later marrying ages of bachelors and spinsters in recent as compared with earlier periods. The following statement shows the percentages

of persons in each conjugal condition who married in the periods mentioned :—

CONJUGAL CONDITION OF PERSONS MARRYING, 1871-1916.

Conjugal Condition.	Percentage of total Marriages.				
	1871-80.	1881-90.	1891-1900.	1901-10.	1916.
Bachelors and Spinsters	80·59	85·84	87·22	88·46	90·94
Bachelors and Widows	7·10	4·72	4·23	3·66	2·74
Widowers and Spinsters	7·75	6·17	6·07	5·70	4·78
Widowers and Widows	4·56	3·27	2·48	2·18	1·54

Of every 1,000 persons of each sex married in Victoria during last year, 63 were widowers and 43 were widows, as against 94 and 80 respectively during the decade 1881-90.

The number of divorced persons re-married during 1916 was 192, which was slightly below the number for the preceding year. Of the 118,130 persons married during the last five years, divorced persons numbered 1,002 or 1 in every 118 persons, as compared with 1 in every 646 in England and Wales in 1914. The following are the numbers of divorced persons who have re-married in Victoria since 1911 :—

DIVORCED PERSONS RE-MARRYING, 1912 TO 1916.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1912	91	120	211
1913	78	99	177
1914	91	124	215
1915	88	119	207
1916	81	111	192

The divorced persons in the State at the last census numbered 1,240, of whom 575 were men and 665 women. A comparison of the re-marriages of divorced males and females during 1911 with these numbers shows that, according to the experience of that year, 11·5 per cent. of the males and 15·8 per cent. of the females re-marry each year. As these proportions greatly exceed the rates for other sections of the community, it is evident that many divorces are obtained with the view of early re-marriage.

The proportion of bridegrooms and brides under 21 years of age were lower in 1916 than in the preceding year. The percentages in each Australian State for 1916, and in

Marriages of minors.

England, Scotland and Ireland for the latest year for which the information is available are as follows:—

		Percentage under 21 years of age.	
		Bride.grooms.	Brides.
Victoria	∴	2·65	13·23
New South Wales	∴	3·32	19·50
Queensland	∴	3·51	22·33
South Australia	∴	2·64	16·07
Western Australia	∴	1·69	19·32
Tasmania	∴	3·49	22·96
Australia	∴	3·01	17·89
England and Wales (1914)		4·16	14·25
Scotland (1913)	∴	6·16	18·94
Ireland (1914)	∴	1·63	6·24

Persons marrying before attaining their majority are proportionately fewer in Victoria than in any other Australian State.

Marriages in religious denominations.

The numbers and proportions of marriages solemnized according to the rites of the principal religious denominations and of those performed by registrars of marriages for the years 1915 and 1916 are shown in the following table:—

MARRIAGES IN VARIOUS DENOMINATIONS.

Denomination.	1915.		1916.	
	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.	Number.	Percentage of Total Marriages.
Church of England ...	3,542	27·60	3,007	26·51
Roman Catholic Church...	2,179	16·98	2,108	18·59
Presbyterian Church ...	2,316	18·05	2,055	18·12
Methodist Church ...	1,945	15·16	1,645	14·51
Congregational Church ...	1,169	9·11	1,104	9·74
Baptist Church...	550	4·29	532	4·69
Lutheran Church ...	55	·43	65	·57
Independent Presbyterian Church	148	1·15	...	...
Church of Christ ...	312	2·43	268	2·36
Salvation Army ...	51	·40	54	·48
Jews ...	38	·30	42	·37
Other Sects ...	135	1·05	99	·87
Registrars of Marriages...	392	3·05	362	3·19
Total ...	12,832	100·00	11,341	100·00

Marriages by Anglican clergymen represented 26·51 per cent. of the total in 1916 as compared with 25·44 in 1911 and 21·18 in the period 1904-8. Excepting the ratios for the Presbyterian and Methodist churches, there were great disparities between the proportion of marriages celebrated according to the rites of each of the principal denominations and the proportionate number of adherents possessed by it in the community.

In 1916, 3·2*per cent., in 1915, 3·0 per cent., and in 1914 and 1913, 2·6 per cent. of the total marriages in Victoria were celebrated by lay registrars, as against 1 per cent. in 1909, and about 7 per cent. in the decade ended 1890. The decrease which occurred between the earlier period and 1909 was due to the competition of matrimonial agencies which sprang up about 1894, and the increase of 220 per cent. shown by the rate for 1916 over that for 1909 was probably due to the provisions of the *Marriage Act* 1909 (now incorporated in the *Marriage Act* 1915—No. 2691) permitting the removal from the list of registered clergymen of the names of those who were making a business of celebrating marriages. The percentages of civil marriages in the Australian States, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom in the latest year for which the information is available were as follows:—

CIVIL MARRIAGES.

Country.	Year.	Civil Marriages—per cent. of total.
England and Wales	1914	24·1
New Zealand... ..	1916	21·1
Western Australia	1916	16·2
Scotland	1913	9·0
South Australia	1916	3·5
Victoria	1916	3·2
Queensland	1916	3·0
New South Wales	1916	3·0
Ireland	1915	1·6
Tasmania	1916	1·0

The proportion of civil marriages in Victoria is only one-fifth of the proportion in Western Australia, one-seventh of that in New Zealand, and about one-eighth of that in England and Wales.

The ministers qualified by registration to celebrate marriages in Victoria numbered 1,504 on 31st December, 1916. The numbers of these in each denomination (excepting

Registered
clergymen.

Jews and Quakers) and of the lay registrars of marriages were as follows:—

REGISTERED MINISTERS OF EACH DENOMINATION.

Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.	Denomination.	Number of Registered Ministers.
Church of England ..	385	Australian Church ..	1
Roman Catholic ..	311	Ballarat Town Mission..	1
Presbyterian ..	281	Christian (Unattached)	1
Methodist ..	253	Free Christian ..	1
Congregational ..	68	New Church ..	1
Baptist ..	77	Unitarian ..	1
Church of Christ ..	54	Greek Orthodox Church	1
Lutheran ..	21		
Salvation Army..	32	Total clergymen ...	1,504
Seventh Day Adventist ..	7	Lay Registrars of Marriages ..	21
Latter Day Saints ..	6		
Catholic Apostolic ..	2	Grand Total ..	1,525

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered in Victoria during the year 1916 was **34,239**, of which **17,625** were of males and **16,614** of females. This was 771 below the number recorded for the preceding year and 1,986 below that for 1914. Still-births, which are excluded from both births and deaths, numbered 1,105, and corresponded to a ratio of 3·2 per 100 infants born alive in 1916. The ratio for the metropolitan area was 3·7, as against 2·7 for the remainder of the State. There were 1,061 male to every 1,000 female births in 1916, as compared with 1,045 to every 1,000 on the average of the preceding five years. The figures for each year since 1896 are as follows:—

BIRTHS IN VICTORIA, 1897 TO 1916.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1897 ..	16,013	15,297	31,310	1907 ..	15,989	15,380	31,369
1898 ..	15,435	14,737	30,172	1908 ..	16,073	15,028	31,101
1899 ..	15,785	15,223	31,008	1909 ..	16,092	15,457	31,549
1900 ..	15,834	14,945	30,779	1910 ..	16,411	15,026	31,437
1901 ..	15,876	15,132	31,008	1911 ..	16,944	16,100	33,044
1902 ..	15,583	14,878	30,461	1912 ..	18,244	17,573	35,817
1903 ..	15,115	14,454	29,569	1913 ..	18,436	17,542	35,978
1904 ..	15,313	14,450	29,763	1914 ..	18,549	17,676	36,225
1905 ..	15,523	14,584	30,107	1915 ..	17,821	17,189	35,010
1906 ..	15,716	15,128	30,844	1916 ..	17,625	16,614	34,239

About two-thirds of the increase for 1912 was due to the fact that, after the Maternity Allowance Act came into force on the 10th October of that year, births were registered much sooner after their occurrence than was customary before the passing of that measure. As a result of the commencement of this practice there were more births registered in 1912 than occurred in that year.

Birth rates. In young communities, birth rates calculated per 1,000 of the population are to some extent unreliable and misleading. In the earlier periods when, owing to immigration, the population consists for the most part of men and women at the reproductive period of life, the rates are obviously high. As time proceeds, however, notwithstanding that immigration of reproductive adults may be maintained, the proportion of such adults to the total population must diminish, and with it, of necessity, the birth rate. The following table shows the birth rates in Victoria from 1870 to 1916 :—

BIRTH RATES IN VICTORIA PER 1,000 OF POPULATION,
1870 TO 1916.

Year.	Birth Rate.	Year.	Birth Rate.	Year.	Birth Rate.
1870 ..	38·07	1897 ..	26·49	1907 ..	25·03
1875 ..	33·94	1898 ..	25·51	1908 ..	24·56
1880 ..	30·75	1899 ..	26·14	1909 ..	24·62
1885 ..	31·33	1900 ..	25·79	1910 ..	24·20
1890 ..	33·60	1901 ..	25·72	1911 ..	25·03
1891 ..	33·57	1902 ..	25·05	1912 ..	26·41
1892 ..	32·51	1903 ..	24·28	1913 ..	25·82
1893 ..	31·18	1904 ..	24·42	1914 ..	25·45
1894 ..	29·05	1905 ..	24·57	1915 ..	24·55
1895 ..	28·46	1906 ..	24·91	1916 ..	24·30
1896 ..	27·19				

The birth rate for 1916 was the lowest since 1910. The cause of the sharp rise in the rate for 1912 is given above. The varying proportions and age distributions of married women at reproductive

ages in the population at different periods account in a measure for the reduction in the crude rate in the above table. The effect of these changes is shown on page 322.

The births in Australia for 1916 numbered 131,429, as against 134,829 in the previous year, 137,964 in 1914, 135,701 in 1913, 133,270 in 1912, 122,369 in 1911, 116,894 in 1910, and 114,070 in 1909. Of the total births 34,239 occurred in Victoria, 52,075 in New South Wales, 18,916 in Queensland, 11,857 in South Australia, 8,563 in Western Australia, 5,642 in Tasmania, 74 in the Northern Territory, and 63 in the Federal Capital Territory. The following table gives the birth rates, calculated in the ordinary way, per thousand of the population in the Australian States and New Zealand for 1891, 1901, and each of the last seven years:—

BIRTH RATES IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1891 ..	33·57	34·50	36·35	33·92	34·85	33·37	34·23	29·01
1901 ..	25·78	27·60	28·28	25·09	30·32	28·40	27·05	26·34
1910 ..	24·20	28·07	27·31	26·38	27·89	29·87	26·73	26·17
1911 ..	25·03	28·68	27·66	26·89	28·25	28·63	27·23	25·97
1912 ..	26·41	29·90	29·70	28·65	28·86	30·53	28·65	26·48
1913 ..	25·82	28·81	30·26	29·12	29·39	30·03	28·27	26·14
1914 ..	25·45	28·93	29·46	29·33	28·40	30·33	28·05	25·99
1915 ..	24·55	28·31	29·35	26·81	27·97	29·32	27·24	25·33
1916 ..	24·30	28·00	27·65	27·30	27·21	28·47	26·78	25·95
Mean of 1912-16	25·31	28·79	29·28	28·24	28·37	29·74	27·80	25·98

Factors in birth rates.

The birth rate was lower in all the Australian States, except South Australia, in 1916 than in the preceding year. The birth rate of a community is almost wholly dependent upon the proportion of wives at the reproductive period of life and their internal age distribution. As these elements, especially the former, differ widely in certain Australian States, the crude rates of the different States are scarcely comparable. An investigation of the results of the last census shows that in every 1,000 of the population of each State and of the Commonwealth the married women aged 15 to 45 numbered 106·0 in Victoria, 115·4 in New South Wales, 107·2 in Queensland, 109·9 in South Australia, 123·6 in Western Australia, 110·5 in Tasmania, and 111·2 in Australia. In the case of Victoria, the deficiency in the proportion of wives at the ages mentioned was accentuated by their comparatively unfavorable internal age distribution, the proportion at the younger and more fertile ages being smaller than that of any other State. A computation shows

that owing to these differences the legitimate births in Victoria to every 1,000 of the population in 1911 were fewer by 3·5 than in New South Wales, by 1·4 than in Queensland, by 1·8 than in South Australia, by 4·2 than in Western Australia, and by 2·5 than in Tasmania, also that they were 2·0 less than in the whole of Australia.

On the average of the past five years the birth rate in Victoria was lower than in any other State. It was, however, above the rates in Switzerland, Sweden, Ontario, Belgium, Norway, England and Wales, Ireland, and France, on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available :—

BIRTHS PER 1,000 OF POPULATION, IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Births per 1,000 of population.	Country.	Births per 1,000 of population.
Russia (European) ...	44·2	South Australia ...	28·2
Roumania ...	41·9	Holland ...	27·7
Bulgaria ...	40·7	New Zealand ...	26·0
Servia ...	37·2	Denmark ...	25·8
Hungary ...	36·3	Scotland ...	25·4
Japan ...	33·7	Victoria ...	25·3
Austria ...	32·5	Norway ...	25·2
Italy ...	32·0	Belgium ...	23·6
Spain ...	31·4	Ontario ...	23·4
Tasmania ...	29·7	Sweden ...	23·1
Queensland ...	29·3	England and Wales ...	23·1
Germany ...	29·0	Switzerland ...	22·7
New South Wales ...	28·8	Ireland ...	22·7
Western Australia ...	28·4	France ...	18·9

An accurate view of the alteration in the fertility of wives is obtained by comparing the ratio of legitimate births to wives at reproductive ages, and allowing for the difference in their age distribution at each period. The following table shows for Victoria the distribution of married women in six five-year groups in the last five census years :—

PROPORTION OF MARRIED WOMEN IN AGE GROUPS TO TOTAL BETWEEN 15 AND 45 IN THE LAST FIVE CENSUS YEARS.

Census Year.	Proportion in each Age Group to Every 1,000 Married Women between 15 and 45.					
	15—20.	20—25.	25—30.	30—35.	35—40.	40—45.
1871 ..	20·3	130·4	211·4	230·7	233·2	174·0
1881 ..	17·3	159·5	204·6	206·0	209·7	202·9
1891 ..	13·5	156·9	275·2	244·1	172·1	138·2
1901 ..	8·1	99·0	198·3	249·6	249·2	195·8
1911 ..	12·4	113·8	206·9	226·6	221·2	219·1

To estimate the effect which the alteration in age distribution had on the birth rate, the proportion in each of the above groups was multiplied by the average natality rate for the group according to a standard table—the standard used for this purpose being the Swedish table of 1891. The sum of the products for each census year represented the number of births which would have occurred in that year per 1,000 married women between 15 and 45 had the fertility of these women remained unaltered, *i.e.*, the potential births. The year 1871 was used as a basis with which to compare the four subsequent census years, and corrections were applied to the actual births (per 1,000) occurring in those years, so as to make them conform to the age constitution in the first-mentioned year. The correction factors were obtained by taking the number of births per 1,000 married women aged 15-45 which would have occurred in 1871 had the standard natality rates prevailed, and dividing this number by the corresponding numbers of potential births for 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911. The above method was applied to find what proportion of the alteration in the ratio of births to married women under 45 was due to causes other than varying age constitution. The last mentioned factor has been taken into account in the computation of the birth rates appearing in column 5 of the subjoined table:—

CORRECTED LEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES.

(1) Census Year.	(2) Married Women between 15 and 45 years of age.	(3) Legitimate Births.	(4) Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women 15-45.	(5) Corrected Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women 15-45.	(6) Factor for Correction of Rate in Column 4.
1871 ..	88,561	26,805	302·67	..	..
1881 ..	84,831	25,675	302·66	303·14	1·0016
1891 ..	120,700	35,853	297·04	281·98	0·9493
1901 ..	127,858	29,279	229·00	238·75	1·0426
1911 ..	139,398	31,080	222·96	231·50	1·0383

An inspection of the rates in column (5) shows that there was a fall of 7 per cent. in 1891 as compared with 1881, a further serious decline of over 15 per cent. in 1901 as compared with 1891, and a decrease of 3 per cent. in 1911 as compared with 1901, which were not due to variations in the age distribution of the married women between 15 and 45 in the community. A further examination of the corrected legitimate birth rates appearing in this column shows that the births in 1911 to every 1,000 married women of reproductive ages were 71 fewer than in 1881, 50 fewer than in 1891, and 7 fewer than in 1901.

Corrected
legitimate
birth rate
for Vic-
toria.

Legitimate birth rates (per 1,000 of the total population) for widely separated periods do not give a correct indication of the relative fertilities of those periods, unless the number of married women at reproductive ages in proportion to the population and the age constitution of such women have remained

unchanged. In order to allow for the disturbance which may have been introduced through variations in these elements it is necessary that corrections be made in the crude rates. The factor to correct the result of changes in the proportion of married women between 15 and 45 is obtained by comparing the number of such women in the community at the period of observation with the number in a standard population. The method of obtaining the correcting factor for the disturbance due to the second element was explained in a previous paragraph.

The following table shows the crude legitimate birth rates in five census years, the corrections to be applied thereto for the reasons mentioned above, the amended birth rates, and the difference between these and the crude rates. The standard used in the computation of the correction factors was the Victorian population of 1871. Corrected birth rates per 1,000 of the population in the years 1881, 1891, 1901, and 1911 are as follows :—

**CORRECTED LEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES PER 1,000 OF
POPULATION.**

Year.	Enumerated Population.	Legitimate Births.	Legitimate Births per 1,000 of population (crude rates).	Wives aged 15-45, per 1,000 of population.	Correction factor for variations in—		Corrected Birth Rate.	Difference between crude and corrected rates.
					Proportion of wives aged 15-45.	Age distribution of wives aged 15-45.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
1871	731,528	26,905	36·64	121·1	..	1·0016	36·69	6·92
1881	862,346	25,075	29·77	98·4	1·2307	0·9493	34·39	2·95
1891	1,140,405	35,853	31·44	105·8	1·1446	1·0426	28·77	4·40
1901	1,201,341	29,279	24·37	106·4	1·1382	1·0383	27·89	4·26
1911	1,315,551	31,080	23·63	106·0	1·1425			

An inspection of the crude rates in the fourth column of the above table shows that legitimate births per 1,000 of population apparently declined by 6·87 in 1881, 5·20 in 1891, 12·27 in 1901, and 13·01 in 1911, as compared with the first census date. After making allowance for the disturbing elements known to exist, the apparent decline of 6·87 in 1881 is altered to an increase of ·05 per 1,000, while the decline of 1891 is reduced from 5·20 to 2·25, that of 1901 from 12·27 to 7·87, and that of 1911 from 13·01 to 8·75 per 1,000 as compared with 1871. Between 1891 and 1911 there was a reduction of nearly 19 per cent. in the rate due to other than normal causes.

The next table shows the legitimate births per 1,000 married women under 45 (not allowing for their differing age distribution) in each State, New Zealand, and England and Wales in the three census years 1891, 1901, and 1911:—

LEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 MARRIED WOMEN UNDER 45 YEARS OF AGE.

Country.	Legitimate Births per 1,000 Married Women aged 15 to 45.			Decrease per cent. in 20 years.
	1891.	1901.	1911.	
Victoria	297·0	229·0	223·0	24·9
New South Wales	298·9	235·6	235·4	21·2
Queensland	315·0	251·0	244·8	22·3
South Australia	311·1	235·0	235·9	24·2
Western Australia	352·8	244·0	221·8	37·1
Tasmania	315·9	254·6	244·8	22·5
New Zealand	279·1	246·1	211·7	24·2
England and Wales	268·8	234·2	196·2	27·0

It will be seen from these figures that between 1891 and 1911 there was a pronounced decline in the proportion of legitimate births to married women under 45 years of age in the different States, New Zealand, and England and Wales, varying from 37 per cent. in Western Australia to 27 per cent. in England and Wales, 25 per cent. in Victoria, 24 per cent. in South Australia and New Zealand, and 21 per cent. in New South Wales. Slightly more than one-fourth of the total decline in Victoria during the twenty years was due to the altered age distribution of married women under 45 years of age, and it is probable that this cause was also responsible for a portion of the decrease in each of the other States and New Zealand.

The birth records for 1916 show that 84 out of every 100 children were born to Australian parents, and 95 out of every 100 to one or both parents born in Australia. Of the total fathers, 79·72 per cent. were born in Victoria; 87·29 in Australia; 1·12 in New Zealand; 7·07 in England and Wales; 1·62 in Scotland; 1·00 in Ireland; ·27 in other British Possessions; and 1·63 per cent. in foreign countries. The corresponding percentages for mothers were: Victoria, 82·56; Australia, 91·13; New Zealand, 1·01; England and Wales, 5·22; Scotland, 1·06; Ireland, ·57; other British Possessions, ·22; and foreign countries, ·79.

During the past seven years the births to Chinese parents numbered 51, or 1 in every 4,421 legitimate births, and the Chinese half-caste births (fathers only Chinese) totalled 209, or 1 in every 1,079 legitimate births registered in the same period.

Ages of parents of legitimate children.

The average ages of fathers and mothers of legitimate children whose births were recorded in 1916 were 33·73 and 29·84 years respectively, which were 4·25 and 3·77 years above the average ages of bridegrooms marrying brides under 45 years of age, and of such brides for the same period. The proportions of both parents in various age groups are shown in the following table for the year mentioned :—

PERCENTAGE OF PARENTS IN AGE GROUPS, 1916.

Father.				Mother.			
Age Group.		Proportion per 100 Births.		Age Group.		Proportion per 100 Births.	
Under 20	22	Under 20	...	...	2·21
20 to 25	9·98	20 to 25	...	...	21·63
25 to 30	26·40	25 to 30	...	...	31·19
30 to 35	24·96	30 to 35	...	...	23·86
35 to 40	18·58	35 to 40	...	...	15·43
40 to 45	10·69	40 to 45	...	...	5·21
45 to 50	6·16	45 and over	...	...	47
50 and over	3·01				
Total	100·00	Total	...	...	100·00

It will be seen that on the experience of 1916, 52·82 per cent. of the mothers were between ages 20 and 30, and 39·29 per cent. between ages 30 and 40. The proportions of fathers at these ages were 36·38 and 43·54 per cent. respectively. Of every 1,000 legitimate births, about 22 were due to mothers under 20 years, and nearly 5 to mothers aged 45 years and upwards.

Ages of mothers of first births. The proportion of legitimate births recorded as first births was 28·78 per cent. in 1916, as compared with 29·21 in the previous year, 28·36 in 1914, 29·26 in 1913, 28·55 in 1912, 27·42 in 1911, 26·22 in 1910, 26·20 in 1909, 25·43 in 1908, 24·98 in 1907, 24·78 in 1906, and 21·87 per cent. in 1901, the proportion for the latest year being greater by 31·6 per cent.

than that for 1901. The percentages of mothers of first births at various ages are shown in the following table for the last five years:—

PERCENTAGE OF MOTHERS OF FIRST-BORN CHILDREN IN AGE GROUPS.

Ages.	Percentage of Mothers in Age Groups.				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Under 20	8·5	8·1	7·8	8·0	6·2
20 to 25	41·1	40·5	40·9	39·6	40·6
25 to 30	32·0	32·7	32·2	32·0	34·5
30 to 35	12·2	12·7	13·4	13·5	13·0
35 to 40	5·0	4·9	4·6	4·8	4·5
40 and over	1·2	1·1	1·1	1·2	1·2
Total	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0	100·0

The experience of the period 1912-16 shows that of every 100 mothers of first-born children, 7·7 were under 20 years of age, 48·2 were under 25, 81·0 were under 30, and only 1·2 were aged 40 and over. These proportions are very similar to the ratios of brides in the same groups during the period dealt with, which show that 9·4 per cent. of the women marrying were under 20, 51·9 per cent. were under 25, 79·8 per cent. were under 30, and only 2·4 per cent. were aged 40 to 45.

The next table shows the number of births per 1,000 of the population in the metropolitan, the other urban, and the rural districts, for 1875 and each subsequent fifth year, also the averages of the years 1901-5 and 1906-10, and the rates for each of the last six years:—

BIRTH RATES IN METROPOLITAN, OTHER URBAN, AND RURAL DISTRICTS, 1875 TO 1916.

Year.	Births per 1,000 of the Population.			
	Metropolitan District.	Other Urban Districts.	Rural Districts.	Victoria.
1875	33·63	38·63	31·54	33·94
1880	31·19	34·21	28·72	30·75
1885	34·94	31·87	28·12	31·33
1890	37·71	34·43	28·93	33·60
1895	29·46	34·03	25·49	28·46
1900	24·54	32·29	24·26	25·79
1901-5	24·03	32·14	23·46	24·81
1906-10	23·59	32·47	22·88	24·66
1911	24·51	31·85	22·79	25·03
1912	27·48	33·24	22·46	26·41
1913	27·20	31·77	21·74	25·82
1914	26·82	31·36	21·34	25·45
1915	26·11	30·32	20·18	24·55
1916	25·51	30·56	20·10	24·30

The birth rates in the seven principal country towns are given below for each of the last five years:—

BIRTH RATES IN THE SEVEN PRINCIPAL COUNTRY TOWNS.

Year.	Births per 1,000 of the Population.						
	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Geelong and Suburbs.	Castle-maine and Suburbs.	Mary-borough.	Warrnambool.	Stawell.
1912 ...	26.55	33.99	28.00	29.86	35.18	42.11	38.51
1913 ...	26.53	32.74	28.13	27.00	30.18	38.65	36.52
1914 ...	26.01	31.44	27.03	32.46	34.91	45.27	42.20
1915 ...	24.73	28.99	28.17	28.16	26.67	44.11	34.22
1916 ...	24.16	27.38	27.58	27.40	32.00	41.22	37.87
Average	25.60	30.91	27.78	28.98	31.79	42.27	37.86

On the average of the five years 1912 to 1916, the birth rate in all of the above towns exceeded that of the State, and except in Ballarat it was greater than that of Melbourne and suburbs. The highest rate prevailed in Warrnambool, and the lowest in Ballarat and suburbs.

The birth rates in metropolitan municipalities are shown in the following table:—

METROPOLITAN BIRTH RATES 1901, 1911, 1914, 1915 AND 1916.

Districts.	Births per 1,000 of the Population.				
	1901.	1911.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Melbourne City ...	21.15	19.90	22.69	21.85	21.45
Fitzroy City ...	22.58	24.40	22.93	23.05	21.52
Collingwood City ...	26.44	23.36	23.22	21.46	19.44
Richmond City ...	25.51	25.28	31.31	29.36	29.26
Brunswick City ...	26.71	24.81	28.72	28.79	27.39
Northcote City ...	24.40	26.00	33.23	32.55	30.79
Prahran City ...	22.69	23.77	25.96	25.12	25.71
South Melbourne City...	22.10	21.71	22.19	20.08	20.12
Port Melbourne Town ...	25.26	24.59	26.76	22.21	22.15
St. Kilda City ...	18.59	21.10	20.28	19.60	18.81
Brighton Town ...	22.39	22.48	22.00	21.89	21.38
Essendon City ...	23.77	21.32	25.19	27.89	25.89
Hawthorn City ...	22.67	20.16	20.08	19.17	16.51
Kew Town ...	21.54	23.43	23.26	25.04	26.34
Footscray City ...	28.21	30.05	36.39	34.28	35.20
Williamstown Town ...	25.34	24.42	27.24	25.69	25.24
Oakleigh Borough ...	31.25	33.94	34.45	34.45	30.08
Caulfield City ...	18.72	20.15	27.20	27.35	28.28
Malvern City ...	21.98	20.25	22.68	21.46	21.20
Malvern City ...	21.98	20.25	22.68	21.46	21.20
Camberwell City ...	19.17	15.24	23.11	19.36	21.67
Preston Shire ...	26.76	24.06	24.14	23.87	23.95
Coburg Town... ..	20.58	22.75	23.12	22.72	25.67
Greater Melbourne:—					
Excluding Births in Institutions	23.03	22.32	24.83	23.94	23.46
Including Births in Institutions	24.85	24.51	26.82	26.11	25.51

All the municipalities, except Caulfield, Coburg, Essendon and Kew had lower birth rates in 1916 than in 1914.

Birth rates
in Aus-
tralasian
Capitals.

The next table shows the mean population, number of births, and birth rate in each Australasian capital city and suburbs for the year 1916 :—

BIRTH RATES IN CAPITAL CITIES OF AUSTRALASIA.

Capital City and Suburbs.				Year 1916.		
				Mean Population.	Number of Births.	Births per 1,000 of the Population.
Melbourne	...	...	689,820	17,600	25·51
Sydney	...	...	763,800	20,856	27·31
Brisbane	...	...	165,166	5,286	32·00
Adelaide	...	...	225,182	5,874	26·09
Perth	...	...	122,000	4,083	33·47
Hobart	...	...	39,264	1,347	34·31
Wellington	...	...	84,000	2,254	26·83

The average birth rate of the six Australian capitals was 27·45 per 1,000 of the population in 1916, as against 28·29 in the previous year.

Birth rates
in cities.

The birth rates of the Australasian capitals for 1916 and of 20 other cities for the latest year for which the information is available are given below :—

BIRTH RATES IN CITIES.

City.	Births per 1,000 of Population.	City.	Births per 1,000 of Population.
Hobart	34·3	New York	25·2
Buenos Ayres	34·2	Copenhagen	23·7
Perth	33·5	Amsterdam	23·2
Moscow	33·0	London	23·0
Brisbane	32·0	Milan	21·7
Dublin	27·9	Hamburg	21·4
Belfast	27·8	Stockholm	20·1
Sydney	27·3	Edinburgh	20·1
Wellington	26·8	Dresden	20·1
Boston	26·3	Berlin	19·6
Adelaide	26·1	Prague	18·7
Petrograd	25·9	Vienna	17·7
Melbourne	25·5	Paris	16·8

Twin and triplet births. The numbers of cases of twin and triplet births in Victoria in the past five years were as follows:—

CASES OF TWINS AND TRIPLETS.

Year.	Cases of Twins.	Cases of Triplets.
1912	367	7
1913	394	2
1914	402	4
1915	397	1
1916	365	6

On the average of the five years 1 mother in every 91 gave birth to twins, and 1 in every 8,766 was delivered of three children at a birth. The proportions for the decennium ended 1912 were 1 in every 98 and 1 in every 7,949 respectively.

Children legitimized. Under a section of an Act passed in 1903, an illegitimate child, whose parents subsequently married, might, provided there was no lawful impediment to the marriage of the parents at the time of the birth, be legitimized if registered for that purpose within six months after marriage. In December, 1912, another Act was passed, which provides that children born out of wedlock may be legitimized at any time after the marriage of the parents, on the application of the father, provided there was no lawful impediment to the marriage of the parents at the time of the birth. Up to the end of 1916 advantage was taken of these Acts to legitimate 1,169 children, of whom 14 were registered in 1903, 19 in 1904, 34 in 1905, 43 in 1906, 58 in 1907, 60 in 1908, 51 in 1909, 71 in 1910, 126 in 1911, 106 in 1912, 157 in 1913, 149 in 1914, 141 in 1915, and 140 in 1916.

Legitimation Acts are in force in all the States and New Zealand, the most recent being that of Western Australia, which was passed in 1909. Of every 100 children born out of wedlock, the numbers legitimized in the various States and New Zealand during 1916 were as follows:—New Zealand, 23·6; Queensland, 18·4; New South Wales, 16·8; Western Australia, 11·5 (in 1915); South Australia, 10·9; Victoria, 7·9; and Tasmania, only 4·5 (in 1915).

Illegitimate births in various countries.

The number of illegitimate births in Victoria during the year 1916 was 1,764, which gives a proportion of 5·15 to every 100 births registered, as against 5·75 in the previous year, 5·57 in 1914, 6·03 in 1913, 5·72 in 1912, 5·94 in 1911, and 5·59 in 1910. The percentages of the children born out of wedlock in various countries are shown in the following table :—

PERCENTAGE OF CHILDREN BORN, OUT OF WEDLOCK.

Country.	Year.	Percentage Born out of Wedlock.	Country.	Year.	Percentage Born out of Wedlock.
Sweden	1912	15·3	New South Wales ..	1916	4·8
Austria	1912	11·8	Italy	1914	4·7
Denmark	1914	11·5	Tasmania	1916	4·5
German Empire ..	1913	9·7	England and Wales	1915	4·4
Japan	1911	9·2	New Zealand	1916	4·0
Norway	1913	7·1	South Australia ..	1916	3·9
Scotland	1915	6·9	Western Australia ..	1916	3·7
Belgium	1911	6·3	Ireland	1915	3·1
Victoria	1916	5·2	The Netherlands ..	1914	2·1
Queensland	1916	5·0			

Illegitimate births to unmarried women in Victoria.

While the percentage of illegitimate to total births in Victoria increased from 5·36 in 1891 to 5·94 in 1911, the illegitimate births in proportion to single women were fewer in the later year. It is thus seen that the higher ratio of illegitimate to total births in 1911, as compared with 1891, was not due to greater laxity of morals, but to the smaller number of legitimate births. The proportion of infants born out of wedlock to the unmarried and widowed women between 15 and 45 years of age in Victoria are shown in the subjoined table for the census years 1891, 1901, and 1911, when the conjugal condition of the population was known :—

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS PER 1,000 SINGLE WOMEN.

Year.	Single Women aged 15 to 45.	Illegitimate Births.	Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Single Women.
1891	142,443	2,064	14·49
1901	167,760	1,729	10·31
1911	187,488	1,964	10·48

Although the proportion of illegitimate births to total births was nearly 11 per cent. higher in 1911 than in 1891, the ratio of infants born out of wedlock per 1,000 unmarried and widowed women fell from 14.49 in 1891 to 10.48 in 1911, which was equal to a decrease of nearly 28 per cent. in the intervening period.

Illegitimate births to unmarried women in various countries.

The illegitimate births in proportion to unmarried and widowed women of reproductive ages in various countries are given in the next table:—

BIRTHS TO UNMARRIED AND WIDOWED WOMEN IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Unmarried Women aged 15-45.	Country.	Period.	Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Unmarried Women aged 15-45.
German Empire	1900-2	27.4	Western Australia	1911	14.0
Sweden ..	"	24.3	Scotland ..	1900-2	13.4
Denmark ..	"	24.2	Tasmania ..	1911	11.9
Prussia ..	"	23.7	Victoria ..	"	10.5
Italy ..	"	19.4	Switzerland ..	1900-2	9.8
France ..	"	19.1	New Zealand ..	1911	9.2
Belgium ..	"	17.8	South Australia	"	8.5
Norway ..	"	17.2	England and		
Spain ..	"	15.5	Wales ..	"	8.0
Queensland ..	1911	15.5	Holland ..	1900-2	6.8
New South Wales	"	14.5	Ireland ..	"	3.8

A larger proportion of illegitimacy prevails in Melbourne and suburbs than in the other urban and rural districts of Victoria, the proportion in the country districts being the smallest of all. During the year 1916, in the metropolitan area, slightly more than 1 birth in every 13, in other urban districts 1 in 26, and in the rural districts only 1 in 53, was registered as illegitimate. The proportions in 1907-12 were 1 in 11, 1 in 21, and 1 in 42 respectively.

Illegitimacy in town and country.

DEATHS.

The following return shows the number of deaths—males and females—also the quarters in which they were registered and the proportion per 1,000 of the population since 1899:—

DEATHS IN EACH QUARTER, 1900 TO 1916.

Period.	Annual Deaths.	Sex.		Quarter of Registration.				Death Rate per 1,000 of the Population.
		Males.	Females.	March.	June.	September.	December.	
1900-4 ..	15,457	8,686	6,771	3,921	3,750	3,992	3,794	12·84
1905-9 ..	14,932	8,296	6,636	3,805	3,539	3,917	3,671	11·93
1910 ..	14,736	8,132	6,604	3,820	3,693	3,661	3,562	11·34
1911 ..	15,217	8,356	6,861	3,519	3,774	4,132	3,792	11·52
1912 ..	16,595	9,077	7,518	4,000	4,199	4,498	3,898	12·23
1913 ..	15,475	8,496	6,979	4,075	3,678	4,137	3,585	11·11
1914 ..	16,503	9,017	7,486	3,953	4,030	4,257	4,263	11·59
1915 ..	15,823	8,860	6,963	3,524	3,788	4,380	4,131	11·10
1916 ..	16,489	8,901	7,588	4,111	4,140	4,509	3,729	11·70
Average 1912-16	16,177	8,870	7,307	3,933	3,967	4,356	3,921	11·55

The number of deaths in 1916 was 16,489, which was 666 above the total for the preceding year. The seasonal mortality showed that the quarter ending 30th September was most fatal, the next being that ending 30th June, and the last quarter being least fatal. For every 100 female there were 117 male deaths in 1916 as against 122 on the average of the previous five years.

The deaths in Australia in 1916 numbered 54,205, as against 52,808 in the preceding year, 51,778 in 1914, 51,825 in 1913, 52,209 in 1912, 47,901 in 1911, and 45,628 in 1910. Of the total deaths in the year under review 16,489 occurred in Victoria, 19,854 in New South Wales, 7,514 in Queensland, 5,077 in South Australia, 3,085 in Western Australia, 2,056 in Tasmania, 122 in the Northern Territory, and 8 in the Federal Capital Territory. The death rates per 1,000 of the population for each of the Australian States and New Zealand are shown in the

Death rates
in Australian
States and
New Zealand.

following statement for the period 1902-6, and for each of the last ten years:—

DEATH RATES IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	12·55	10·84	10·92	10·67	12·17	11·04	11·44	9·81
1907 ..	11·61	10·56	10·35	9·87	11·09	11·22	10·86	10·95
1908 ..	12·45	10·13	10·23	9·84	10·74	11·51	10·91	9·57
1909 ..	11·27	9·97	9·68	9·72	10·21	10·01	10·31	9·22
1910 ..	11·34	9·98	9·70	10·21	10·09	11·31	10·43	9·71
1911 ..	11·52	10·34	10·65	9·82	10·20	10·12	10·67	9·39
1912 ..	12·23	10·86	10·96	10·28	11·07	10·73	11·23	8·87
1913 ..	11·11	10·91	10·39	10·82	9·35	10·87	10·78	9·47
1914 ..	11·59	10·13	9·97	10·71	9·39	9·67	10·53	9·31
1915 ..	11·10	10·50	11·00	10·67	9·28	10·11	10·67	9·06
1916 ..	11·70	10·68	10·98	11·69	9·80	10·38	11·04	9·64
Average 1912-16	11·55	10·62	10·66	10·83	9·78	10·35	10·85	9·27

The death rate was higher in all the States, except Queensland, in 1916 than in the previous year. The rate in Victoria, taking the average of the last five years was higher than in any other State, but this result was chiefly due to the larger proportion of elderly persons, amongst whom the mortality rate is very high. In any comparison of crude death rates of the different States and New Zealand, it is necessary to bear in mind the proportion of persons aged (say) 60 years and upwards in each community. This was accurately known at the 1911 census, when Victoria had 735 persons aged 60 years and over per 10,000 of the population, as compared with 629 in New South Wales, 581 in Queensland, 706 in South Australia, 402 in Western Australia, 626 in Tasmania, 647 in Australia, and 705 in New Zealand. Of the persons who died in 1916, 35·5 per cent. were aged 65 years and over in Victoria, 29·1 in New South Wales, 26·4 in Queensland, 33·1 in South Australia, 20·2 in Western Australia, 32·9 in Tasmania, 30·6 in Australia, and 35·0 in New Zealand. It will thus be seen that, while Victoria had a higher crude death rate, it had concurrently a larger proportion of elderly persons in the population and a greater percentage of total deaths at ages 65 years and upwards than any other State.

The following are the death rates per 1,000 of the population in various countries for the latest five years for which these particulars are available, also the averages of the 10 years ended 1907. In all the countries except Bulgaria and Servia, there has been a decrease, and in Holland, England and Wales, Germany, Prussia, Spain, Denmark, Switzerland, Italy, and the United States, there has been a considerable decrease in the recent five-year period as compared with the average of the ten years referred to. The countries are arranged in

order according to the average rate of mortality in the decade 1898-1907:—

DEATH RATES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Average of 10 Years— 1898-1907.	Average of latest available Five Years.	Decrease Per cent.
Russia, European	30·9	28·5*	7·8
Spain	26·7	21·8	18·4
Hungary	26·5	24·6	7·2
Roumania	25·6	24·5	4·3
Austria	24·3	21·8	10·3
Servia	23·0	23·6	+2·6
Bulgaria	22·8	23·9†	+4·8
Italy	22·0	19·2	12·7
Japan	20·7	20·6	·5
France	20·2	18·4	8·9
Germany	20·0	16·3	18·5
Prussia	19·7	16·1	18·3
Ireland	17·8	16·8	5·6
Switzerland	17·6	14·3	18·7
Belgium	17·3	15·7	9·2
Scotland	17·3	15·7	9·2
United Kingdom	16·7	14·6	12·6
England and Wales	16·5	14·2	13·9
United States (registration area)	16·3	13·9	14·7
Holland	16·2	12·8	21·0
Sweden	15·6	14·0	10·3
Denmark	15·1	12·9	14·6
Norway	14·8	13·3	10·1
Province of Ontario	12·9	12·3	4·7

*1908-9. †1908-11. +Increase.

Comparing this statement with the previous one, it will be noticed that the death rate in Victoria—the highest in Australasia for the reason previously stated—is considerably lower than in Holland, Denmark, and Norway—the European countries having the lowest rates. Emigration from the older to the newer countries tends to raise the death rate in the former, and to lower it in the latter. In consequence of this, the crude death rates, calculated on the total population, will naturally be on a lower level in Australasia than in Europe, yet it may be safely affirmed that the true rate of mortality, allowing for differences in the age constitution of the people, is considerably lighter in Australasia than in any country in Europe, except, perhaps, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, and Holland.

Comparisons of the crude death rates of a country for different periods, or of different countries for the same period, are frequently misleading, as they do not allow for variations in the age distributions of the population. In European countries, the proportion of elderly people, among whom the death rate is heavy, is higher than in the Commonwealth or any of the Australian States, and it is greater in Victoria, and lower in Western Australia, than in any of the other

Age
distribution
and crude
death rates.

States. The proportions living at various age groups at the last census in each division of the Commonwealth and New Zealand, and those in 1890 in Sweden—a country which fairly represents European conditions—are shown in the following table:—

PROPORTIONS LIVING AT FIVE AGE GROUPS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, AND SWEDEN.

Country.	Proportion per 10,000 of Population living at the Age Group—					Total.
	Under 1 Year.	1 to 20.	20 to 40.	40 to 60.	60 and over.	
Victoria ..	235	3,837	3,173	2,020	735	10,000
New South Wales ..	274	3,926	3,358	1,813	629	10,000
Queensland ..	269	4,083	3,285	1,782	581	10,000
South Australia ..	256	3,901	3,304	1,833	706	10,000
Western Australia ..	266	3,646	3,682	2,004	402	10,000
Tasmania ..	279	4,243	3,069	1,783	626	10,000
Australia ..	260	3,914	3,297	1,882	647	10,000
New Zealand ..	241	3,763	3,600	1,691	705	10,000
Sweden ..	255	3,980	2,696	1,923	1,146	10,000

The figures show that the characteristic features of Australian populations, as compared with those of European countries, are a large preponderance of persons at the age group 20-40, and a relatively small number aged 60 and over. Among the Australian States, Victoria and Western Australia have, as mentioned previously, the highest and lowest proportions respectively of persons aged 60 years and upwards—a point which should be kept in view when comparing their crude death rates.

The differences shown in the preceding table in the age constitutions of the populations of the six States and New Zealand have been taken into account in computing their respective indexes of mortality. The results for each are based upon an age distribution corresponding to that of Sweden in 1890, which has been adopted by statisticians as a standard for this purpose. Mortality indexes for each State and New Zealand for the undermentioned years are as follows:—

INDEX OF MORTALITY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Year.	Index of Mortality.							
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.	New Zealand.
1901	15·63	15·33	15·24	14·30	17·89	13·82	15·41	12·42
1911	14·31	13·13	13·52	12·15	13·49	12·90	13·52	11·80
1912	15·17	13·58	14·00	12·74	15·26	13·64	14·06	11·26
1913	13·62	13·68	13·64	13·19	12·60	13·42	13·56	11·90
1914	14·24	12·78	12·80	12·95	12·34	12·02	13·20	11·78
1915	13·35	13·04	14·08	12·83	12·49	12·80	13·24	11·44
1916	14·01	13·21	13·87	14·06	13·51	12·69	13·65	11·76

Death rates at various ages. A reliable estimate of the improvement in the health of the community is obtained by comparing the death rates for each age group at different periods. Such rates for Victoria are given in the subjoined table for the decennial periods 1881-1890, 1891-1900, and 1902-1911 :—

DEATH RATES AT CERTAIN AGE GROUPS IN VICTORIA.

Age Group.	Deaths per 1,000 at each Age.		
	1881-1890.	1891-1900.	1902-1911.
<i>Males.</i>			
Under 5	44·79	39·29	26·73
5 to 10	4·06	3·36	2·16
10 to 15	2·65	2·20	1·87
15 to 20	4·03	3·28	2·72
20 to 25	6·35	4·79	3·51
25 to 35	7·72	6·60	4·75
35 to 45	11·23	9·03	7·81
45 to 55	19·28	15·32	13·48
55 to 65	33·25	32·90	25·38
65 to 75	61·13	62·99	59·04
75 and upwards	137·18	145·05	157·26
All ages	16·55	15·47	13·30
<i>Females.</i>			
Under 5	39·46	34·09	22·35
5 to 10	3·92	3·12	2·03
10 to 15	2·56	2·06	1·78
15 to 20	4·17	3·43	2·80
20 to 25	5·81	4·81	3·59
25 to 35	7·90	6·89	5·01
35 to 45	10·93	8·68	7·16
45 to 55	14·84	12·12	9·96
55 to 65	23·49	23·64	18·80
65 to 75	50·32	45·87	46·71
75 and upwards	129·00	124·33	131·77
All ages	13·56	12·36	10·66

The figures show that at all ages, excepting 75 and over for males, and 65 and over for females, very much lower death rates were experienced during the last decennium than in the preceding one. Compared with 1891-1900, the mortality rate for the period 1902-11 for the two sexes combined was lower by 33 per cent. at the age group 0-10, by 14 per cent. at 10-15, by 18 per cent. at 15-20, by 26 per cent. at 20-25, by 27 per cent. at 25-35, by 15 per cent. at 35-45 and 45-55, and by 20 per cent. at 55-65. The rates, up to age 65 and probably to age 75, are comparable, and the marked decrease at successive periods points to a general improvement in hygienic conditions.

Death rates at various ages in Australian States.

In the next table the annual deaths in Victoria per 1,000 persons of each sex at various ages are compared with those in the other Australian States, and in the Commonwealth, for the period 1909-11:—

ANNUAL DEATH RATES AT VARIOUS AGES IN EACH AUSTRALIAN STATE, 1909-11.

Age Group.	Annual Deaths per 1,000 of Population.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Commonwealth.
<i>Males.</i>							
0-5 ..	24.04	23.76	21.53	20.31	26.78	24.05	23.40
5-10 ..	2.01	2.03	2.15	1.90	3.09	2.36	2.13
10-15 ..	1.68	1.75	1.92	1.34	1.84	1.49	1.71
15-20 ..	2.53	2.47	3.14	2.46	2.54	2.63	2.58
20-25 ..	3.14	3.22	4.38	3.05	4.42	3.63	3.43
25-30 ..	3.94	3.74	4.94	3.90	5.07	4.11	4.09
30-35 ..	4.72	4.35	5.42	4.79	5.91	4.44	4.76
35-40 ..	6.30	5.63	7.32	6.90	7.20	6.73	6.34
40-45 ..	7.97	8.13	9.30	7.86	10.64	6.86	8.40
45-50 ..	10.89	10.64	13.55	10.77	14.48	9.00	11.35
50-55 ..	14.63	13.28	17.15	14.91	16.12	13.28	14.49
55-60 ..	20.49	20.41	22.55	18.98	23.98	15.70	20.52
60-65 ..	32.04	27.94	29.16	29.95	30.21	23.33	29.28
65-70 ..	50.53	44.50	50.32	40.11	45.43	36.89	48.25
70-75 ..	76.20	70.60	65.82	59.63	78.10	53.49	70.20
75-80 ..	120.16	108.32	98.99	102.64	116.27	99.52	111.19
80-85 ..	171.92	158.63	152.59	155.53	155.83	153.83	163.58
85 and over	259.56	233.16	231.29	250.80	231.66	355.33	273.85
All ages—Males	12.82	11.15	11.46	10.79	11.42	10.84	11.60
<i>Females.</i>							
0-5 ..	18.89	20.05	19.08	16.24	21.66	20.91	19.39
5-10 ..	1.94	1.69	2.11	1.46	3.05	1.91	1.89
10-15 ..	1.51	1.34	1.84	1.47	1.86	1.97	1.46
15-20 ..	2.44	2.04	2.20	2.35	2.10	3.48	2.28
20-25 ..	3.46	3.15	3.44	3.45	3.76	4.23	3.40
25-30 ..	4.33	3.92	4.41	5.02	4.52	4.23	4.23
30-35 ..	4.92	4.40	4.63	6.05	5.15	4.54	4.69
35-40 ..	6.20	5.79	5.90	6.05	6.22	6.47	6.04
40-45 ..	6.53	6.06	6.94	8.04	6.62	6.47	6.36
45-50 ..	8.22	7.66	7.79	9.60	7.44	7.43	7.87
50-55 ..	9.90	9.98	10.13	12.88	11.58	9.93	9.93
55-60 ..	14.49	14.45	13.51	12.88	13.13	14.19	14.12
60-65 ..	21.62	20.67	21.89	19.19	17.72	18.18	20.73
65-70 ..	35.12	37.10	33.48	32.19	34.43	34.43	35.30
70-75 ..	59.07	54.55	50.18	48.98	55.53	52.95	55.22
75-80 ..	97.13	91.45	88.41	83.86	98.36	86.75	92.80
80-85 ..	133.47	133.49	137.58	128.76	130.53	133.35	133.94
85 and over	239.69	211.64	223.23	228.03	190.19	258.01	229.05
All ages—Females	10.17	8.83	8.34	9.20	8.55	9.71	9.23

A comparison shows that for the period 1909-11, the Victorian death rate for males at every age group between 5 and 50 was below that of the Commonwealth. For men aged 50 to 60 the rates were very similar, but for the five age periods between 60 and 85 they were lower in Australia, as a whole, than in Victoria. Among females, the mortality rates in the State were lower for four, and higher for fourteen, age periods than those for the corresponding ages in the Commonwealth.

Victorian
and English
death rates
compared.

The death rates of each sex at various ages in Victoria and Australia for the period 1909-11, and in England and Wales for 1906-10, are shown in the table which follows:—

DEATH RATES AT VARIOUS AGES IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, AND ENGLAND.

Age Group.	Annual Deaths per 1,000 of Each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	Victoria. 1909-11.	Australia. 1909-11.	England and Wales. 1906-10.	Victoria. 1909-11.	Australia. 1909-11.	England and Wales. 1906-10.
0-5 ..	24.0	23.4	45.4	18.9	19.4	33.0
5-10 ..	2.0	2.1	3.3	1.9	1.9	3.4
10-15 ..	1.7	1.7	2.0	1.5	1.5	2.1
15-20 ..	2.5	2.6	3.0	2.4	2.3	2.8
20-25 ..	3.1	3.4	4.0	3.5	3.4	3.3
25-35 ..	4.3	4.3	5.3	4.6	4.5	4.5
35-45 ..	7.1	7.3	8.6	6.4	6.2	7.1
45-55 ..	12.5	12.8	15.5	8.9	8.8	12.0
55-65 ..	25.3	25.2	31.2	17.6	17.0	24.3
65-75 ..	62.1	56.2	64.4	45.7	43.6	53.1
75-85 ..	138.2	127.8	137.7	109.1	105.8	119.6
85 and upwards	269.6	273.8	283.0	239.7	229.0	250.9
All ages ..	12.8	11.6	15.6	10.2	9.2	13.8

The low mortality rate at nearly every age in Victoria, by comparison with that in England and Wales, evidences the healthy climate and the favorable social and industrial conditions of the State. A striking feature of the Victorian and Commonwealth mortalities is the light rate among infants and young children. The superiority of the Victorian over the English rate is very pronounced for the age groups 0-5 and 5-10, but it is less marked for the next ten years of life. For the age groups 20-25 and 25-35, the rates for males are lower, while those for females are slightly higher, in Victoria than in England. For each age period after 35, except 75-85 for males, the death rates for both sexes in Victoria are lighter, and at some ages considerably lighter, than in England.

Prior to 1912 two sets of death rates were given for metropolitan municipalities, *i.e.*, the numbers dying (exclusive of those in hospitals) in specified areas in proportion to their respective populations, and the deaths in metropolitan institutions in proportion to the population of Greater Melbourne. On the assumption that the various districts contributed proportionately to population to the deaths in institutions, the sum of the two rates mentioned was generally accepted as the approximate death rate of a given area. An investigation of the usual place of residence of 9,500 persons who died in public hospitals

Death rates
among
metropolitan
residents.

showed, however, that in many instances facts did not justify the assumption referred to. Thus, of the total deaths of residents of Fitzroy, Port Melbourne, and Melbourne City, 34 per cent. occurred in hospitals, as compared with only 11 per cent. in the case of deaths of residents of Kew, Caulfield, and Camberwell. In consequence of these discrepancies, the method of estimating the mortality rate for each district was discarded, and in its place was adopted the system of allotting all hospital deaths to the districts where the deceased had resided, and showing the deaths of residents of specified areas in proportion to their respective populations. In regard to persons dying in Hospitals for the Insane and Benevolent Asylums, their places of residence before entering these institutions were unknown, and the deaths were, therefore, allotted to the various municipal areas according to their populations.

The deaths of residents of twenty-two metropolitan municipalities and their proportions to population are shown in the following table for the period 1910-12 and for the years 1915 and 1916:—

**DEATH RATE OF METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES,
1910-12, 1915 AND 1916.**

Municipality.	Annual Deaths.			Annual Deaths per 1,000 Residents.		
	1910-12.	1915.	1916.	1910-12.	1915.	1916.
Richmond City ...	594	527	564	14·71	12·68	13·71
Port Melbourne Town ...	196	185	166	14·56	13·60	12·46
Melbourne City ...	1,469	1,470	1,507	14·44	13·87	14·22
Fitzroy City ...	493	503	564	14·41	14·19	16·04
Collingwood City ...	462	453	440	13·44	12·72	12·29
Brighton Town ...	161	157	209	13·02	9·57	12·01
Oakleigh Borough ...	40	62	56	12·90	13·65	11·62
Prahran City ...	587	580	579	12·89	11·96	11·89
South Melbourne City ...	591	560	580	12·83	11·53	11·92
Williamstown Town ...	198	227	223	12·80	13·11	12·59
St. Kilda City ...	326	373	373	12·65	12·39	12·14
Preston Shire ...	65	66	70	12·63	9·32	9·52
Footscray City ...	290	359	377	12·15	12·39	12·74
Brunswick City ...	383	456	462	11·75	11·83	11·89
Coburg Town ...	111	156	132	11·49	11·85	9·52
Essendon City ...	269	320	349	11·12	10·53	11·14
Hawthorn City ...	265	273	317	10·64	9·66	11·23
Kew Town ...	105	114	148	10·47	9·68	12·22
Camberwell City ...	131	150	177	10·21	8·77	9·96
Caulfield City ...	157	199	263	9·68	8·36	10·95
Malvern City ...	151	241	255	9·29	10·32	10·16
Northcote City ...	165	280	273	9·22	11·95	11·18
Remainder of Metropolis	218	299	317	9·22	10·38	10·88
Whole Metropolis ...	7,427	8,015	8,401	12·61	11·80	12·18
Remainder of State ...	8,089	7,808	8,088	10·99	10·45	11·27

The outstanding features of the above figures are the high death rates prevailing in some of the old centres of population, of which Melbourne City, Fitzroy, Richmond, Collingwood and Port Melbourne are examples, and the low rates in comparatively recently settled areas, such as Northcote, Malvern, Caulfield, Camberwell, and Kew. For the former group the deaths for 1916 were 14·01 per 1,000 as against 10·79 for the latter. Slight differences in the age distribution of the populations of the two divisions may exist, but they can account for only a small portion of the great disparity in their mortality rates. It would appear that the standard of health, as indicated by death rates, is much better in the outlying and less densely populated suburbs than in the central and more congested areas of the metropolis.

Metropolitan and country death rates compared.

The ages of the people, as disclosed at the last census, enable a comparison to be made between the death rates prevailing in Greater Melbourne and in the remainder of the State. On the average of the years 1910-12, the deaths of metropolitan residents were in the ratio of 12·61 per 1,000 of population as against a ratio of 10·99 for residents of the rest of the State. The apparent difference in favour of the country is 1·62, but a computation shows that, when allowances are made for the unequal age and sex distribution of the people in these areas, the actual difference is greater—the deaths per 1,000 of population being fewer by 2·55 among country than among metropolitan residents.

In Greater Melbourne, in the decade 1907-16, there were 12·88 deaths per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 15·76 in the decennium 1892-1901. The reduction in the rate represents a saving of 17,600 lives in the past ten years. Many factors have contributed to this result, but it is probable that the introduction of the sewerage system, the notification of contagious diseases, the destruction of insanitary dwellings, the improvement in the conditions of labour, the increasing supervision of the manufacture and sale of articles of consumption, the greater proportion of females in the community, and the advance of medical science, have been the main causes of the decline. That the sanitary conditions of the metropolis have greatly improved is evidenced by a comparison of the death rates from typhoid fever, diphtheria, and tubercular diseases for the period 1907-16 with those for the decennium 1892-1901. The following are the rates :—

Cause of Death.	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.		
	1892-1901.	1907-1916.	Total Decrease in 1907-16.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	1·654	0·964	0·690
Other Tubercular Diseases ...	0·446	0·233	0·213
Typhoid Fever ...	0·293	0·067	0·226
Scarlet Fever ...	0·033	0·014	0·019
Measles ...	0·215	0·044	0·171
Diphtheria ...	0·196	0·167	0·029
Total ...	2·837	1·489	1·348

The figures show that the lower death rates from the six above-mentioned diseases in 1907-16 accounted for nearly 47 per cent. of the total decline. It is impossible to state which municipalities have contributed most to this result, as their mortality rates from the diseases referred to are not available for the earlier period. A comparison, however, of the general death rates in each for the periods under review shows that all divisions of the metropolis have, in varying degrees, shared in the improvement.

Death rates in country towns. Prior to 1912 the death rates given for the chief country towns were based upon the deaths therein in relation to their respective populations. For the reasons mentioned on page 338, that method was discarded and the deaths of residents in proportion to population are now shown instead. Such deaths, and their rates per 1,000 of population, are given in the following statement for the periods 1910-12 and 1913-15 and the year 1916 :—

DEATHS PER 1,000 RESIDENTS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.

Town.	Annual Deaths of Residents.			Annual Deaths of Residents per 1,000 of Population.		
	1910-12.	1913-15.	1916.	1910-12.	1913-15.	1916.
Ballarat and Suburbs	639	680	610	15·07	16·08	14·99
Bendigo and Suburbs	690	632	534	17·51	16·44	14·92
Geelong and Suburbs	411	402	415	13·68	11·53	12·02
Castlemaine ..	92	102	98	13·11	13·90	13·23
Warrnambool ..	95	91	95	13·55	12·34	12·84
Maryborough ..	76	75	61	13·39	14·05	12·20
Stawell	82	70	46	18·60	15·31	10·43

On the average of the past four years the death rate in Bendigo was 34 per cent. higher, and that in Ballarat 32 per cent. higher than the rate—11·98—in Greater Melbourne.

Residents of different areas dying in hospitals. An examination of the particulars of residence of persons who have died in public hospitals of Victoria during the past seven years reveals interesting and definite information regarding the assistance rendered by these institutions to people in different divisions of the State. For

twenty-two metropolitan municipalities, the seven principal country towns, and the remainder of the State, the percentage of the total deaths of residents thereof which occurred in public hospitals during the period 1910-15 and the year 1916 was as follows:—

PROPORTION OF DEATHS OF RESIDENTS OCCURRING
IN HOSPITALS, 1910-15 AND 1916.

Area.	Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in Hospitals.		Area.	Percentage of Deaths of Residents occurring in Hospitals.	
	1910-15.	1916.		1910-15.	1916.
Port Melbourne Town	35·9	38·6	Oakleigh Borough ...	14·6	28·6
Fitzroy City ...	34·5	31·0	Brighton Town ...	14·2	15·8
Melbourne City ...	34·4	36·9	Castlemaine ...	13·9	17·3
Collingwood City ...	28·0	32·5	Ballarat ...	13·9	14·9
Richmond City ...	26·6	32·1	Hawthorn City ...	13·2	20·2
South Melbourne City	26·5	27·8	Malvern City ...	12·8	12·2
Preston Shire ...	25·0	27·1	Kew Town... ..	12·6	14·2
Northcote City ...	24·4	27·1	Williamstown Town	12·2	25·6
Brunswick City ...	23·9	27·9	Caulfield City ...	11·7	16·0
Warrnambool ...	23·0	28·4	Camberwell City ...	11·1	19·2
Maryborough ...	22·9	16·4			
Footscray City ...	22·6	24·9	Summary:—		
Prahran City ...	21·7	23·0	Greater Mel-		
Stawell ...	19·6	21·7	bourne ...	24·6	27·1
St. Kilda City ...	18·9	22·0	Seven Country		
Coburg Town ...	18·0	27·3	Towns ...	16·4	18·0
Bendigo ...	16·8	18·0	Remainder of		
Essendon City ...	16·5	21·2	State ...	17·8	22·6
Geelong ...	16·3	20·0	Whole State ...	20·9	24·3

The disparities in the proportions for different areas are very significant. Of the total cases of fatal illness occurring amongst residents of the districts mentioned in 1910-15, the percentage treated in public hospitals varied from 35·9 for Port Melbourne, 34·5 for Fitzroy, 34·4 for Melbourne City, 28·0 for Collingwood, and 26·6 for Richmond, to 11·7 for Caulfield and 11·1 for Camberwell. For the metropolitan area the percentage was 24·6 as compared with 17·6 for the rest of the State. Taking the proportion for fatal cases as an index of all cases dealt with, it would appear that, relatively to population, the assistance rendered by public hospitals to the residents of Greater Melbourne exceeds by about 40 per cent. that given to people residing elsewhere.

Deaths in public institutions in Greater Melbourne.

In 1916 the deaths in public institutions were 37·3 per cent. of the total in Greater Melbourne, 21·9 per cent. of the total in extra metropolitan districts, and 30·3 per cent. of the total in the State as a whole. The number of deaths in

each public institution in the metropolis in 1916 is given in the sub-joined table:—

DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN GREATER MELBOURNE, 1916.

Institution.	No. of Deaths.	Institution.	No. of Deaths.
Hospitals—		Other Public Institutions—	
Melbourne	911	Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	78
Alfred	317	Benevolent Asylum	171
St. Vincent's	154	Heatherton Sanatorium	93
Homœopathic	94	Convent of the Little Sisters of the Poor	76
Austin	195	Old Colonists' Homes	8
Children's	504	Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows	3
Women's	199	Foundling Hospital, East Melbourne	10
Infectious Diseases	148	Carlton Refuge	3
Queen Victoria	9	Dépôt for Neglected Children	65
Eye and Ear	5	Kew Lunatic Asylum	122
Williamstown	28	Yarra Bend Lunatic Asylum... ..	64
Military Base	40	Mont Park Asylum	10
Glenroy Military	3	Receiving House — Mental Hospital... ..	19
Caulfield Military	5		
Total Hospitals	2,612	Total Hospitals and other Institutions	3,334

Of the 2,564 persons who died in public hospitals in Greater Melbourne during 1916, 406 were residents of places outside the metropolis.

The next table shows the numbers of deaths and births, and the death rates in the Australasian capital cities; also the numerical and centesimal excess of births over deaths in each during 1916:—

Deaths and births in Australasian capitals.

DEATHS AND BIRTHS IN CAPITAL CITIES, 1916.

Capital City with Suburbs.	Number of Deaths.	Deaths per 1,000 of Population.	Number of Births.	Excess of Births over Deaths.	
				Numerical.	Centesimal.
Melbourne	8,927	12·94	17,600	8,673	97
Sydney	8,156	10·68	20,856	12,700	156
Brisbane	2,284	13·83	5,286	3,002	131
Adelaide	3,055	13·57	5,874	2,819	92
Perth	1,559	12·78	4,083	2,524	162
Hobart	587	14·95	1,347	760	129
Wellington	1,008	12·00	2,254	1,246	124

The deaths in the capital cities of the six States numbered 24,568, or 45·3 per cent. of the total deaths in Australia, during the year 1916. The centesimal excess of births over deaths for each city shows that

for every 100 deaths there were 262 births in Perth, 256 in Sydney, 231 in Brisbane, 229 in Hobart, 224 in Wellington, 197 in Melbourne, and 192 in Adelaide, giving an average of 224 for the metropolitan cities of Australasia.

Death rates in various cities. The death rate in Melbourne for 1916 was 12·94 per 1,000 of population, which was lower than the latest available rates in 18 of the 21 undermentioned cities:—

DEATH RATES IN VARIOUS CITIES.

City.	Death Rate.	City.	Death Rate.
Moscow	24·8	Edinburgh	14·4
Petrograd	21·2	London	14·2
Dublin	20·1	Prague	13·6
Belfast	18·8	New York	13·6
Budapest	18·6	Berlin	13·5
Boston	16·8	Copenhagen	13·4
Milan	16·6	Dresden	13·1
Glasgow	16·4	Hamburg	12·7
Buenos Ayres	15·5	Amsterdam	11·1
Paris	15·4	Stockholm	11·0
Vienna	15·3		

In 1916 the death rate of the metropolitan cities of Australia was 12·25 per 1,000 of their combined populations, which was below the proportionate mortality of all of the above cities except Amsterdam and Stockholm.

Infantile mortality. The mortality of children under one year in proportion to births has been considerably less in recent than in earlier periods, but the necessity for reducing the risks to infant health and life, particularly amongst illegitimate children, is still apparent. The deaths of infants in 1916 numbered 2,553, and, as there were 34,239 births, it follows that of every 100 infants born approximately 7·46 died within twelve months. The infantile death rates for Melbourne and suburbs, the extra metropolitan area, and the whole State, for different periods since 1880, are shown in the subjoined table:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES 1881 TO 1916.

Period.	Deaths under One Year per 100 Births in—		
	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Remainder of the State.	Whole State.
1881-1890	17·14	9·50	12·68
1891-1900	13·36	9·60	11·11
1901-1905	11·26	8·45	9·58
1906-1910	9·47	6·95	8·00
1911	7·82	6·12	6·87
1912	9·02	6·05	7·45
1913	7·63	6·51	7·05
1914	8·45	7·24	7·83
1915	7·99	5·77	6·88
1916	8·56	6·29	7·46

On the average of the past five years the infantile death rate for the metropolis was 8.33 per 100 births, which was 38 per cent. below that for the decennium ended 1900, and 51 per cent. below the rate for the decennium 1881-1890.

The deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 100 births in Greater Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and the rest of the State for each of the past ten years were as follows:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES IN DIFFERENT DIVISIONS OF THE STATE.

Year.	Deaths Under One Year per 100 Births.					
	Victoria.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Geelong and Suburbs.	Rest of the State.
1907.. ..	7.26	8.57	8.69	9.03	8.49	5.80
1908.. ..	8.61	9.83	9.52	11.37	10.33	7.12
1909.. ..	7.13	8.39	11.31	9.54	8.94	5.40
1910.. ..	7.69	9.23	10.19	9.44	6.57	6.01
1911.. ..	6.87	7.82	7.70	8.41	6.11	5.82
1912.. ..	7.45	9.02	10.04	8.36	6.73	5.53
1913.. ..	7.05	7.63	8.95	9.10	7.10	6.09
1914.. ..	7.83	8.45	12.31	9.45	8.91	6.58
1915.. ..	6.88	7.99	8.51	7.71	7.04	5.30
1916.. ..	7.46	8.56	7.93	8.16	7.25	5.97

The prejudicial effect of city surroundings on infant life is evidenced by the mortality being heavier in urban than in country districts. On the average of the past five years the deaths of children under 1 year of age to every 1,000 births were 83 in Melbourne, 95 in Ballarat, 86 in Bendigo, and 74 in Geelong as against 59 in the rest of the State.

In issues of this work prior to 1913 the infantile death rate given for each metropolitan municipality was based upon the deaths therein exclusive of those occurring in public hospitals. This method necessarily understated the mortality for each district, the understatement being greatest in the case of the poorer and more congested areas which contribute an undue proportion of the hospital cases. In order to ascertain the actual death rate for each area the deaths in hospitals are now allotted to the districts where the deceased had resided. For the period 1910-14 and the years 1915 and 1916 the deaths under 1 year

Infantile death rates in metropolitan districts.

per 100 births for each municipality of Greater Melbourne were as follows:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES FOR METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES.

Municipality.	Deaths under One Year per 100 Births.			Municipality.	Deaths under One Year per 100 Births.		
	1910-14.	1915.	1916.		1910-14.	1915.	1916.
Coburg Town ..	12·03	10·03	8·15	Brighton Town ..	7·84	5·85	7·72
Port Melb. Town ..	12·00	14·24	13·82	Oakleigh Borough	7·65	9·09	8·20
Fitzroy City ..	11·24	11·26	13·79	Prahran City ..	7·27	5·99	6·79
Richmond City ..	10·23	8·36	9·72	St. Kilda City ..	6·38	7·29	6·67
Preston Shire ..	10·01	11·83	10·72	Caulfield City ..	5·87	4·89	6·25
Collingwood City ..	9·89	11·51	12·28	Essendon City ..	5·79	5·90	6·33
Melbourne City ..	9·22	9·72	10·39	Hawthorn City ..	5·72	4·98	8·07
South Melb. City ..	9·05	7·93	11·05	Camberwell City	5·58	2·72	3·82
Brunswick City ..	8·50	9·37	8·57	Malvern City ..	5·51	5·99	6·50
Footscray City ..	8·11	8·16	8·75	Northcote City ..	5·47	6·95	8·16
Williamstown Town	8·03	8·09	8·20	Kew Town ..	4·76	3·05	4·94

It is noticeable that the seven centres having the lowest infantile death rates are residential areas which are not so thickly populated as nearly all of the other metropolitan districts. On the average of the years 1910 to 1914 Kew had only two-fifths and Northcote, Malvern, Camberwell, Hawthorn, Essendon, and Caulfield had less than one-half of the rate experienced in Port Melbourne and Coburg.

In 1916 the deaths of infants under one year per 100 births were 8·56 in Melbourne, as compared with 6·85 in Sydney, 8·32 in Brisbane, 8·26 in Adelaide, 7·10 in Perth, 8·02 in Hobart, and 5·81 in Wellington. The rates in Australasian capitals and London for 1916, and in 17 other cities for the latest year for which the information is available, are shown in the following table:—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES IN VARIOUS CITIES.

City.	Deaths under 1 Year per 100 Births.	City.	Deaths under 1 Year per 100 Births.
Petrograd ...	22·9	Paris ...	9·9
Breslau ...	17·2	Edinburgh ...	9·8
Dublin ...	15·7	Buenos Ayres ...	9·3
Vienna ...	15·6	London ...	8·9
Budapest ...	15·0	Melbourne ...	8·6
Belfast ...	14·4	Brisbane ...	8·3
Berlin ...	13·7	Adelaide ...	8·3
Milan ...	13·0	Hobart ...	8·0
Glasgow ...	12·8	Perth ...	7·1
Dresden ...	11·7	Sydney ...	6·9
Hamburg ...	11·4	Amsterdam ...	6·7
Prague ...	11·3	Wellington ...	5·8
Boston ...	10·7		

Deaths of infants at different ages.

Of the deaths of infants under 1 year, slightly more than 45 per cent. occur in the first month and nearly 62 per cent. in the first three months of life. The annual deaths at ages under 1 month, from 1 to 3 months, from 3 to 6 months, and from 6 to 12 months, during the ten years ended with 1900, and the period 1912 to 1916, are given in the following table, together with the percentage of deaths at each of those age-periods and the proportion of deaths to each 100 births. It will be noticed that in the last five years the mortality rate of infants at each age period, except under 1 month, was considerably below the average of the ten years ended with 1900:—

DEATHS OF INFANTS AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1891-1900 AND 1912-16.

Ages.	Average Annual Deaths of Infants under 1 year of Age.					
	Ten Years—1891-1900.			Five Years—1912-16.		
	Number.	Percentage at each Age.	Number per 100 Births.	Number.	Percentage at each Age.	Number per 100 Births.
<i>Boys.</i>						
Under 1 month	650	31·7	3·79	684	46·4	3·77
1 to 3 months	355	17·3	2·07	249	16·9	1·37
3 to 6 „	445	21·7	2·59	233	15·8	1·29
6 to 12 „	600	29·3	3·50	308	20·9	1·70
Total ..	2,050	100·0	11·95	1,474	100·0	8·13
<i>Girls.</i>						
Under 1 month	488	28·7	2·98	501	44·5	2·89
1 to 3 months	301	17·7	1·84	178	15·8	1·03
3 to 6 „	385	22·6	2·35	185	16·4	1·07
6 to 12 „	528	31·0	3·23	263	23·3	1·52
Total ..	1,702	100·0	10·40	1,127	100·0	6·51

The death rate of infants under 1 month was very similar in the two periods, but for the age groups 1 to 3 months, 3 to 6 months, and 6 to 12 months reductions amounting to 39, 52, and 52 per cent. respectively occurred in the mortality rates in 1912-16, as compared with 1891-1900. This result may be attributed chiefly to the improved milk supply and the consequent lighter mortality from diarrhoeal and wasting diseases.

The experience of the years 1912-16 shows that of every 20,000 newly-born boys and girls in equal numbers, 813 boys and 651 girls died within twelve months, and 9,187 of the former and 9,349 of the latter, or 18,536 of mixed sexes were living at the end of the year. The corresponding numbers surviving the first year in earlier periods were 17,765 in the ten years 1891-1900 and 17,468 in 1881-1890. It is thus seen that of every 20,000 births comprising equal numbers of each sex there were 771

Probable mortality of infants.

more survivors in 1912-16 than in 1891-1900, and 1,068 more than in 1881-1890.

infantile
death rates
from certain
causes.

An investigation of infantile mortalities would be incomplete unless the diseases which have proved fatal in different years were ascertained, and their incidence in each period compared. Information of this nature reveals the causes of high death rates, and, when a fairly early period is selected for comparison with recent years, it shows in what direction improvements have taken place. The chief preventable and non-preventable causes of death, grouped under certain headings, are shown in the subjoined table for the periods 1891-3, and 1901-10, and for the years 1915 and 1916 :—

INFANTILE DEATH RATES FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1891-3, 1901-10, 1915 and 1916.

Causes of Death.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births in—			
	1891-3.	1901-10.	1915.	1916.
Diarrhœal Diseases, all forms	29·66	24·62	14·73	13·78
Wasting Diseases (Marasmus, Atrophy, &c.)	22·24	12·74	14·80	15·65
Prematurity	13·13	14·99	16·74	13·75
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	11·37	8·13	6·54	7·27
Convulsions	6·83	3·10	1·63	1·64
Congenital Defects and Malformations ...	3·45	4·86	4·20	4·88
Violence	3·16	2·47	1·03	0·88
Whooping Cough	2·60	2·52	1·91	2·16
Other causes	24·49	14·46	7·26	9·55
Total, all causes	116·93	87·89	68·84	74·56

Of every 1,000 infants born 34 died from diarrhœal and wasting diseases in 1916, as against 37 in 1901-10, and 52 in 1891-3—a decrease of nearly 35 per cent. in 24 years. In 1916 acute bronchitis, broncho-pneumonia and pneumonia were responsible for 7·3 deaths per 1,000 births, as compared with 11·4 in 1891-3—a decline of 36 per cent. between the two periods. Certain causes, which may be regarded as of a non-preventable nature, such as prematurity, congenital defects, and malformations, were responsible for nearly 28 per cent. of the total infantile mortality during the past two years. Of the deaths from preventable causes about 1 in every 3 is due to diarrhœal diseases, which are specially prevalent and fatal in hot weather, when milk food, the chief diet of children, undergoes rapid changes and consequently becomes dangerous to infant life. The influence of the seasons on the mortality amongst children under 1 year is vividly shown by the deaths in certain months. The Victorian experience shows a high death rate from diarrhœal diseases in December, January, February, March, and April. On the average of the last two years, of every 1,000 children born 17 died from diarrhœal diseases

within a year, a proportion which shows the necessity for preventive measures in this direction.

The influence of temperature on infantile mortality from the chief digestive and respiratory diseases is specially noticeable, whilst on deaths from other causes, particularly those of a developmental character, very little influence is apparent. The deaths in Melbourne and suburbs from the two former classes of complaint in each month during the past six years are shown in the next table:—

INFANTILE DEATHS IN EACH MONTH FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Month.	Infantile Deaths in Greater Melbourne in 1911-16 from—					
	Diarrhœal Diseases.			Respiratory Diseases.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
January	240	175	415	26	20	46
February	185	142	327	18	14	32
March	155	138	293	15	15	30
April	124	127	251	24	35	59
May	73	62	135	41	31	72
June	35	36	71	52	53	105
July	20	19	39	99	67	166
August	20	17	37	90	67	157
September	29	16	45	56	40	96
October	31	27	58	36	25	61
November	90	57	147	37	16	53
December	212	142	354	30	16	46
Total, 1911-16 ..	1,214	958	2,172	524	399	923

The experience of the last six years shows that of the total infantile deaths in the metropolis from diarrhœal diseases 76 per cent. occur during the five months December to April, and of the deaths from respiratory diseases 57 per cent. occur in the four months June to September.

On the average of the past eight years, 185 in every 1,000 illegitimate infants died within a year, as against 66 in every 1,000 legitimate children. It is thus seen that the chance of an illegitimate child dying before the age of 1 year is nearly three times that of the legitimate infant. In the year 1916 the mortality rate for legitimate infants was 6·84 per 100 births. The children born out of wedlock during the same year numbered 1,764, and the deaths of illegitimate infants were 333, the death rate being thus 18·88 per 100 births. In England and Wales, in 1915, the corresponding mortality rates for legitimate and illegitimate infants were 10·51 and 20·30 respectively. With the view of ascertaining the chief reasons for the marked disproportion in the mortality rates of the two classes, the following table has been constructed, showing the

Legitimate and illegitimate infantile death rates.

deaths in Victoria from certain causes per 1,000 legitimate and illegitimate births for the periods 1904-8 and 1909-13 and for the year 1916:—

DEATH RATES OF LEGITIMATE AND ILLEGITIMATE INFANTS FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 Births.					
	Legitimate.			Illegitimate.		
	1904-8.	1909-13.	1916.	1904-8.	1909-13.	1916.
Diarrhoeal Diseases	19·8	16·8	16·6	72·6	62·8	61·2
Prematurity, Congenital Defects, Marasmus, &c.	30·3	28·8	31·9	52·1	62·8	76·5
Bronchitis, Broncho-pneumonia, Pneumonia	6·9	6·7	7·2	18·6	14·2	9·1
Other causes	18·3	13·1	12·7	58·7	46·8	42·0
Total all causes	75·3	65·4	68·4	202·0	186·6	188·8

The rates for 1916 show that of every 1,000 children born out of wedlock 61·2 died from diarrhoeal diseases within a year as compared with 16·6 deaths per 1,000 legitimate infants from the same cause. Owing to a larger proportion of the former children being deprived of breast food a higher mortality from these diseases might be expected among them than among legitimate infants, but the striking differences in the death rates from this cause and from the chief respiratory diseases would indicate considerable neglect in the rearing of illegitimate infants.

The next table gives the proportion of deaths of infants under one year to the total births in each Australian State and New Zealand for each of the last ten years, and the periods 1902-6 and 1891-1900:—

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN AUSTRALASIA.

Period.	Deaths under 1 year per 100 Births.						
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
1891-1900 ..	11·11	11·22	10·34	10·54	14·48	9·58	8·38
1902-6 ..	9·38	9·27	8·93	8·21	12·21	9·02	7·29
1907 ..	7·26	8·86	7·76	6·59	9·77	8·28	8·88
1908 ..	8·61	7·58	7·07	6·97	8·46	7·52	6·79
1909 ..	7·13	7·43	7·19	6·13	7·80	6·49	6·16
1910 ..	7·69	7·46	6·31	7·06	7·80	10·22	6·77
1911 ..	6·87	6·95	6·55	6·05	7·62	7·35	5·63
1912 ..	7·45	7·13	7·16	6·16	8·21	6·66	5·12
1913 ..	7·05	7·83	6·33	7·01	7·00	7·01	5·92
1914 ..	7·83	6·97	6·39	7·60	6·82	7·16	5·14
1915 ..	6·88	6·81	6·40	6·73	6·66	7·22	5·01
1916 ..	7·46	6·78	7·04	7·36	6·63	7·50	5·07
Average							
1912-16..	7·33	7·10	6·66	6·97	7·06	7·11	5·25

Decrease in
infantile
mortality in
Australasia.

On the average of the last five years the lowest infantile death rate prevailed in New Zealand, followed by that in Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, New South Wales, and Tasmania, in that order, and the highest in Victoria. Although the rates show considerable variations in the States during any one year, and in different years in the same State, it is noticeable that the pronounced improvement which commenced in all the divisions of the Commonwealth in 1904 has continued with slight variations up to the latest year. Compared with the infantile death rate in 1902-6, the rate for 1916 showed a percentage decline of 20 in Victoria, 27 in New South Wales, 21 in Queensland, 10 in South Australia, nearly 46 in Western Australia, and 17 in Tasmania. This reduction in the infantile mortality rate in 1916 was equivalent to a saving of 2,975 infant lives in Australia, of which 660 were in Victoria.

Infantile
mortality in
various
countries.

The following table shows the infantile death rates of various countries on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available, and of the Australian States and New Zealand on the average of the years 1912-16 :—

INFANTILE MORTALITY IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Deaths under 1 year per 100 Births.	Country.	Deaths under 1 year per 100 Births.
Russia (European) ...	24·6	England and Wales ...	10·2
Hungary ...	20·0	Switzerland ...	10·2
Austria... ..	19·7	Holland ...	9·9
Prussia	16·6	Denmark ...	9·7
Spain	16·5	Ireland ...	9·1
German Empire ...	16·4	Victoria ...	7·3
Bulgaria	16·2	Sweden ...	7·2
Japan	15·7	Western Australia ...	7·1
Servia	15·4	New South Wales ...	7·1
Italy	14·3	Tasmania ...	7·1
Belgium	14·1	South Australia ...	7·0
Scotland	11·3	Norway ...	6·7
Ontario... ..	11·0	Queensland ...	6·7
France	11·0	New Zealand ...	5·3

Of all the countries for which information is available Russia has the highest, and New Zealand the lowest, infantile mortality. In the former 1 in every 4, and in the latter, approximately, 1 in every 19 infants dies within its first year.

In 1916 the deaths of male children under 5 years of age numbered 1,883, and the deaths of female children under that age, 1,553—the former being in the proportion of 21·15 per cent., and the latter of 20·47 per cent., to the total number

Deaths of
children
under 5.

of deaths of the respective sexes at all ages. The next table shows the annual number of such deaths in the State at each year of age, and the proportion of the deaths under five years of age to the deaths at all ages in decennial periods from 1871 to 1910, and in the years 1911 to 1916.

MORTALITY OF CHILDREN UNDER FIVE YEARS.

Period.	Years of Age at Death.					Total under 5 Years	
	0.	1.	2.	3.	4.	Number.	Proportion Per 100 Deaths at all Ages.
<i>Males.</i>							
1871-1880	1,783	508	206	148	119	2,764	39·41
1881-1890	2,158	464	161	114	92	2,989	34·23
1891-1900	2,050	432	143	93	76	2,794	30·05
1901-1910	1,504	249	83	59	41	1,936	22·93
1911	1,309	201	71	58	42	1,681	20·12
1912	1,515	266	96	66	51	1,994	21·97
1913	1,419	241	83	55	41	1,839	21·65
1914	1,634	291	110	70	43	2,148	23·82
1915	1,401	200	82	60	46	1,789	20·19
1916	1,403	246	100	77	57	1,883	21·15
<i>Females.</i>							
1871-1880	1,482	482	198	139	106	2,407	46·06
1881-1890	1,805	423	151	105	84	2,568	39·61
1891-1900	1,702	385	129	82	68	2,366	33·61
1901-1910	1,192	217	81	51	40	1,581	23·58
1911	961	149	73	50	41	1,274	18·57
1912	1,154	217	76	57	52	1,556	20·70
1913	1,119	191	67	47	35	1,459	20·91
1914	1,202	235	74	67	46	1,624	21·69
1915	1,009	188	60	64	42	1,363	19·57
1916	1,150	215	81	53	54	1,553	20·47

The figures show a marked reduction, from period to period, in the mortality of children under 5 years of age relatively to that of persons of all ages, the proportion being 34 per cent. lower in 1911-16 than in 1891-1900.

During the decade 1901-10, of every 20,000 children born—boys and girls in equal proportions—the numbers that survived their fifth year were 17,705 in Victoria, 17,686 in Australia, and 16,158 in England and Wales. In New Zealand the proportion was 18,186 in 1906-10. The undermentioned figures, based upon census data, show, per 10,000 males and 10,000 females born, the numbers surviving at each age up to 5 years in the countries referred to :—

SURVIVORS AT EACH YEAR OF AGE, 1 TO 5 INCLUSIVE, IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

Age Survived.	Survivors per 10,000 male and 10,000 female infants—							
	Victoria 1901-10.		Australia 1901-10.		New Zealand 1906-10.		England & Wales 1901-10.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1 Year ..	9,045	9,202	9,049	9,205	9,220	9,380	8,557	8,826
2 Years ..	8,886	9,057	8,888	9,052	9,117	9,281	8,211	8,493
3 „ ..	8,831	9,004	8,828	8,995	9,069	9,232	8,080	8,364
4 „ ..	8,795	8,969	8,789	8,958	9,034	9,201	7,999	8,280
5 „ ..	8,765	8,940	8,758	8,928	9,008	9,178	7,940	8,218

Ages at death.

The ages of males and females who died in 1916 and in the two preceding years are shown in the following table :—

AGES AT DEATH IN VICTORIA, 1914 TO 1916.

Ages.	1914.			1915.			1916.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 1 ..	1,634	1,202	2,836	1,401	1,009	2,410	1,403	1,150	2,553
1 to 2	291	235	526	200	188	388	246	215	461
2 " 3	110	74	184	82	60	142	100	81	181
3 " 4	70	67	137	60	64	124	77	53	130
4 " 5	43	46	89	46	42	88	57	54	111
5 " 10	160	157	317	164	137	301	187	169	356
10 " 15	115	93	208	114	110	224	134	108	242
15 " 20	171	139	310	197	150	347	153	156	309
20 " 25	235	232	467	281	200	481	215	246	461
25 " 30	253	243	496	248	257	505	234	275	509
30 " 35	232	243	475	266	221	487	205	214	419
35 " 40	296	254	550	286	268	554	272	248	520
40 " 45	335	263	598	312	261	573	327	279	606
45 " 50	463	344	807	441	301	742	419	349	768
50 " 55	557	365	922	536	384	920	585	416	1,001
55 " 60	546	384	930	577	390	967	628	421	1,049
60 " 65	469	377	846	531	332	863	572	381	953
65 " 70	534	444	978	583	388	971	548	493	1,041
70 " 75	632	590	1,222	630	594	1,224	605	582	1,187
75 " 80	670	680	1,350	688	618	1,306	718	634	1,352
80 " 85	759	618	1,377	705	545	1,250	666	570	1,236
85 " 90	337	317	654	390	308	698	426	356	782
90 " 95	93	91	184	94	110	204	103	106	209
95 ..	3	12	15	10	9	19	5	5	10
96 ..	3	4	7	12	6	18	6	9	15
97 ..	2	4	6	3	4	7	3	4	7
98 ..	2	3	5	2	4	6	6	5	11
99 ..	..	3	3	1	..	1	..	2	2
100 ..	1	1	2	..	2	2	..	6	6
101 ..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..
102 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
104 ..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
106 ..	..	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Total ..	9,017	7,486	16,503	8,860	6,963	15,823	8,901	7,588	16,489

Of the 48,815 persons who died in Victoria during the last three years, 6,741 were aged 80 years and upwards, and 15—three males and twelve females—had attained or passed the age of 100 years. The highest age at death recorded in 1914-16 was 106 years, which was attained by a man and a woman. To every 100 female deaths there

were 117 male deaths in 1916, as against 127 in the previous year and 120 in 1914.

Since 1906 the causes of death in Victoria have been arranged according to the International Classification List.

With regard to the selection of the primary cause of death when two or more associated diseases are stated, there is no material difference between this method and the one previously followed in the State, except in the case of a few minor nervous and respiratory complaints of persons dying in Hospitals for the Insane. The health of the community, as reflected in the death rates from the chief diseases arranged on a comparative basis, is shown in the appended table for the period 1890-2 and for the last five years :—

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES.

Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.					
	1890-1892.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Typhoid Fever	369	72	68	74	60	51
Scarlet Fever	34	4	4	1	8	21
Measles	2	64	32	74	22	13
Whooping Cough	129	115	71	69	68	84
Diphtheria and Croup	552	190	176	148	142	189
Influenza	381	122	67	106	67	70
Hydatids	51	20	19	20	18	21
Cancer	584	905	838	830	812	921
Phthisis	1,365	803	755	724	661	743
Other Tubercular Diseases	379	154	156	140	135	136
Syphilis	39	57	55	51	34	36
Diabetes	38	113	91	119	114	128
Anæmia, Chlorosis, Leucæmia	28	85	76	100	83	94
Simple Meningitis .. .. .	..	102	108	107	84	67
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis .. .. .	..	5	9	12	237	231
Infantile Paralysis .. .. .	..	4	2	6	1	3
Locomotor Ataxia and other diseases of Spinal Cord	43	70	62	75	58	70
Congestion and Hæmorrhage of the Brain	344	464	429	429	443	497
Epilepsy	74	34	31	39	30	54
Convulsions	353	83	57	75	60	55
Heart Disease (including Endocarditis, Pericarditis, and Angina Pectoris)	962	1,427	1,294	1,278	1,134	1,287
Acute and Chronic Bronchitis	691	399	270	295	263	313
Pneumonia and Broncho-pneumonia	853	1,006	767	863	865	767
Pleurisy	96	46	39	37	33	42
Congestion of Lungs and Pulmonary Apoplexy	140	63	55	58	59	82
Asthma and Pulmonary Emphysema	70	52	58	49	64	58
Enteritis, Gastro-enteritis, and Diarrhoeal Diseases	1,342	752	709	941	590	731

DEATHS PER MILLION FROM CERTAIN CAUSES—*continued.*

Cause of Death.	Deaths per Million of the Population.					
	1890-1892.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Hernia, Intestinal Obstruction ..	124	114	92	107	109	107
Diseases of the Stomach (Cancer excepted)	175	103	98	90	78	84
Cirrhosis and other diseases of the Liver (Cancer excepted) ..	329	171	136	160	145	96
Biliary Calculi	11	24	20	32	26	27
Appendicitis .. ..	..	83	83	72	72	55
Simple Peritonitis (non-puerperal) ..	106	27	30	39	34	33
Acute and Chronic Nephritis, Uræmia, Bright's Disease ..	294	658	594	520	566	570
Diseases of the Bladder and Prostate	86	105	80	97	99	91
Calculi of the Urinary System ..	8	6	9	10	6	4
Old Age	631	1,030	973	1,029	1,183	1,208
Suicide	109	112	103	90	105	83
Accidental Violence	811	515	491	468	492	459
Homicide	34	21	18	16	17	14

The most striking features of the mortality of 1916 were the high death rates from cerebro-spinal meningitis, diphtheria, phthisis, cancer and diabetes, and the low rate from suicide. These and other comparable causes of death are fully dealt with in subsequent paragraphs.

Vaccinations. The efficacy of vaccination in minimizing the risk of infection from small-pox is recognized in Victorian legislation, which requires parents to have their children vaccinated. The proportion of successful vaccinations to every 100 births for the average of the period 1876-1899, and for each year since, is shown in the following table :—

SUCCESSFUL VACCINATIONS PER 100 BIRTHS.

Period.	Vaccinations per 100 births.	Period.	Vaccinations per 100 births.
1876-1899 ...	72	1908 ...	67
1900 ...	67	1909 ...	68
1901 ...	62	1910 ...	69
1902 ...	53	1911 ...	62
1903 ...	71	1912 ...	60
1904 ...	69	1913 ...	69
1905 ...	67	1914 ...	65
1906 ...	67	1915 ...	69
1907 ...	67	1916 ...	61

In 1916 the vaccinations of children were equal to 61 per cent. of the births, as compared with 69 per cent. in the preceding year, 66 per cent. in 1909-1913, and 72 per cent. in 1876-1899. As a result of an outbreak of small-pox in Sydney in 1913, it is estimated by the Public Health Department that about 160,000 adults were re-vaccinated in Victoria during that year.

Small-pox—Deaths from. Persons suffering from small-pox have arrived at Victorian ports on many occasions but, as they were at once quarantined, the disease never spread among the people of the State. There have been no deaths from the disease during the past six years, but in 1910 three oversea arrivals—1 male and 2 females—died from small-pox in the Victorian Quarantine Station. Since 1853 only 23 deaths have occurred from this cause, and of that number only 5 took place in the thirty-two years ended 1916. Statistics of European countries reveal a very marked decline in the mortality from small-pox in recent years. The deaths per million of the population in various countries are shown in the appended table for the average of the latest three years for which these particulars are available:—

DEATHS FROM SMALL-POX PER MILLION OF POPULATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per Million of the Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per Million of the Population.
Italy ...	1912-14	33·2	Queensland ...	1914-16	·5
Ceylon ...	1913-15	20·1	Holland ...	1913-15	·3
Belgium ...	1910-12	7·6	Switzerland ...	1912-14	·3
Hungary ...	1910-12	4·5	Scotland ...	1913-15	·2
Western Australia	1914-16	3·1	England and Wales	1913-15	·2
United States ...	1913-15	2·6	New South Wales	1914-16	·2
France ...	1909-11	2·0	Ireland ...	1913-15	} No Deaths.
Japan ...	1911-13	1·2	Sweden ...	1910-12	
Roumania ...	1912-14	1·2	New Zealand ...	1913-15	
Austria ...	1910-12	·7	Victoria ...	1914-16	
Ontario ...	1913-15	·6	South Australia ...	1914-16	
Prussia ...	1910-12	·6	Tasmania ...	1914-16	
German Empire ...	1910-12	·5			

Typhoid fever. The reported cases of typhoid fever for the whole State declined from 288 per 100,000 of population in 1895-9 to 87 per 100,000 in 1911-14, 67 in 1915, and 52 in 1916, or by 82 per cent. in the intervening years. The death rate from the disease decreased by 83 per cent. during the same period. The deaths per 100 cases were 9·0 on the average of the past five years as against 8·6 in 1905-9, 9·9 in 1900-4, and 10·4 in 1895-9. In Sydney the case mortality rate was equivalent to 10·2 per cent. for the decade 1903-12, in Boston it was 11·8 per cent. for the three-year period 1911-13, and in England and Wales it reached 18·5 per cent. in the years 1911-12. The comparatively low case mortality rate in

Victoria evidences the generally mild type of the disease in the State. The reported cases of, and deaths from, typhoid fever and their proportions to the population, also the percentage of cases that ended fatally, are given in the next table for periods back to 1889 :—

TYPHOID FEVER IN VICTORIA, 1890 TO 1916.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 reported Cases.
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	
1890-4	2,932	253·9	381	33·0	13·0
1895-9	3,397	288·4	355	30·1	10·4
1900-4	2,152	178·1	213	17·6	9·9
1905-9	1,569	125·4	135	10·8	8·6
1910	2,124	163·5	139	10·7	6·5
1911	1,303	98·6	95	7·2	7·3
1912	1,122	82·8	98	7·2	8·7
1913	1,127	80·9	95	6·8	8·4
1914	1,195	84·0	106	7·4	8·9
1915	958	67·2	86	6·0	9·0
1916	727	51·6	72	5·1	9·9

The cases of, and deaths from, typhoid fever in proportion to population in Greater Melbourne are given in the subjoined table for different periods during the past 27 years :—

TYPHOID FEVER IN THE METROPOLIS, 1890 TO 1916.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.	
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.
1890-4	1,645	349·3	205	43·5
1895-9	1,510	327·6	156	33·8
1900-4	701	140·0	74	14·8
1905-9	466	86·7	49	9·1
1910	689	118·5	52	8·9
1911	368	61·9	34	5·7
1912	272	44·3	29	4·7
1913	282	44·1	29	4·5
1914	312	47·1	38	5·7
1915	197	29·0	27	4·0
1916	162	23·5	23	3·3

The cases of, and deaths from, typhoid fever in proportion to population in Greater Melbourne declined by 94 and 92 per cent. respectively between 1890-9 and 1916. The introduction and the extension of the sewerage system coincide closely with, and in a large measure account for, this great improvement.

Prevalence of typhoid fever in different areas.

The numbers of cases of typhoid fever during each of the last six years in five divisions of the State, and their proportions to the respective populations for the period 1910-15 and the year 1916 are given in the following

table :—

PREVALENCE OF TYPHOID FEVER.

Area.	Reported Cases of Typhoid Fever.						Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population—	
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1910-15.	1916.
Greater Melbourne ..	368	272	282	312	197	162	5·7	2·3
Ballarat and Suburbs	81	80	47	75	79	59	18·6	14·5
Bendigo and Suburbs	120	88	96	87	65	32	26·1	8·9
Geelong and Suburbs	49	28	59	49	10	22	13·1	6·4
Rest of the State ..	685	654	643	672	607	452	11·6	7·4

Death rates from typhoid fever at different ages.

The mortality from typhoid fever is higher at early adult and middle ages than at other periods of life, and higher among males than females. This is shown in the next table which gives the death rates in age groups for each sex at the last three census periods :—

DEATH RATES FROM TYPHOID FEVER, 1890-2, 1900-2, AND 1910-12.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
0-15	2·26	0·97	0·38	2·85	1·46	0·44
15-20	5·21	2·65	1·76	5·85	2·23	1·22
20-25	9·21	4·39	1·82	4·77	1·84	1·32
25-35	6·48	3·28	1·71	3·87	2·04	0·82
35-45	3·60	2·25	1·26	2·03	1·21	0·68
45-55	2·24	1·95	0·82	1·29	0·93	0·39
55-65	1·74	0·66	0·20	1·04	0·34	0·50
65 and over	0·99	..	0·10	2·13	0·23	0·19
All ages	4·08	1·95	1·00	3·25	1·49	0·69

The experience of the last three census periods shows that the rate for males exceeds that for females by 29 per cent., and that the heaviest mortality occurs between the ages 15 and 35. It is notable that at each census period there were proportionately fewer deaths of boys than of girls under the age of 15.

Typhoid death rates in various countries.

The deaths from typhoid fever per 100,000 of the population in various countries for the latest three-year period for which this information is available are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM TYPHOID FEVER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Servia ...	1909-11	109·9	Roumania ...	1912-14	10·9
Spain ...	1912-14	25·8	France ...	1909-11	10·4
Hungary ...	1910-12	22·1	Belgium ...	1910-12	9·8
Italy ...	1912-14	21·3	Tasmania ...	1913-15	7·1
Queensland ...	1913-15	20·1	Victoria ...	1914-16	6·2
Western Australia	1913-15	17·1	Ireland ...	1913-15	6·2
United States ...	1913-15	15·2	New Zealand ...	1913-15	4·9
Japan ...	1911-13	13·6	England and Wales	1913-15	4·2
Ontario ...	1913-15	13·4	Scotland ...	1913-15	4·0
Austria ...	1910-12	12·8	German Empire ...	1911-13	3·7
New South Wales	1913-15	12·5	Holland ...	1913-15	3·7
South Australia ...	1913-15	11·9	Switzerland ...	1912-14	2·8

Scarlet fever.

In 1916 the deaths from scarlet fever numbered 29, which corresponded to a rate of 21 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 8 in the previous year, slightly over 1 in 1914, 4 in 1913 and 1912, 3 in 1911, 22 in 1910, 33 in 1909, 17 in 1908, and 34 in 1890-2. During 1916 there were 1,566 cases reported as against 754 in 1915. For the two years mentioned the deaths were equal to 1·8 per cent. of the cases. Death rates from scarlet fever are considerably lower in the Australian States than in European countries. The deaths from this disease per 100,000 of the population in various countries, on the average of the latest three years for which this information is available, are given in the subjoined table:—

DEATH RATES FROM SCARLET FEVER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Hungary ...	1910-12	54·8	Ontario ...	1913-15	3·5
Roumania ...	1912-14	40·5	France ...	1909-11	2·9
Austria ...	1910-12	33·3	New Zealand ...	1913-15	2·4
Scotland ...	1913-15	16·5	Switzerland ...	1912-14	2·3
Belgium ...	1910-12	14·9	New South Wales	1913-15	2·3
Italy ...	1912-14	11·4	Holland ...	1913-15	2·1
Ireland ...	1913-15	9·9	Tasmania ...	1913-15	1·7
German Empire ...	1911-13	9·6	Victoria ...	1914-16	1·0
England and Wales	1913-15	6·7	South Australia	1913-15	·8
United States ...	1913-15	6·2	Japan ...	1911-13	·3
Sweden ...	1910-12	5·1	Queensland ...	1913-15	·2
Spain ...	1912-14	3·9	Western Australia	1913-15	·2

Measles. Although the mortality from measles has varied very considerably from period to period, there has been no very severe epidemic outbreak since 1898 when 671 deaths resulted from the disease. In 1916 there were 19 deaths attributed to this cause, representing a rate of 13 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 22 in the previous year, 74 in 1914, 32 in 1913, 64 in 1912, 56 in 1911, 25 in 1910, 3 in 1909, and 16 in 1908.

On the average of the five years 1910 to 1914, 47 per cent. of those who died from the disease were under 2 years of age and 75 per cent. were under 5 years. The incidence of mortality at various ages for each sex for the period 1910-14 was as follows:—

Sex.	Annual Deaths from Measles per 10,000 of each Sex aged—									
	0 to 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 and over.	All Ages.
Males..	4·02	7·41	4·39	2·04	0·97	0·73	0·06	0·03	0·06	0·55
Females	4·34	4·92	2·44	1·96	1·00	0·72	0·06	0·06	0·10	0·46

The deaths from measles per 100,000 of the population in different countries, for the latest three years for which this information is available, are shown in the next table:—

DEATH RATES FROM MEASLES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Hungary	.. 1910-12	38·6	France	.. 1909-11	8·9
Scotland	.. 1913-15	35·1	United States	.. 1913-15	8·2
England and Wales	1913-15	33·3	Japan	.. 1911-13	8·0
Belgium	.. 1910-12	29·3	Switzerland	.. 1912-14	7·7
Spain	.. 1912-14	28·7	Queensland	.. 1913-15	6·6
Austria	.. 1910-12	27·6	New South Wales	1913-15	6·0
Italy	.. 1912-14	22·6	South Australia	1913-15	5·0
Ireland	.. 1913-15	19·3	Ontario	.. 1913-15	3·9
Holland	.. 1913-15	18·1	New Zealand	.. 1913-15	3·8
Germany	.. 1911-13	14·8	Victoria	.. 1914-16	3·6
Sweden	.. 1910-12	9·6	Western Australia	1913-15	3·5
Roumania	.. 1912-14	9·1	Tasmania	.. 1913-15	2·7

Whooping cough. There were 118 deaths referred to whooping cough in 1916, which equalled a rate of 84 per million of the population at all ages, as compared with rates of 68 in the previous year, 69 in 1914, 71 in 1913, 115 in 1912, 32 in 1911, 50 in 1910, 132 in 1909, 54 in 1908, and 103 in 1907. The infantile death

rate is more affected than the general rate by this ailment, as it is practically confined to children. In the year under review 74 of the deaths, or 63 per cent., were of infants under 1 year and, with eight exceptions, all the deaths were of children less than 5 years of age. On the average of the past ten years the mortality rate from the disease was 20 per cent. higher among girls than boys. The deaths from whooping cough per 100,000 of the population for various countries, during the latest three-year period for which this information is available, are given in the following table:—

**DEATHS FROM WHOOPING COUGH PER 100,000 OF
POPULATION IN DIFFERENT COUNTRIES.**

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Scotland ...	1913-15	41·9	Switzerland ...	1912-14	12·4
Austria... ..	1910-12	34·3	United States ...	1913-15	9·4
Hungary	1910-12	29·5	Japan	1911-13	9·2
Belgium	1910-12	28·7	Tasmania	1913-15	8·9
Roumania	1912-14	24·8	New Zealand ...	1913-15	8·7
England and Wales	1913-15	19·9	New South Wales	1913-15	8·3
German Empire ...	1911-13	19·1	Ontario	1913-15	8·1
Ireland... ..	1913-15	16·7	South Australia...	1913-15	7·8
Holland	1913-15	15·9	France	1909-11	7·6
Sweden	1910-12	15·1	Victoria	1914-16	7·4
Italy	1911-13	14·5	Queensland ...	1913-15	6·1
Spain	1912-14	12·5	Western Australia	1913-15	4·4

On the average of the past three years the mortality rate from whooping cough in Victoria was only slightly more than one-third of that in England and Wales.

Diphtheria. The prevalence of diphtheria throughout the State during the past six years was the most unsatisfactory feature of the statistics of sickness relating to that period. For the year 1916 the number of cases was 5,377 as against a yearly average of 5,021 in 1911-15, 1,410 in 1905-9, 1,680 in 1900-4, and 1,584 in 1895-9. On the other hand, a very great reduction has taken place from period to period in the proportion of cases which ended fatally. On the average of the past five years the case mortality rate was only 4·6 per cent. as compared with 6·3 per cent. in 1905-9, 9·5 per cent. in 1900-4, and 13·9 per cent. in 1895-9.

The appended table shows for the whole State and the metropolis the reported cases of, and deaths from, diphtheria, and their proportions to

the population, also the ratios of deaths to cases for different periods since 1894 :—

DIPHTHERIA IN VICTORIA AND GREATER MELBOURNE, 1895 TO 1916.

Period.	Annual Cases Reported.		Annual Deaths.		Deaths per 100 Cases Reported.
	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	Number.	Per 100,000 of Population.	
VICTORIA.					
1895-9	1,584	134·6	221	18·8	13·9
1900-4	1,680	139·0	159	13·2	9·5
1905-9	1,410	112·6	89	7·1	6·3
1910	2,415	185·9	112	8·6	4·6
1911	5,120	387·5	237	17·9	4·6
1912	5,289	390·5	257	19·0	4·9
1913	5,367	385·2	245	17·6	4·6
1914	4,868	342·3	211	14·8	4·3
1915	4,463	313·0	203	14·2	4·5
1916	5,377	381·5	266	18·9	4·9
GREATER MELBOURNE.					
1895-9	748	162·1	113	24·6	15·1
1900-4	686	136·9	58	11·6	8·5
1905-9	758	140·8	46	8·5	6·1
1910	1,655	284·6	74	12·7	4·5
1911	3,035	510·7	130	21·9	4·3
1912	2,451	399·0	130	21·2	5·3
1913	2,412	377·1	122	19·1	5·1
1914	2,164	326·6	116	17·5	5·4
1915	2,527	372·2	134	19·7	5·3
1916	3,214	465·9	173	25·1	5·4

The cases of diphtheria which occurred in five divisions of the State in each of the past six years and their proportions to the respective populations for the period 1910-15 and the year 1916 are given in the subjoined table :—

CASES OF DIPHTHERIA IN DIFFERENT AREAS.

Area.	Reported Cases of Diphtheria.						Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.	
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1910-15.	1916.
Greater Melbourne ..	3,035	2,451	2,412	2,164	2,527	3,214	37·8	46·6
Ballarat and Suburbs	133	147	179	167	77	76	30·4	18·7
Bendigo and Suburbs	337	474	653	563	376	165	106·5	46·1
Geelong and Suburbs	121	122	184	91	130	122	35·8	35·3
Rest of the State ..	1,494	2,095	1,939	1,883	1,353	1,800	24·7	29·6

According to the experience of the past seven years the annual cases of diphtheria per 10,000 of population ranged from 97·9 in Bendigo to 39·1 in Melbourne, 35·7 in Geelong, 28·7 in Ballarat, and 25·4 in the rest of the State.

Of the 533 males and 529 females who died from diphtheria during the five years 1910-14, 883, or 83 per cent. were under 10 years of age. The incidence of mortality for each sex at different ages for the period mentioned was as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM DIPHTHERIA AT DIFFERENT AGES, 1910-14.

Sex.	Annual Deaths from Diphtheria per 10,000 of each Sex aged—									
	0 to 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 and over.	All Ages.
Males	2·92	6·30	5·56	9·90	7·50	5·91	1·76	0·36	0·09	1·57
Females	2·68	5·16	6·27	6·43	8·14	6·84	1·68	0·39	0·11	1·54

The deaths from diphtheria and croup per 100,000 of the population for various countries, during the latest three-year period for which this information is available, are given in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM DIPHTHERIA AND CROUP IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.	Country.	Period.	Deaths per 100,000 of Population.
Servia ...	1909-11	42·3	South Australia	1913-15	14·8
Hungary ...	1910-12	38·0	Sweden ...	1910-12	14·7
Spain ...	1912-14	25·3	Ontario ...	1913-15	13·7
Austria ..	1910-12	24·1	Queensland ...	1913-15	13·5
Germany ...	1911-13	21·6	Belgium ...	1910-12	13·1
Prussia ...	1911-13	21·3	Western Australia	1913-15	12·7
Roumania ...	1912-14	18·4	Italy ...	1912-14	10·5
Scotland ...	1913-15	17·7	Switzerland ...	1912-14	9·8
United States ...	1913-15	17·4	Japan ...	1911-13	9·7
Tasmania ...	1913-15	16·7	Ireland ...	1913-15	9·0
Victoria ...	1914-16	16·0	France... ..	1909-11	7·7
New South Wales	1913-15	15·9	New Zealand ...	1913-15	7·3
England and Wales	1913-15	15·0	Holland ...	1913-15	6·6

Hydatids. The deaths attributed to hydatids in 1916 numbered 30, being equivalent to a rate of 21 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 18 in the preceding year, 20 in 1914, 19 in 1913, 20 in 1912, 24 in 1911, and 51 in 1890-2. According to the experience of the past five years the death rate from this disease is 25 per cent. higher among males than females. Hospital returns for the period 1912-16 show that 428 cases of hydatids were treated therein and that 57, or 1 in every 8, ended fatally.

Anæmia, chlorosis, and leucæmia were responsible for 132 deaths in 1916, which corresponded to a rate of 94 per million of the population, as against rates of 83 in the previous year, 100 in 1914, 76 in 1913 and 85 in 1912. Of the 34 persons who died from leucæmia in 1916, 23 were males.

Diabetes. During 1916 diabetes was responsible for 85 male and 96 female deaths, representing a rate of 128 per million of the population as compared with rates of 114 in the preceding year, 119 in 1914, 91 in 1913, 113 in 1912, 117 in 1911, and 106 in 1910. The deaths from diabetes per 10,000 of each sex in nine age groups for the periods 1890-2, 1900-2, and 1910-12, are shown in the subjoined table:—

DEATHS FROM DIABETES PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
0-10	·02	·09	·10	·02	·05	·15
10-20	·17	·24	·20	·14	·26	·36
20-30	·29	·17	·64	·14	·36	·30
30-40	·21	·32	·58	·30	·51	·53
40-50	·58	·49	1·11	·49	·42	·78
50-60	1·18	1·38	1·80	1·31	1·42	3·18
60-70	1·49	2·67	5·63	2·49	3·19	8·47
70-80	2·87	4·36	7·34	1·88	5·01	11·54
80 and over	1·65	4·11	7·43	4·44	3·54	6·83
All Ages	·40	·56	1·00	·36	·60	1·26

At each age group over 30 the mortality rate from diabetes was considerably higher in 1910-12 than in the previous census period. During 1910-12 the female exceeded the male rate for each age group

between 50 and 80, the excess for the twenty years of life 60 to 80 amounting to 54 per cent. For all ages the rate for females was 26 per cent. higher than that for males.

Influenza. The deaths from influenza in 1916 numbered 98, corresponding to a rate of 70 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 67 in the previous year, 106 in 1914, 67 in 1913, 122 in 1912, 114 in 1911, and 381 in 1890-2. Although this disease has varied in form in different periods it has always proved much more fatal to elderly people than to those of middle or young ages. Fifty-two per cent. of the deaths in 1916 were of persons aged 60 years and upwards. The age incidence of the disease at various periods is shown in the next table, which gives the death rate from influenza per 10,000 of each sex in age groups during the years adjoining five census dates:—

DEATHS FROM INFLUENZA IN VICTORIA PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX.

Age Group.				1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
<i>Males.</i>								
0-15	...	...	...	·69	·34	2·50	1·10	·40
15-20	...	...	...	...	·07	·64	·34	·24
20-25	...	...	...	...	...	1·20	·59	·21
25-35	...	...	...	·05	·07	1·50	·79	·17
35-45	...	...	...	·05	...	3·04	1·31	·59
45-55	...	...	...	·09	·24	5·12	3·20	·73
55-65	...	...	...	·67	·24	12·65	5·25	2·38
65 and upwards	...	...	...	1·09	2·36	27·13	17·02	12·27
All ages	...	...	...	·33	·25	3·94	2·30	1·10
<i>Females.</i>								
0-15	...	...	...	·52	·34	1·86	1·15	·42
15-20	...	...	...	...	...	·92	·83	·34
20-25	...	...	...	...	...	1·28	·69	·35
25-35	...	...	...	·07	·07	2·35	·89	·22
35-45	...	...	...	...	·08	4·11	1·86	·30
45-55	...	...	...	·17	...	5·39	2·02	·68
55-65	...	...	...	·39	·62	11·46	5·53	1·61
65 and upwards	...	...	...	·84	3·18	35·22	16·02	12·80
All ages	...	...	...	·28	·24	3·72	2·13	1·10

The death rate for the last census period shows a substantial decrease as compared with that for each of the two preceding periods, the rate for 1910-12 being 50 per cent. below that for 1900-2, and nearly 71 per cent. lower than the rate for 1890-2. It is notable that the decline in the mortality rate from this disease has been associated with very heavy reductions in the death rates from pulmonary tuberculosis and other respiratory diseases.

Respiratory diseases. In 1916 the deaths from respiratory diseases numbered 1,925, which represented a rate of 1,366 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 1,368 in the previous year, 1,397 in 1914, 1,279 in 1913, 1,659 in 1912, and 1,470 in 1911. Of the deaths from complaints of this nature in the year under review, 119 were referred to acute bronchitis, 322 to chronic bronchitis, 440 to broncho-pneumonia, 641 to pneumonia, 60 to pleurisy and 69 to asthma. These six diseases accounted for nearly 86 per cent. of the total respiratory mortality. The seasonal incidence of the maladies is evidenced by the deaths in June, July, August, and September, which represented nearly 48 per cent. of the total for the whole year. Respiratory diseases are much more fatal at the extremes of life than at middle ages, and among males than females. This is shown in the appended table, which gives the death rates in age groups for each sex at five census periods :—

DEATHS FROM RESPIRATORY DISEASES PER 10,000 OF EACH SEX.

Age Group.				1870-2	1880-2	1890-2	1900-2	1910-12
<i>Males.</i>								
0-15	...	...	...	22·65	29·02	28·52	16·53	12·94
15-20	...	...	...	3·05	3·30	2·92	2·70	1·66
20-25	...	...	...	5·70	5·34	4·88	4·85	2·35
25-35	...	...	...	5·69	8·31	6·85	5·94	3·86
35-45	...	...	...	10·28	15·80	13·55	9·49	10·50
45-55	...	...	...	20·43	26·59	25·18	18·04	18·25
55-65	...	...	...	41·79	51·65	56·51	38·37	32·68
65 and upwards	...	...	...	108·11	136·54	141·07	112·38	138·87
All ages	...	...	...	17·29	24·48	24·30	18·66	17·17
<i>Females.</i>								
0-15	...	...	...	18·50	24·18	24·13	13·85	10·50
15-20	...	...	...	1·88	2·02	3·52	2·34	1·56
20-25	...	...	...	3·54	4·23	3·05	3·34	2·48
25-35	...	...	...	4·51	5·72	5·65	3·75	3·55
35-45	...	...	...	7·94	12·53	11·55	7·68	5·85
45-55	...	...	...	7·87	13·63	17·01	11·80	8·28
55-65	...	...	...	22·97	29·15	32·10	27·42	16·64
65 and upwards	...	...	...	73·10	116·12	112·38	86·78	99·81
All ages	...	...	...	12·63	17·08	17·62	13·28	11·81

Compared with the census years 1900-2, the mortality from respiratory diseases for the period 1910-12 shows a decline at each age group up to 35 for males and to 65 for females, the reduction for all ages amounting to 8 per cent. in the rate for the former and 11 per cent. in that for the latter. At each census date the male exceeded the female rate, the average excess for the five census periods being nearly 41 per cent.

Influenza and respiratory diseases (combined). The annual mortality rates from influenza and respiratory diseases (combined), per 10,000 males and females respectively living at different ages at five census periods, are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM INFLUENZA AND RESPIRATORY DISEASES (COMBINED).

Age Group.	1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
<i>Males.</i>					
0-15 ...	23·34	29·36	31·02	17·63	13·34
15-20 ...	3·05	3·37	3·56	3·04	1·90
20-25 ...	5·70	5·34	6·08	5·44	2·56
25-35 ...	5·74	8·38	8·35	6·73	4·03
35-45 ...	10·33	15·80	16·59	10·80	11·09
45-55 ...	20·52	26·83	30·30	21·24	18·98
55-65 ...	42·46	51·89	69·16	43·62	35·06
65 and upwards ...	109·20	138·90	168·20	129·40	151·14
All ages ...	17·62	24·73	28·24	20·96	18·27
<i>Females.</i>					
0-15 ...	19·02	24·52	25·99	15·00	10·92
15-20 ...	1·88	2·02	4·44	3·17	1·90
20-25 ...	3·54	4·23	4·33	4·03	2·83
25-35 ...	4·58	5·79	8·00	4·64	3·77
35-45 ...	7·94	12·61	15·66	9·54	6·15
45-55 ...	8·04	13·63	22·40	13·82	8·96
55-65 ...	23·36	29·77	43·56	32·95	18·25
65 and upwards ...	73·94	119·30	147·60	102·80	112·61
All ages ...	12·91	17·32	21·34	15·41	12·91

The mortality rates from influenza and respiratory diseases combined showed a decrease for both sexes at the last census period as compared with the preceding one, such decrease amounting to 13 per cent. in the male and 16 per cent. in the female rate. Excepting the age groups 15-20 at the last three census periods, and the group 20-25 in 1910-12, the proportion of deaths of females from these diseases at the different age periods was lower in every instance than that of males. The difference in favour of the former was somewhat small up to the age of 35, but for subsequent ages it was very considerable.

Cerebro-spinal, Tubercular, and Simple Meningitis. An outbreak of cerebro-spinal meningitis in Victoria was responsible for the deaths of 239 males and 99 females in 1915. The cases reported to the Board of Health during the same year numbered 644, of which 458 were of males and 186 of females. During 1916 the cases numbered 754 and the deaths 326, the latter representing 43 per cent. of the cases as compared with a fatality rate of 52 per cent. in the previous year. In England, 53 per cent. of the cases ended fatally in 1915. The

numbers of deaths from cerebro-spinal, tubercular, and simple meningitis during the last six years were as follows:—

DEATHS FROM DIFFERENT FORMS OF MENINGITIS, 1911-16.

Year.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.		Tubercular Meningitis.		Simple Meningitis.		Total—All Forms of Meningitis.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1911 ..	9	2	41	49	75	51	125	102
1912 ..	4	3	26	44	63	76	93	123
1913 ..	8	4	25	41	85	65	118	110
1914 ..	12	5	42	30	89	63	143	98
1915 ..	239	99	35	35	74	46	348	180
1916 ..	191	135	29	40	56	39	276	214
Total ..	463	248	198	239	442	340	1,103	827

The next table shows the incidence of mortality at various ages from different forms of meningitis for the period 1911-16:—

DEATHS AT DIFFERENT AGES FROM MENINGITIS, 1911-16.

Age Group.	Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.		Tubercular Meningitis.		Simple Meningitis.		Total—All Forms of Meningitis.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 5 ..	100	80	106	120	256	198	462	398
5 to 15 ..	53	46	50	51	49	39	152	136
15 „ 25 ..	146	41	13	39	26	32	185	112
25 „ 35 ..	64	19	10	17	21	14	95	50
35 „ 45 ..	42	21	13	4	31	21	86	46
45 „ 55 ..	39	26	4	5	31	17	74	48
55 „ 65 ..	13	9	1	2	10	7	24	18
65 and over	6	6	1	1	18	12	25	19
Total 1911-16	463	248	198	239	442	340	1,103	827

On the average of the last six years the deaths of children under 5 years of age from cerebro-spinal, tubercular, and simple meningitis represented 25, 52, and 58 per cent. respectively of the total deaths from these diseases. Of the 326 persons who succumbed to cerebro-spinal meningitis in 1916, 85 were under 5 and 138 were under 15 years. Up to the age of 15 years the incidence of the mortality from this disease in the period 1911-16 was only slightly higher for males than females, but for the age group 15 to 45 the rate for the former was about three times that for the latter.

Diseases of the spine.

In 1916 locomotor ataxia and other diseases of the spine, excluding infantile paralysis, accounted for 70 male and 28 female deaths, representing a death rate of 70 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 58 in the previous year, 75 in 1914, 62 in 1913, 70 in 1912, 62 in 1911, 64 in 1910, 75 in 1909, and 80 in 1908. Of the 26 persons who died from locomotor ataxia 25 were males.

Infantile paralysis.

Mortality returns show that infantile paralysis was responsible for the deaths of 1 girl and 3 boys in 1916, as against 2 girls in 1915, 5 boys and 4 girls in 1914, 2 boys and 1 girl in 1913, and 4 boys and 2 girls in 1912. Of those who died during the five years 11 were metropolitan and 13 extra metropolitan residents. Five of the victims were under 1 year of age, and 13 were under 5 years.

Heart disease.

During 1916 there were 1,668 deaths ascribed to organic heart disease, 14 to pericarditis, 96 to acute endocarditis, and 35 to angina pectoris. The total—1,813—from these causes represented a rate of 1,286 per million of the population, as compared with 1,134 in the previous year, 1,278 in 1914, 1,294 in 1913, 1,427 in 1912, 1,434 in 1911, and 1,423 in 1910. Of the 1,813 persons who died from these diseases in 1916, only 48, or 2·6 per cent., were under 15 years of age. On the average of the three years 1910 to 1912 the deaths from all forms of heart disease per 10,000 of each sex in age periods were as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM HEART DISEASE AT VARIOUS AGES.

Sex.	Deaths per 10,000 Persons aged—									
	0-15.	15-20.	20-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	65-75.	75 and upwards.	All Ages.
Males ..	1·25	1·81	2·35	3·01	6·71	15·53	49·57	127·50	243·44	15·19
Females ..	1·25	1·66	2·08	2·88	7·10	15·63	36·22	107·21	238·86	13·58

The figures indicate that the mortality rate from heart disease is a function of age, and that it attains its maximum at the oldest age. Of the deaths of persons aged 75 and upwards, approximately 1 in 6 is due to some form of this disease.

Diseases of the digestive system.

In 1916 there were 892 male and 808 female deaths from digestive ailments, representing a proportion of 1,206 per million of the population, as against rates of 1,098 in the previous year, 1,504 in 1914, 1,220 in 1913, 1,345 in 1912, 1,233 in 1911, and 2,382 in 1890-2. Victorian experience shows that more than half of the mortality from digestive maladies has been ascribed to diseases of a diarrhoeal nature. In 1916 diarrhoeal

complaints were responsible for 1,030 deaths which were equivalent to a rate of 731 per million of population, the corresponding rates in previous years being 590 in 1915, 941 in 1914, 709 in 1913, 752 in 1912, 679 in 1911, 918 in 1910 and 756 in 1909. The age incidence of this disease shows that it is heaviest at the extremes of life. Of the 1,030 deaths in the year under review, 810, or nearly 79 per cent., were of children under 2 years of age and 99, or about 10 per cent., were of persons over 65 years of age. There were 45 male and 32 female deaths from cirrhosis of the liver, 53 male and 65 female deaths from other affections of that organ, and 79 male and 72 female deaths from hernia and intestinal obstruction.

Appendicitis. The deaths from appendicitis numbered 78 in 1916, 102 in the previous year, 103 in 1914, and 116 in 1913, and corresponded to rates of 55, 72, 72, and 83, per million of the population respectively. Hospital records show that during 1916 there were 1,325 cases treated, and that 54, or 4.1 per cent., ended fatally, as compared with fatality rates of 5.3 per cent. in 1915, 2.8 per cent. in 1914, 4.5 per cent. in 1913, and 6 per cent. in the period 1908-12. According to the experience of the five years, 1910 to 1914, the death rate from appendicitis is approximately 31 per cent. higher among males than females. The mortality rates at various ages for that period were as follows:—

DEATH RATES FROM APPENDICITIS, 1910-14.

Sex.	Deaths from Appendicitis per 10,000 of each Sex aged—									
	Under 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 and over.	All Ages.
Males ..	0.43	1.00	1.24	1.03	1.01	0.97	0.90	1.38	1.05	0.92
Females	0.42	1.43	0.88	0.71	0.59	0.52	0.85	0.58	0.55	0.70

Diseases of urinary system. In 1916 there were 993 deaths attributed to diseases of the urinary system, which corresponded to a rate of 705 per million of the population, as against rates of 712 in the previous year, 670 in 1914, 724 in 1913, 803 in 1912, 727 in 1911, 628 in 1910, and 644 in 1909. Bright's disease, uræmia, and acute nephritis were responsible for 803 deaths, or 81 per cent., and complaints of the bladder and prostate for 128 deaths, or 13 per cent. of the total referred to maladies of the urinary system. The deaths

per 10,000 of each sex in age groups for the periods 1890-2, 1900-2, and 1910-12 are shown in the following table:—

DEATH RATES FROM DISEASES OF URINARY SYSTEM.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	Males.			Females.		
	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
0-10	1·16	·93	·67	·97	·59	·79
10-20	·43	·45	·73	·58	·82	·71
20-30	1·45	1·83	1·72	1·82	1·59	1·61
30-40	3·05	3·55	3·03	4·72	4·21	3·76
40-50	7·36	8·12	9·03	6·63	7·26	7·07
50-60	11·90	17·43	18·95	5·91	11·36	13·81
60-70	27·42	39·62	46·63	9·62	21·49	24·44
70-80	58·98	80·68	96·18	14·62	27·70	38·53
80 and over	74·07	128·48	153·04	22·21	27·15	43·70
All Ages	5·25	8·05	9·18	2·84	4·28	5·34

The figures for the latest period show that there is scarcely any difference between the rates for males and females under 50 years of age. For older ages, however, the excess of the male over the female rate is very pronounced, especially at ages 70 and upwards. For all ages the rate for males exceeds that for females by 72 per cent.

Deaths from
phthisis at
various ages.

The ages and sexes of those who died from pulmonary tuberculosis in the decennium ended 1910, and in each of the last three years, are given in the next table:—

DEATHS FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS AT VARIOUS AGES.

Ages.	Males.				Females.			
	Ten years— 1901 to 1910.	Year.			Ten years— 1901 to 1910.	Year.		
		1914.	1915.	1916.		1914.	1915.	1916.
0-10	66	9	2	9	86	2	5	2
10-15	50	7	2	6	142	4	10	10
15-20	323	17	19	16	551	46	32	46
20-25	579	54	48	60	777	70	66	79
25-30	742	60	51	72	863	83	77	72
30-35	761	72	53	55	767	61	44	44
35-40	854	67	66	69	731	57	44	49
40-45	775	58	51	72	478	40	40	42
45-50	674	56	72	68	353	35	23	39
50-55	531	64	58	67	195	20	32	18
55-60	423	36	41	48	170	24	20	17
60-65	397	26	27	30	128	9	5	7
65-70	431	19	21	20	124	8	6	5
70 and over	436	16	16	14	121	11	11	11
Total	7,042	561	527	606	5,486	470	415	441

Notwithstanding the increase in population the deaths from phthisis in 1916 were considerably below the annual average of the decennium 1901-1910. The decreases from period to period are dealt with in subsequent paragraphs.

The deaths from phthisis in 1916 numbered 1,047—606 being of males and 441 of females—and equalled a rate of 743 per million of the population, as compared with rates of 661 in the previous year, 724 in 1914, 755 in 1913, 803 in 1912, 839 in 1911, 830 in 1910, 848 in 1909, 955 in 1908, 958 in 1907, and 1,365 in 1890-2. The rate for 1916 was 12 per cent. higher than that for the preceding year, the increase being evenly distributed over town and country. The rates are more fully shown in the following table which gives the mortality per 10,000 of each sex, in age groups, at six census periods :—

DEATH RATES IN VICTORIA FROM PHTHISIS IN AGE GROUPS AT THE LAST SIX CENSUS PERIODS.

Age Group.	Annual Mortality from Phthisis per 10,000 of each Sex.					
	1860-2.	1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
<i>Males.</i>						
0 to 15	2·55	1·22	1·74	·90	·38	·46
15 " 20	7·72	5·71	6·83	5·41	5·06	3·71
20 " 25	12·23	18·75	21·19	18·29	14·35	8·45
25 " 35	16·53	22·21	30·33	23·70	20·31	13·11
35 " 45	21·63	21·83	25·11	28·28	22·07	15·63
45 " 55	23·14	22·24	28·65	31·17	25·05	18·07
55 " 65	25·63	27·86	31·41	36·48	35·75	18·88
65 and upwards	23·20	19·56	18·08	25·40	31·07	13·55
All Ages	13·33	12·89	15·33	15·73	13·51	8·98
<i>Females.</i>						
0 to 15	3·70	·98	1·76	1·43	·93	·97
15 " 20	14·07	12·37	12·50	9·51	8·18	7·62
20 " 25	18·95	19·28	21·00	18·49	12·79	12·68
25 " 35	24·76	22·02	26·56	21·77	18·15	14·03
35 " 45	25·62	21·65	24·06	22·53	17·74	11·51
45 " 55	25·01	19·60	20·72	16·13	14·41	8·18
55 " 65	22·59	10·51	14·26	12·35	12·52	7·47
65 and upwards	18·03	12·61	13·12	8·25	8·18	5·29
All Ages	14·46	10·62	12·75	11·51	9·72	7·61

A comparison of the mortalities from pulmonary tuberculosis at the last two census periods shows that, except among boys and girls under 15, lower death rates obtained at each age group during 1910-12 than in 1900-2, and that the improvement was greater among males

than females. An analysis of the figures discloses the fact that at certain ages the decrease was very slight in the female rate, while in the male rate it was very considerable at all ages over 15. Taking three important periods of life, 15-20, 20-25, and 25-35, it is found that between the last two censuses the rates for males declined by 26, 41, and 35 per cent. respectively, as compared with reductions of only 7, 1, and 22 per cent. in the rates for females. The heavy decline in the death rate from phthisis among men between 20 and 35 years of age is very striking, especially as it is co-incident with a reduction of 43 per cent. in the mortality rate from other diseases of the respiratory system. By combining the death rates from pulmonary tuberculosis, as shown above, with those from other forms of tubercular disease, given in a subsequent page, it appears that the section of the community represented by females aged 15 to 25 was the only one which experienced no relief from tubercular diseases in 1910-12, as compared with the preceding census period. It is probable that this result is partly due to the increased proportion of females engaged in manufacturing industries. Comparing the number of females aged 15 to 25 employed in factories with the total females of similar age in the community, it is found that between the 1901 census and that of 1911 there was an increase of 78 per cent. in the proportion exposed to the risk of tubercular infection involved in factory employment.

Phthisis in
various
countries.

Death rates from pulmonary tuberculosis, per 10,000 of the population, in various countries, for the latest year for which this information is available, are given below :—

DEATH RATES FROM PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Population.	Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Population.
Servia ...	1911	32·4	Scotland ...	1915	11·1
France ...	1911	18·0	Holland ...	1915	11·0
Ireland ...	1915	17·4	Belgium ...	1912	9·3
Sweden ...	1912	15·8	South Australia...	1915	7·7
Japan ...	1913	15·0	Victoria ...	1916	7·4
Switzerland ...	1914	13·8	Western Australia	1915	7·2
United States ...	1915	12·8	New South Wales	1915	5·7
German Empire ...	1913	12·6	New Zealand ...	1915	5·1
Spain ...	1914	12·3	Queensland ...	1915	4·9
England and Wales	1915	11·8	Tasmania ...	1915	4·8

The death rate from phthisis is considerably lower in Victoria than in European countries and the United States.

Tubercular death rates in Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo.

The distribution of tuberculous mortality shows that certain urban centres—particularly Bendigo and suburbs—furnish considerably higher death rates than the rural portions of the State. The tubercular death rate amongst miners is very considerably in excess of that among farmers and graziers and, as mining occupations predominate in Bendigo and suburbs and farming and grazing occupations in the rural districts, the distribution of callings accounts in a large measure for the disparity in the mortality rates from this cause in the divisions of the State referred to. On the average of the past five years the tubercular death rate of Bendigo exceeded the rates of Ballarat and Melbourne by 32 and 62 per cent. respectively. The rates in these localities from phthisis and other tubercular diseases are given in the appended table for the periods 1891-1900 and 1901-5, and for each of the last eleven years:—

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES IN MELBOURNE, BALLARAT, AND BENDIGO, 1891 TO 1916.

Period.	Deaths per 10,000 of the Population.								
	Phthisis.			Other Tubercular Diseases.			All Tubercular Diseases		
	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.	Melbourne and Suburbs.	Ballarat and Suburbs.	Bendigo and Suburbs.
1891-1900 ..	16.7	17.1	24.1	4.7	3.5	4.0	21.4	20.6	28.1
1901-1905 ..	13.9	15.3	22.7	4.2	4.0	4.7	18.1	19.3	27.4
1906 ..	11.5	13.2	21.7	3.9	2.3	2.5	15.4	15.5	24.2
1907 ..	11.6	10.5	20.2	3.4	1.8	2.0	15.0	12.3	22.2
1908 ..	11.5	13.3	18.4	2.6	2.1	1.3	14.1	15.4	19.7
1909 ..	9.7	9.4	22.9	2.6	1.9	3.2	12.3	11.3	26.1
1910 ..	9.7	11.0	22.8	2.4	2.5	1.1	12.1	13.5	23.9
1911 ..	9.9	9.4	19.5	2.6	3.3	2.5	12.5	12.7	22.0
1912 ..	10.0	10.0	17.7	2.0	1.7	2.1	12.0	11.7	19.8
1913 ..	8.8	10.9	20.0	2.2	2.8	2.3	11.0	13.7	22.3
1914 ..	8.9	11.2	11.8	2.0	.9	1.0	10.9	12.1	12.8
1915 ..	7.7	10.2	13.6	1.7	2.1	2.4	9.4	12.3	16.0
1916 ..	8.6	14.3	14.2	1.8	1.5	1.4	10.4	15.8	15.6
Average of 1912-16 ..	8.8	11.3	15.5	1.9	1.8	1.8	10.7	13.1	17.3

In each of the areas the proportionate mortality from phthisis was greater in 1916 than in the preceding year.

Relatively to population cases of pulmonary tuberculosis are fewer in country districts than in urban areas. The cases reported during each of the past six years in five divisions of the State, and their proportions to the populations of these divisions for the period 1910-15 and the year 1916 are given in the subjoined table:—

PHTHISIS IN DIFFERENT AREAS.

Area.	Reported Cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.						Annual Cases per 10,000 of Population.	
	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1910-15.	1916.
Greater Melbourne ..	879	803	780	856	972	1,094	13·8	15·9
Ballarat and Suburbs	55	58	56	60	63	77	13·7	18·9
Bendigo and Suburbs	106	82	64	53	59	70	20·8	19·6
Geelong and Suburbs	26	33	31	18	20	37	8·5	10·7
Rest of the State ..	341	351	445	423	395	375	6·0	6·2
Whole State ..	1,407	1,327	1,376	1,410	1,509	1,653	10·4	11·7

The proportion of residents of any large area reported as suffering from phthisis represents fairly closely the degree of infection of that centre. While this may be taken as true when applied to the metropolis as a whole, it cannot be accepted as definitely correct for each of its parts, as the place of residence of a large proportion of the people differs from their place of work or business. The prevalence of the disease in the principal metropolitan municipalities is shown in the next table for the two and a half years ended June, 1911, which is the latest period for which this information has been tabulated:—

PHTHISIS IN METROPOLITAN MUNICIPALITIES.

Municipality.	Annual Cases per 10,000 of the Population.	Municipality.	Annual Cases per 10,000 of the Population.
Preston Shire ...	20·2	Richmond City ...	12·1
Port Melbourne Town ...	18·7	Brighton Town ...	10·4
Melbourne City ...	18·1	Hawthorn City ...	10·3
Fitzroy City ...	17·3	Northcote City ...	10·0
Brunswick City ...	17·1	Essendon City ...	9·8
Coburg Town ...	15·4	Kew Town ...	9·8
South Melbourne City ...	15·2	Footscray City ...	9·2
Camberwell City ...	14·0	St. Kilda City ...	6·7
Prahran City ...	13·4	Malvern City ...	6·6
Collingwood City ...	12·5	Caulfield City ...	5·2
Williamstown Town...	12·2		

The results of an investigation of 3,198 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis which occurred in the State during the two and a half years ended June, 1911, are given in the 1913-14 edition of this work. The matters dealt with were the sex and age of the patients, their usual place of residence, the chances of metropolitan and extra metropolitan residents contracting the disease at different ages, the time elapsing from the commencement of the complaint to the date on which medical advice is obtained, and the probability of recovering from the disease. In the issue referred to the medical and economic results of sanatorium treatment of tuberculosis of the lungs in Germany are shown for a series of years.

In 1916 there were in Victoria 192 deaths from tubercular diseases (excluding phthisis), which corresponded to a rate of 136 per million, as compared with rates of 135 in the previous year, 140 in 1914, 156 in 1913, 154 in 1912, 186 in 1911, 176 in 1910, 192 in 1909, 200 in 1908, 209 in 1907, and 379 in 1890-2. The death rates in various age groups are shown in the following table for five census periods:—

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULAR DISEASES (PHTHISIS EXCEPTED) IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Deaths per 10,000 of each Sex.				
	1870-2.	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
<i>Males.</i>					
0-15 ...	7.53	7.98	10.36	5.64	2.75
15-20 ...	.64	.81	1.17	1.12	1.12
20-25 ...	1.80	1.23	.89	1.77	1.23
25-35 ...	.70	.66	.84	1.91	1.71
35-45 ...	.77	.88	.77	1.39	1.38
45-55 ...	.95	.85	.67	1.64	.82
55-65 ...	.88	1.07	.78	2.40	1.29
65 and over	1.09	2.36	.56	1.17	.59
All ages	3.46	3.55	4.02	2.99	1.70
<i>Females.</i>					
0-15 ...	5.89	7.28	8.43	5.33	2.12
15-20 ...	.82	1.30	1.27	1.95	2.34
20-25 ...	.52	.69	1.23	2.09	2.59
25-35 ...	.54	.41	.88	1.98	1.81
35-45 ...	1.04	.70	.42	1.77	1.33
45-55 ...	.17	.67	.34	1.01	.93
55-65 ...	.39	.62	.69	.71	1.11
65 and over	1.69	1.19	.64	.71	.29
All ages	3.10	3.39	3.58	2.91	1.76

As compared with the period 1900-2 the proportion of persons under 15 years of age who died from tubercular diseases (excluding phthisis) during 1910-12 represents a decline of 51 per cent. for males and of 60 per cent. for females. The most important increase occurred in the rate for females aged 15-25.

Tubercular diseases—deaths of recent arrivals from.

The experience of recent years shows that the tubercular death rate in Victoria is but slightly affected by the arrival from beyond Australia of persons suffering from tubercular diseases. In 1916, *3 per cent. of the persons who died were born outside and resident less than one year in Australia, and 3·4 per cent. had resided in the continent for a shorter period than five years.

Cancer—deaths at various ages.
below :—

The numbers dying from cancer in different age groups in each of the last three years, and the yearly average at the same ages for the period 1901-10 are given below :—

DEATHS FROM CANCER AT VARIOUS AGES.

Age Group.	Males.				Females.			
	Yearly Average, 1901-10.	1914.	1915.	1916.	Yearly Average, 1901-10.	1914.	1915.	1916.
0-15	5	1	6	5	3	6	3	6
15-25	6	4	3	5	4	6	6	4
25-35	9	10	16	15	13	15	17	18
35-45	34	30	28	25	59	64	67	57
45-55	79	105	86	121	90	135	126	164
55-65	107	160	144	184	102	163	151	162
65-75	159	140	166	163	121	139	136	154
75-85	81	103	86	94	60	72	81	93
85 and over ..	12	18	21	15	9	11	15	13
Total	492	571	556	627	461	611	602	671

The widely different social and economic effects produced by the prevalence of and deaths from the two important diseases—cancer and phthisis—are evidenced by the ages of their victims. For the year 1916 the average age of those who died from cancer was 62·1 years for males, and 59·8 years for females, whilst the corresponding averages for phthisis were 41·2 years for males and 34·3 years for females.

Cancer—death rates at different ages.

Deaths from cancer in 1916 numbered 1,298, and represented a death rate of 921 per million of the whole population, as compared with rates of 812 in the previous year, 830 in 1914, 838 in 1913, 905 in 1912, 833 in 1911, 832 in 1910, 802 in 1909, and 794 in 1908. Cancer rates, computed in relation to the general population in earlier and later periods, are not fairly comparable, owing to the changed age distribution of the people. A more accurate mortality rate is obtained by comparing the deaths with the persons of the same sex living in age groups. This has been done for four census periods, when the numbers of the people in age groups

were accurately known, and the results are given in the appended table:—

DEATH RATES FROM CANCER IN AGE GROUPS.

Age Group.	Deaths from Cancer per 10,000 of each Sex.			
	1880-2.	1890-2.	1900-2.	1910-12.
<i>Males.</i>				
Under 5 ...	·29	·18	·30	·73
5 to 10 ...	·24	·10	·42	·25
10 " 15 ...	·18	·11	·20	·16
15 " 20 ...	·07	·17	·22	·15
20 " 25 ...	·25	·32	·33	·71
25 " 35 ...	·80	·81	1·26	·96
35 " 45 ...	4·12	4·29	3·69	3·16
45 " 55 ...	10·16	14·83	14·14	16·03
55 " 65 ...	22·01	31·92	36·00	36·36
65 " 75 ...	34·55	52·75	59·04	74·15
75 and over	45·12	58·55	74·04	88·40
All ages	4·29	6·16	7·52	8·50
<i>Females.</i>				
Under 5 ...	·12	·09	·26	·19
5 to 10 ...	·12	·10	·04	·10
10 " 15 ...	·06	·06	—	·27
15 " 20 ...	·26	·12	·28	·44
20 " 25 ...	·39	·22	·23	·41
25 " 35 ...	2·65	1·68	1·61	1·39
35 " 45 ...	7·32	7·43	6·05	7·26
45 " 55 ...	15·07	18·00	18·13	17·87
55 " 65 ...	29·35	31·79	33·05	38·03
65 " 75 ...	32·68	53·96	51·18	61·66
75 and over	27·56	49·55	62·70	86·19
All ages	4·27	5·57	6·64	8·76

Deaths from cancer occurred at all age periods, but the rates in the foregoing table show that it is essentially a disease of later life, increasing rapidly in the groups past middle age, and reaching a maximum mortality rate in the oldest age group. A comparison of the figures for the last two census periods, which would not be appreciably affected by differences in the diagnosis of the disease, shows that at ages under 45 an increase occurred in the rate for females, and a slight reduction in that for males. At the next age period, 45-55, the male rate increased by nearly 13 per cent., while the female rate declined very slightly. At the period, 55-65, the mortality rate for men remained almost stationary, but that for women exhibited a very marked increase. Among both males and females aged 65 and upwards the death rate was considerably heavier in 1910-12 than in 1900-2. From the figures for the two periods mentioned it would appear that there was a slight but definite increase in the death rate from cancer among persons under 65, and a large increase among persons over that age and, further, that on the whole the increase was much greater among females than males.

The following table shows the seat of cancer in persons who died from this disease in 1916:—

SEAT OF CANCER.

Seat of Disease.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Cancer of the buccal cavity (mouth, &c.) ...	91	7	98
„ the stomach and liver ...	253	203	456
„ the peritoneum, the intestines, and the rectum ...	78	108	186
„ the female genital organs ...	...	109	109
„ the breast ...	...	107	107
„ the skin ...	44	14	58
„ other and unspecified organs ...	161	123	284
Total Deaths ...	627	671	1,298

Thirty-five per cent. of the persons who died from cancer were affected in the stomach or liver. Of the total females who died from the disease nearly one-third were affected in the genital organs or the breast.

Death Rates from cancer in various countries.

Deaths from cancer per 10,000 of the population in various countries, for the latest year for which this information is available, are given in the next table:—

DEATH RATES FROM CANCER IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Population.	Country.	Year.	Deaths per 10,000 of Population.
Switzerland ...	1914	12·8	United States ...	1915	8·1
England and Wales ...	1915	11·3	France ...	1911	8·0
Scotland ...	1915	11·1	Ontario ...	1915	7·2
Sweden ...	1912	11·0	New South Wales ...	1915	7·1
Holland ...	1915	10·9	Belgium ...	1912	7·1
German Empire ...	1913	9·2	Tasmania ...	1915	7·0
Victoria ...	1916	9·2	Western Australia ...	1915	6·8
South Australia ...	1915	9·0	Italy ...	1914	6·7
Ireland ...	1915	8·8	Japan ...	1913	6·6
New Zealand ...	1915	8·2	Queensland ...	1915	6·4
Austria ...	1912	8·1	Spain ...	1914	5·6

Victoria showed a lower death rate from cancer than six of the above countries, but a higher one than any other Australian State.

During the year 1916, the deaths of 884 men and 818 women aged 65 years and over were ascribed to senile decay. The deaths at these ages from all causes during the year numbered 5,860—3,087 of men and 2,773 of women. It is thus seen that 29·0 per cent. of the deaths of persons aged 65 years and upwards were due to senile decay. The mortality rates of elderly persons in several age groups have been computed, taking the average of the three years 1910-12, when the numbers of persons within those groups were accurately known. These show that of every 100 persons in the respective age groups, there died within a year, from all causes,

4.21 aged 65 to 70, 6.63 aged 70 to 75, 10.71 aged 75 to 80, 16.26 aged 80 to 85, and 27.30 aged 85 and upwards.

Death rates from accidental violence have been lower in later than in earlier periods, a result that is chiefly due to the lighter mortality rate from accidental drowning, the smaller proportion of the population engaged in country occupations, which are generally of a more hazardous nature than those in towns, and the increasing proportion of females in the community. In 1916 there were 480 male and 167 female deaths attributed to accidents and negligence, which represented a rate of 459 per million of the population. This proportion was slightly below the average rate—487—for the previous five years, and 43 per cent. lower than the ratio—811—for 1890-2. The deaths from different accidents in 1916 are given in the appended table:—

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTAL VIOLENCE, 1916.

Nature or Place of Accident.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Poisoning by Food	9	4	13
Other Acute Poisonings	6	4	10
Burns (including Conflagrations)	28	40	68
Absorption of Poisonous Gases	2	3	5
Suffocation	4	..	4
Suffocation in bed (infants)	4	7	11
Drowning	114	40	154
Firearms	21	4	25
Falls	49	9	58
In Mines and Quarries	6	..	6
Machines	11	2	13
Vehicular Accidents—			
On Railways	42	1	43
Motor Car	20	6	26
Motor Cycle	6	2	8
Motor Bus	1	..	1
Motor Lorry	3	..	3
Bicycle	2	..	2
Tram Car	7	4	11
Vehicle drawn by Horses	22	6	28
Vehicle, Undefined	6	1	7
Injuries by Animals	3	..	3
Starvation .. .. .	..	1	1
Effects of Heat	7	4	11
Excessive Cold	3	2	5
Lightning	1	..	1
Electricity	5	..	5
Fractures, Unspecified	37	19	56
Other Violence	61	8	69
Total	480	167	647

On the average of the past five years the female mortality rate from accidents was slightly less than one-third of the rate for males.

The mortality rate from accidents is only one-half as great among males aged 15 to 45 as among men over that age. The deaths per 10,000 males at certain ages from

Fatal accidents among males at different ages.

drowning, sunstroke, and other accidents for the period 1909-13 were as follows :—

DEATH RATES FROM ACCIDENT—MALES, 1909-13.

	Accidental Deaths per 10,000 Males Aged—							
	15-20.	20-25.	25-35.	35-45.	45-55.	55-65.	65 and over.	15 and upwards.
Drowning ..	1·74	1·19	1·15	1·40	1·89	2·57	3·64	1·72
Sunstroke ..	..	..	·08	·10	·27	·18	·96	·16
Other Accidents ..	3·68	5·19	4·68	5·90	7·51	10·06	16·54	6·56
Total Accidents..	5·42	6·38	5·91	7·40	9·67	12·81	21·14	8·44

For men aged 20 to 35 the death rate from accidental violence is less than one-third of that for men over age 65 and slightly less than one half of the rate for those aged 55 to 65. The death rates in the above table agree fairly closely with English experience, which shows that the annual deaths from accidents per 10,000 males were 5·33 at ages 15-20, 5·71 at 20-25, 6·64 at 25-35, 8·62 at 35-45, 11·12 at 45-55, 13·99 at 55-65, and 18·85 at 65 and upwards.

During the year 1916, 378 males aged seventeen years and upwards died from the results of accidents. The numbers for the different occupations were as follows :—

Occupation.	Deaths from Accidents, 1916.	Occupation.	Deaths from Accidents, 1916.
Labourer (undefined) ..	97	Postal employee ..	3
Farmer, grazier ..	63	Publican ..	3
Miner ..	16	Agent ..	2
Soldier ..	16	Blacksmith ..	2
Driver, carter, carrier ..	14	Boxmaker ..	2
Railway employee ..	12	Butcher..	2
Clerk ..	10	Builder, contractor ..	2
Horse trainer, jockey, groom	9	Cabinetmaker ..	2
Grocer ..	7	Clergyman ..	2
Seaman ..	6	Constable ..	2
Carpenter ..	5	Doctor ..	2
Engineer ..	5	Electrician ..	2
Plumber ..	5	Hawker..	2
Bootmaker ..	4	Merchant ..	2
Bricklayer ..	4	Printer ..	2
Fireman ..	4	Salesman ..	2
Painter ..	4	Solicitor ..	2
Storeman ..	4	Warder ..	2
Traveller..	4	Others (specified) ..	20
Cook ..	3	Unspecified ..	19
Engine-driver ..	3		
Ironworker ..	3	Total ..	378
Manager ..	3		

Of the 378 deaths of males over 17 years of age which resulted from accidents in 1916, 69 were due to drowning.

Suicide. In the year 1916, 82 males and 33 females took their own lives. The deaths represented a rate of 83 per million of the population as compared with rates of 105 in the preceding year, 90 in 1914, 103 in 1913, 112 in 1912, 114 in 1911, 101 in 1910, 92 in 1909 and 1908, and 109 in 1890-2. A much lower rate from suicide obtains among females than males, the rate for the former being about one-third of that for the latter on the average of the past five years. Among males the death rate from suicide in 1916 was about 27 per cent. below the average of the three years preceding the war. This is fairly similar to English experience, which shows that the mortality rate from this cause among males was 25 per cent. lower in 1915 than in the period 1911-13.

Homicide. The deaths ascribed to homicide in 1916 numbered 20 of which 8 were of males and 12 of females. These represented a rate of 14 per million of the population as against rates of 17 in the previous year, 16 in 1914, 18 in 1913, 21 in 1912, 18 in 1911, 31 in 1910, 12 in 1909, 15 in 1908, and 34 in 1890-2.

Deaths of married women in childbed. The death rate of women in childbed varies considerably at different ages, and is less at younger than at older age periods. The number of deaths of married mothers, in childbed, and the death rates for various age groups are shown for the decade 1906-15 and the year 1916 in the following table:—

DEATH RATES OF MARRIED MOTHERS IN CHILDBED IN AGE GROUPS, 1906-1915 AND 1916.

Age Group.	Married Mothers.			
	Deaths.		Deaths per 1,000 Confinements.	
	1906-15.	1916.	1906-15.	1916.
Under 20 years	23	2	2.71	2.82
20 to 25 "	184	18	2.85	2.59
25 " 30 "	326	31	3.60	3.10
30 " 35 "	334	29	4.59	3.79
35 " 40 "	346	23	6.86	4.64
40 years and over	156	16	6.90	8.78

The experience of the ten years 1906-15 shows that for the age period 35 years and upwards the deaths of mothers in childbed were

69 per 10,000 as against 37 per 10,000 for those under 35 years of age. For the same term of years the number of deaths per 1,000 married women in first confinements was 5·57, as against an average of 4·04 for other confinements.

The death rate of women in childbed is usually ascertained by comparing the number of deaths of parturient women with the total number of births. The proportions which prevailed in each of the last six years, and the averages of previous periods back to 1871 are given below:—

DEATHS OF MOTHERS (MARRIED AND SINGLE) TO EVERY 10,000 CHILDREN BORN ALIVE.

Period.	Number of Mothers who Died Annually of—			Deaths of Mothers to every 10,000 Children Born Alive.
	Puerperal Diseases of Accidents. (Excluding Septicæmia.)	Puerperal Septicæmia.	Total.	
1871-1880 ..	127	46	173	64·38
1881-1890 ..	121	64	185	59·19
1891-1900 ..	117	66	183	56·01
1901-1905 ..	126	58	184	60·92
1906-1910 ..	101	46	147	47·17
1911 ..	86	62	148	44·79
1912 ..	92	61	153	42·72
1913 ..	112	65	177	49·20
1914 ..	97	61	158	43·62
1915 ..	91	40	131	37·42
1916 ..	75	55	130	37·97

In recent years a marked reduction has taken place in the death rate of women in childbed. The deaths of mothers per 10,000 children born alive were 42·2 in 1912-16, as compared with 47·2 in 1906-10, and 60·9 in 1901-5.

**Puerperal
Septicæmia.**

In 1916 there were 55 deaths of married and unmarried mothers from puerperal septicæmia, which corresponded to a death rate of 16·1 per 10,000 births, as against 11·4 in the previous year, 16·8 in 1914, 18·1 in 1913, 17·0 in 1912, 18·8 in 1911, 17·2 in 1910, 11·4 in 1909, 15·4 in 1908, and 18·1 in 1901-7.

NATURAL INCREASE.**Natural
increase per
1,000 of popu-
lation in
Australasia.**

The natural increase, *i.e.*, the excess of births over deaths, per 1,000 of the population, in the various Australian States and New Zealand, for the period 1902-6 and for each of the last ten years, is shown in the following table:—

**NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION,
AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.**

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queens- land.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	12·30	15·76	15·41	13·28	18·04	18·12	14·68	16·94
1907	13·43	16·58	16·52	13·95	18·15	18·46	15·58	16·35
1908	12·11	16·64	16·43	14·75	18·16	18·85	15·29	17·88
1909	13·35	17·58	17·55	15·76	18·47	19·89	16·30	18·07
1910	12·86	18·09	17·61	16·17	17·80	18·56	16·30	16·46
1911	13·49	18·34	17·01	17·07	18·05	18·51	16·60	16·58
1912	14·20	19·04	18·74	18·37	17·79	19·80	17·42	17·61
1913	14·71	17·90	19·87	18·30	20·04	19·16	17·48	16·67
1914	13·85	18·80	19·49	18·62	19·01	20·66	17·52	16·68
1915	13·45	17·81	18·35	16·14	18·69	19·21	16·57	16·27
1916	12·60	17·26	16·67	15·61	17·41	18·09	15·74	16·29
Mean '12-16	13·76	18·16	18·62	17·41	18·59	19·38	16·95	16·70

The mean natural increase in the Australian States for the period 1912-16 was 16·95 per 1,000 of population, which is probably greater than will prevail when the age constitution of the people becomes similar to that of old settled countries. At present the proportion of elderly people is smaller than in those countries and, partly as a consequence of this, the death rate is lower. It has been shown in a previous paragraph that the Victorian death rates at nearly all periods of life are below those of England and Wales. The Australian annual rate of increase due to excess of births over deaths—16·95—would enable a population to double itself in 41 years, whilst at the Victorian rate of 13·76 per 1,000 of population a period of nearly 51 years would be required.

Natural increase per 1,000 of population in various countries.

The rate of natural increase in Australia for 1912-16 is higher than that in Japan and all European countries, except Roumania, on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available. The rates for various countries are given below:—

NATURAL INCREASE PER 1,000 OF THE POPULATION IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population.	Country.	Natural Increase per 1,000 of Population.
Tasmania	19·4	Italy	12·8
Queensland	18·6	Germany	12·7
Western Australia	18·6	Norway	11·9
New South Wales	18·2	Hungary	11·7
South Australia	17·4	Ontario	11·1
Roumania	17·4	Austria	10·7
Australia	16·9	Scotland	9·7
Bulgaria	16·8	Spain	9·6
New Zealand	16·7	Sweden	9·1
Russia	15·7	England and Wales	8·9
Holland	14·9	Switzerland	8·4
Victoria	13·8	Belgium	7·9
Servia	13·6	Ireland	5·9
Japan	13·1	France	5
Denmark	12·9		

The rate of natural increase in Victoria is lower than in the other States and New Zealand, but higher than in seventeen of the countries enumerated in the above table.

The next table shows the excess per cent. of births over deaths in each of the Australian States and New Zealand for the period 1902-6, and for each of the last ten years:—

EXCESS PER CENT. OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS, AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Australia.	New Zealand.
1902-6	98	147	144	125	150	165	129	174
1907	116	157	160	141	164	164	144	149
1908	97	164	161	150	169	164	140	187
1909	119	176	181	166	181	199	158	196
1910	113	181	182	158	176	164	156	170
1911	117	178	160	174	177	182	155	177
1912	116	175	171	179	161	185	155	199
1913	132	164	191	169	214	176	162	176
1914	120	186	195	174	202	214	166	179
1915	121	170	167	151	201	190	155	179
1916	108	162	152	134	178	174	142	169
Mean								
1912-16	119	171	175	161	191	188	156	180

Taking the average of the period 1912-16, it is seen that the least excess in Australasia was in Victoria, and the greatest in Western Australia. To every hundred deaths that occurred there were 219 births in Victoria, 271 in New South Wales, 275 in Queensland, 231 in South Australia, 291 in Western Australia, 288 in Tasmania, 256 in Australia, and 280 in New Zealand.

The excess per cent. of births over deaths varies very considerably in different portions of the State, being greater in areas which have been settled at a comparatively recent date than in old-established districts. This is specially noticeable in the excess rates for the Mallee, Gippsland, and Wimmera districts, where for every 100 deaths there were 447, 299, and 277 births respectively, as against 151 in the North Central and 197 in the Metropolitan districts. The subjoined table shows the excess per cent. of births over deaths in nine divisions of the State for the periods 1905-7 and 1908-12 and for each of the last four years :—

EXCESS PER CENT. OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS IN DISTRICTS.

District.	Excess per cent. of Births over Deaths.					
	1905-7.	1908-12.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Metropolitan...	81	88	119	106	107	97
Central ...	121	113	133	117	141	104
North Central	87	96	90	82	90	51
Western ...	110	115	131	116	122	101
Wimmera ...	179	195	222	170	188	177
Mallee ...	305	323	410	345	386	347
Northern ...	122	131	146	118	135	124
North Eastern	133	144	100	136	97	115
Gippsland ...	235	225	215	222	158	199
State ...	108	112	132	120	121	108

The figures in the above table are based upon the deaths occurring in the different areas and not upon the usual residence of the deceased. This accounts to some extent for the small excess rate in

the Metropolitan, Central, and North Central districts. The very favorable position of the Mallee, Wimmera, and Gippsland districts in respect of their excess of births over deaths is almost wholly due to their low death rates.

Excess of
births over
deaths in
various
countries.

Although the excess per cent. of births over deaths is lower in Victoria than in the other States and New Zealand, it is higher than in any of the other countries in the following table, on the average of the latest five years for which this information is available:—

EXCESS PER CENT. OF BIRTHS OVER DEATHS IN AUSTRALASIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

Country.	Excess per cent. Births over Deaths.	Country.	Excess per cent. Births over Deaths.
Western Australia ...	191	Italy ...	67
Tasmania ...	188	Sweden ...	65
New Zealand ...	180	Japan ...	64
Queensland ...	175	England and Wales ...	63
New South Wales ...	171	Scotland ...	62
South Australia ...	161	Switzerland ...	59
Australia ...	155	Servia ...	58
Victoria ...	119	Russia (European) ...	55
Holland ...	116	Belgium ...	50
Denmark ...	100	Austria ...	49
Ontario ...	90	Hungary ...	48
Norway ...	89	Spain ...	44
Germany ...	78	Ireland ...	35
Roumania ...	71	France ...	3
Bulgaria ...	70		

The very favorable position of Australasia as regards the excess of births over deaths is wholly due to its low death rate. Very much higher birth rates prevailed in some of the above countries, especially Russia, Bulgaria, Roumania, Servia, and Austria, than in Australia, but this advantage was more than counterbalanced by their higher death rates. On the average of five years, the loss caused by every 100 deaths was compensated by 256 births in Australia, as compared with 216 in Holland, 200 in Denmark, 189 in Norway, 178 in Germany, 164 in Japan, 163 in England and Wales, 162 in Scotland, 155 in Russia, 149 in Austria, and only 103 in France, which had the lowest excess rate of all the countries shown.

ACCUMULATION.

PRIVATE WEALTH.

The returns of the Probate Office provide a means whereby an estimate may be made of the private wealth of the people. The returns for the years 1908-11 were adopted as the basis of an estimate made in 1912, and this estimate was amended in the year 1915 so as to allow for the experience of the six-year period 1908-13. The procedure adopted in the later year was to tabulate according to age at death the net amount of property left by deceased persons during the six years mentioned. The totals for these years were divided by the numbers of deaths occurring in the community at the respective ages, and the results were multiplied by the numbers living at those ages according to the 1911 census. The assumption involved was that persons surviving and persons dying at any age would on the average have the same average amount of wealth. By summarizing the amounts of wealth pertaining to the different ages obtained in the manner described and making the adjustments referred to below, the total for all persons in the community was arrived at.

The values of estates used in the calculations were the net amounts on which duty was paid, liabilities being deducted. It must be kept in view that the wealth represented by the estimate is the private wealth "in" the State, and not that "of" the State. Probates, &c., of persons dying out of the State, leaving property in the State, are included in the figures quoted; but, on the other hand, many Victorians have large interests, pastoral, mining, and other, in the other States, which are not included.

In dealing with a problem of this nature there are so many disturbing elements that scientific accuracy is not possible. Of these elements the most obvious is that probates or letters of administration are taken out in respect of about 25 per cent. only of the persons who die each year in Victoria. The amounts left by the remaining 75 per cent., while small in the case of the individual, may in the aggregate amount to a considerable sum. It must be remembered, however, that in comparatively few cases where the amount of the estate exceeds £100 will it fail to come under the notice of the probate officers, and that the great majority of children, as well as many other persons, leave practically no property. After taking into account these considerations, it would seem that property belonging to the poorer classes of the community will be small in proportion to the total, and that an allowance can be made therefor.

The statement has been made from time to time by authorities who have dealt with this subject that results based on probate returns

will be defective to some extent through a number of persons having disposed by settlement of the whole or a portion of their wealth before death. According to the law of this State, the payment of duty will not be evaded by a settlement of this nature unless it be absolute, and be made at least twelve months before death. For this and other reasons it is considered that in Victoria the disposal of estates during lifetime would not have a very important effect on the estimate at the date at which it was made.

The omission from consideration of the above two items would lead to an understatement of the wealth. On the other hand, there is an over-estimation of the amount held by life assurance companies on account of their policy-holders. The amount so held is the reserve value of the policies, not the full sum assured, as is implied by the method of computation adopted.

It is probable that the rate of mortality among persons having property is below that prevailing in the general community, and that it will approximate to the rate among assured lives. Calculations have been made with the view of ascertaining to what extent the amount of private wealth owned by males, as estimated from the probate returns and the death rates in the community, would be increased, if it were assumed that the rates of mortality at the different ages were similar to those shown in the published experience of the Australian Mutual Provident Society for the years 1849-1903.

Considerable sums have been lent on mortgage on Victorian property or invested in Victorian enterprises by companies and individuals in Britain and elsewhere. In the majority of cases where an investor does not reside in Victoria, and where on his decease his estate will not be dealt with by the Victorian Probate Office, it is probable that he has no personal interest in the State. In such cases it seems right that the amount of the investment should not be regarded as forming portion of the wealth of the State, the more especially as it is likely to be included in any estimate of wealth which may be prepared for the country in which the investor resides. On the other hand, shares held by Victorians in companies which are registered in Victoria, but whose operations are confined entirely to other States and countries, may fairly be regarded as Victorian assets, and as constituting a portion of the wealth of the community.

An estimate of the wealth in Victoria based on the figures for the six years 1908-13 was first given in the *Year-Book* for 1914-15. If it be assumed that the unadjusted probate returns of those years afforded a suitable basis for the estimation of such wealth, that the mortality rates amongst male property-owners were below those relating to all males in the community and corresponded with the rates for assured lives as given in the published experience of the Australian Mutual Provident Society, and that the rates amongst female property-owners were also lower than in the general population, though not to the same extent as those relating to the other sex, the percentage addition to the value of their property due to this being only about one

half of that adopted in the case of males, the private wealth in Victoria for the year 1911 was about £292,000,000, or approximately 38 times the average annual amount left by deceased persons.

It has been shown that calculations based on probate returns require adjustment, and that allowance must be made for small estates, as well as for other property which does not come under the notice of the Probate Office. The extent to which the figures were affected by the necessary alterations and additions could not be stated exactly, but from the information available it was assumed that the net result was to increase the estimate derived from the probate returns by about £28,000,000, and thus to make the amount of private wealth in the State about £320,000,000.

The following statement shows the private wealth existing in Victoria in 1911 according to the assumptions made. Estimates on a similar basis are given for the other Australian States; but, in the absence of detailed information as to the amounts left by deceased persons at different ages, it has not been possible to attain the same degree of accuracy in preparing these as in the case of the Victorian wealth.

PRIVATE WEALTH IN AUSTRALIAN STATES, 1911.

State.	Estates of Deceased Persons. Net Amount. (1908-13.)	Adults at Census, 1911.	Private Wealth.	
			Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£		£	£
Victoria	46,409,937	752,607	320,000,000	243
New South Wales	54,767,000*	921,731	450,000,000	278
Queensland	10,635,000*	329,091	86,000,000	142
South Australia	12,466,000*	232,625	99,000,000	241
Western Australia	4,530,000*	166,812	42,000,000	149
Tasmania	4,339,000*	100,895	34,000,000	178
Total	133,146,937	2,503,761	1,031,000,000	231

*Estimated.

The above represents private wealth only. There is, in addition, a very large amount of property not owned by persons in their individual capacities, such as Crown lands, Government and municipal property, churches, charitable institutions, club property, &c.

In a paper read before the Royal Statistical Society in 1915, Mr. Bernard Mallet, C.B., and Mr. H. C. Strutt suggested that in estimating the private wealth of the United Kingdom a multiplier of 30 should be applied to the average annual amount left by deceased persons. The difference between this multiplier and that resulting from the method under which the Victorian estimate was obtained is partly accounted for by the lower death rate prevailing in Victoria. If the multiplier suggested by Messrs. Mallet and Strutt be applied to the value of estates of persons who died in the United Kingdom during 1914 the product will be about £11,000,000,000, or £238 per head

of the population. The amount of wealth would probably differ somewhat from this for reasons similar to those mentioned above in connexion with Victoria.

Diffusion of wealth. The diffusion of wealth appears to be wider in Victoria and South Australia than in the other States of Australia, judging by the number of probates or letters of administration granted in proportion to adult deaths. The following are the number of persons who died leaving property as shown by the probate returns, the number of adult deaths, and the proportion of the former to the latter for the six years 1908-1913. The persons leaving wealth include those under 21 years of age and absentees. These form only a small percentage of the total in Victoria, but are necessarily included, as details of such persons for the other States are not available:—

DIFFUSION OF WEALTH IN AUSTRALIAN STATES, 1908-1913.

	Deaths of Adults.	Estates Proved.	
		Number.	Number per 1,000 Deaths of Adults.
Victoria	67,305	26,224	390
New South Wales	69,471	20,531	296
Queensland	25,136	4,338	173
South Australia	18,062	6,937	384
Western Australia	11,078	3,076	277
Tasmania	7,921	2,361	298

It is thus shown that the cases where persons were possessed of accumulated property in respect of which it was found necessary to obtain probate or letters of administration in the six years 1908 to 1913 were equivalent to more than one-third of the adult deaths in Victoria and South Australia, and more than one-fourth of such deaths in New South Wales, Tasmania, and Western Australia in those years. An allowance should be made for the number of probates sealed of persons dying out of the State. It is estimated that a deduction of 5 per cent. from the number of estates would cover this.

Property left by deceased persons. The accompanying table shows, in various age groups, the number and value of estates of deceased persons of either sex in connexion with which probate or letters of administration were granted during 1916, also the average amount left by each person whose estate passed through the Probate Office, and by each person dying, and the amount of duty collected on the estates. The resident adults who left property at death in 1916 numbered 5,011, the sex distribution being 3,376 males, or 52 per cent. of male deaths over the age of 21 years, and 1,635 females, or 29 per cent. of adult female deaths. The average value of estates left by males is 57 per cent. more than that of estates left by females. It appears that the average wealth of deceased persons in 1916 reached

its maximum in the age group 80 to 90 in the case of males and in the age group 60 to 70 in the case of females. In the estates dealt with during the last three years wills were made by a larger proportion of females than of males, while in 1912 and 1913 wills made by males were proportionately more numerous.

ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS IN AGE GROUPS, 1916.

Age at Death.	Estates.		Value of Estates.					Amount of Duty.
	Total Number.	Percentage Intestate.	Gross.		Net—after deducting Liabilities.			
			Real.	Personal.	Real and Personal.	Average to each Estate.	Average Deaths in Victoria in each Age Group.	
MALES.								
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Under 15 years..	1	100·0	..	312	312	312	0·14	7
15 to 21 " ..	80	91·2	3,607	9,553	12,032	150	62	147
21 to 30 " ..	548	66·1	31,073	157,153	163,688	299	400	4,775
30 to 40 " ..	319	56·4	120,901	146,045	177,313	556	372	3,997
40 to 50 " ..	317	42·9	276,000	242,674	373,628	1,179	501	13,121
50 to 60 " ..	521	32·2	544,401	783,952	1,072,491	2,059	884	55,725
60 to 70 " ..	522	29·7	568,294	776,926	1,141,757	2,187	1,019	56,073
70 to 80 " ..	612	19·3	916,484	940,285	1,601,900	2,617	1,211	86,000
80 to 90 " ..	494	13·0	912,256	1,184,866	1,942,942	3,933	1,779	126,811
90 years and upwards ..	43	11·6	43,032	30,106	70,769	1,646	571	2,234
Absentees ..	249	34·9	51,386	271,564	308,550	1,239	..	16,102
Total Males	3,706*	36·4	3,467,434	4,543,436	6,865,382	1,853	737	364,992
FEMALES.								
			£	£	£	£	£	£
Under 15 years..	1	100·0	25	..	25	25	0·14	..
15 to 21 " ..	2	100·0	..	450	450	225	2	11
21 to 30 " ..	32	87·5	6,567	12,856	17,147	536	36	410
30 to 40 " ..	84	63·1	20,916	22,481	35,936	428	78	1,019
40 to 50 " ..	171	48·0	65,320	66,034	107,546	629	171	3,138
50 to 60 " ..	261	39·9	137,441	119,678	216,026	828	258	7,566
60 to 70 " ..	292	29·5	258,995	284,988	495,287	1,696	567	30,385
70 to 80 " ..	481	20·4	298,671	404,952	650,697	1,353	535	29,704
80 to 90 " ..	268	16·4	101,269	263,475	400,581	1,495	433	17,368
90 years and upwards ..	46	17·4	18,817	27,720	44,936	977	326	1,230
Absentees ..	104	24·0	20,818	71,942	83,468	803	..	2,894
Total Females	1,742	30·5	988,839	1,274,076	2,052,099	1,178	259	93,725
Total Males and Females 1916	5,448	34·5	4,456,273	5,817,512	8,917,481	1,637	517	458,717
1915	4,449	34·4	4,360,810	5,648,622	8,759,728	1,969	523	490,072
1914	4,451	30·3	4,296,796	5,300,293	8,481,720	1,906	485	450,199
1913	4,483	31·1	4,795,160	4,808,431	8,367,862	1,867	526	433,592
1912	4,585	31·4	4,606,715	5,116,530	8,533,502	1,861	469	445,628
1911	4,614	31·1	4,905,399	4,835,480	8,469,163	1,836	524	444,270
1910	4,128	30·6	3,977,173	4,518,071	7,430,949	1,800	477	377,923
1909	4,069	30·0	3,771,483	4,034,100	6,480,376	1,593	449	344,592
1908	4,345	29·7	4,109,944	4,274,422	7,128,085	1,641	452	407,463

* Including 788 estates of soldiers who were killed in action. These estates are distributed in age groups as follows:—70 between 15 and 21; 453 between 21 and 30; 170 between 30 and 40; 27 between 40 and 50; and 3 between 50 and 60; those of 65 soldiers whose ages could not be ascertained are included in "absentees."

The numbers and values of estates dealt with in each of the last four years, grouped according to value, and distinguishing estates of males from those of females, are as follows:—

NUMBER AND VALUE OF ESTATES OF DECEASED PERSONS, 1913 TO 1916.

Value.	1913.		1914.		1915.		1916.	
	Number.	Net Value.	Number.	Net Value.	Number.	Net Value.	Number.	Net Value.
MALES.								
		£		£		£		£.
Under £100 ..	429	20,572	389	16,725	489	18,929	779	31,183.
£100 to £300 ..	608	117,343	542	108,401	640	121,903	811	154,304
£300 to £500 ..	381	148,907	367	146,497	363	142,222	464	181,288.
£500 to £1,000 ..	445	316,763	451	328,378	443	316,511	548	394,465.
£1,000 to £2,000 ..	301	555,510	408	579,208	384	557,381	447	640,848.
£2,000 to £3,000 ..	183	446,266	167	411,983	179	442,847	180	447,720.
£3,000 to £4,000 ..	100	343,034	99	343,146	94	325,072	127	444,314
£4,000 to £5,000 ..	77	344,448	75	335,843	73	327,494	87	390,200.
£5,000 to £10,000 ..	170	1,183,292	155	1,077,751	155	1,046,374	145	1,005,715
£10,000 to £15,000 ..	54	651,890	55	666,624	51	620,639	44	528,468
£15,000 to £25,000 ..	20	375,681	27	484,594	20	385,425	47	916,848
£25,000 to £50,000 ..	17	585,051	21	724,040	16	562,452	16	514,006
£50,000 to £100,000 ..	6	453,999	7	445,105	3	204,009	6	412,304
Over £100,000 ..	6	1,188,136	5	954,213	9	1,888,141	5	803,759
Total Males ..	2,887	6,730,202	2,768	6,617,958	2,919	6,959,399	3,706	6,865,382
FEMALES.								
		£		£		£		£.
Under £100 ..	242	12,330	266	12,310	251	11,611	287	14,696
£100 to £300 ..	441	84,187	426	80,955	426	81,108	472	88,649
£300 to £500 ..	243	95,122	251	108,835	245	95,525	280	109,721
£500 to £1,000 ..	317	228,488	365	216,112	253	176,563	282	206,486
£1,000 to £2,000 ..	186	266,933	213	296,187	188	267,302	221	318,297
£2,000 to £3,000 ..	62	152,774	73	181,979	62	148,753	76	186,832
£3,000 to £4,000 ..	29	100,100	36	128,333	35	121,540	37	128,482
£4,000 to £5,000 ..	13	58,979	18	81,179	9	39,992	23	103,724
£5,000 to £10,000 ..	48	235,056	38	262,733	39	263,601	41	290,463
£10,000 to £15,000 ..	11	138,790	15	181,941	6	77,452	6	69,186
£15,000 to £25,000 ..	5	90,460	8	170,901	10	186,276	11	213,247
£25,000 to £50,000 ..	4	123,941	4	143,797	3	161,956	4	130,114
£50,000 to £100,000 ..	..	..	..	..	2	122,233	1	53,766
Over £100,000 ..	..	..	..	..	1	106,418	1	138,637
Total Females ..	1,596	1,637,660	1,633	1,863,762	1,530	1,800,329	1,742	2,052,099
GRAND TOTAL ..	4,483	8,367,862	4,451	8,481,720	4,449	8,759,728	5,448	8,917,481

Compared with the returns for 1915, the figures for 1916 show, in estates of females, an increase of 14 per cent. in both the number and the value, while in estates of males there is an increase of 27 per cent. in the number but a reduction of a little more than 1 per cent. in the value.

The following figures prove that the economic conditions prevalent in Victoria during the last thirty-eight years have led to a wide and growing diffusion of wealth amongst the people:—

Period.				Percentage of Adults who died leaving Estates which went through the Probate Office.
				Yearly Average.
1879-83	...	...	...	22.6
1884-88	...	...	...	25.9
1889-93	...	...	...	30.3
1894-98	...	...	...	33.3
1899-1903	...	...	...	36.7
1904	...	...	...	37.3
1905	...	...	...	36.8
1906	...	...	...	37.4
1907	...	...	...	38.6
1908	...	...	...	37.2
1909	...	...	...	37.1
1910	...	...	...	37.1
1911	...	...	...	39.3
1912	...	...	...	37.2
1913	...	...	...	38.7
1914	...	...	...	37.1
1915	...	...	...	36.7
1916	...	...	...	37.4

RATEABLE PROPERTY: TOTAL AND GROUND VALUES.

Rateable property. The whole of Victoria, with the exception of French Island, being divided into municipalities for the purposes of local government, the value of real property, based on the municipal valuations, can be given with some degree of accuracy

Returns are obtained annually from each city, town, borough, and shire; and the following figures show the net annual rateable value and the capital value estimated by the municipalities over a series of years:—

RATEABLE PROPERTY: ANNUAL AND CAPITAL VALUES,
1880 TO 1917.

Year ended 30th Sept.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.		Year ended 30th Sept.	Estimated Value of Rateable Property.	
	Annual.	Capital.		Annual.	Capital.
	£	£		£	£
1880 ...	7,117,946	83,947,418	1899 ...	10,134,108	168,456,523
1881 ...	7,175,289	87,642,459	1900 ...	10,283,500	169,911,900
1882 ...	7,433,812	91,792,547	1901 ...	10,537,497	174,141,754
1883 ...	7,692,706	95,610,959	1902 ...	10,885,087	185,101,993
1884 ...	8,098,814	103,795,832	1903 ...	11,188,932	203,902,919
1885 ...	8,793,490	114,283,570	1904 ...	11,437,830	209,143,730
1886 ...	9,621,135	125,878,748	1905 ...	11,743,270	210,920,174
1887 ...	10,153,771	137,885,701	1906 ...	11,795,143	216,615,624
1888 ...	11,913,473	167,385,210	1907 ...	12,174,325	222,598,041
1889 ...	12,931,526	187,553,511	1908 ...	12,638,900	232,725,666
1890 ...	13,265,543	194,313,646	1909 ...	13,123,958	242,688,771
1891 ...	13,733,770	203,351,360	1910 ...	13,564,488	252,006,613
1892 ...	13,605,990	197,366,940	1911 ...	14,225,309	265,083,727
1893 ...	12,779,600	189,461,350	1912 ...	14,774,660	275,078,517
1894 ...	11,676,079	174,984,851	1913 ...	15,423,445	287,872,434
1895 ...	10,641,200	167,197,780	1914 ...	16,046,159	301,917,636
1896 ...	10,393,000	168,427,700	1915 ...	16,735,978	314,610,747
1897 ...	10,345,535	171,253,984	1916 ...	16,942,062	318,960,116
1898 ...	10,152,509	168,611,906	1917 ...	17,319,418	326,415,110

It will be observed from the table that there has been a steady increase each year since 1899 in the annual value of rateable property, as estimated by the municipalities. The capital values given are not to be relied upon for purposes of accurate comparison. The great bulk of the municipalities capitalize the net annual value on a 5 per cent. basis; but 20 per cent. of them assume the capital value to be much less in proportion to the annual value, some estimating from 18 down to as low as 8 years' purchase, whilst in one case 7 years' purchase is given as the capital value. Twenty years' purchase is adopted by twelve of the metropolitan municipalities, one adopts 18 years', one 16½ years', four 15 years', one 12½ years', and two 12 years' purchase; whilst of thirty country towns, twelve adopt 20 years', one 17 years', three 15 years', one 14 years', two 12½ years', four 12 years', six 10 years', and one 7 years' purchase as the capital value. Of the 139 shires, 128 adopt a basis of 20 years' purchase and of the others one adopts 16 years', five 15 years', one 12½ years' one 12 years', two 10 years', and one 8 years' purchase.

Landed
property,
capital and
ground values.

The following is an estimate for the last eleven years of the capital value of land with and without improvements, the latter of which is commonly called the unimproved value, but should more correctly be termed the ground value:—

VALUE OF LAND WITH AND WITHOUT IMPROVEMENTS,
1906-7 to 1916-17.

Year.	Annual Rateable Value.	Capital Value with Improvements.	Unimproved or Ground Value.
Urban.			
	£	£	£
1906-7	5,779,231	100,801,295	50,400,647
1907-8	5,944,691	103,666,178	51,833,089
1908-9	6,080,447	106,149,960	53,074,980
1909-10	6,232,091	108,863,963	54,431,981
1910-11	6,508,534	114,113,507	57,056,753
1911-12	6,804,697	119,400,893	59,700,446
1912-13	7,270,972	127,743,501	63,871,750
1913-14	7,790,654	137,649,219	68,824,609
1914-15	8,218,040	147,205,224	73,602,612
1915-16	8,335,553	149,235,137	74,617,568
1916-17	8,587,302	154,105,571	77,052,785
Rural.			
	£	£	£
1906-7	6,395,094	121,797,646	81,199,431
1907-8	6,694,209	129,059,488	86,039,659
1908-9	7,043,511	136,538,811	91,025,874
1909-10	7,332,397	143,142,655	95,428,437
1910-11	7,716,775	150,970,220	100,646,814
1911-12	7,969,963	155,677,624	103,785,083
1912-13	8,152,473	160,128,933	106,752,622
1913-14	8,255,505	164,268,467	109,512,311
1914-15	8,517,938	167,405,523	111,603,682
1915-16	8,606,509	169,724,979	113,149,986
1916-17	8,732,116	172,309,539	114,873,026
Total.			
	£	£	£
1906-7	12,174,325	222,598,941	131,599,078
1907-8	12,638,900	232,725,666	137,872,748
1908-9	13,123,958	242,688,771	144,100,854
1909-10	13,564,488	252,006,618	149,860,418
1910-11	14,225,309	265,083,727	157,703,567
1911-12	14,774,660	275,078,517	163,485,529
1912-13	15,423,445	287,872,434	170,624,372
1913-14	16,046,159	301,917,686	178,336,920
1914-15	16,735,978	314,610,747	185,206,294
1915-16	16,942,062	318,960,116	187,767,554
1916-17	17,319,418	326,415,110	191,925,811

Improvements are estimated at one-half in the case of urban and one-third in the case of rural properties, which are about the proportions that are found to prevail in New Zealand, according to the valuations of the Valuer-General revised to 1915. If the Victorian estimate were based upon the New Zealand proportion, without distinguishing urban and rural properties, the ground value in 1916-17 would be about £202,938,000, which is approximate to the above estimate.

ROYAL MINT.

The Melbourne branch of the Royal Mint was established in 1872, the date of opening being the 12th June. The following table shows for the period 1872 to 1912 and for each of the last four years the quantity of gold received at the Mint, where the same was raised, and its coining value; also the gold coin and bullion issued during the same periods:—

ROYAL MINT RETURNS, 1872 TO 1916.

Gold Received.	1872 to 1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Gross Weight.</i>					
Raised in Victoria ... oz.	25,812,121	481,558	433,681	361,309	271,059
" New Zealand ..	3,676,231	62,960	36,464	36,094	5,560
" Western Australia	2,893,140	6,771	6,227	9,220	12,137
" elsewhere ..	2,633,241	56,166	47,470	80,572	76,093
Total	35,019,733	607,455	523,842	487,195	364,849
Coinage Value	£ 137,877,195	2,358,854	2,038,814	1,904,570	1,364,164
<i>Gold Issued.</i>					
Coin—					
Sovereigns ... No.	126,632,340	2,323,180	2,012,029	1,637,839	1,273,643
Half-Sovereigns	1,767,895	...	...	125,664	...
Bullion—Quantity ... oz.	2,479,163	9,356	7,037	48,759	23,414
" Value	£ 10,363,163	37,085	27,458	203,037	92,061
Total value, Coin and Bullion	£ 137,879,450	2,360,265	2,039,487	1,903,708	1,365,704

Since the opening of the Mint 37,003,074 ounces of gold have been received thereat, the coinage value, at £3 17s. 10½d. per ounce standard, being £145,543,597, thus averaging £3 18s. 8d. per ounce gross. Of the total quantity of gold received at the Mint, 27,359,728 ounces were raised in Victoria, 3,817,309 ounces in New Zealand, and 2,927,495 ounces in Western Australia. The average value of Victorian gold received at the Mint during the year 1916 was £3 19s. 2d. per ounce gross, £3 19s. 1d. being the value of the gold and 1d. the value of the silver contained therein. The output of the Mint since its establishment has consisted of 133,879,031 sovereigns, 1,893,559 half-sovereigns, and 2,567,729 ounces of gold bullion; the total value of coin and bullion being £145,548,614.

BANKING.

By Act No. 18 of 1911, the Parliament of the Commonwealth Bank. wealth established a Commonwealth Bank, with power (a) to carry on the general business of banking; (b) to acquire and hold land on any tenure; (c) to receive money on deposit; (d) to make advances by way of loan, overdraft, or otherwise; (e) to discount bills and drafts; (f) to issue bills and drafts, and grant letters of credit; (g) to deal in exchanges, specie, bullion, gold-dust, assayed gold, and precious metals; (h) to borrow money; and (i) to do anything incidental to any of its powers. The capital of the bank, which is raised by the issue of debentures, was by Act No. 24 of 1914 increased from £1,000,000 to £10,000,000. The appointment of the Governor of the bank dates from 1st June, 1912, and the original Act came into operation by proclamation on the 15th of the following month. The Savings Bank department of the bank commenced business on the latter date, and the general banking department on 20th January, 1913.

The Head Office of the Bank is located in Sydney, and it has twenty-nine Branches established throughout the various States of the Commonwealth, one in London, one at Tidworth (Salisbury Plain), and one at Rabaul (New Britain).

The Savings Bank Department is conducted at all Branches and at 2,700 Post Offices in the Commonwealth, Papua, New Britain, and the Solomon Islands.

The institutions engaged in the ordinary business of banking on 31st December, 1916, were seventeen in number. These are cheque-paying banks, but there are other institutions such as Savings Banks, Deposit and Mortgage Banks, and Building Societies which receive deposits and make advances, but do not come within the scope of the present subject. Of the Deposit and Mortgage Banks no particulars are available, but information regarding Savings Banks and Building Societies will be found elsewhere in this part.

The following return shows the assets and liabilities within Victoria and the capital and profits of the cheque-paying banks at 31st December, in each year 1912 to 1916, except that particulars of the Commonwealth Bank, the Ballarat Banking Company, and the Comptoir National d'Escompte de Paris are not included for the year 1912. The particulars of the Commonwealth Bank include the balances of the Savings Bank department of that institution, as it issues one general statement only of assets and liabilities.

VICTORIAN BANKING RETURNS, 1912 TO 1916.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
LIABILITIES WITHIN VICTORIA.					
Deposits bearing interest ¹	£ 30,316,863	£ 31,582,236	£ 32,668,387	£ 32,859,239	£ 33,639,033
Deposits not bearing interest	16,941,185	17,103,885	18,228,149	21,180,863	25,563,798
Notes in circulation ...	138,639	117,821	109,476	103,568	98,934
Other ...	439,365	451,274	813,644	1,669,565	893,867
Total ...	47,836,052	49,255,216	51,819,656	55,813,235	60,195,632
ASSETS WITHIN VICTORIA.					
Coin, Bullion, &c. ...	7,321,292	8,968,778	8,701,403	6,713,122	5,826,880
Australian Notes ...	1,011,430	962,659	2,182,114	7,909,446	9,271,347
Debts due to Banks ²	38,538,647	37,242,982	38,267,480	41,245,334	45,141,466
Property ...	1,614,084	1,578,383	1,537,072	1,506,553	1,485,616
Other ...	1,058,431	1,582,618	1,307,998	2,074,952	1,709,816
Total ...	49,543,884	50,335,420	51,996,067	59,449,407	63,435,125
CAPITAL AND PROFITS.					
Capital stock paid up	14,529,735	23,677,252	25,074,076	25,112,160	26,519,044
Reserved Profits (ex Dividend)	8,472,271	11,582,116	12,886,739	13,728,553	14,273,516
Last Dividend—					
Amount ...	£ 685,017 ³	£ 1,360,309 ⁴	£ 1,387,849 ⁵	£ 1,280,060 ⁶	£ 1,310,672 ⁷
Average rate per cent. per annum	8·84	8·57	8·99	8·17	7·98

¹ Including perpetual inscribed stocks, which in 1916 amounted to £1,041,846.—² Including notes, bills of exchange, and all stock and funded debts of every description, excepting notes, bills, and balances due to the banks from other banks.—³ Half-yearly dividend in the case of nine banks.—⁴ Half-yearly dividend in the case of eleven banks.—⁵ Half-yearly dividend in the case of eleven banks and quarterly dividend in the case of one bank.—⁶ Half-yearly dividend in the case of ten banks and quarterly dividend in the case of one bank.—⁷ Half-yearly dividend in the case of eleven banks and quarterly dividend in the case of one bank.

The Victorian liabilities of the banks to other than shareholders, in 1916, were £4,382,397 in excess of the liabilities in 1915, and were in excess of the liabilities at the close of the years 1912, 1913, and 1914 by £12,359,580, £10,940,416, and £8,375,976 respectively. During the interval 1912-1916 the Victorian assets increased by £13,891,241; whilst during 1916, they increased by

£3,985,718. There have been considerable fluctuations in the excess of assets over liabilities, such excess being £1,707,832 in 1912, £1,080,204 in 1913, £176,411 in 1914, £3,636,172 in 1915, and £3,239,493 in 1916. The dwindling in the excess of assets up to 1915 was due to the fact that an increasingly large proportion of the Victorian deposits held by the banks was being invested in the other States. It must be borne in mind that the figures given above represent only the assets and liabilities *within* the State.

Shareholders' capital, which represents the capital of the shareholders without as well as within Victoria, amounted to 26½ millions at 31st December, 1916, the great increase shown in 1913 and subsequent years being due to the inclusion of the capital of the French bank, viz., £8,000,000. The reserves at the end of 1916 exceeded those of the previous year by £544,963 and amounted to 54 per cent. of the paid up capital.

The principal item in each case of the liabilities and assets of the banks is shown for a series of years in the next statement. Prior to 1911 the proportion of deposits to liabilities to the public was usually about 96 per cent., but in each of the five following years, owing to the large withdrawal of bank notes from circulation, the proportion of deposits to liabilities was about 98 per cent.

DEPOSITS IN AND ADVANCES BY BANKS, 1907 TO 1916.

(Average of the last quarter of each year.)

Year.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Bearing Interest.	Not bearing Interest.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£
1907	24,615,431	13,631,858	38,247,289	33,238,732	5,008,557
1908	23,975,491	12,659,502	36,634,993	33,711,188	2,923,805
1909	25,677,111	13,983,615	39,660,726	32,915,373	6,745,353
1910	27,333,254	15,805,721	43,138,975	35,868,709	7,320,266
1911	29,825,861	17,659,739	47,485,600	38,024,328	9,461,272
1912	30,316,863	16,941,185	47,258,048	38,538,647	8,719,401
1913	31,582,236	17,103,885	48,686,121	37,242,982	11,443,139
1914	32,668,387	18,228,149	50,896,536	38,267,480	12,629,056
1915	32,859,239	21,180,863	54,040,102	41,245,334	12,794,768
1916	33,639,033	25,563,798	59,202,831	45,141,466	14,061,365

Rates of
exchange.

The average rates of exchange for bank bills in 1916 and in the first year of each of the two preceding five-year periods are given below. The bills drawn on London are payable at 60 days' sight, and those drawn on Australian States and New Zealand on demand.

RATES OF EXCHANGE, 1906, 1911, AND 1916.

Places on which Bills were Drawn.	Average Rates of Exchange.		
	1906.	1911.	1916.
London	1s. 7d. per cent. premium	5s. to 7s. 6d. per cent. discount	2s. 6d. to 9s. 2d. per cent. premium
New South Wales	5s. per cent. premium	3s. 9d. to 5s. per cent. premium	2s. 6d. to 5s. per cent. premium
Queensland	10s. per cent. premium	5s. to 10s. per cent. premium	5s. to 10s. per cent. premium
South Australia ...	5s. per cent. premium	3s. 9d. to 5s. per cent. premium	2s. 6d. to 5s. per cent. premium
Western Australia	10s. to 15s. per cent. premium	8s. 9d. to 10s. per cent. premium	5s. to 10s. per cent. premium
Tasmania	5s. per cent. premium	2s. 6d. to 5s. per cent. premium	2s. 6d. to 5s. per cent. premium
New Zealand	10s. per cent. premium	7s. 6d. to 10s. per cent. premium	5s. to 10s. per cent. premium

Rates of
discount.

The average rate of discount on local bills in the same years is given in the next statement and shows but slight variation.

RATES OF DISCOUNT ON LOCAL BILLS, 1906, 1911, AND 1916.

Currency of Bills.	Average Rate of Discount per annum.		
	1906.	1911.	1916.
Under 65 days	per cent. 5 to 6	per cent. 5 to 6	per cent. 5 to 6½
65 to 95 ,,	5 to 6	5 to 6	5 to 7
95 to 125 ,,	5½ to 7	5 to 7	5½ to 7
Over 125 ,,	5½ to 7	5 to 7	5½ to 7½

Rates of Interest.

The succeeding statement shows the range for ten years of the average rates of interest per annum paid by the different banks to depositors for twelve months:—

Year.					Average rate of Interest per cent.
1907	...	...	...	...	3
1908	...	...	...	...	3
1909	...	...	...	...	3 to 3½
1910	...	...	...	...	3
1911	...	...	...	...	2·72 to 3
1912	...	...	...	...	3 to 4
1913	...	...	...	...	3 to 4
1914	...	...	...	...	3 to 4
1915	...	...	...	...	3 to 4
1916	...	...	...	...	3 to 4

Analysis of bank returns.

An analysis of the banks' liabilities and assets *within* the State for the years 1906, 1911, and 1916 gives the following results:—

The liabilities in proportion to the assets amounted to	{	94·94 per cent. in	...	1906
		97·60	"	1911
		94·89	"	1916
Coin and bullion* formed	{	16·90 per cent. of the assets in	1906	
		17·76	"	1911
		23·80	"	1916
Of the moneys deposited	{	64·41 per cent. bore interest in	1906	
		62·81	"	1911
		56·82	"	1916

* Including Australian notes in 1911 and 1916.

Banks in Australia and New Zealand.

There are twenty-six banks in Australasia, many of which do business in several States. Seventeen do business in Victoria, eighteen in New South Wales, twelve in Queensland, nine in South Australia, eight in Western Australia, seven in Tasmania, three in the Northern Territory, two in New Guinea and six in New Zealand. The liabilities to the public and

the assets, together with the principal items thereof in each State and New Zealand for the quarter ended 31st December, 1916, are as follows:—

AUSTRALASIAN BANKING BUSINESS, 31st DECEMBER, 1916.

State, &c.	Deposits.	Total Liabilities to the Public	Advances, &c.	Total Assets.
	£	£	£	£
Victoria	59,202,831	60,195,632	45,141,466	63,435,125
New South Wales	81,410,768	84,278,183	62,861,724	92,387,282
Queensland	27,510,701	28,776,991	18,994,797	28,675,774
South Australia	13,293,311	14,149,174	9,778,113	14,463,758
Western Australia	8,091,425	8,421,386	10,191,648	14,882,559
Tasmania	5,765,854	5,886,578	4,516,625	6,395,045
Northern Territory	300,514	334,800	6,821	108,596
New Guinea	122,232	145,315	133,387	165,855
Australia	195,697,636	202,188,059	151,624,581	220,513,994
New Zealand	37,619,681	42,580,222	31,794,161	41,528,753
Australasia	233,317,317	244,768,281	183,418,742	262,042,747

NOTE.—This table includes particulars of the Commonwealth Bank for each State.

As compared with the preceding year deposits at 31st December, 1916, had increased by £15,809,810 in Australia as a whole, and by £5,433,734 in New Zealand. The increases in the different States were:—Victoria, £5,162,729; New South Wales, £9,361,530; Queensland, £34,834; South Australia, £1,152,486; Western Australia, £162,057; Northern Territory, £52,240; New Guinea, £122,232; and there was a decrease of £238,298 in Tasmania. "Advances, &c.," which include Municipal and other Government securities amounting to £19,299,644, and notes, bills of exchange, and all stock and funded debts of every description, except notes, bills, and balances due to the banks from other banks, were at the same date in excess of the amounts for the previous year by £15,761,827 for Australia and by £5,792,337 for New Zealand. The increases in the different States were:—Victoria, £3,896,132; New South Wales, £8,510,846; Queensland, £1,228,068; South Australia, £1,102,796; Western Australia, £460,479; Tasmania, £429,767; Northern Territory, £352; and New Guinea, £133,387. Compared with 31st December, 1915, the total

liabilities to the public had increased by £15,435,939 in the Australian States, and by £7,117,694 in New Zealand; whilst the total assets had increased by £14,934,198 and £7,456,891 in Australia and New Zealand respectively.

Melbourne
Clearing
House.

The following table contains particulars in regard to the clearances through the Melbourne Clearing House for the ten years 1907 to 1916 :—

MELBOURNE CLEARING HOUSE TRANSACTIONS,
1907 TO 1916.

Year.	Clearances.				Average Weekly Clearances.
	By Exchange of Instruments.			By Payments in Coin.	
	Notes.	Cheques, Bills, &c.	Total.		
£	£	£	£	£	
1907	11,557,939	225,035,841	236,593,780	29,281,793	4,549,876
1908	11,211,842	210,141,833	221,353,675	26,226,196	4,256,801
1909	11,157,341	228,506,266	239,663,607	30,065,454	4,608,915
1910	11,760,548	249,622,886	261,383,434	30,507,742	5,026,604
1911	4,744,292	285,368,807	290,113,099	35,001,404	5,579,098
1912	15,546	303,447,177	303,462,723	35,201,226	5,835,821
1913	Nil	297,256,200	297,256,200	34,681,472	5,716,465
1914	Nil	299,667,584	299,667,584	36,669,375	5,762,838
1915	Nil	299,294,510	299,294,510	37,523,627	5,755,663
1916	Nil	357,788,383	357,788,383	48,440,910	6,880,545

In this table the two sides of the clearance are considered as one transaction. The particulars tabulated indicate that the largest amount ever passed through the Melbourne Clearing House was that for 1916.

The issue of Australian notes was authorized by the Commonwealth Parliament in its Act No. 11 of 1910, which came into operation on 1st November of that year, and provided that after six months from that date it would not be legal

Commonwealth
notes.

for a bank to issue or circulate notes of a State. This resulted in the recall of the note issue of Queensland. Under a separate Act (No. 14 of 1910) a tax of 10 per cent. per annum was placed on bank notes issued after 1st July, 1911. In order to facilitate circulation, the Commonwealth Bank has been appointed Notes Agent in all States except Victoria. In the Northern Territory, the English, Scottish and Australian Bank undertakes the business.

The original Act (No. 11 of 1910) required that the reserve of gold coin to be held by the Treasurer of the Commonwealth against the note circulation should be equal to at least one-fourth of the amount of the notes in actual circulation up to £7,000,000, and to the full amount of notes in circulation in excess of that sum; but these conditions expired on 30th June, 1912, as it is prescribed by Act No. 21 of 1911 that the reserve of gold coin shall, from 1st July, 1912, be not less than one-fourth of the amount of Australian notes issued.

To meet a possible emergency the Treasurer is empowered to issue, on the security of the revenue of the Commonwealth, Treasury bills, the proceeds of the sale of which shall be applied towards the redemption of Australian notes.

The notes are legal tender, redeemable in gold at the Commonwealth Treasury at the seat of government.

Australian notes in the hands of the banks and the public on 30th June, 1917, were as follows:—

Denomination.	Number.	Amount	
		£	s.
10s.	3,228,599	1,614,299	10
£1	11,442,823	11,442,823	0
£5	1,270,318	6,351,590	0
£10	266,812	2,668,120	0
£20	22,724	454,480	0
£50	23,537	1,176,850	0
£100	10,582	1,058,200	0
£1,000	22,435	22,435,000	0
Totals	16,287,830	47,201,362	10

The amount of gold coin held by the Treasurer on that date was £15,418,391 or 32·67 per cent. of the note circulation.

Victorian
Savings
Banks.

The Savings Banks of Victoria comprised the Post Office and Commissioners' Banks up to 30th September, 1897, on which date they were amalgamated and became one institution, now known as the State Savings Bank. On 15th July, 1912, the Savings Bank Department of the Commonwealth Bank commenced operations, but particulars relating thereto are not included in the subjoined table. Particulars of depositors and deposits in the Savings Bank Deposit Stock, and in the Penny Bank Department of the State Savings Bank, are also excluded.

VICTORIAN SAVINGS BANKS: DEPOSITORS AND DEPOSITS, 1875 TO 1916.

On 30th June.	Number of Depositors.		Amount remaining on Deposit.	
	Total.	Per 1,000 of Population.	Total.	Average per Depositor.
1875	65,837	81	£ 1,469,849	£ s. d. 22 6 6
1880	92,115	108	1,661,409	18 0 9
1885	170,014	174	3,337,018	19 12 7
1890	231,509	252	5,262,105	18 13 10
1895	338,480	286	7,316,129	21 12 3
1900	375,070	314	9,110,793	24 5 9
1905	447,382	369	10,896,741	24 7 2
1910	560,515	429	15,417,887	27 10 2
1911	595,424	451	17,274,423	29 0 3
1912	641,736	474	19,662,465	30 12 9
1913	674,542	485	21,508,125	31 17 8
1914	705,029	496	23,258,775	32 19 10
1915	721,936	506	24,874,811	34 9 1
1916	746,597	531	26,143,608	35 0 4

These returns are good evidence of a growing habit of thrift, as well as of a wide diffusion of wealth amongst the middle and poorer classes in Victoria, as the number of depositors in proportion to population in 1916 represents an increase of 69 per cent. since 1900, and of 24 per cent. since 1910. On 30th June, 1916, fifty-three persons out of every hundred in the State (including children and infants, who

themselves number more than one-third of the population) were depositors with a balance, on the average, of £35 Os. 4d. The figures given in the above table include each year a large number of inoperative accounts, that is to say, of small sums under £1 which the depositors had ceased to operate upon. At 30th June, 1916, these inoperative accounts numbered 174,929, and had £25,058 at credit. The number of active accounts at that date was thus 571,668, with £26,118,850 at credit, the number of depositors per thousand of the population being 407, and the average amount per depositor, £45 13s. 9d.

The State Savings Bank at 30th June, 1916, had 760,894 depositors, with £26,404,284 to their credit, of whom 14,297 depositors in the Penny Bank Department with £10,834 to their credit, have been excluded from the preceding table, a sum of £249,542 in the Savings Bank Deposit Stock account being also excluded. The rate of interest allowed to depositors in this Bank on 30th June, 1916, was $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on all sums from £1 to £350. Interest was also allowed at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on Savings Bank Deposit Stock under the authority of the *Savings Banks Act 1912*, which permits depositors to invest sums up to £1,000 in this security, in addition to the ordinary current account deposit. Of the amount (£26,143,908) on ordinary current account deposit in the State Bank at 30th June, 1916, about 30 per cent. belonged to depositors with accounts up to £100 each, 51 per cent. to those with accounts over £100 and up to £350, and 19 per cent. to those with accounts over £350. The aggregate of the excess over £350—the amount on deposit for which interest was not allowed—was £788,104 on 30th June, 1916.

The next statement shows the assets and liabilities of the State Savings Bank, the former indicating the manner in which deposits are invested or held :—

**STATE SAVINGS BANK, ASSETS AND LIABILITIES,
30TH JUNE, 1916.**

<i>Assets.</i>	£
With Treasurer of Victoria—Certificate representing Post Office Savings Bank Deposits, taken over 30th September, 1897	248,365
Government Debentures, Stock and Bonds	14,154,070
Bank Fixed Deposit Receipts (in name of Treasurer of Victoria)	3,608,355
Savings Bank Debentures	2,661,629
Municipal Debentures	860,566
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Debentures	1,272,665
Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust Debentures	100,000
Commonwealth Inscribed Stock (War Loan)	100,000
Mortgage Securities	2,011,536
Mortgage properties foreclosed or in possession	6,611
Accrued Interest, &c., on Investments	302,885
Bank premises	345,000
Current Accounts and Deposits with Bankers	866,289
Cash at various Savings Banks, Agencies, and Trustees' Bankers and in Transit	472,733
Total	27,010,704

STATE SAVINGS BANK, ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30TH JUNE, 1916—
continued.

	<i>Liabilities.</i>	£
Depositors' balances, with Interest to date		26,404,284
Other liabilities		22,717
Surplus Funds allotted as follows :—		
Reserve Fund	£500,000	
Depreciation Fund	5,797	
Fidelity Guarantee Fund	11,060	
Profit and Loss Account	66,846	
Total Surplus Funds		583,703
Total		<u>£27,010,704</u>

State Savings Bank—Advances department. The “Crédit Foncier” or advances department of the State Savings Bank was established by Act of Parliament in 1896 for the purpose of making advances on farm properties in sums ranging from £50 to £2,000, and in 1910, under the authority of Act No. 2280, the system was extended to house and shop securities in sums of from £50 to £1,000. Funds for the purpose were obtained at the initiation of the system by the sale of mortgage bonds redeemable by half-yearly ballots; but since 1901 by the sale of debentures in denominations of £100 and over, redeemable at fixed dates not more than twenty years from date of issue. The *Savings Bank Act* 1913 gives power to substitute stock for debentures on the application of any debenture-holder or any person offering to purchase debentures. The balance of debentures and stock current at 30th June, 1916, amounted to £4,579,050. Of this amount, £1,832,250 is held by the public, and the balance by the Commissioners themselves in respect of money invested out of Savings Bank funds. The sum advanced during the year 1915-16 was £594,309, making with the amounts previously advanced a total of £6,493,892, of which £2,427,557 had been repaid at 30th June, 1916, leaving outstanding on that date an amount of £4,066,335 representing 3,696 loans to farmers for £1,833,988, which thus averaged £496, and 8,181 loans to owners of houses or shops for a total of £2,232,347, or an average per borrower of £273. As a measure of the safety with which the advances department has been conducted, it may be mentioned that the instalments of principal in arrear amounted on 30th June, 1916, to £1,132, and the interest in arrear to £2,749. The amount of arrears on Farm Securities was larger than usual, owing mainly to the drought conditions that so seriously affected the agricultural and pastoral industries in 1914. During the

year six properties were taken into possession. The transactions in this department are shown below:—

STATE SAVINGS BANK—TRANSACTIONS IN ADVANCES
DEPARTMENT.

				At 30th June, 1915.	During 1915-16.	At 30th June, 1916.
Loans raised	...	...	£	5,896,887	1,047,363	6,944,250
„ repaid	...	...	£	1,989,275	375,925	2,365,200
„ outstanding	...	...	£	3,907,612	...	4,579,050
<i>Pastoral or Agricultural Property.</i>						
Applications received	...	...	No.	16,583	518	17,101
„ „ amount	...	...	£	8,548,598	335,644	8,884,242
Applications granted	...	...	No.	10,164	302	10,466*
„ „ amount	...	...	£	4,750,730	175,985	4,926,715*
Amount advanced	...	...	£	3,714,733	152,219	3,866,952
„ repaid	...	...	£	1,931,690	161,274	2,032,964
„ outstanding	...	...	£	1,783,043	...	1,833,988
<i>House or Shop Property.</i>						
Applications received	...	...	No.	11,331	1,872	13,203
„ „ amount	...	...	£	3,460,460	546,696	4,007,156
Applications granted	...	...	No.	8,728	1,679	10,407†
„ „ amount	...	...	£	2,509,097	468,185	2,977,282†
Amount advanced	...	...	£	2,184,850	442,090	2,626,940
„ repaid	...	...	£	243,134	151,459	394,593
„ outstanding	...	...	£	1,941,716	...	2,232,347

* Including £748,290 offered to, but not accepted by, 1,864 applicants.

† Including £247,852 offered to, but not accepted by, 860 applicants.

The profit for the year in the advances department was £10,244 on ordinary funds, and £3,786 on reserve fund investments, making a total profit of £14,030. This amount will be transferred to reserve fund, and will make the total of that fund £126,441, which is held, in accordance with Act No. 2729, for the purpose of meeting any loss or deficiency which may occur in the department.

As already stated the Savings Bank department of the Commonwealth Savings Bank. Commonwealth Bank commenced business on 15th July, 1912. At 31st December, 1916, it had in Victoria 67,016 depositors, with £2,543,341 at credit, which amount is included in the general deposits of the bank.

The depositors in the Savings Bank department of the Commonwealth Bank in each State and the amounts of their deposits at 31st December, 1916, were as follows, viz. :—

COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK, 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

State.	Number of Depositors.	Amount at Credit.
		£
Victoria	67,016	2,543,341
New South Wales	101,803	3,200,274
Queensland	51,623	1,850,725
South Australia	21,777	847,623
Northern Territory	1,133	81,012
Western Australia	26,978	879,373
Tasmania	41,875	1,127,744
Papua	627	28,067
Australia	312,832	10,558,159

The Savings Banks of Australasia comprise the Commonwealth Bank, which at 31st December, 1916, had branches doing business in all the States; State banks in Victoria, New South Wales, Queensland, and Western Australia; Trustee banks in South Australia; Joint Stock banks in Tasmania; and Government and private banks in New Zealand. The figures in the subjoined table, which exclude particulars of the Commonwealth Bank and also of penny savings banks, except those of New South Wales, Queensland, and New Zealand, where details of such banks are not kept separate from the ordinary business, relate to the date, 31st December, 1916, except in the case of the Tasmanian Joint Stock banks and the New Zealand banks. The information in regard to the Tasmanian Joint Stock banks is given as at the end of August, 1916, and that relating to the New Zealand banks as at 31st December, 1915, (Post Office), and 31st March, 1916, (Private).

SAVINGS BANKS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1916.

State.	Number of Depositors.		Amount remaining on Deposit.	
	Total.	Per 1,000 of the Population.	Total.	Average per Depositor.
			£	£ s. d.
Victoria	760,620	543	26,121,482	34 6 10
New South Wales	734,181	395	34,749,100	47 6 7
Queensland	213,720	319	11,740,750	54 18 8
South Australia	261,554	606	9,384,998	35 17 7
Western Australia	112,143	363	4,598,602	41 0 2
Tasmania	46,526	233	1,477,198	31 15 0
Australia	2,128,744	437	88,072,130	41 7 5
New Zealand	587,109	532	24,238,940	41 5 8
Australasia	2,715,853	454	112,311,070	41 7 1

In November, 1912, the State Savings Bank established a Penny Bank department in connexion with State and private schools. The system has been adopted in 266 schools, and at 31st December, 1916, there were 14,001 depositors in the department with £10,945 at credit. Penny Savings Banks have also been established in New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and New Zealand. On the above mentioned date there were in South Australia 23,233, and in Western Australia, 23,818 depositors, who had £19,478 and £32,397 respectively on deposit. Particulars for New South Wales, Queensland, and New Zealand are not available.

Savings
Banks in
various
countries.

The following table shows the number and proportion to population of depositors, the amount of deposits, and the average to each depositor in Savings Banks in Great Britain and other countries:—

SAVINGS BANKS IN GREAT BRITAIN AND OTHER COUNTRIES.

Country.	Year.	Number of Depositors.		Amount remaining on Deposit.	
		Total.	Per 1,000 of the Population.	Total.	Average per Depositor.
England and Wales	1914	13,412,114	361	£ 200,191,710	£ s. d. 14 18 6
Scotland ...	1914	1,282,764	270	28,949,665	22 11 4
Ireland ...	1914	737,880	168	15,335,104	20 15 8
United Kingdom...	1914	15,432,758	333	244,476,479	15 16 10
Canada ...	1915	167,887	21	11,096,593	66 2 0
Union of S th Africa	1914	252,620	39	6,361,737	25 3 8
Austria ...	1914	6,681,657	230	304,174,758	45 10 6
Belgium ...	1912	3,013,296	398	41,932,944	13 18 4
France ...	1913	15,011,116	378	232,582,657	15 9 11
Italy ...	1914	8,747,349	242	180,412,428	20 12 6
Netherlands ...	1913-14	2,181,334	344	26,194,667	11 16 2
Russia ...	1915	9,242,671	52	193,942,917	20 19 8
Sweden ...	1914	2,822,430	497	76,006,914	26 18 7
Norway ...	1913	1,136,262	468	33,705,504	29 13 3
Denmark ...	1914	1,393,839	497	47,665,341	34 4 0
United States ...	1914	11,109,499	113	1,014,402,928	91 6 2

The following statements give the approximate stocks of gold, silver, and paper money in the principal countries of the world for 1915, and the world's coinage of gold and silver for 1915. The information in the first statement has been extracted from the Report of the Director of the Mint, Washington, U.S.A., and that in the second from the Report of the Deputy Master and Comptroller of the Royal Mint, London.

APPROXIMATE STOCKS OF MONEY IN THE PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD AT THE CLOSE OF 1915.

Country.	Value of—		
	Gold.	Silver.	Uncovered Paper.
	£	£	£
Argentine	47,044,000	*	152,300,000
Brazil	5,016,000	*	115,824,000
British Empire—			
Australasia	51,274,000	2,055,000	*
Canada	35,048,000	583,000	27,583,000
India	8,715,000	23,054,000	9,332,000
South Africa	6,693,000	535,000	2,761,000
United Kingdom	136,021,000	42,000,000	92,677,000
Egypt	4,692,000	4,446,000	4,485,000
France	284,419,000	84,473,000	308,746,000
Germany	146,732,000	1,604,000	155,954,000
Italy	68,980,000	9,569,000	126,747,000
Japan	29,411,000	14,694,000	8,371,000
Netherlands	35,454,000	40,269,000	11,858,000
Russia	217,503,000	35,234,000	420,520,000
Spain	34,393,000	49,689,000	19,038,000
Turkey	59,837,000	11,673,000	26,690,000
United States	472,506,000	155,350,000	198,302,000
Other Countries	53,213,000	26,367,000	82,459,000
Total	1,696,951,000	501,595,000	1,763,647,000

* No information.

WORLD'S COINAGE DURING THE YEAR 1915.

Country.	Gold,	Silver,	Nickel, Copper Bronze, &c.
	£	£	£
United Kingdom*	21,319,654	7,715,437	249,478
Australia	7,934,377	...	...
India ... ..	...	1,148,362	63,806
British Colonies and Dependencies†	...	248,541	46,704
Austria-Hungary‡	757,033	1,998,339	26,932
China ... ..	...	8,805,519	388,957
Cuba	1,170,416	1,079,418	98,034
Denmark	591,613	162,823	5,505
Egypt ... ..	...	758,667	20,513
France and French Colonies	51	3,542,339	34,866
Germany	1,258,556	2,139,071	265,429
Holland and Dutch Colonies ... ..	...	1,556,667	56,091
Italy and Italian Colonies ... ..	...	863,324	9,867
Japan	3,103,590	275,988	13,335
Morocco ... ..	...	145,225	...
Portugal ... ..	...	564,444	...
Russia ... ..	...	4,085,170	203,324
Serbia ... ..	...	667,388	...
Switzerland... ..	760,000	...	9,400
Turkey‡	1,186,825	17,236	299,057
United States and Philippines	4,993,203	875,430	432,362
Other Countries	219,982	1,844,277	107,206
Total	43,305,960	33,493,665	2,330,666

* Including sterling gold coins struck at the Branch Mint in Canada.

† Inclusive of coins struck at Calcutta and Bombay, at Ottawa, and at the "Mint," Birmingham, Limited.

‡ Figures for 1913.

PRICES, ETC., OF GOVERNMENT STOCKS.

Comparative prices of Victorian stocks.

An adequate idea may be formed of the general course of prices of Victorian stocks in London during nineteen and a half years by selecting one of the leading 4 per cent. and one of the leading 3½ per cent. stocks, and finding the highest prices quoted in 1895 and each subsequent year to the end of July, 1914. Shortly after that date business in the London Stock Exchange was suspended until the end of the year on account of the outbreak of war, and consequently there were no official quotations. The prices quoted for sales in 1915 and 1916 are, on account of the disturbed conditions which existed, of no service for the purpose of

ordinary comparison, but they are of interest as showing the value of Victorian securities in those years of the war. The highest prices quoted on the London Stock Exchange in the years mentioned are given in the following table, together with the equivalent returns to the investor :—

PRICES OF VICTORIAN REPRESENTATIVE STOCKS IN
LONDON, 1895 TO 1916.

Year.	Highest Prices quoted on Stock Exchange.		Minimum Return to Investor.	
	4 per cents. (due 1920).	3½ per cents. (due 1923).	4 per cents.	3½ per cents.
1895	111½	105½	£ s. d. 3 9 0	£ s. d. 3 6 1
1896	116½	109½	3 2 7	3 1 6
1897	115	108½	3 4 0	3 2 7
1898	113½	107½	3 5 1	3 3 6
1899	114	107½	3 4 5	3 2 10
1900	111½	105½	3 6 8	3 5 0
1901	112½	106½	3 5 3	3 4 1
1902	112½	104½	3 5 3	3 6 0
1903	107½	101½	3 11 2	3 10 0
1904	107	98½	3 11 10	3 14 5
1905	107	100½	3 11 6	3 11 6
1906	105½	101½	3 13 4	3 10 7
1907	105	100½	3 14 2	3 11 8
1908	105½	101½	3 12 1	3 10 5
1909	104½	100½	3 13 11	3 12 9
1910	103½	99½	3 15 9	3 14 5
1911	103½	99½	3 15 5	3 14 9
1912	102½	97½	3 17 10	3 19 9
1913	101½	94½	4 0 10	4 7 8
1914 (to 30th July)...	102½	98½	3 17 8	3 18 9
1915	99½	95½	4 11 5	4 9 2
1916	96	91½	5 15 0	5 7 4

The minimum return to the investor is calculated after allowing for accrued interest and redemption at par at maturity.

The following are the means between the highest and lowest prices of Australasian stocks in London during a period of twenty-two and a half years. The stocks selected are representative issues of 4 and 3½ per cents. :—

MEAN PRICES OF AUSTRALASIAN STOCKS IN LONDON, 1894, 1897, 1900, 1902 AND 1904 TO 1916.

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
FOUR PER CENTS. REDEEMABLE IN—							
	1920.	1933.	1915.	1917-36.	1934.	1920-40.	1929.
1894 ..	103½	107½	105½	105½	108½	..	107½
1897 ..	113	120½	113½	112½	121½	..	114½
1900 ..	109½	114½	108½	108½	115½	110½	111½
1902 ..	108½	112½	105½	105½	112½	110	111½
1904 ..	104½	107½	102½	101½	107½	105½	106
1905 ..	105½	107½	103½	103½	107½	106½	107½
1906 ..	103½	108½	102½	102½	108½	105½	107½
1907 ..	102½	106½	101½	101½	107½	104½	106
1908 ..	103½	107½	102½	102½	107½	104½	107½
1909 ..	103½	107½	102½	102½	107½	103½	106½
1910 ..	102½	105½	101½	102½	100½	102½	104½
1911 ..	102½	105½	101½	101½	106½	103½	104½
1912 ..	101½	103½	100½	101	104½	101½	102½
1913 ..	99½	100½	99½	99½	99½	98½	99
1914* ..	100½	100½	100½	100	99½	98½	100½
1915 ..	96½	97½	97½†	97½	97½	96½	97½
1916 ..	94½	88½	90½†	89½†	83½	81½	89½
THREE AND A HALF PER CENTS. REDEEMABLE IN—							
	1923.	1924.	1924.	1939.	1915-35.	1920-40.	1940.
1894 ..	95½	99½	95½	97½	..	96½	99½
1897 ..	106½	109½	106½	111½	..	108½	107½
1900 ..	103½	105	103½	105½	102½	102½	105
1902 ..	102½	103½	101½	103½	100½	103½	105½
1904 ..	96½	97½	96½	98½	95½	98	99½
1905 ..	98½	99½	98½	99	97½	99½	98½
1906 ..	100	100½	99½	100½	99	98½	100½
1907 ..	98½	99½	97½	99	96½	97½	99½
1908 ..	99½	100½	98½	99½	98½	98½	99½
1909 ..	98½	99½	97½	98½	98½	98½	98½
1910 ..	97½	98½	97½	98½	97½	98½	96½
1911 ..	97½	98½	97½	97½	96½	97½	96½
1912 ..	95½	96½	95	95½	93½	93½	94
1913 ..	93½	94½	93½	90½	89½	88½	89½
1914* ..	95½	96	94½	90½	91	89½	89½
1915 ..	93½	92	92½	87½	88½	87½	85½
1916 ..	88½	87½	87½	87½	73½	76½	76½

* To 30th July.

† Due in 1924.

The year 1897 marked the climax of a series of rapid rises in the prices of all the stocks quoted, but in 1898 prices began to recede and this process continued until 1904. In 1905 and 1906 they hardened generally, but in 1907 a fall took place; in 1908 a partial recovery was made which, however, was not sustained, as during the next three years prices receded gradually, and in 1912 and 1913 they dropped considerably. There was a

slight improvement in 1914, and, though the prices in 1915 are lower than those in any of the years referred to, they must, under the exceptional circumstances of the time, be regarded as most satisfactory. The figures, as they stand, do not afford an indication of the real values of the stocks concerned; the table simply shows the mean between the highest and lowest prices for the year.

The best method of comparing the values of stocks over a series of years, or of comparing the values placed upon the stocks of different States by investors, is to show the actual or effective rate of interest the investor is satisfied with, as evidenced by the mean between the highest and lowest quotations during the year. This is done in the following table, allowance being made for an average of three months' accrued interest, which is deducted from the market price before the computation is made. In computing the yield to the investor, the gain or loss incurred by redemption at par at maturity is taken into account:—

INVESTORS' INTEREST RETURN FROM AUSTRALASIAN STOCKS, 1894, 1897, 1900, 1902, AND 1904 TO 1916.

Year	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
	FOUR PER CENTS.						
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1894	3 17 2	3 13 7	3 13 10	3 13 9	3 13 0	..	3 13 4
1897	3 5 1	3 2 2	3 2 2	3 4 1	3 1 3	..	3 6 2
1900	3 8 8	3 6 4	3 7 6	3 7 10	3 6 2	3 7 0	3 9 0
1902	3 8 4	3 8 2	3 11 10	3 11 8	3 8 0	3 6 9	3 8 5
1904	3 14 0	3 13 0	3 16 2	3 19 9	3 13 0	3 13 2	3 13 9
1905	3 12 11	3 12 5	3 13 5	3 15 4	3 12 8	3 11 1	3 11 6
1906	3 14 11	3 11 5	3 15 1	3 16 5	3 11 8	3 11 8	3 11 3
1907	3 17 0	3 13 6	3 18 2	3 18 2	3 12 10	3 13 0	3 13 3
1908	3 14 1	3 11 7	3 15 6	3 15 1	3 12 5	3 12 1	3 11 3
1909	3 15 4	3 12 0	3 15 4	3 16 4	3 11 10	3 14 0	3 12 3
1910	3 16 8	3 13 11	3 17 3	3 16 4	3 13 2	3 16 1	3 14 4
1911	3 16 4	3 14 3	3 18 8	3 18 7	3 13 1	3 13 2	3 14 8
1912	3 18 11	3 16 8	4 1 10	4 0 0	3 15 7	3 19 3	3 17 7
1913	4 4 0	4 1 5	4 12 9	4 10 9	4 1 8	4 7 5	4 3 6
1914	4 1 8	4 0 9	4 10 5	4 7 3	4 1 10	4 9 3	4 0 10
1915	5 2 2	4 6 0	4 10 6	5 14 2	4 5 10	5 2 2	4 7 9
1916	6 0 6	5 3 7	5 14 3	5 16 9	5 13 1	5 9 8	5 5 10

INVESTORS' INTEREST RETURN FROM AUSTRALASIAN STOCKS, 1894,
1897, 1900, 1902, AND 1904 TO 1916—*continued.*

Year.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
THREE AND HALF PER CENTS.							
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	\$ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1894	3 15 11	3 11 11	3 16 4	3 12 10	..	3 13 11	3 11 0
1897	3 3 11	3 0 6	3 3 7	3 1 0	..	3 3 8	3 3 11
1900	3 6 10	3 5 0.	3 6 10	3 5 9	3 8 7	3 8 2	3 6 4
1902	3 7 10	3 6 8	3 9 0	3 7 6	3 10 1	3 7 10	3 5 6
1904	3 16 0	3 14 10	3 16 10	3 12 7	3 15 8	3 12 10	3 11 9
1905	3 14 0	3 11 8	3 13 10	3 11 10	3 14 0	3 11 6	3 12 0
1906	3 11 5	3 10 5	3 12 3	3 10 0	3 12 1	3 12 0	3 10 4
1907	3 14 4	3 12 2	3 15 6	3 11 11	3 15 0	3 13 7	3 11 5
1908	3 12 5	3 10 10	3 13 10	3 11 2	3 13 1	3 12 3	3 11 3
1909	3 14 5	3 13 2	3 15 8	3 12 5	3 13 2	3 12 9	3 12 6
1910	3 16 2	3 14 8	3 15 7	3 13 2	3 14 2	3 12 10	3 14 8
1911	3 16 4	3 14 8	3 16 8	3 13 7	3 15 1	3 14 2	3 14 7
1912	4 2 2	3 19 11	4 2 9	3 16 8	4 0 7	3 19 1	3 18 2
1913	4 9 2	4 4 7	4 7 9	4 3 4	4 6 6	4 5 5.	4 4 0.
1914	4 3 9	4 2 3	4 5 1	4 3 4	4 4 8	4 4 8.	4 4 3.
1915	4 13 3	4 15 3.	4 12 7	4 9 1	4 9 5.	4 8 4	4 11 6.
1916	5 17 6	5 14 9	5 14 6	5 15 2	6 0 11	5 7 6	5 8 4.

NOTE.—The figures for 1914 are to 30th July only. Where the date of redemption is optional, the date adopted for the calculation was the earliest in the case of the 4 per cents., and the latest in the case of the 3½ per cents., until 1916, when the latest date in each case was adopted.

Taking the 3½ per cents. as being the representative stocks, it appears that those of New South Wales, South Australia and New Zealand, for years prior to 1915 were practically alike and, with very few exceptions, yielded least to the investor.

The following is a statement of the interest return to the investor in the principal issues of Colonial stocks and in British Consols, as indicated by the mean between the highest and lowest market prices quoted during the years 1900, 1914, and 1916 :—

INTEREST ON MEAN PRICES OF BRITISH CONSOLS AND COLONIAL STOCKS, 1900, 1914, AND 1916.

Country.	Date of Maturity.	Rate of Interest on Stock.	Return to Investor per cent.		
			1900.	1914. (to 30th July)	1916
		per cent.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
United Kingdom ..	Inter-minable	2½*	2 10 0	3 8 8	4 7 6
Canada	1947	2½	2 17 1	3 19 10	5 12 8
Natal	1937	4	3 10 1	3 19 10	5 1 0
Ceylon	1934	4	3 6 11	4 0 4	5 13 6
Jamaica	1934	4	3 10 11	4 0 7	5 12 0
New South Wales ..	1933	4	3 6 4	4 0 9	5 3 7
New Zealand ..	1929	4	3 9 0	4 0 10	5 5 10
Cape Colony ..	1923	4	3 10 4	4 1 4	5 13 11
Canada	1938	3	3 0 0	4 1 5	5 0 4
Newfoundland ..	1935	4	3 11 1	4 1 5	5 8 10
South Australia ..	1924	4	..	4 1 7	5 16 9
Victoria	1920	4	3 8 8	4 1 8	6 0 6
Cape Colony ..	1929-49	3½	3 6 2	4 1 10	5 0 11
Western Australia ..	1934	4	3 6 2	4 1 10	5 13 1
New South Wales ..	1924	3½	3 5 0	4 2 3	5 14 9
British Guiana ..	1935	4	3 12 3	4 2 7	5 13 1
South Australia ..	1939	3½	3 5 9	4 3 4	5 15 2
Victoria	1923	3½	3 6 10	4 3 9	5 17 6
New South Wales ..	1935	3	3 0 11	4 3 10	5 10 4
New Zealand ..	1940	3½	3 6 4	4 4 3	5 8 4
Hong Kong	1918-43	3½	3 8 5	4 4 4	5 10 6
Natal	1929-49	3	3 3 8	4 4 4	5 2 11
Victoria	1929-49	3	3 3 8	4 4 5	5 1 8
New Zealand ..	1945	3	3 3 2	4 4 6	5 4 6
Tasmania	1920-40	3½	3 8 2	4 4 8	5 7 6
Western Australia ..	1915-35	3½	3 8 7	4 4 8	6 0 11
Queensland	1924	3½	3 6 10	4 5 1	5 14 6
Queensland	1922-47	3	3 3 11	4 5 2	5 5 9
Western Australia ..	1916-36	3	3 6 10	4 5 3	5 16 7
Trinidad	1917-42	4	3 7 8	4 7 8	5 9 4
Trinidad	1922-44	3	3 4 7	4 9 3	5 16 2
Tasmania	1920-40	4	3 7 0	4 9 3	5 9 8
Quebec	1937	3	3 10 7	4 10 5	6 2 9
Queensland	1924	4	..	4 2 4	5 14 3

* Consols carried 2½ per cent. interest until 1903; but the rate of interest to a permanent investor in 1900 is reckoned at 2½ per cent. only, which is now the permanent rate.

As in the preceding table, where the date of redemption is optional, the earliest date was used in the case of the 4 per cents. and the latest date in the case of the 3½ and 3 per cents., in obtaining the

interest returns for the years 1900 and 1914. For 1916 the latest date of redemption was taken in all cases, because the market rate of interest was greatly in excess of 4 per cent., and it seemed unlikely that the respective Governments would redeem stocks bearing interest at 4 per cent. or a lower rate until the latest date of option.

The amount of Victorian Government stock and debentures under certain loans repayable in Melbourne which were outstanding on 30th June, the price in January, and the return to the investor per cent. for each year since 1900, are as follows. The market prices are taken from the *Australasian Insurance and Banking Record* :—

PRICES OF STOCK AND DEBENTURES IN MELBOURNE:
1901 TO 1917.

Year.	Amount Outstanding on 30th June.	Price in January.	Return to Investor per cent.		
			£	s.	d.
3 % Stock, due 1917 or at any time thereafter.					
1901	3,146,000	98½-99½	3	0	7
1902	3,195,619	99½	3	0	4
1903	3,196,933	97	3	1	10
1904	3,120,492	92½	3	4	10
1905	3,155,773	88½	3	7	7
1906	3,153,067	93	3	4	6
1907	3,197,732	91½	3	5	7
1908	3,226,585	89	3	7	5
1909	3,229,429	87	3	9	0
1910	3,224,771	85½	3	10	2
1911	3,229,286	85	3	10	7
1912	3,254,312	83½	3	11	10
1913	3,281,404	74	4	1	1
1914	3,288,617	74½	4	0	6
1915	3,272,967	73	4	2	2
1916	3,309,069	78	3	16	11
1917	...	62	4	16	9
3 % Debentures, due 1921-30.					
1901	532,000	97½-97½	3	2	9
1902	1,000,000	95-95½	3	4	10
1903	1,000,000	93½-93½	3	7	1
1904	1,000,000	88-90	3	13	2
1905	1,000,000	87½-88	3	15	3
1906	997,400	93	3	8	7
1907	993,150	90	3	12	10
1908	985,950	89	3	14	8
1909	985,650	86½-87	3	18	8
1910	972,850	88½-89	3	16	0
1911	972,850	90	3	14	7
1912	972,850	88	3	13	7
1913	972,850	82-83	4	9	9
1914	972,850	82½	4	11	1
1915	970,050	82	4	13	10
1916	969,850	78	5	5	7
1917	...	73½-75	5	19	0

The prices quoted in this table do not include any allowance for accrued interest, the practice on the Melbourne Stock Exchange differing from that on the London Exchange where accrued interest is included in prices quoted.

In computing the returns to investors, the 3 per cent. stock has been regarded as interminable, since it is at the option of the Government whether it be redeemed in 1917, or at any time thereafter; and it is unlikely that redemption will take place at the earliest date. For the 3 per cent. debentures it has been assumed that redemption will be made at the latest optional date, viz., 1930. In each year quoted investors have obtained the higher yield per cent. from the debentures. The returns from both these investments in the last five years were considerably higher than previously and in the last year, in the case of the debentures, they were higher than the rates generally obtained by the investor in Colonial stocks on the British market during 1916.

INSURANCE.

There are twenty companies transacting life assurance business in Victoria. Six of these companies have their head offices in Victoria, five in New South Wales, one in New Zealand, three in America, and five in the United Kingdom. The following table shows the number and amount of policies in force in Victoria with companies whose head offices are within, and with those whose head offices are outside Australasia for the years 1900 to 1916:—

LIFE POLICIES IN FORCE IN VICTORIA, 1900 TO 1916.

Year.	Companies with Head Offices in—			Total.
	Australasia.	United Kingdom.	America.	
NUMBER.				
1900	165,848	1,203	5,662	172,713
1901	188,073	1,130	6,833	196,036
1902	202,033	1,052	7,837	210,922
1903	205,302	1,004	8,555	214,861
1904	214,372	950	8,890	224,212
1905	217,225	914	9,029	227,168
1906	226,440	841	7,810	235,091
1907	234,562	805	7,018	242,385
1908	247,820	751	6,146	254,717
1909	265,033	706	5,160	270,899
1910	286,312	815	4,928	292,055
1911	306,201	772	4,722	311,695
1912	326,511	732	4,603	331,846
1913	346,238	680	4,332	351,250
1914	363,691	645	4,145	368,481
1915	376,588	609	3,909	381,106
1916	397,304	574	3,713	401,591

LIFE POLICIES IN FORCE IN VICTORIA, 1900 TO 1916—*continued.*

Year.	Companies with Head Offices in—			Total.
	Australasia.	United Kingdom.	America.	
AMOUNT.				
	£	£	£	£
1900	23,185,797	554,124	2,575,941	26,315,862
1901	25,220,187	523,560	2,821,142	28,564,889
1902	26,408,467	477,934	2,991,761	29,878,162
1903	26,634,510	458,820	3,137,237	30,230,567
1904	27,338,229	434,030	3,208,084	30,980,343
1905	27,944,942	426,840	3,214,742	31,586,524
1906	28,984,315	393,765	2,868,727	32,246,807
1907	30,190,191	377,906	2,544,255	33,112,352
1908	31,511,180	344,859	2,201,808	34,057,847
1909	32,874,409	324,630	1,921,714	35,120,753
1910	34,286,548	378,577	1,830,126	36,495,251
1911	36,097,151	353,108	1,735,600	38,185,859
1912	38,119,403	336,198	1,676,745	40,132,346
1913	39,675,710	312,101	1,559,014	41,546,825
1914	41,512,853	298,186	1,494,336	43,305,375
1915	42,741,257	282,693	1,378,139	44,402,089
1916	44,565,105	267,423	1,313,045	46,145,573

The figures in the preceding table relate to simple life assurance, endowment assurance, and pure endowment policies, in both the ordinary and industrial classes.

The percentage of policies held in Australasian, British, and American offices in Victoria in 1916, and the percentage increase or decrease since 1900, are as follows:—

LIFE ASSURANCE POLICIES: PERCENTAGE AND GROWTH OF VICTORIAN BUSINESS IN AUSTRALASIAN AND OTHER OFFICES.

Companies with Head Offices in—	Percentage in 1916 of—		Increase per cent. in 1916 as compared with 1900.	
	Total Policies.	Total Amount Assured.	Number.	Amount.
Australasia	98·94	96·57	139·56	92·21
United Kingdom	·14	·58	— 52·29*	— 51·74*
America	·92	2·85	— 34·42*	— 49·03*
Total	100·00	100·00	132·52	75·35

* The minus sign denotes a decrease.

Thus, while there has been a very large increase in the business of the Australasian offices, there has been a large falling off in the business of the British and American companies, nearly all of which have, however, ceased to accept new business.

It is significant that of the total amount assured (£46,145,573) 97 per cent. is placed with the Australasian offices.

The business transacted by the different offices comprises many varieties of assurance, but these may be grouped into three large classes—(1) simple assurance payable only at death; (2) endowment assurance, payable at the end of a specified term or at previous death; (3) endowments payable only should a person named survive a specified term. An endeavour has been made to obtain direct from each office the business under each of these classes; but in the case of three of the offices the separation between simple assurance and endowment assurance could not be effected. The following table shows the available information on the subject for the past five years, distinguishing between ordinary and industrial business:—

LIFE ASSURANCE POLICIES IN FORCE AT 31st DECEMBER, 1912 TO 1916.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Ordinary Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance	162,083	167,991	175,958	181,685	186,884
Endowment Assurance					
Pure Endowment	11,590	11,852	11,483	10,961	10,888
Total	173,673	179,843	187,441	192,646	197,772
Amount Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	35,701,008	36,779,077	38,289,982	39,197,977	40,376,833
Endowment Assurance					
Pure Endowment	1,121,712	1,140,696	1,119,557	1,089,141	1,092,457
Total	36,822,720	37,919,773	39,409,539	40,287,118	41,469,290
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	1,214,669	1,253,029	1,305,590	1,344,055	1,416,534
Endowment Assurance					
Pure Endowment	45,393	45,969	45,473	44,096	44,644
Total	1,260,062	1,298,998	1,351,063	1,388,151	1,461,178
<i>Industrial Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance	55,497	55,841	54,720	53,143	52,688
Endowment Assurance					
Pure Endowment	78,559	93,470	106,044	116,713	133,559
Total	158,173	171,407	181,040	188,460	203,819
Amount Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	974,144	973,516	957,839	926,029	921,419
Endowment Assurance					
Pure Endowment	1,908,114	2,248,543	2,557,512	2,826,529	3,406,957
Total	432,368	404,993	380,485	362,413	347,907
Total	3,309,626	3,627,052	3,895,836	4,114,971	4,676,283
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	52,127	52,463	51,199	49,378	49,251
Endowment Assurance					
Pure Endowment	111,678	139,552	165,188	186,866	222,044
Total	30,302	28,414	26,257	25,187	24,163
Total	194,107	220,429	242,644	261,431	295,453

There has been an increase of 5,126 ordinary and 15,359 industrial policies since 1915, the increase in the total sum assured by the ordinary policies being £1,182,172, and in that by the industrial policies £561,312. The average amount of policy in the former category for 1916 was £210, whilst—calculated from the returns of those societies which distinguish between simple assurance and

endowment assurance—the average amount of the simple assurance policy in the ordinary branch was £346, and that of the endowment assurance policy £166, the total amounts of the policies in the two forms of assurance being £17,869,876 for simple assurance, and £21,236,466 for endowment assurance. The amount secured under pure endowment policies was £1,092,457, or an average of £100 for each policy. In the industrial branch of the business the average amount of policy was £22·9, and there was not much variation in the average policies of the three classes, viz., simple assurance, £17·5; endowment assurance, £25·5; and pure endowment, £19·8. The total amounts of the several classes of policies were £921,419, £3,406,957, and £347,907 respectively. Taking these figures in conjunction with those relating to the ordinary business (with the restriction before mentioned), a preference in favour of endowment assurance is shown. A better test of popularity is furnished by the number of policies in the respective classes. In the ordinary business there were 51,634 simple assurance, and 128,163 endowment assurance policies, and in the industrial business 52,688 and 133,559 policies respectively. Judging by these figures, endowment assurance must be regarded as the popular form.

The following are the number and amount of annuity policies in force in Victoria at the end of each of the last seventeen years, distinguishing between those in force in companies whose head offices are inside, and those in companies whose head offices are outside Victoria :—

ANNUITY POLICIES IN FORCE IN VICTORIA, 1900 TO 1916.

Year.	Head Offices in Victoria.		Head Offices outside Victoria.		Total.	
	Number.	Amount per Annum.	Number.	Amount per Annum.	Number.	Amount per Annum.
		£		£		£
1900 ..	65	3,877	189	12,307	254	16,184
1901 ..	81	4,221	229	15,150	310	19,371
1902 ..	85	4,958	269	15,990	354	20,948
1903 ..	91	4,850	294	13,971	385	18,821
1904 ..	101	7,275	308	14,108	409	21,383
1905 ..	117	7,253	308	14,179	425	21,432
1906 ..	137	8,146	320	14,270	457	22,416
1907 ..	144	8,181	336	15,007	480	23,188
1908 ..	157	8,845	324	14,163	481	23,008
1909 ..	181	11,662	334	14,838	515	26,500
1910 ..	159	9,686	388	17,656	547	27,342
1911 ..	154	11,720	422	21,482	576	33,202
1912 ..	158	11,635	419	21,509	577	33,144
1913 ..	173	12,268	427	20,418	600	32,686
1914 ..	179	12,310	441	21,454	620	33,764
1915 ..	188	11,208	429	20,195	617	31,403
1916 ..	192	11,541	419	19,836	611	31,377

The annuities at the close of 1916 exceed those at the close of 1900 by 141 per cent. in number and 94 per cent. in amount.

Of the 419 annuities held in 1916 in companies whose head offices were outside Victoria, 355 for £16,941 per annum were in New South Wales offices, 6 for £172 in English offices, and 58 for £2,723 in American offices. The figures in this table include annuities granted by industrial assurance companies, of which there was one for £49 in force on 31st December, 1916.

The preceding tables relate to policies in force on 31st December. The succeeding table contains summarized information in relation to the new business written by all life assurance companies during each of the last five years, the number of policies, sum assured, and premium income being given.

LIFE ASSURANCE.—NEW POLICIES ISSUED: 1912 TO 1916.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Ordinary Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance	3,199	3,053	3,056	3,718	3,773
Endowment Assurance	14,735	13,473	14,927	12,703	12,236
Pure Endowment	1,900	1,918	1,210	811	1,056
Total	19,834	18,444	19,193	17,232	17,115
Annuities	46	47	36	38	23
Sum Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	1,119,830	1,109,981	1,192,465	1,196,272	1,261,756
Endowment Assurance	2,450,036	2,219,334	2,436,076	2,009,489	2,034,504
Pure Endowment	196,311	178,822	127,702	91,609	100,116
Total	3,766,177	3,508,137	3,756,243	3,297,370	3,396,376
Annuities	2,671	2,360	2,023	1,761	1,273
Single Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	5,001	4,459	1,643	7,193	3,405
Endowment Assurance	1,498	889	2,756	462	1,446
Pure Endowment	229	1,056	370	563	273
Total	6,728	6,404	4,769	8,218	5,124
Annuities	27,538	24,887	12,753	16,346	12,183
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance	33,844	34,145	38,911	41,999	51,949
Endowment Assurance	90,506	85,626	92,616	82,432	88,576
Pure Endowment	7,507	7,274	5,728	4,077	4,216
Total	131,857	127,045	137,255	128,508	144,741
Annuities	14	23	184	7	..

LIFE ASSURANCE.—NEW POLICIES ISSUED: 1912 TO 1916—*continued.*

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Industrial Business.</i>					
Number of Policies—					
Assurance ..	12,164	8,065	5,127	3,947	3,932
Endowment Assurance ..	30,410	35,823	37,409	36,467	39,187
Pure Endowment ..	6,428	4,108	2,440	2,248	1,587
Total ..	49,002	48,896	44,976	42,662	44,706
Sum Assured—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance ..	264,793	193,458	133,679	96,136	94,193
Endowment Assurance ..	829,030	928,357	934,463	922,343	1,052,811
Pure Endowment ..	148,351	106,460	72,493	71,296	51,313
Total ..	1,242,174	1,228,275	1,140,635	1,089,775	1,198,317
Annual Premiums—	£	£	£	£	£
Assurance ..	15,316	10,693	7,170	5,894	5,414
Endowment Assurance ..	52,612	63,019	71,470	70,134	78,006
Pure Endowment ..	10,565	7,162	4,956	4,740	3,567
Total ..	78,493	80,874	83,596	80,268	86,977

The new business includes 17,115 ordinary assurance policies for £3,396,376 and 44,706 industrial policies for £1,198,317, the former averaging £198 and the latter £27 in amount. The policies in force in the two sections of the business increased in the year by 5,126 for £1,182,172 and 15,359 for £561,312 respectively, indicating that those which became claims by death or maturity or were discontinued during 1916 must, after deduction of revivals, have numbered 11,989 for £2,214,204 in ordinary, and 29,347 for £637,005 in industrial assurance.

The following table shows the transactions of insurance companies doing other than life business and operating in Victoria during the period 1912 to 1916:—

INSURANCE—OTHER THAN LIFE: 1912 TO 1916.

Nature of Insurance.	Year.	Receipts.			Outgo.		
		Premiums.	Other.	Total.	Losses.	Other.	Total.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Fire ..	1912	620,011	31,886	651,897	296,265	282,591	578,856
	1913	669,571	42,069	711,640	289,682	307,640	597,322
	1914	809,372	36,539	845,911	511,943	338,817	850,760
	1915	845,351	36,959	882,310	336,653	334,885	671,538
	1916	928,300	35,443	963,743	343,170	385,651	728,821
Marine ..	1912	139,613	3,516	143,129	49,007	35,148	84,155
	1913	180,694	6,940	187,634	46,707	45,771	92,478
	1914	213,521	7,033	220,554	72,250	50,403	122,653
	1915	221,282	8,729	230,011	108,291	55,002	163,293
	1916	280,188	13,302	293,490	203,511	69,711	273,222
Guarantee ..	1912	10,029	1,510	11,539	1,349	5,140	6,489
	1913	10,632	1,012	11,644	2,697	5,459	8,156
	1914	10,639	865	11,504	1,847	4,927	6,774
	1915	10,620	2,062	12,682	3,805	4,212	8,017
	1916	11,190	861	12,051	2,549	4,836	7,385

INSURANCE—OTHER THAN LIFE: 1912 TO 1916—continued.

Nature of Insurance.	Year.	Receipts.			Outgo.		
		Premiums.	Other.	Total.	Losses.	Other.	Total.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Live Stock ...	1912	50,779	1,018	51,797	27,037	20,781	47,868
	1913	36,061	885	36,946	20,379	16,064	36,443
	1914	25,414	675	26,089	14,179	8,514	22,693
	1915	18,078	70	18,148	14,703	4,841	19,544
	1916	20,455	995	21,450	10,503	6,256	16,759
Plate Glass ..	1912	8,637	395	9,032	3,001	3,921	6,922
	1913	9,571	403	9,974	3,039	4,361	7,400
	1914	10,494	364	10,858	3,698	4,452	8,150
	1915	11,710	377	12,087	4,196	4,798	8,994
	1916	11,923	989	12,912	4,163	4,704	8,867
Motor Car ..	1913	27,495	679	28,174	7,135	11,743	18,378
	1914	31,229	456	31,685	9,458	11,090	20,548
	1915	33,615	620	34,235	15,739	12,762	28,501
	1916	33,627	960	34,587	8,262	11,891	20,093
	1913	30,567	1,149	31,716	10,595	14,731	25,326
Accident (Personal)	1914	59,736	3,966	63,702	25,346	27,321	52,667
	1915	27,498	794	28,292	11,909	12,305	24,214
	1916	26,827	728	27,555	11,721	11,563	23,284
	1914	140,755	48	140,803	11,548	50,797	62,345
Workers' Compensation ..	1915	227,624	3,981	231,605	62,353	73,955	136,308
	1916	212,880	8,764	221,644	81,856	69,735	151,591
	1912	127,608	6,115	133,723	47,028	60,005	107,633
	1913	82,071	4,443	86,514	33,754	37,327	71,081
Other ..	1914	34,399	2,419	36,818	13,121	18,401	31,522
	1915	1,425,703	4,230	34,155	11,817	12,642	24,459
	1916	34,837	4,308	39,145	13,047	15,000	28,047
	Totals ..	1912	956,677	44,440	1,001,117	423,737	408,186	831,923
1913		1,046,662	57,580	1,104,242	413,988	443,096	857,084
1914		1,335,559	52,365	1,387,924	663,390	514,722	1,178,112
1915		1,425,703	57,822	1,483,525	569,466	515,402	1,084,868
1916		1,560,227	66,350	1,626,577	678,782	579,287	1,258,069

The particulars given in this table relate to Victorian risks, that is, to all business written on the Victorian registers of the eighty-seven companies represented in the return. The figures are net, and in the case of premiums exclude all re-insurances in Australasia, and returns; the losses also exclude amounts recovered from Australasian re-insuring offices, but include losses on Victorian risks wherever paid. Premiums paid and losses recovered under re-insurances of Victorian business effected outside Australasia have not been deducted in compiling the figures quoted above for the last three years. It is probable that a portion of these premiums and losses were allowed for in previous years, and this will account to some extent for the increase in the receipts and outgo of the fire and marine sections of the business in the last three years, as compared with the immediately preceding years. The item "Other outgo" excludes expenditure, amounting to about £18,900 in 1916, incurred in Victoria in connexion with the supervision of branches outside the State, as well as the sum expended outside Victoria on the supervision of branches within the State. The amount so expended outside the State is unknown, but it is probably less than the outlay under the former heading.

The total amount at risk is not available, but it is obvious, from the extent of the premiums, that the amount covered must be very

large. The total losses on all classes of insurance for the five years given in the table represent $43\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the premiums.

BUILDING SOCIETIES.

Building Societies. Building societies in Victoria date from an early period in the history of the State, and up to 1892 their business was extensive. Since then it has been comparatively small, but the figures of recent years show that an improvement has taken place. The following table gives particulars of the principal items of business for the last five years:—

BUILDING SOCIETIES: 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
Number of societies ...	32	32	32	32	31
" shareholders ...	8,518	8,126	8,187	8,001	7,650
" borrowers ...	10,538	10,087	10,498	10,337	10,043
Transactions during the Year—	£	£	£	£	£
Income from loans and investments	150,379	162,268	168,541	172,448	174,366
Loans granted ...	591,253	372,757	653,877	315,350	369,093
Repayments ...	565,716	491,157	585,570	518,245	540,588
Deposits received	547,344	575,802	826,784	584,849	607,283
Working expenses*	71,281	73,689	69,553	71,773	70,257
Assets—					
Loans on mortgage	2,084,354	2,090,572	2,228,449	2,161,297	2,088,476
Properties in possession or surrendered	623,567	538,322	477,061	476,296	469,403
Other advances ...	15,524	14,720	15,015	20,273	19,931
Cash in hand, &c. ...	35,556	71,344	32,165	52,005	28,532
Other assets ...	6,985	8,640	9,373	9,508	16,411
Total ...	2,765,986	2,723,598	2,762,663	2,719,379	2,622,753
Liabilities—					
To shareholders ...	1,275,496	1,336,556	1,315,620	1,299,072	1,316,145
" debenture-holders ...	83,188	52,142	15,046	10,065	...
" depositors ...	829,792	789,309	931,756	887,813	796,325
Bank overdraft ...	41,564	30,047	29,606	21,928	29,821
Other ...	239,013	198,000	113,203	91,815	89,010
Total ...	2,469,053	2,406,054	2,405,231	2,310,693	2,231,301
Reserve Funds ...	261,368	274,511	295,111	331,174	332,877

* Includes interest on deposits, loans, &c.

Particulars relating to Starr-Bowkett societies are included in the above table, but, as the business transacted by these societies is on a comparatively small scale, it has had no pronounced effect on the items shown.

MORTGAGES, LIENS, ETC.

Land mortgages and releases. A statement of the number and amount of registered mortgages and releases of land in each of the last five years is given hereunder. In a small proportion of the mortgages the amount of the loan is not stated, and it is considered that the amounts appearing in the following table fall short of the total by about 5 per cent. No account is taken of unregistered or equitable mortgages to financial institutions and individuals, as there is no public record of these dealings; nor are building society mortgages over land held under the Transfer of Land Act included, they being registered as absolute transfers. Besides releases registered as such, some mortgages are released or lapse in other ways, *e.g.*, by a transfer from mortgagor to mortgagee, by sale by mortgagee, or by foreclosure.

LAND MORTGAGES AND RELEASES: 1912 TO 1916.

Transactions Registered.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Mortgages—					
Number ..	14,798	14,901	14,731	13,934	11,445
Amount £	12,713,310	10,649,972	9,869,098	9,476,974	8,015,066
Releases—					
Number ..	10,256	9,506	10,277	9,051	8,670
Amount £	8,030,648	6,891,315	8,103,506	6,908,671	6,538,141

Stock mortgages, liens on wool and crops. The number and amount of stock mortgages, liens on wool, and liens on crops registered during each of the last five years were as follows. Releases are not shown, as releases of liens are not required to be registered, the latter being removed from the register after the expiration of twelve months, and very few of the mortgagors of stock trouble to secure themselves by a registered release:—

STOCK MORTGAGES AND LIENS ON WOOL AND CROPS:
1912 TO 1916.

Security.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Stock Mortgages—					
Number ..	854	935	850	605	862
Amount £	157,560	221,872	157,381	129,753	202,872
Liens on Wool—					
Number ..	133	120	106	94	74
Amount £	57,599	47,398	47,541	46,118	42,483
Liens on Crops—					
Number ..	612	892	877	7,674	4,628
Amount £	137,761	176,875	146,824	332,684	276,390
Total—					
Number ..	1,599	1,947	1,833	8,373	5,564
Amount £	352,920	446,145	351,746	508,555	521,745

Two forms of security are taken by lenders over personal chattels, viz., a bill of sale, or a contract of sale for letting and hiring. The former is a simple mortgage of the chattels, whilst the latter purports to be an absolute sale of the chattels to the lender, with an agreement by the lender to hire the goods back to the borrower at a certain rental, which takes the place of interest. The following are the numbers and amounts of bills and contracts of sale which have been filed in each of the last five years.

BILLS AND CONTRACTS OF SALE: 1912 TO 1916.

Security.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Bills of Sale—					
Number ..	1,238	1,316	1,134	1,106	877
Amount £	362,545	221,734	320,709	458,050	199,969
Contracts of Sale—					
Number ..	88	86	103	87	57
Amount £	6,229	6,282	7,305	7,383	4,151

Before filing a bill of sale, fourteen days' notice of intention to file must be lodged with the Registrar-General, within which period any creditor may lodge a "caveat" to prevent the filing of the bill without the payment by the borrower of his claim. To circumvent this, a practice arose in 1877, whereby the borrower purported to sell the chattels to the lender, who hired them back to the borrower, and this became the form of security more generally adopted until 1887, when a decision was given that if there were any tacit understanding that the transaction should be considered as a loan, the security would be void unless registered as a bill of sale. In consequence of this, the number of contracts of sale gradually decreased, and in 1916 the bills of sale were fifteen times their number, and the amount secured forty-eight times as great as against ratios of about one-half and six times respectively for the six years prior to 1887.

Trading
companies
registered.

A statement of the number and nature of the business of trading companies floated and registered in Victoria during the year 1916 is appended:—

TRADING COMPANIES REGISTERED IN VICTORIA, 1916.

Nature of Business.	No. Registered.	Nature of Business.	No Registered
MANUFACTURING—		PRIMARY PRODUCTION—	
Tanning	1	Farmers	1
Fellmongering	1	Orchardists	2
Porcelain, chinaware	1	Rubber growing	2
Stained Glass	1	Mining and prospecting	1
Sawmill (forest)	1	Zinc production	2
Sawmilling, box making	4		
Brass, Copper	1	TRADING—	
Engineering, ironfounding	6	Warehousemen, merchants, &c.	22
Enamelware	1		
Wire working	1	FINANCIAL—	
Butter	2	Land and property invest- ment	4
Confectionery	2	Indenting, agency, &c.	6
Jams, preserves	3	Financing	1
Cereal foods	1		
Ærated waters	1	TRANSPORT—	
Brewing	1	Carriers, &c.	5
Boot, shoe	2	Motor garage, taxi-cab	1
Clothing	3		
Corsets	1	MISCELLANEOUS—	
Hat, cap	1	Coursing Club	1
Hosiery	2	Pastrycooks, bakers, caterers	2
Engraving, die sinking	1	Caterers for amusements	4
Printing and publishing	4	Weighbridge	4
Munitions	1	Mineral waters	1
Side cars	1	Irrigation	1
Perambulators	1	Public hall	1
Boot polish	1	Cool storage	1
Paint, varnish, whitelead	2	Educational	1
Perfumery	1	Opticians	1
Jewellery	1	Consulting engineers	1
Electric apparatus	1	Legal Managers' and Secre- taries' Association	1
Leather goods (excluding boots and shoes)	1	Employers' Association	1
Rubber goods (including tyres)	2		
Miscellaneous (Patent rights, &c.)	2		

The figures in the above table refer only to companies registered under the Companies Act 1915, and are, therefore, exclusive of ordinary mining companies, of which 27 were registered during 1916 under Part II. of the Companies Act 1915. Insurance companies doing life business only, as well as building societies, are also excluded.

According to records in the Registrar-General's office, there were 2,413 trading companies in 1916 actively engaged in the operations for which they were formed, as against 2,493 in 1915, 2,334 in 1914, 2,140 in 1913, 1,938 in 1912,

Number of
existing
companies.

1,627 in 1911, and 1,472 in 1910. In addition to the above, there were 18 insurance companies doing life business only in 1916, and a large number of mining companies, but how many is not known.

The following table contains particulars for the last five years of societies registered under the Provident Societies Act. The particulars given do not represent complete information regarding co-operative societies, since it is optional whether such societies register as provident societies or as trading companies. As a matter of fact there is a large number of co-operative butter factories and other co-operative societies which are registered as trading companies under the Companies Act, and which are not represented in the table here given.

PROVIDENT (CO-OPERATIVE) SOCIETIES, 1912 TO 1916.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Number of Societies	36	36	43	50	49
Number of Shareholders ..	20,308	19,450	19,876	20,661	13,132
	£	£	£	£	£
Total Sales during Year ..	626,208	604,840	832,076	812,115	817,312
Other Revenue	12,360	21,573	11,460	8,462	16,046
Wages and Salaries for Year ..	56,914	59,320	65,428	55,127	53,558
Other Working Expenses ..	49,200	61,230	80,592	90,192	72,229
Net Profit	15,304	6,892	19,539	10,774	32,776
Liabilities at end of Year—					
Paid-up Capital	131,469	118,030	136,894	109,401	102,973
Reserves	19,382	21,577	28,062	36,305	38,804
Bank Overdraft	83,597	65,003	69,468	59,506	59,602
Sundry Creditors	43,054	49,227	71,464	66,181	64,323
Other Liabilities	48,685	82,957	70,087	79,217	57,636
Total Liabilities	326,187	336,794	375,975	350,700	323,338
Assets at end of Year—					
Real Estate	96,981	91,343	94,755	89,016	75,334
Stock	92,367	101,104	118,606	97,241	112,268
Fittings, Plant, and Machinery ..	37,355	38,212	38,260	24,800	22,908
Sundry Debtors	95,138	99,419	113,319	132,181	121,980
Cash in Hand and on Deposit ..	10,547	12,647	15,611	16,177	17,194
Other Assets	5,711	3,719	4,738	2,518	1,841
Total Assets	338,099	346,444	385,289	361,933	351,025

Of the forty-nine co-operative societies, sixteen were association of farmers acting as general merchants and commission agents, seven carried on the business of bread-making and the sale of groceries, &c., seven acted as general merchants, and six as fruit-packers, merchants, and salesmen, two were engaged in the manufacture of jams, &c., two were registered for cool storage, and two as commission agents, and one each was engaged in supplying coachbuilders' materials, in co-operative credit banking, in fish selling, in printing and publishing, in eucalyptus oil distilling, in storage of wheat, and in the erection of buildings.

LAW, CRIME, ETC.

THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA.

The Commonwealth Constitution Act (section 71) provides that the judicial power of the Commonwealth shall be vested in a Federal Supreme Court, to be called the High Court of Australia, and to consist of a Chief Justice, and at least two other Justices. Power is also given to the Federal Parliament to create other Federal courts, or to invest State courts with Federal jurisdiction. Section 72 provides that the Justices shall be appointed by the Governor-General in Council, and shall not be removed, except on an address from both Houses of Parliament in the same session praying for their removal on the ground of proved misbehaviour or incapacity; also that the Parliament shall fix the remuneration, which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office. The High Court is invested by the Constitution with both original and appellate jurisdiction. Section 73 provides that the High Court shall have jurisdiction to hear and determine appeals from all judgments, decrees, orders, and sentences of any Justice exercising the original jurisdiction of the court, or of any other Federal Court or court exercising Federal jurisdiction, or of the Supreme or any other court of a State, from which there was on 1st January, 1901, an appeal to the Privy Council, or of the Inter-State Commission, but in the last mentioned case as to questions of law only. The Parliament may regulate the mode in which the jurisdiction may be exercised, and may limit the jurisdiction by excluding specified cases, or classes of cases, from it; but no such regulation or exception shall prevent the High Court from hearing and determining any appeal from the Supreme Court of a State in any matter in which, at the establishment of the Constitution—1st January, 1901—an appeal lay to the Privy Council. Section 74 provides that there shall be no appeal to the Privy Council “from a decision of the High Court upon any question, howsoever arising, as to the limits *inter se* of the constitutional powers of the Commonwealth and those of any State or States, or as to the limits *inter se* of the constitutional powers of any two or more States, unless the High Court shall certify that the question is one which ought to be determined by His Majesty in Council.” It is, however, provided that except as above mentioned the “Constitution shall not impair any right which the King may be pleased to exercise by virtue of His Royal prerogative to grant special leave of appeal from the High Court to His Majesty in Council”; but the Parliament may limit the matters in respect of which leave may be asked, and a Bill containing any such limitation shall be reserved by the Governor-General

for the Royal pleasure. Section 73 provides that the judgment of the High Court, in its appellate jurisdiction, shall be final and conclusive; but this (except as regards the particular class of constitutional questions mentioned above) is qualified by the above provision, preserving the prerogative right of the King in Council to grant special leave of appeal from such a judgment. By section 75, the High Court is invested with original jurisdiction in all matters arising under any treaty; affecting consuls or other representatives of other countries; in which the Commonwealth, or a person, suing or being sued on behalf of the Commonwealth, is a party; between States, or between residents of different States, or between a State and a resident of another State; or in which a writ of mandamus or prohibition or an injunction is sought against an officer of the Commonwealth. By sections 76, 77, and 78, the Parliament is empowered to confer additional original jurisdiction on the High Court in any matter arising under the Constitution, or involving its interpretation, or under any laws made by the Parliament, also in matters of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, and in those relating to the same subject-matter claimed under the laws of different States.

The Parliament is also empowered to define the jurisdiction of any Federal court other than the High Court; to define the extent to which the jurisdiction of any Federal court shall be exclusive of that which belongs to or is invested in the courts of the States; to invest any court of a State with Federal jurisdiction; and to confer "rights to proceed against the Commonwealth or a State in respect of matters within the limits of the judicial power." By section 79 the Parliament may prescribe the number of Judges by whom the Federal jurisdiction of any court may be exercised; and section 80 provides for trial by jury of any indictable offence against any law of the Commonwealth, and for the venue of the trial.

**Commonwealth
Judiciary Act
1903-1915.**

In pursuance of the powers conferred upon it by the Constitution, and within the limits specified therein, the Commonwealth Parliament passed a Judiciary Act, which was assented to on 25th August, 1903, and has been amended by Acts of 1906, 1907, 1910, 1912, 1914, and 1915. The High Court consists of a Chief Justice and six other Justices; and its principal seat is at the seat of Government, where there shall be the principal registry of the court. A district registry in each other State is also provided for, and peripatetic sittings are to be held when required. Chamber business may be dealt with by a single Justice of the High Court, or (except in matters within the exclusive jurisdiction of the High Court) by a single Judge in Chambers of the Supreme Court of a State. A Full Court, consisting of any two or more Justices of the High Court, sitting together, may hear and determine any case or question referred by, and appeals from judgments of, any such single Justice or Judge; appeals from judgments of any other court exercising Federal jurisdiction, or of the Inter-State Commission; applications for a new trial; and applications for leave or special leave to

appeal to the High Court from a judgment of the Supreme Court of a State, or of any other court of a State from which, at the establishment of the Commonwealth, an appeal lay to the Privy Council. The jurisdiction of the High Court to hear and determine appeals from judgments of the Supreme Court of a State sitting as a Full Court, or of any other court of a State from which at the establishment of the Commonwealth an appeal lay to the Privy Council, and applications for a certificate that a question, decided by the High Court, as to the constitutional powers of the Commonwealth and a State, or of any two or more States, is one which ought to be determined by the Privy Council, shall be exercised by a Full Court consisting of not less than three Justices.

In addition to the original jurisdiction conferred by section 75 of the Constitution, previously mentioned, the High Court is, by section 30 of the Judiciary Act, invested with original jurisdiction in all matters arising under the Constitution or involving its interpretation, in matters of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction, and in trials of indictable offences against the laws of the Commonwealth. By section 23 of the Act, as amended in 1912, a Full Court consisting of less than all the Justices cannot decide a constitutional question, unless a majority of all the Justices concur in the decision. Subject to this enactment, when the Full Court is divided in opinion, the question is to be decided by the decision of the majority, if there is a majority; but, if the Court is equally divided, then, if a decision of a Justice of the High Court, or of a Supreme Court of a State, or a Judge thereof, is called in question by appeal or otherwise, the decision appealed from is to be affirmed; but in any other case the opinion of the Chief Justice, or, if he is absent, the opinion of the senior Justice present, is to prevail. By section 33 the High Court is empowered to make orders or issue writs of mandamus, prohibition, ouster of office, and *habeas corpus* in certain cases. Part V. of the Act limits and defines the appellate jurisdiction; Part VI., as amended by the Act of 1907, defines the matters in which the jurisdiction of the High Court is exclusive; Part VII., as amended by the same Act, provides for the removal to the High Court of causes arising under the Constitution or involving its interpretation, which are pending in any State Court, and also provides that where in any cause pending in the Supreme Court of a State there arises any question as to the limits *inter se* of the constitutional powers of the Commonwealth and those of any State or States, or as to the limits *inter se* of the constitutional powers of any two or more States, it shall be the duty of the Court to proceed no further in the cause, and the cause is, by virtue of the Act and without any order of the High Court, removed to the High Court; Part VIII. treats of the members and officers of the High Court; Part IX. of suits by and against the Commonwealth and the States; and Part X. of criminal jurisdiction, and Part XI. contains supplementary provisions, dealing with appearance of parties, applications of laws, venue, and rules of court.

By the *Judiciary Act* 1910, a new Part, viz., Part XII., was added to the Principal Act. This part enables the Governor-General to refer to the High Court any question of law as to the validity of any Act or enactment of the Federal Parliament, and confers on the Court jurisdiction to hear and determine the matter. The matter has to be heard before all the Justices, except in the case of illness or absence from the Commonwealth of any Justice. The States are entitled to be represented, also any persons interested. The decision of the High Court is final, and not subject to any appeal.

By section 49 of the Act it is provided that any person entitled to practise as a barrister or solicitor or both in any State shall have the like right to practise in any Federal Court, upon entry of his name in a Register of Practitioners at the Principal Registry; and by section 86 (*ga*) the Justices of the High Court are empowered to make Rules of Court for the admission of persons to practise as barristers or solicitors in any Federal Court. Rules of Court have been made accordingly (Statutory Rules, 1908, No. 35), which establish a Board, called the Commonwealth Practitioners' Board, and consisting of the Attorney-General of the Commonwealth, the Secretary to the Attorney-General's Department, the Principal Registrar of the High Court, and such practising barristers or solicitors as the Chief Justice may from time to time appoint. The Rules further provide for the admission of persons as students-at-law and for their examination and admission as practitioners. By an amending Rule of Court passed during 1913 (Statutory Rules 1913, No. 330) it has been provided that persons qualified to practise as barristers or solicitors of the Superior Courts of the United Kingdom or of any self-governing part of the British Empire may, if the High Court thinks that special and sufficient reason exists, be admitted on motion to practise as barristers or solicitors of any Federal Court.

By a further amending Rule of Court passed in 1914 (Statutory Rules, 1914, No. 148) a person who satisfies the Board that he has served for a period of ten years either in a Registry of the High Court or in the Commonwealth Crown Solicitor's office, and during the last five of those years has been intrusted with duties requiring a professional knowledge of law, is entitled to the privileges of a student-at-law who has passed the Intermediate Examination.

THE LEGAL SYSTEM IN VICTORIA.

The law of Victoria, in its basic principles and main provisions, is founded on the law of England. All laws in force in England in 1828 were, so far as they should be held to apply to the circumstances of Australia, by Imperial Statute made law in New South Wales (which then included Victoria); and, in case of any doubt as to their applicability, the Colonial Legislature was empowered to declare whether or not they did apply, or to establish any modification or limitation of them within the colony. The same Statute established a Legislature within New South Wales with power to make laws for

that colony; and Supreme and other courts were constituted. On the separation of Port Phillip from New South Wales in 1851, the new colony of Victoria was invested with similar powers, which were widened on the establishment of responsible government in 1855. In order, therefore, to ascertain the law of Victoria as to any particular matter or point, considerable research is often involved. The first step is a search of the Victorian Statutes. If the matter is fully dealt with there, the labour is concluded; but, if it has never been dealt with by any Victorian Act, recourse must be had to the Statutes of New South Wales and the Imperial Statutes specially applicable to New South Wales passed between 1828 and 1851. If no law on the point is obtainable from these sources, the law of England in 1828 must be ascertained, which in most cases is found in the English text-books. Having found the apparent law from one of these sources, it is still necessary to search through series of law reports for decisions which may either modify or interpret the same.

Heirship in Victoria has been since 1864 limited to cases in which probate or letters of administration have been granted, and, by the *Administration and Probate Act 1872* (now incorporated in the *Administration and Probate Act 1915*), it is provided that the real estate of a deceased person shall be applied as if the same were personalty. The following are the rules by which the property and effects, both real and personal, of persons dying intestate are now by law distributed:—

(a) IF A MAN OR WOMAN DIE INTESTATE—

Leaving—	Proportions taken by Representatives.
No husband, wife, or child	All to next-of-kin of equal degree.
Husband or wife and child or children, and children of a deceased child	One-third to husband or wife, rest to child or children equally; and, if children are dead, then to their lineal descendants; but any child who had estate by settlement of intestate, or received an advance from him in his lifetime, shall bring such estate or advance into account.
No husband or wife or children, but both father and mother	Half each.
No husband or wife, but child or children, whether by one or more husbands or wives	All to him or her or to them equally.
Child and grandchild by a deceased child	Half each.
Father, brothers, and sisters	Whole to father.
Mother, brothers, and sisters	If net value of estate £500 or under, whole to mother; if over £500 net, share equally.
Mother, but no husband or wife, or child, father, brother, sister, nephew, or niece	Whole to mother.
Brother or sister, and children of a deceased brother or sister	Half to brother or sister <i>per capita</i> , half to such children <i>per stirpes</i> .

(a) IF A MAN OR WOMAN DIE INTTESTATE—*continued.*

Leaving —	Proportions taken by Representatives.
Brother or sister of whole blood, and brother or sister of half-blood	Equally to both.
Uncles' or aunts' children, and brothers' or sisters' grandchildren	Equally to all.
Grandfather or grandmother, and uncle or aunt	Whole to grandfather or grandmother.
Aunts, nephews, and nieces	Equally to all.
Uncle and deceased uncle's child ..	Whole to the uncle.
Nephew by brother, and nephew by half-sister	Equally <i>per capita</i> .
Nephew by deceased brother, and nephews or nieces by deceased brother or sister	Equally <i>per capita</i> .
Brother or sister, and nephew or niece by deceased brother or sister	Divide equally, nephews or nieces <i>per stirpes</i> .
Brother and grandfather	Whole to brother.
Great grandfather and uncle ..	Equally.
Brother's grandson and brother's or sister's daughter	Whole to daughter.
Brother and two aunts	Whole to brother.

(b) IF A MAN DIE INTTESTATE—

Wife, no children	If net value of estate £1,000 or under whole to wife; if over £1,000, first £1,000 to wife; residue—half to wife, half to next-of-kin.
Wife only, no next-of-kin	If net estate £1,000 or under, whole to wife; if over £1,000, first £1,000 to wife; residue—half to wife, half to Crown.
Wife and father or mother	First £1,000 to wife as above; residue half each.
Wife, father and mother	First £1,000 to wife as above; residue, half to wife, half between father and mother.
Wife, mother, nephews, and nieces ..	First £1,000 to wife as above; if net residue £1,000 or under, half to wife, half to mother; if over £1,000, half to wife, one-fourth to mother, one-fourth to nephews and nieces <i>per stirpes</i> .
Wife, mother, brothers, sisters, nephews, and nieces ..	First £1,000 to wife as above; net residue, if £1,000 or under, half to wife, half to mother; if net residue over £1,000, half to wife, one-fourth to mother; residue to others (as to nephews and nieces <i>per stirpes</i>).
Wife, brothers or sisters, and mother..	First £1,000 to wife as above; net residue, if £1,000 or under, half to wife, half to mother; net residue, if over £1,000, half to wife, one-fourth to mother, one-fourth to others <i>per stirpes</i> .
Wife and brother	First £1,000 to wife as above; residue, half to each.

(e) IF A WOMAN DIE INTESTATE—

Leaving—	Proportions taken by Representatives.
Husband, no children	Half to husband, half to next-of-kin.
Husband only, no children or next-of-kin	Half to husband, half to Crown.
Husband and father	Half each.
Husband and mother	Half each.
Husband, father, and mother	Half to husband, half between father and mother.
Husband, mother, nephews, and nieces	Half to husband, one-fourth to mother, other fourth to nephews and nieces <i>per stirpes</i> . If, however, nephews were sons of a deceased brother and nieces were daughters of a deceased sister, the mother's share would be one-sixth.
Husband, mother, brothers, sisters, and nephews and nieces	Half to husband; residue to others (as to nephews and nieces <i>per stirpes</i>).
Husband, brothers or sisters, and mother	Half to husband, half to others equally.

Subjoined is a statement of the number of transactions and fees collected in connexion with the registration of births, deaths, and marriages during the year 1916 :—

GOVERNMENT STATIST'S TRANSACTIONS AND FEES, 1916.

Transactions.	Fees Payable.		Number of Transactions.	Amount.
	s.	d.		
Searches—				£
Ordinary	2	6	16,720	2,090
In church records	1	0	246	12
Free—				
On account of applications for—				
Old-age pensions .. .. .	...	...	3,040	...
War pensions .. .. .	...	...	4,229	...
Others .. .. .	...	...	1,460	...
Certificates—				
Ordinary	5	0	4,229	1,057
Of church records	1	0	23	1
Under Commonwealth Life Assurance Act	2	6	248	31
Under Friendly Societies Act	1	0	1,705	85
Free .. .. .	...	...	283	...
*Correction of entries	2	6	214	25
Addition of name within 12 months of registration	2	6	19	2
*Registration of births—				
After 60 days and under 1 year	5	0	59	11
,, 1 year and under 7 years	10	0	7	4
,, 7 years	10	0	26	13
*Legitimation cases	5	0	140	35
Production of documents .. .. .	...	...	3	3
Total... .. .	...	...	32,651	3,369

* Including cases where fees were remitted as follows :—Registration of Births after 60 days—Ordinary, 14; Legitimation cases, 2; Correction of entries, 14.

The amounts received during the previous five years were :—£2,748 in 1911, £3,459 in 1912, £3,136 in 1913, £2,901 in 1914, and £3,319 in 1915.

LITIGATION AND LEGAL BUSINESS.

Supreme Court civil business. The Supreme Court of Victoria was first established in 1852, and its constitution and powers remain substantially unaltered by recent legislation, although the procedure was entirely remodelled by the "Judicature Act of 1883." There were in 1916 five Judges, viz., a Chief Justice and four Puisne Judges.

The following is a statement of Supreme Court business during the last year of each of the five decennial periods ended 1910; and the last five years:—

SUPREME COURT CIVIL CASES, 1870 TO 1916.

Year.	Writs of Summons.		Causes Entered for Trial.	Causes Tried.	Verdicts for—		Amount Awarded.
	Number Issued.	Amount Claimed.			Plaintiff.	Defendant.	
1870 ..	5,583	£ 154,296	237	165	133	29	£ 29,298
1880 ..	5,065	185,131	221	161	133	28	47,401
1890 ..	6,619	687,503	535	297	229	65	68,592
1900 ..	825	137,083	161	106	62	31	101,896
1910 ..	743	69,182	129	85	37	16	7,984
1912 ..	745	80,156	108	92	35	26	12,343
1913 ..	637	77,867	116	106	32	11	14,293
1914 ..	662	76,755	92	53	28	22	14,501
1915 ..	572	105,468	120	66	21	21	8,081
1916 ..	659	125,585	98	56	28	12	14,541

Decline in litigation. There has been a considerable decline in litigation in the Supreme Court since 1890. In 1916, the writs issued were one-tenth; the amount sued for was about one-fifth; and the causes which actually came to trial were about one-fifth of the corresponding numbers and amount in 1890. The figures show that a very small proportion of writs result in actual trials, whilst a large number of trials are either abandoned before a verdict is given, postponed to the following year, or settled.

County courts business. County Courts have a jurisdiction both in equity and common law cases, limited to £500; also in cases remitted by the Supreme Court. The cause of action must have arisen within 100 miles of the court in which proceedings are taken,

which court must not be more than ten miles further away from defendant's residence than some other County Court in which the plaintiff might have sued. In 1916, there were 101 sessions lasting 421 days and held in 37 places. Particulars of litigation in the five decennial periods ended 1910, and the last five years, are as follows:—

COUNTY COURT CASES, 1870 TO 1916.

Year.	Number of Cases tried.	Amount sued for.	Amount awarded.	Costs awarded to—	
				Plaintiff.	Defendant.
1870	11,866	£ 277,236	£ 102,822	£ 13,815	£ 4,268
1880	9,498	215,929	99,338	13,765	3,956
1890	12,635	349,028	127,433	15,363	6,072
1900	789	160,676	49,595	5,188	2,782
1910	626	144,550	45,196	5,199	1,992
1912	545	201,472	63,543	6,216	2,555
1913	511	203,273	77,135	7,454	2,419
1914	657	203,506	77,402	7,365	3,067
1915	647	202,578	85,614	*	*
1916	480	181,054	90,424	*	*

*No record.

The number of cases tried continues below the average of ten years ago. The number in 1916 was the lowest recorded, and was only one-twenty-sixth of that in 1890. The amount sued for and awarded had not, however, fallen off to anything like the same extent. This would seem to indicate that the public is less inclined than formerly to institute legal proceedings for the settlement of disputes; and that the County Court is not resorted to for the recovery of petty and trade debts to the same extent as in former years.

Courts of Petty Sessions were held at 256 places in Victoria in 1916 by stipendiary magistrates and honorary justices. Clerks of courts of ten years' standing, who have passed the prescribed examination, and barristers of five years' standing are eligible for appointment as police magistrates; but there is no legal training or knowledge of the law required as a condition precedent to the appointment of a person as an honorary justice of the peace. The jurisdiction in civil cases is limited to what may be called ordinary debts, damages for assault, and restitution of

Petty Sessions civil business.

goods, where the amount in dispute does not exceed £50. Particulars of such cases heard during a series of years are given hereunder :—

COURTS OF PETTY SESSIONS: CIVIL CASES, 1870 TO 1916.

Year.	Cases heard.	Amount claimed.	Amount awarded.
		£	£
1870	27,722	190,242	105,086
1880	19,983	75,684	50,764
1890	30,466	196,917	132,663
1900	17,577	95,890	80,960
1910	29,902	186,538	146,284
1912	36,043	251,564	190,485
1913	39,911	266,165	204,175
1914	41,497	277,156	207,863
1915	41,055	260,707	188,542
1916	38,573	243,007	170,086

In addition to the ordinary cases above mentioned, and to the criminal jurisdiction hereafter mentioned, Courts of Petty Sessions deal with other business of a civil and quasi-criminal nature. During the year 1916, 281 appeals against municipal ratings, 1,035 maintenance cases, 738 fraud summonses against debtors, 66,358 electoral revision cases, 4,977 cases relating to licences and certificates, 380 garnishee cases, 387 ejection cases, 52 prohibition cases, and 625 miscellaneous cases were heard, and 418 persons alleged to be lunatics were examined.

A statement is given below of the number of writs received by the Sheriff for the five decennial periods ended 1910, and the last five years, from which it will be seen that the decrease in later years is very considerable :—

Writs by
the Sheriff.

WRITS RECEIVED BY THE SHERIFF, 1870 TO 1916.

Year.	King's Writs against Person and Property.	Subjects' Writs against—		Total.
		The Person	Property.	
1870	35	75	2,146	2,256
1880	35	58	1,944	2,037
1890	13	21	2,282	2,316
1900	4	3	199	206
1910 ... ..	...	4	166	170
1912	3	3	205	211
1913	4	2	201	207
1914	6	1	203	210
1915	1	6	172	179
1916 ... ..	...	2	155	157

INSOLVENCIES.

The number of failures and the declared assets and liabilities during the five decennial periods ended 1910 and in each of the last five years were as follows:—

INSOLVENCIES AND DEEDS OF ARRANGEMENT,
1870 TO 1916.

Year.	Insolvencies.			Deeds of Arrangement.		
	Number.	Declared Liabilities.	Declared Assets.	Number.	Declared Liabilities.	Declared Assets.
		£	£		£	£
1870 ..	996	479,491	150,170	*	*	*
1880 ..	768	526,130	298,384	*	*	*
1890 ..	795	2,301,271	2,041,200	*	*	*
1900 ..	344	183,531	88,760	149	168,700	159,771
1910 ..	359	132,841	54,381	131	113,597	91,271
1912 ..	404	265,046	159,723	172	177,061	168,218
1913 ..	455	440,318	237,868	186	147,023	134,976
1914 ..	450	272,582	171,295	235	251,320	236,053
1915 ..	436	414,439	273,805	230	272,213	247,740
1916 ..	337	213,989	127,730	167	203,940	169,962

* Information not available.

The number of insolvencies in 1916 was the lowest recorded since 1857, with the exception of 1911 (306) and 1901 (327). The average number during the last eight years was 390, and the average declared liabilities £247,699. During the ten years 1899 to 1908 the average yearly number was 445, with declared liabilities of £244,538, whereas during the ten years 1889 to 1898, when the failures resulting from the financial crisis swelled the returns, the yearly average number was 833, with declared liabilities of £2,213,592. During the ten years 1879 to 1888 the average yearly number was 612, with declared liabilities of £661,720.

Insolvencies are of two kinds, voluntary and compulsory, and the following table shows the number of petitions of each kind in the last five years:—

Year.	Voluntary.	Compulsory.	Total.
1912 ...	374	30	404
1913 ...	411	44	455
1914 ...	409	41	450
1915 ...	391	45	436
1916 ...	300	37	337

In the next return will be found the occupations, in six classes, of those who became insolvent or compromised with their creditors during the last five years, also the number

Occupations
of Insolvents.

of breadwinners in each class at the census of 1911, and the proportion of the former to the latter. The total number of insolvents does not include 98 whose occupations were not stated:—

OCCUPATION OF INSOLVENTS, 1912 TO 1916.

Occupation Groups.	Number of Breadwinners, Census, 1911.	Average Number of Insolvents, 1912 to 1916.	Insolvents to every 10,000 Breadwinners.
Professional	43,819	17	3·88
Domestic	62,175	24	3·86
Commercial	91,611	160	17·47
Transport and Communication	39,238	28	7·14
Industrial	187,773	246	13·10
Primary Producers	144,384	120	8·31
Total	569,000*	595	10·46

* Exclusive of 8,053 persons of independent means.

Fewer breadwinners of the domestic and professional classes became insolvent than those of other classes, in proportion to their numbers in the community, whilst a greater proportion of the commercial than of any other class found it necessary to file their schedules or compound with their creditors.

Occupations of insolvents in detail.

The following figures show the occupations of insolvents for each of the five years 1912 to 1916:—

OCCUPATIONS OF INSOLVENTS.

Occupations.	Number of Insolvents during—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Professional Class.</i>					
Barrister, solicitor	3	..	..	1	1
Chemist .. .. .	..	1	..	..	1
Civil servant	5	1	1	1	2
Dentist .. .. .	..	..	1	2	..
Police	2	2	2	2	4
Others	4	18	11	9	10
<i>Domestic Class.</i>					
Boardinghouse keeper	3	4	..	5	2
Hotelkeeper	11	10	6	14	20
Others	6	7	12	12	8
<i>Commercial Class.</i>					
Agent	7	8	14	14	11
Butcher	24	14	23	22	15
Clerk, accountant	6	14	10	9	5
Commercial traveller, salesman, canvasser	8	6	10	14	6
Dealer	12	5	22	12	7
Draper	12	13	8	17	2

OCCUPATIONS OF INSOLVENTS—continued.

Occupations.	Number of Insolvents during—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>Commercial Class—continued.</i>					
Grocer, storekeeper	54	50	62	57	45
Hawker	3	3	2	3	2
Merchant, importer	4	7	16	9	7
Others	21	34	94	25	22
<i>Transport and Communication Class.</i>					
Carrier, carter, driver	11	13	17	16	8
Railway service	5	15	8	5	18
Tramway service	1	1	3	2	2
Others	1	1	3	1	7
<i>Industrial Class.</i>					
Blacksmith	6	9	17	5	7
Bootmaker	3	3	6	4	3
Builder, contractor	22	26	42	39	40
Carpenter, joiner	10	16	16	15	11
Coachbuilder, painter	6	..	4	8	5
Engineer, engine-driver	6	12	8	9	9
Labourer	91	87	81	108	78
Miller, baker	6	8	11	10	5
Saddler	3	2	6	2	5
Tailor, dressmaker	10	14	6	12	5
Watchmaker .. .. .	..	3	1	1	..
Others	49	56	70	90	44
<i>Primary Producers:</i>					
Farmer	82	102	86	42	43
Grazier	9	8	6	11	2
Miner	30	21	24	20	13
Others	21	22	28	17	13
<i>Indefinite Class</i>	19	25	17	21	16
Total	576	641	685	666	504

DIVORCE.

Divorce, &c. Under the Divorce and Matrimonial Causes Act, passed in 1861, a petition might be presented to the Supreme Court (a) by a husband praying that his marriage might be dissolved, on the ground that his wife had, since the celebration thereof, been guilty of adultery; (b) by a wife praying that her marriage might be dissolved on the ground that, since the celebration thereof, her husband had been guilty of incestuous adultery, or of bigamy with adultery, or of rape, sodomy, or bestiality, or of adultery, coupled with cruelty, or of adultery, coupled with desertion without reasonable excuse for two years.

Judicial separation was obtainable either by husband or wife on the ground of adultery, or cruelty, or of desertion without cause for a period of two years.

The *Divorce Act* 1889 (now incorporated with the *Marriage Act* 1915) extended the grounds upon which divorces might be granted, those added being as follows:—

- (a) That the respondent has, without just cause or excuse, wilfully deserted the petitioner, and, without any such cause or excuse, left him or her continuously so deserted during three years and upwards.
- (b) That the respondent has during three years and upwards been an habitual drunkard and either habitually left his wife without the means of support, or habitually been guilty of cruelty towards her, or being the petitioner's wife has for a like period been an habitual drunkard and habitually neglected her domestic duties or rendered herself unfit to discharge them.
- (c) That at the time of the presentation of the petition the respondent has been imprisoned for a period of not less than three years and is still in prison under a commuted sentence for a capital crime, or under sentence to penal servitude for seven years or upwards, or, being a husband, has within five years undergone frequent convictions for crime, and been sentenced in the aggregate to imprisonment for three years or upwards and left his wife habitually without means of support.
- (d) That within one year previously the respondent has been convicted of having attempted to murder the petitioner, or of having assaulted him or her with intent to inflict grievous bodily harm, or on the ground that the respondent has repeatedly during that period assaulted and cruelly beaten the petitioner.
- (e) That the respondent, being a husband, has since the celebration of his marriage and the date of this Act been guilty of adultery in the conjugal residence, or coupled with circumstances or conduct of aggravation, or of a repeated act of adultery.

The Act further provides for simplifying and cheapening the mode of procedure, for the hearing and trying of suits in private at the discretion of the court, for prohibiting the publication of evidence, and for the intervention of the Attorney-General where collusion is suspected, but there is no provision as in earlier legislation for applications or decrees for the restoration of conjugal rights. The Act can only be taken advantage of by persons domiciled in the State for at least two years.

Since jurisdiction was first conferred upon the Supreme Court of Victoria in matters matrimonial in 1861, 3,894 decrees for dissolution of marriage and 99 decrees for judicial separation have been granted. Of these, 3,546 and 28 respectively have been issued since 1890; so that, during the 30 years ended 1890, only 348 decrees for dissolution of marriage were issued, and 71 for judicial separation, or an average per annum of about twelve of the former and two of the latter; whereas, since the Divorce Act of 1889 received the Royal Assent in 1890, no less than 136 decrees per annum for dissolution of marriage have been granted, while the decrees for judicial separation have decreased to about one per annum.

Divorces, Sex. The next table gives the sex of the petitioner, also the number of decrees granted for divorce, judicial separation, and nullity of marriage during the year 1916 :—

DIVORCES, 1916.

	Petitions filed by—			Decrees granted to—		
	Husband.	Wife.	Total.	Husband.	Wife.	Total.
Dissolution of Marriage	129	135	264	91	114	205
Judicial Separation ...	1	5	6	...	1	1
Nullity of Marriage ...	...	1	1	...	1	1
Total ...	130	141	271	91	116	207

Grounds of divorce. The grounds upon which divorces were granted during the last two years were :—

Grounds for Divorce.	Divorces granted to—			
	Husband.		Wife.	
	1915.	1916.	1915.	1916.
Adultery ...	42	40	28	32
Assaults (violent) ...	...	...	...	...
Cruelty, repeated acts of...:	...	...	...	...
Desertion ...	41	50	92	75
Desertion and adultery ...	...	1	3	3
Drunkenness (habitual) and cruelty	1	...	7	2
Sentences for crime ...	1	...	...	2
Total ...	85	91	130	114

Divorces in
Australian
States and
New
Zealand.

The following is a statement of the number of petitions and decrees for dissolution of marriage and judicial separation in the Australian States and the Dominion of New Zealand during the four decennial periods ended 1911, and each of the last five years, also of the proportion of decrees per 100,000 married couples living :—

DIVORCES AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1881 TO 1916.

State.	Year.	Petitions for—		Decrees for—		Divorces and Separation per 100,000 Married Couples Living.
		Dissolution of Marriage.	Judicial Separation.	Dissolution of Marriage.	Judicial Separation.	
Victoria	1881	18	10	9	..	7
	1891	153	1	99	..	57
	1901	148	2	83	..	46
	1911	262	2	211	..	99
	1912	300	2	247	2	113
	1913	290	4	234	2	104
	1914	310	4	241	1	104
	1915	274	9	215	1	93
	1916	264	6	205	1	90
New South Wales	1881	23	..	15	..	14
	1891	99	17	50	17	40
	1901	353	33	208	20	111
	1911	426	22	206	12	79
	1912	494	27	343	12	122
	1913	304	24	313	9	107
	1914	577	32	295	5	97
	1915	564	29	346	6	112
	1916	645	22	347	11	114
Queensland	1881	7	1	2	..	7
	1891	12	4	5	1	10
	1901	15	1	14	..	19
	1911	17	2	27	1	29
	1912	22	5	15	1	16
	1913	38	2	31	1	31
	1914	30	2	29	1	28
	1915	36	3	26	..	24
	1916	23	3	49	..	46
South Australia	1881	7	4	3	1	9
	1891	13	1	5	..	10
	1901	13	1	6	..	11
	1911	23	..	20	..	29
	1912	14	1	11	..	15
	1913	39	2	9	..	12
	1914	26	2	20	..	27
	1915	24	1	19	..	25
	1916	27	..	14	..	19

DIVORCES AND JUDICIAL SEPARATIONS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1881 TO 1916—continued.

State.	Year.	Petitions for—		Decrees for—		Divorces and Separations per 100,000 Married Couples Living.
		Dissolution of Marriage.	Judicial Separation.	Dissolution of Marriage.	Judicial Separation.	
Western Australia	1881	1	..	2	1	73
	1891	3	..	4	..	59
	1901	16	1	12	1	44
	1911	37	2	30	2	66
	1912	70	2	36	..	70
	1913	87	2	37	..	69
	1914	80	6	16	1	31
	1915	53	6	30	2	58
	1916	48	2	13	..	24
Tasmania	1881	2	..	1	..	6
	1891	4	..	3	..	14
	1901	11	..	11	..	43
	1911	4	1	3	1	13
	1912	8	..	8	..	25
	1913	12	..	5	..	15
	1914	9	..	9	..	28
	1915	5	..	5	..	15
	1916	12	..	2	..	6
Northern Territory	1913	2	..	1	..	227
	1914	1	..	1	..	222
	1915	..	..	..	..	..
	1916	..	..	..	..	..
Australia	1881	58	15	32	2	10
	1891	284	23	166	18	39
	1901	556	38	334	21	63
	1911	769	29	497	16	70
	1912	908	37	660	15	88
	1913	1,072	34	630	12	81
	1914	1,033	46	611	8	76
	1915	956	48	641	9	80
	1916	1,019	33	630	12	79
Dominion of New Zealand	1881	*	*	*	*	*
	1891	31	5	20	3	25
	1901	136	1	101	1	86
	1911	226	4	161	..	94
	1912	274	3	222	2	127
	1913	260	5	223	..	123
	1914	290	3	234	..	126
	1915	249	3	221	..	118
	1916	289	4	249	..	133

* Figures not available.

The grounds of divorce have been extended in New South Wales and New Zealand, and are now substantially the same in Victoria

and New South Wales. The extension of the grounds upon which divorce may be obtained has had in New South Wales and New Zealand, as in Victoria, the effect of greatly increasing the number of petitions and decrees.

The divorce rate is higher in Australia than in the United Kingdom, but lower than in most of the other principal countries of the world. The number of divorces in various countries and their proportions to the populations are shown in the accompanying table for the latest periods for which the information is available:—

DIVORCES IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Period.	Population.	Divorces (Annual Average).	
			Number.	Per 100,000 Popu- lation.
Australia	1912-1916	4,845,000	634	13
Austria	1906-1910	27,943,000	342	1
Belgium	1908-1912	7,460,400	1,052	14
Bulgaria	1896-1900	3,744,280	396	11
Denmark	1906-1910	2,669,000	677	25
England and Wales ..	"	35,063,000	639	2
Finland	"	3,005,000	166	6
France	"	39,376,000	13,119	33
German Empire	"	62,863,000	13,460	21
Bavaria	"	6,719,000	833	12
Prussia	"	38,777,000	8,441	22
Saxony	"	4,661,000	1,490	32
Hungary	"	17,908,000	6,082	34
Ireland	1899-1903	4,458,770	*	*
Italy	"	32,475,250	819	3
Japan	1906-1910	49,546,000	61,089	123
Netherlands	1909-1913	6,038,600	908	15
New Zealand	1912-1916	1,079,800	229	21
Norway	1909-1913	2,416,900	434	18
Roumania	1906-1910	6,776,000	2,357	35
Scotland	"	4,679,000	199	4
Servia	"	2,821,000	438	16
Sweden	1909-1913	5,560,700	634	11
Switzerland	1906-1910	3,647,000	1,490	41
United States	1902-1906	81,697,200	66,500	81

* Annual average less than one. Only one divorce granted during the five-year period.

CRIME.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE CRIMINAL LAW.

In nearly all cases where the criminal law has been broken, the alleged offender is brought at the very first opportunity before a Court of Petty Sessions, before two honorary justices or a police magistrate, or both, or in some cases a single magistrate, and the court, if the matter is one which comes within its summary jurisdiction, disposes of the case summarily. If the offence is an indictable one, the magistrates hold a preliminary investigation and, if they are satisfied that a *prima facie* case has been made out by the prosecution, the accused is committed for trial to a superior court. There are two superior courts with criminal jurisdiction, viz., the Supreme Court, and a Court of General Sessions, which are held at various places throughout the State. The latter court may deal with all cases of an indictable nature except such as are expressly excluded from its jurisdiction, viz., ten of the most serious crimes. A person may be brought before magistrates by three modes of procedure, viz., by an arrest by a police officer on warrant issued on a sworn information; or in a limited number of cases without warrant if the offence has been witnessed by the arresting constable; or by a summons. If at a coroner's inquest a verdict is returned of murder or manslaughter, the accused person is sent for trial to the Supreme Court without any investigation before magistrates. The Attorney-General or Solicitor-General also has the power of presenting any person for trial before a superior court without the necessity of a preliminary magisterial hearing: and upon the application of any person, properly supported by affidavit, a grand jury may be summoned, on the order of the Full Court, if the affidavit discloses that an indictable offence has been committed by a corporate body; or that such an offence has been committed by any person, and that some justice has refused to commit such person for trial; or in the case of a committal that no presentment has been made at the court at which the trial would in due course have taken place. The grand jury consists of 23 men, who investigate the charge, and, if they are of opinion that a *prima facie* ground of action has been made out, the case is sent for trial. The cases which are presented under these latter forms of procedure are, however, very rare.

Indeterminate sentences.

The Indeterminate Sentences Act came into force on 1st July, 1908. Its principal provisions are—

1. The adoption of the indeterminate sentence for (a) habitual criminals, and (b) certain classes of other offenders.
2. The appointment of an Indeterminate Sentences Board.
3. The establishment of reformatory prisons.
4. A system of probation applicable to adults as well as minors.

A Board, consisting of Mr. C. A. Topp, M.A., LL.B. (chairman), Mr. W. R. Anderson, P.M., Secretary to the Crown Law Department,

and the Rev. J. H. Ingham, was appointed on 18th August, 1908. Mr. Topp resigned his position on the Board on 24th April, 1912, and the Hon. S. Mauger was appointed by the Governor in Council in his stead on 1st May, 1912. Mr. Topp was re-appointed a member of the Board *vice* Rev. J. H. Ingham, deceased, on 5th October, 1914. Mr. Mauger was subsequently elected chairman.

The chief functions of the Board are to make visits of inspection monthly to each reformatory prison, to examine the conduct reports of the inmates, and accounts of their earnings, to authorize promotion in grade, to approve of indulgences, and to make careful inquiries as to whether any persons detained in a reformatory prison are sufficiently reformed to be released on probation, and submit recommendations accordingly to the Chief Secretary; also generally to report on the working of the Indeterminate Sentences Act and the regulations. Additional important powers have been vested in the Board under the provisions of the Amending Indeterminate Sentences Act of 1915, chief among which are—

- (a) To parole a prisoner temporarily for the purpose of testing his reform;
- (b) To impose conditions of release;
- (c) To transfer prisoners from one reformatory prison to another;
- (d) To hear charges of misconduct and impose punishments in place of the visiting justice at a reformatory prison for the detention of persons not habitual criminals;
- (e) To control the disbursement of a prisoner's earnings upon release; and
- (f) To recommend to the Minister that he make an order permitting a prisoner detained in a reformatory prison to leave such prison temporarily—
 - (1) for the purpose of being treated in a hospital; or
 - (2) to visit a relative believed to be dying; or
 - (3) for any other reason which appears to the Board to be sufficient.

Another important change under the Amending Act is the substitution of "Minister" for "Governor in Council" as the authority by whose direction a prisoner may be released on probation on the Board's recommendation. Regulations governing the treatment of declared habitual criminals, and of offenders, not habituals, who are detained under indeterminate sentence in a reformatory prison, are now in operation.

In the early part of the financial year 1916-17, the Board was enabled to bring into operation two valuable aids to the reformation of the inmates of the reformatory prisons by the Government sanctioning the purchase of a farm in connexion with the Castlemaine Reformatory, and the establishment of a forestry settlement at French Island. The farm at Castlemaine is located three miles from the prison, and the inmates—twelve to fifteen in number—are taken to and fro daily.

They have largely to be placed on their honour, and it is satisfactory to note that only three have broken their trust by yielding to the temptation to abscond, their recapture being effected after a brief interval in each case. The lads have shown an eagerness to be employed on the farm, and they have taken an interest in the work. They are receiving a practical training in farming operations, which will be useful to them on release, and the greater freedom they enjoy has not made them less amenable to discipline. The improvements they have effected in the course of eleven months have very considerably added to the value of the property.

For the afforestation camp, known as the McLeod Settlement, French Island, the men have been selected from those under indeterminate detention at Pentridge. The first company, five in number, despatched to lay out the camp, set up a high standard of conduct and industry which, it is pleasing to record, has been maintained by those who have followed. The strength of the camp has been gradually increased from five to thirty-five prisoners, with three officers. At the outset, the men were housed in tents, but they now occupy rooms or cubicles built of weatherboard, and erected by themselves under the supervision of a Public Works officer. In addition to clearing the land about the camp and erecting buildings, they have been employed in tree planting or carrying out work preparatory to tree planting, under the direction of an officer of the Forests Department, and have accomplished much useful work. Like the youths engaged on the farm at Castlemaine, they have largely to be placed on their honour, and their good behaviour, loyalty, and industry afford the best evidence of their appreciation of the change from confinement within the prison walls to the open-air life and comparative freedom of the camp.

Both experiments give promise of being successful both from a reformatory and an economic point of view.

The number of prisoners under indeterminate detention on 30th June in each of the last two years was as follows:—

Name of Reformatory Prison.	Year ended 30th June.	
	1916.	1917.
Pentridge Reformatory Prison	91	58
Castlemaine Reformatory Prison	34	26
Reformatory for Females, Coburg	3	4
McLeod Settlement, French Island .. ..	..	29
Total	128	117

Probation officers to supervise first offenders released by the Courts on recognizance under the provisions of the *Crimes Act 1915*, are appointed by the Governor in Council on the recommendation of the Board, and 234 such officers have been appointed to date.

OFFENCES HEARD BY MAGISTRATES.

Arrests and
summonses
for various
offences.

The following are particulars of the different classes of offences dealt with by magistrates in 1916, distinguishing between arrests and summons cases :—

ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES FOR VARIOUS OFFENCES, 1916.

Nature of Offence.	Number of—		Total Offences.	How disposed of—		
	Arrests made.	Summonses issued.		Summarily convicted, held to bail, &c.	Dis- charged.	Com- mitted for trial.
Against the Person—						
Murder and attempts at	18	...	18	...	5	13
Manslaughter ...	4	...	4	...	...	4
Shooting at, wounding, &c. ...	21	...	21	...	5	16
Assaults ...	434	711	1,145	641	504	...
Others ...	121	109	230	52	80	98
Total ...	598	820	1,418	693	594	131
Against Property—						
Robbery, burglary, &c.	265	...	265	63	68	134
Larceny and similar offences ...	1,131	1,123	2,254	1,423	651	180
Wilful damage ...	115	406	521	345	176	...
Others ...	160	201	361	212	113	36
Total ...	1,671	1,730	3,401	2,043	1,008	350
Forgery and Offences against the Currency	20	...	20	...	2	18
Against Good Order—						
Drunkenness ...	11,264	52	11,316	6,049	5,267	...
Others ...	3,218	4,453	7,671	5,404	2,267	...
Total ...	14,482	4,505	18,987	11,453	7,534	...
Other Offences—						
Perjury ...	27	...	27	...	2	25
Breaches of—						
Defence Act ...	232	543	775	685	90	...
Education Act ...	21	5,535	5,556	4,783	773	...
Electoral Act ...	...	12,756	12,756	6,939	5,817	...
Licensing Act ...	2	2,053	2,055	1,421	634	...
Pure Food Act ...	...	263	263	198	65	...
Miscellaneous ...	546	13,511	14,057	12,031	1,998	28
Total ...	828	34,661	35,489	26,057	9,379	53
Grand Total ...	17,599	41,716	59,315	40,246	18,517	552

These particulars include the arrests and summonses disposed of in Children's Courts, which are detailed in the next table, other than arrests of neglected children.

Of the persons dealt with in the 41,716 summons cases, 29,752 were summarily convicted, 11,921 were discharged, and 43 were committed for trial. Of the total persons dealt with (59,315), 40,246 were summarily convicted, 18,517 were discharged, and 552 were committed for trial.

The table hereunder shows the number of arrests and summonses for various offences which were disposed of in Children's Courts during the year 1916 :—

CHILDREN'S COURTS: ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES FOR VARIOUS OFFENCES, 1916.

Nature of Offence.	Number of Offences for which—		Others (Application to board out, &c.).	Total Offences.
	Arrests, were made.	Summonses were issued.		
Against the Person—				
Assaults	2	33	..	35
Others	7	9	..	16
Total	9	42	..	51
Against Property—				
Larceny, &c.	473	859	..	1,332
Wilful Damage	17	291	..	308
Others	5	52	..	57
Total	495	1,202	..	1,697
Against Good Order—				
Drunkenness	2	1	..	3
Others	83	974	..	1,057
Total	85	975	..	1,060
Other Offences—				
Breaches of Defence Act ..	7	223	..	230
" Licensing Act .. ..	..	..	..	..
Miscellaneous	690	613	1,420	2,723
Total	697	836	1,420	2,953
Grand Total	1,286	3,055	1,420	5,761

The arrests of neglected children, which in 1916 numbered 1,495, viz., 783 males and 712 females, have been included in this table to indicate the business done by Children's Courts, but they are eliminated from all other criminal tabulations.

Of the persons who were brought before magistrates during the past five years, 35 per cent. were arrested, and 65 per cent. summoned. The great increase in summons cases since 1906 is due principally to the number of prosecutions

Arrests and summonses cases.

under the Licensing, Pure Foods, Commonwealth Electoral, and Defence Acts, and is also partially accounted for by more parents having been summoned for neglecting to send their children to school than in previous years—the compulsory clauses of the Amending Education Act requiring children to attend a greater number of times than formerly. The particulars for the last year of each of the four decennial periods ended with 1911, and for each of the last five years, are shown in the subjoined table:—

ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES, 1881 TO 1916.

Year.	Arrested by the Police.	Brought before Magistrates on Summons.	Total.
1881	22,640	19,384	42,024
1891	31,971	24,525	56,496
1901	27,855	21,130	48,985
1911	19,398	25,128	44,526
1912	19,814	33,273	53,087
1913	21,554	34,504	56,058
1914	21,084	36,893	57,977
1915	20,276	42,864	63,140
1916	17,599	41,716	59,315

Neglected children arrested.

The arrests of neglected children, which are excluded from this and the following tables, numbered 1,228 in 1912, 1,465 in 1913, 1,443 in 1914, 1,846 in 1915, and 1,495 in 1916.

Offences dealt with by magistrates.

The following are particulars of cases brought before magistrates, from which it will be seen that about 72 per cent. of the persons are generally summarily convicted and 27 per cent. are discharged, whilst 1 per cent. are sent for trial to superior courts:—

ARRESTS AND SUMMONSES DEALT WITH BY MAGISTRATES, 1912 TO 1916.

Number of Persons.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Arrested or summoned	53,087	56,058	57,977	63,140	59,315
Discharged by magistrates	13,870	15,661	16,373	17,559	15,746
Summarily convicted or dealt with	38,646	39,786	41,033	44,947	43,017
Committed for trial	571	611	571	634	552
Persons summarily convicted or committed per 1,000 of population	29.0	29.6	29.2	32.0	30.9

In regard to persons arrested, included in these figures, minor charges are excluded, and only that charge which throughout the hearing of the case has been most prominent is taken account of; but, in regard to summons cases, the unit is each separate charge or case.

CRIME AND DRUNKENNESS IN AUSTRALASIA.

A proper comparison of crime cannot be made between different States or countries unless several considerations are taken into account. The first point necessary is that the criminal law in the places compared should be substantially the same; the second, that it should be administered with equal strictness; and the third, that proper allowances are made for differences in the age and sex constitution of the population. The last consideration is one that must also be taken into account in comparing crime in recent years with that for previous periods when the population was very differently constituted in regard to sex and age. The returns of the States and the Dominion of New Zealand do not afford sufficient data to enable one to allow for these differences. In regard to the first two points above mentioned, the basis and main provisions of the criminal law are the same in each State; and it must be presumed, in the absence of any evidence to the contrary, that the law is administered with equal strictness in each State. The following table shows, for a series of years, the number of persons arrested or summoned for the only classes of offence for which complete comparisons can be made:—

CRIME IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND, 1890 TO 1915.

State.	Year.	Number of Persons Arrested or Summoned for—				
		Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Drunkenness.	Other Offences.	Total.
Victoria	1890	4,091	5,036	18,501	36,456	64,084
	1895	2,344	3,336	11,143	20,843	37,666
	1900	2,103	3,106	15,878	28,003	49,090
	1910	1,663	3,052	12,719	34,626	52,060
	1911	1,654	2,671	13,603	26,598	44,526
	1912	1,617	2,978	13,524	34,968	53,087
	1913	1,598	3,096	14,782	36,582	56,058
	1914	1,544	3,239	14,437	38,757	57,977
	1915	1,539	3,634	13,453	44,514	63,140
	New South Wales	1890	8,729	7,616	18,654	31,088	66,087
1895		4,459	6,153	18,379	35,987	64,978
1900		4,435	6,675	21,003	30,747	62,860
1910		3,608	6,517	27,542	36,293	73,960
1911		3,725	5,924	29,398	36,067	75,114
1912		4,197	7,055	32,915	45,784	89,951
1913		4,177	7,440	32,676	47,814	92,107
1914		4,454	7,427	33,393	49,492	94,766
1915		4,017	7,953	26,010	48,596	86,576
Queensland		1890	2,713	2,487	6,332	7,464
	1895	2,073	2,085	4,993	8,522	17,673
	1900	1,937	2,552	9,254	10,621	24,364
	1910	871	1,699	10,870	8,664	22,104
	1911	913	1,613	12,824	10,132	25,482
	1912	782	1,642	14,225	10,674	27,323
	1913	951	1,580	14,852	11,783	29,166
	1914	837	1,567	16,510	10,721	29,635
	1915	802	1,694	16,260	11,291	30,047

CRIME IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND,
1890 TO 1915—continued.

State.	Year.	Number of Persons Arrested or Summoned for—				Total.
		Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Drunkenness.	Other Offences.	
South Australia	1890	520	501	2,382	3,572	6,975
	1895	411	677	1,763	2,128	4,979
	1900	304	575	2,249	2,847	5,975
	1910	333	449	4,383	3,163	8,328
	1911	320	484	4,673	2,958	8,435
	1912	306	552	5,470	4,357	10,685
	1913	328	598	5,994	4,898	11,818
	1914	385	657	5,282	4,369	10,693
	1915	315	651	4,060	4,561	9,587
Western Australia	1890	371	536	1,181	2,602	4,690
	1895	654	1,080	2,154	4,489	8,377
	1900	1,037	1,746	3,070	8,920	14,773
	1910	545	1,083	4,550	7,082	13,260
	1911	454	1,189	4,857	7,362	13,862
	1912	479	1,161	4,908	8,544	15,092
	1913	505	1,153	5,353	9,431	16,442
	1914	536	1,269	5,795	10,279	17,879
	1915	351	1,091	4,836	8,616	14,894
Tasmania	1890	483	619	1,151	4,143	6,396
	1895	353	710	463	3,237	4,763
	1900	368	676	832	3,475	5,351
	1910	267	600	761	5,451	7,079
	1911	237	549	756	5,055	6,597
	1912	234	545	644	5,661	7,084
	1913	219	581	729	5,572	7,101
	1914	222	567	685	5,007	6,481
	1915	175	565	628	4,938	6,306
Northern Territory	1911	13	...	34	45	92
	1912	25	9	80	105	219
	1913	8	8	61	62	139
	1914	24	10	76	93	203
	1915-16	12	13	158	104	287
Total Australia	1890	16,907	16,795	48,201	85,325	167,228
	1895	10,294	14,041	38,895	75,206	138,436
	1900	10,184	15,330	52,286	84,613	162,413
	1910	7,287	13,400	60,825	95,279	176,791
	1911	7,316	12,430	66,145	88,217	174,108
	1912	7,640	13,942	71,766	110,093	203,441
	1913	7,786	14,456	74,447	116,142	212,831
	1914	8,002	14,736	76,178	118,778	217,634
	1915	7,211	15,601	65,405	122,620	210,837
Dominion of New Zealand (excluding Maoris)	1890	1,516	2,297	5,830	8,604	18,247
	1895	1,281	2,557	5,104	8,639	17,581
	1900	1,526	2,680	7,319	13,165	24,690
	1910	1,178	3,555	11,695	21,566	37,994
	1911	1,190	3,487	11,495	21,923	38,095
	1912	1,165	3,733	11,627	25,869	42,394
	1913	1,219	4,092	11,691	29,845	46,847
	1914	1,290	4,082	13,258	30,741	49,371
	1915	1,132	3,913	13,028	27,432	45,505

The next table gives the number of persons arrested or summoned per 1,000 of the population in the Australian States and New Zealand during a series of years:—

PROPORTION OF VARIOUS OFFENCES TO POPULATION IN EACH AUSTRALIAN STATE AND THE DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND, 1890 TO 1915.

State.	Year.	Persons Arrested or Summoned per 1,000 of the Population for—			
		Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Drunkenness.	Other Offences.
Victoria	1890	3.66	4.50	16.54	32.59
	1895	1.93	2.82	9.41	17.60
	1900	1.76	2.60	13.31	23.47
	1910	1.30	2.38	9.92	27.00
	1911	1.25	2.02	10.30	20.15
	1912	1.19	2.20	9.97	25.78
	1913	1.15	2.22	10.61	26.26
	1914	1.08	2.28	10.14	27.23
	1915	1.08	2.55	9.43	31.20
New South Wales	1890	7.92	6.91	16.93	28.21
	1895	3.53	4.87	14.53	28.46
	1900	3.28	4.93	15.51	22.70
	1910	2.23	4.02	17.00	22.40
	1911	2.24	3.56	17.66	21.67
	1912	2.42	4.06	18.95	26.36
	1913	2.31	4.12	18.07	26.44
	1914	2.40	4.01	18.03	26.72
	1915	2.15	4.26	13.92	26.00
Queensland	1890	7.03	6.45	16.41	19.35
	1895	4.58	4.60	11.03	18.82
	1900	3.95	5.21	18.90	21.68
	1910	1.47	2.87	18.36	14.63
	1911	1.50	2.64	21.00	16.59
	1912	1.24	2.60	22.52	16.90
	1913	1.46	2.42	22.76	18.06
	1914	1.24	2.32	24.46	15.89
	1915	1.17	2.47	23.67	16.43
South Australia	1890	1.64	1.60	7.53	11.35
	1895	1.18	1.94	5.06	6.11
	1900	.85	1.60	6.26	7.93
	1910	.83	1.12	10.93	7.88
	1911	.78	1.17	11.33	7.17
	1912	.72	1.30	12.90	10.27
	1913	.76	1.38	13.82	11.30
	1914	.88	1.49	12.00	9.93
	1915	.72	1.48	9.23	10.38

PROPORTION OF VARIOUS OFFENCES TO POPULATION IN EACH AUSTRALIAN STATE AND THE DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND, 1890 TO 1915—*continued.*

State.	Year.	Persons Arrested or Summoned per 1,000 of the Population for—			
		Offences against the Person.	Offences against Property.	Drunkenness.	Other Offences.
Western Australia	1890	8.28	11.97	26.37	58.09
	1895	7.06	11.66	23.25	48.45
	1900	5.86	9.86	17.34	51.45
	1910	2.01	4.00	16.79	26.13
	1911	1.58	4.15	16.94	25.69
	1912	1.59	3.85	16.28	28.35
	1913	1.61	3.67	17.05	30.03
	1914	1.66	3.92	17.92	31.78
	1915	1.09	3.38	15.00	26.73
Tasmania	1890	3.36	4.31	8.01	28.93
	1895	2.22	4.46	2.91	20.36
	1900	2.13	3.91	4.82	20.29
	1910	1.39	3.12	3.95	28.33
	1911	1.22	2.84	3.90	26.11
	1912	1.20	2.79	3.30	28.98
	1913	1.12	2.96	3.72	28.45
	1914	1.12	2.86	3.45	25.24
	1915	.88	2.83	3.15	24.77
Northern Territory	1911	3.97	...	10.39	13.74
	1912	7.44	2.68	23.83	31.25
	1913	2.19	2.19	16.66	16.94
	1914	6.40	2.67	20.26	24.79
	1915-6	2.73	2.95	35.88	23.62
Australia	1890	5.44	5.41	15.51	27.46
	1895	2.98	4.06	11.24	21.74
	1900	2.72	4.10	13.98	22.62
	1910	1.67	3.06	13.92	21.80
	1911	1.63	2.77	14.73	19.64
	1912	1.64	3.00	15.45	23.70
	1913	1.62	3.01	15.50	24.18
	1914	1.63	2.99	15.49	24.13
	1915	1.46	3.15	13.21	24.77
Dominion of New Zealand	1890	2.44	3.70	9.39	13.86
	1895	1.85	3.71	7.37	12.48
	1900	2.00	3.51	9.58	17.24
	1910	1.19	3.58	11.78	21.72
	1911	1.17	3.44	11.33	21.60
	1912	1.12	3.59	11.19	24.90
	1913	1.14	3.83	10.94	27.93
	1914	1.18	3.74	12.16	28.20
	1915	1.03	3.56	11.85	24.95

Almost all serious crimes are either offences against the person or offences against property. The only serious crimes included under "Other Offences" are forgery, counterfeiting, conspiracy, and perjury, and these are very few in number, there having been in Victoria in 1915 only 48 of such crimes out of a total of 44,514 in the category to which they belong. A large proportion of the cases under the heading "Other Offences" are merely breaches of various Acts of Parliament, by-laws, &c., which indicate no degree of criminal instinct or intent on the part of the person charged. There is also among them a large number of offences against good order, including insulting behaviour, vagrancy, &c. A comparison of the relative proportions in the various States of charges under the heading "Other Offences" is not of much value, on account of the differences in the laws of the States in these matters, and of the large proportion of the offences which are not crimes, but mere breaches of various Acts and by-laws.

Offences against the person. Offences against the person set out in the first column of the preceding table consist mainly of assault, but include murder, manslaughter, shooting, wounding, and all crimes of lust. A glance at the figures shows that since 1890 there has been a very large decline in these crimes in every State in proportion to population. South Australia easily holds the pride of place, then comes Tasmania, closely followed by New Zealand, Victoria, Western Australia, and Queensland, then New South Wales and Northern Territory, in that order.

Offences against property. A decrease, as compared with 1890, has also occurred in the proportion of offences against property in all the Australian States and New Zealand. The decrease in respect of these offences in Australia is, however, not nearly so marked as that in respect of offences against the person. Offences against property are far less rife in South Australia than in any other State or New Zealand, Queensland coming next, followed by Victoria, Tasmania, Northern Territory, Western Australia, New Zealand, and New South Wales, in that order. Offences against property consist principally of larceny and similar offences; but include burglary, robbery, &c., cattle stealing, and wilful damage to property.

Drunkenness. In four Australian States, viz., Victoria, New South Wales, Western Australia, and Tasmania, there was a decrease in drunkenness cases before magistrates in 1915, as compared with 1890; but there was an increase in New Zealand. This offence is much less frequent in Tasmania than in any other State, South Australia coming next, and Victoria, New Zealand, New South Wales, Western Australia, Queensland, and Northern Territory following in that order.

Charges against persons arrested, 1871 to 1916. Appended is a table showing the number of charges against persons arrested under each class of offence in the five census years ended with 1911, and in 1916:—

CHARGES AGAINST PERSONS ARRESTED AT FIVE DECENNIAL PERIODS AND IN 1916.

Offences.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1916.
<i>Against the Person—</i>						
Murder and attempts at ...	28	16	44	12	17	19
Manslaughter ...	14	16	9	11	6	4
Shooting at, or wounding with intent to do bodily harm, &c.	63	82	84	83	44	23
Assaults ...	1,023	1,155	1,317	832	487	493
Rape, and other offences against females ...	88	71	66	116	93	94
Unnatural offence and attempts at ...	18	5	14	13	8	11
Suicide, attempted ...	79	81	96	57	45	13
Others ...	11	28	21	18	19	21
<i>Against Property—</i>						
Robbery, burglary, house-breaking, &c. ...	421	367	609	460	324	251
Horse, cattle, and sheep stealing ...	121	89	96	56	37	33
Larceny ...	2,052	2,024	2,384	1,807	1,175	1,302
Embezzlement ...	43	32	70	28	16	20
False pretences and imposing or endeavouring to impose ...	195	206	243	137	142	112
Wilful damage ...	581	547	503	314	146	192
Others ...	413	468	253	157	163	266
Forgery and offences against the currency ...	82	58	109	47	44	40
<i>Against Good Order—</i>						
Drunkenness ...	9,968	11,065	18,057	17,360	13,538	11,264
Indecent, riotous, or offensive conduct, and obscene, threatening, or abusive language ...	1,099	3,997	5,010	4,269	2,698	2,220
Having no visible lawful means of support, begging, and vagrancy (unspecified)	886	1,419	2,020	1,035	421	485
Offences against Gambling						
Suppression Act ...	85	95	177	324	65	414
Others ...	2,825	1,366	1,940	1,988	655	843
<i>Other Offences—</i>						
Perjury ...	32	21	56	33	21	29
Marriage and Matrimonial Causes Act (desertion of family, &c.) ...	174	150	211	188	191	194
Others ...	1,190	837	772	426	387	725
Total ...	21,491	24,195	34,161	29,771	20,742	19,068

Proportion of
arrests for
various
offences,
1871 to 1916.

Subjoined is a statement of the proportions to the population aged 15 years and upwards of those arrested for different offences in the five census years ended with 1911, and in 1916 :—

CHARGES AGAINST PERSONS ARRESTED PER 10,000 OF POPULATION, AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER, AT FIVE DECENNIAL PERIODS AND IN 1916.

Offences.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1916.
<i>Against the Person—</i>						
Murder and attempts at ...	·66	·30	·59	·15	·19	·20
Manslaughter ...	·33	·30	·12	·14	·07	·04
Shooting at, or wounding with intent to do bodily harm, &c.	1·49	1·54	1·12	1·05	·48	·24
Assaults ...	24·20	21·70	17·62	10·49	5·31	5·10
Rape, and other offences against females ...	2·08	1·34	·88	1·46	1·01	·97
Unnatural offence and attempts at ...	·43	·09	·19	·16	·09	·11
Suicide, attempted ...	1·87	1·52	1·28	·72	·49	·13
Others ...	·26	·53	·28	·23	·21	·22
<i>Against Property—</i>						
Robbery, burglary, house-breaking, &c. ...	9·95	6·90	8·15	5·80	3·54	2·60
Horse, cattle, and sheep stealing	2·86	1·67	1·29	·71	·40	·34
Larceny ...	48·54	38·04	31·90	22·79	12·82	13·46
Embezzlement ...	1·02	·60	·94	·35	·18	·21
False pretences and imposing or endeavouring to impose ...	4·61	3·87	3·25	1·73	1·55	1·16
Wilful damage ...	13·74	10·23	6·73	3·96	1·59	1·98
Others ...	9·77	8·80	3·39	1·98	1·78	2·75
Forgery and offences against the currency ...	1·94	1·09	1·46	·59	·48	·41
<i>Against Good Order—</i>						
Drunkenness ...	235·79	207·95	241·61	218·98	147·72	116·50
Indecent, riotous, or offensive conduct, and obscene, threatening, or abusive language ...	26·00	75·12	67·04	53·85	29·44	22·96
Having no visible lawful means of support, begging, and vagrancy (unspecified) ...	20·96	26·67	27·03	13·06	4·59	5·02
Offences against Gambling						
Suppression Act ...	2·01	1·78	2·37	4·10	·71	·428
Others ...	66·82	25·67	25·95	25·06	7·15	8·72
<i>Other Offences—</i>						
Perjury ...	·76	·39	·75	·42	·23	·30
Marriage and Matrimonial Causes Act (desertion of family, &c.) ...	4·11	2·82	2·82	2·37	2·08	2·01
Others ...	28·15	15·73	10·33	5·38	4·22	7·50
Total ...	508·35	454·70	457·09	375·53	226·33	197·21

Males and
females
arrested.

The sexes of persons brought up on summons are not recorded; but it usually happens that about 20 per cent. of the persons arrested are females. The males and females arrested, and the disposal of the cases, in 1916, were as follows:—

MALES AND FEMALES ARRESTED, 1916.

Disposal.	Arrests.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.
Summarily Convicted	8,462	2,032	10,494
Discharged by Magistrates	5,642	954	6,596
Committed for Trial	465	44	509
Total	14,569	3,030	17,599

SENTENCES PASSED.

Sentenced by
Magistrates.

The results of summary disposal of cases by magistrates during 1916 were as follows:—

SUMMARY DISPOSAL BY MAGISTRATES OF PERSONS ARRESTED, 1916.

Sentence.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fines paid	3,961	667	4,628
Imprisonment for—			
Under 1 month	2,713	1,010	3,723
1 and under 6 months	696	195	891
6 and under 12 months	142	43	185
1 to 2 years	26	10	36
2 years	6	...	6
Ordered to find bail or sentence suspended on entering surety	295	57	352
Admonished	271	31	302
Sent to Industrial or Reformatory Schools	96	11	107
Otherwise dealt with	256	8	264
Total sentenced	8,462	2,032	10,494
Discharged	5,642	954	6,596
Total summarily disposed of	14,104	2,986	17,090
Sentenced per 10,000 of population	124·44	27·86	74·46

Sentences in superior courts.

The following were the sentences of the arrested persons tried and convicted in superior courts during 1916 :—

SENTENCES OF ARRESTED PERSONS TRIED AND CONVICTED, 1916.

Sentence.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Fines paid	2	2	4
Imprisonment for—			
Under 1 month	2	1	3
1 and under 6 months	41	6	47
6 " 12 "	64	3	67
1 " 4 years	118	5	123
4 " 7 "	15	...	15
7 " 11 "	4	...	4
Life ... ..	...	1	1
Death recorded	5	...	5
Ordered to find bail or sentence suspended on entering surety	53	6	59
Sent to Reformatory Schools	4	...	4
" " Prison	9	1	10
" " Salvation Army Home ... ..	...	1	1
Total convicted	317	26	343
Acquitted	148	14	162
Not prosecuted	11	2	13
Convictions per 10,000 of population...	4.66	3.3	2.43

In addition to being sent to gaol, one person was ordered to be kept in solitary confinement during a portion of his term of imprisonment, and three prisoners were ordered one whipping each with a cat-o'-nine tails. Prisoners remaining for trial from the previous year are included in the above statement, but those awaiting trial at the end of the year are excluded.

To enable a comparison to be made of the relative criminality of the population at different ages, it is necessary to separate the sexes of arrested persons, to divide each sex into age groups, and to show the number of charges laid against the males and females in the different groups between ages 10 and 60 per 10,000 persons living in each group. The following are the particulars on this basis for the last five census years :—

CHARGES AGAINST PERSONS ARRESTED AT DIFFERENT AGES PER 10,000 OF POPULATION, 1871 TO 1911.

Ages.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901	1911.
	MALES.				
10 to 15 years	104	111	96	49	26
15 to 20 "	338	335	305	228	145
20 to 25 "	773	720	691	593	284
25 to 30 "	834	823	777	713	393
30 to 40 "	771	865	869	702	462
40 to 50 "	726	721	1,054	872	493
50 to 60 "	830	623	756	804	519
60 years and over	756	661	586	430	309

CHARGES AGAINST PERSONS ARRESTED AT DIFFERENT AGES PER
10,000 OF POPULATION, 1871 TO 1911—*continued.*

Ages.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.
	FEMALES.				
10 to 15 years	37	26	16	15	15
15 to 20 "	80	90	50	28	13
20 to 25 "	141	178	141	117	32
25 to 30 "	232	219	171	173	95
30 to 40 "	303	290	189	168	114
40 to 50 "	272	322	239	171	117
50 to 60 "	245	223	215	119	86
60 years and over	186	166	144	109	45

These figures prove that there has been a great decrease in crime in recent, as compared with former, years. In every age group there has been a considerable falling-off. The spread of education has doubtless had much to do with this result. Religious teaching was struck out of the curriculum of the State schools in 1873, and many attempts have been made to ascertain the effect on the community as revealed by statistics of crime. No definite conclusion can, however, be arrived at by merely examining these statistics for a series of years.

In comparing the criminal records of different periods many factors must be taken into account, some of which have a tendency to increase and others to decrease the numbers of arrests and summonses issued. For example, new laws are constantly being passed the contravention of which will lead to proceedings being taken against the person concerned. During a period of prosperity the earnings of the people are increased, a larger sum than usual is spent on alcoholic liquors, and there may be an increase in the number of arrests for drunkenness. On the other hand, when work is plentiful, the temptation to commit offences against property is less than during periods of depression. The work carried out by reformatory agencies also will tend to reduce the number of arrests of persons who have previously been convicted.

It is not possible from the records of a single community to ascertain the effect of a change in one element of the social economy unless the effect of all other changes is known. An approximate idea of the consequences of a change in one particular may, however, be obtained if a comparison be made between the criminal statistics of two communities during a term of years when the conditions were very similar except in regard to the special element under consideration.

It has already been stated that in making up the returns a person arrested more than once is counted as a separate individual in respect to each arrest, but it is possible to ascertain approximately the number of distinct persons passing through the hands of the police by making a close comparison of names,

Arrest of
distinct
individuals.

DISTINCT INDIVIDUALS ARRESTED, 1916.

Sex and Age of Persons Arrested.	Number of Arrests.	Number of Distinct Individuals Arrested.	Number of Times on which Distinct Individuals were Arrested.																										
			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	23	25	29			
			SEX.																										
Males	14,569	11,188	9,325	1,203	331	149	74	42	16	14	12	6	3	3	2	1	2	2	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	
Females	3,030	1,705	1,267	222	76	36	29	12	14	10	5	9	1	7	1	2	1	2	3	1	3	..	..	..	2	2
Total	17,599	12,893	10,592	1,425	407	185	103	54	30	24	17	15	4	10	3	3	3	4	3	1	3	1	1	1	2	2			
AGE.																													
Under 10 years ..	11	11	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10 to 15 „ ..	118	106	94	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15 to 20 „ ..	902	805	735	56	8	2	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20 to 25 „ ..	1,646	1,477	1,337	118	16	5	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25 to 30 „ ..	2,046	1,650	1,426	158	33	12	8	5	1	1	1	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
30 to 40 „ ..	4,155	2,970	2,427	327	103	38	27	11	8	7	4	6	1	2	..	1	..	2	2	..	1	1	1	..	..	1	
40 to 50 „ ..	4,193	2,877	2,260	357	112	66	25	17	10	10	4	3	2	4	2	1	1	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
50 to 60 „ ..	3,012	1,978	1,505	270	87	49	29	13	6	6	4	1	..	2	..	..	2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	2	1
60 to 70 „ ..	1,217	821	645	98	40	10	8	7	4	..	3	2	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	
70 to 80 „ ..	257	171	130	25	8	3	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
80 years and over..	42	27	22	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

ages, birth-places, religions, occupations, &c., of the individuals dealt with. This has been done for 1916, so far as sex and age of the persons arrested are concerned, and the result is given in the following table:—

Of the total number of arrests, 17,599, only 12,893, or 73 per cent., were of distinct individuals. Of these, 10,592 or 82 per cent., were arrested only once; 1,425, or 11 per cent., twice; 407, or 3 per cent., three times; 185, or 2 per cent., four times; and 284, or 2 per cent., five times and over—one of these persons having been arrested twenty-three times, two twenty-five times, and two twenty-nine times. The table which follows gives a comparison of 1916 with 1884, from which it will be seen that there has been a large decline in the number of distinct persons arrested, but that little change has occurred in the proportions arrested once, twice or oftener:—

DISTINCT PERSONS ARRESTED, 1884 AND 1916.

Year.	Distinct Persons Arrested.						Percentage Arrested.				
	Number.			Per 100,000 of the Population.			Once.	Twice.	Thrice.	Four Times.	More than Four Times.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.					
1884 ...	16,229	3,628	19,857	3,309	820	2,129	78	14	4	2	2
1916 ...	11,188	1,705	12,893	1,645	234	915	82	11	3	2	2

Sexes of those arrested more than once. The tendency of females to be arrested over and over again is much greater than that of males, for, while only 17 per cent. of the males who fell into the hands of the police were arrested more than once, as many as 26 per cent. of the females were so arrested.

Distinct persons arrested more than once for drunkenness. The distinct persons arrested for drunkenness during 1916 numbered 7,774, and, of these, 1,622, or 22 per cent., were arrested more than once, viz., 954 twice; 307 thrice; 147 four times; 69 five times; and 145 more than five times, of whom 2 were arrested twenty-nine times.

Drunkenness, 1884 and 1916. The number of distinct persons arrested for drunkenness was 10,287 in the year 1884, and 7,774 in 1916. The proportions per 1,000 of the population were 11.03 and 5.52 respectively in the years mentioned, the decrease in the later year being equivalent to a reduction of 50 per cent.

Drunkards charged with other offences. Whilst the number of distinct persons arrested for drunkenness was 7,774, the charges of drunkenness brought against them numbered 11,264; these persons were also charged with 1,207 other offences, so that the total number of charges of all kinds against drunkards was 12,471, as compared

with 19,068 charges of all descriptions. Thus 65 per cent. of the offences for which persons were arrested during 1916 were committed by persons who were arrested for drunkenness.

Education of persons arrested. Over 2 per cent. of the distinct individuals arrested in 1916 were entirely illiterate, 97 per cent. could read only, or read and write, and under 1 per cent. were possessed of superior or good education.

Criminal cases in superior courts. The number of criminal cases tried and of convictions in the superior courts, the Supreme Court and the Court of General Sessions, throughout the State, in the last year of each of the five decennial periods ended 1910, and in each of the last five years, was as follows:—

CRIMINAL CASES—SUPREME COURT AND GENERAL SESSIONS, 1870 TO 1916.

Year.	Total Number of Cases Tried.	Total Number of Convictions.	Proportions of Conviction per 10,000 of Population.
1870 ...	835	573	8·03
1880 ...	567	387	4·55
1890 ...	964	662	5·92
1900 ...	652	451	3·78
1910 ...	669	435	3·35
1912 ...	753	501	3·70
1913 ...	757	506	3·63
1914 ...	708	494	3·47
1915 ...	777	533	3·74
1916 ...	644	462	3·28

This statement shows that there was a fall in 1916 as compared with 1890 of 33 per cent. in the number of criminal cases tried in the higher courts, and of 30 per cent. in the number of convictions.

Crime in United Kingdom. The statistics to hand relating to the United Kingdom give the commitments for trial and convictions in the superior courts. The following table shows the number of commitments for trial and convictions, and their respective proportions to the population of each division of the

United Kingdom during the last year of each of the three decennial periods ended 1910, and during each of the four years ended 1914 :—

CRIME IN THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1880 TO 1914.

Country.	Year.	Commitments for Trial.	Convictions.	Proportion per 10,000 of Population of—	
				Commitments.	Convictions.
England and Wales...	1880	14,770	11,214	5·74	4·36
	1890	11,974	9,242	4·16	3·21
	1900	10,331	8,157	3·20	2·53
	1910	14,330	11,987	4·00	3·35
	1911	13,643	11,338	3·78	3·14
	1912	14,021	11,666	3·84	3·19
	1913	13,125	10,779	3·55	2·92
	1914	11,409	9,277	3·10	2·52
Scotland ...	1880	2,583	2,046	6·97	5·52
	1890	2,312	1,825	5·77	4·56
	1900	2,167	1,835	4·88	4·14
	1910	1,488	1,225	3·14	2·59
	1911	1,401	1,122	2·94	2·36
	1912	1,533	1,189	3·24	2·51
	1913	1,358	1,056	2·87	2·23
	1914	1,292	1,012	2·73	2·14
Ireland ...	1880	4,716	2,383	9·06	4·58
	1890	2,061	1,193	4·39	2·54
	1900	1,682	1,087	3·76	2·43
	1910	2,036	1,373	4·66	3·14
	1911	2,114	1,496	4·82	3·41
	1912	2,109	1,443	4·81	3·29
	1913	2,238	1,483	5·11	3·39
	1914	1,970	1,410	4·50	3·22
Total United Kingdom	1880	22,069	15,643	6·37	4·52
	1890	16,347	12,260	4·36	3·27
	1900	14,180	11,079	3·45	2·69
	1910	17,854	14,585	3·98	3·25
	1911	17,158	13,956	3·79	3·09
	1912	17,663	14,298	3·87	3·13
	1913	16,719	13,316	3·63	2·89
	1914	14,671	11,699	3·20	2·55

From the next table it will be observed that, in proportion to the population, the commitments in the years 1911-15 in England were above those in Scotland, South Australia, and Tasmania, also that the convictions in Ireland, England, and Scotland exceeded those in South Australia and Tasmania; in all other cases the commitments

Proportion of commitments for trial and convictions in Australian States, New Zealand, and Britain.

and convictions in the three portions of the United Kingdom were below those in the Australian States and New Zealand :—

PROPORTION OF COMMITMENTS AND CONVICTIONS TO EVERY 10,000 PERSONS LIVING IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1911 TO 1915.

Commitments for Trial to every 10,000 of Population.		Convictions after Commitment to every 10,000 of Population.	
New South Wales	8·31	Queensland	5·48
Queensland	7·02	New South Wales	5·23
Western Australia	5·75	New Zealand	3·90
New Zealand	5·21	Victoria	3·63
Victoria	5·15	Western Australia	3·33
Ireland (1910-14)	4·78	Ireland (1910-14)	3·29
England and Wales (1910-14) ...	3·65	England and Wales (1910-14) ...	3·02
Scotland (1910-14)	2·98	Scotland (1910-14)	2·37
Tasmania	2·81	South Australia	1·92
South Australia	2·80	Tasmania	1·59

The following figures show that in the five years, 1911 to 1915, convictions followed commitment with more certainty in England and Scotland than in any of the Australian States and New Zealand, but Queensland, New Zealand, and Victoria in this respect stood above Ireland. All the other Australian States occupy positions below these, Tasmania being at the bottom of the list with about 57 convictions to every 100 commitments :—

PROPORTION OF CONVICTIONS TO COMMITMENTS IN THE AUSTRALIAN STATES, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1911 TO 1915.

	Per Cent.		Per Cent.
England and Wales (1910-14) ...	82·74	Ireland (1910-14)	68·83
Scotland (1910-14)	79·53	South Australia	68·72
Queensland	78·06	New South Wales	62·94
New Zealand	74·90	Western Australia	57·91
Victoria	70·47	Tasmania	56·58

Drunkennes,
1912 to 1916. The number and proportion per 1,000 of the population of persons arrested or summoned for drunkenness during the last five years are given hereunder:—

**PERSONS ARRESTED OR SUMMONED FOR DRUNKENNESS,
1912 TO 1916.**

Year.	Number of Persons—			Proportion per 1,000 of Population.
	Arrested.	Summoned.	Total.	
1912 ...	13,481	43	13,524	9·99
1913 ...	14,726	56	14,782	10·61
1914 ...	14,388	49	14,437	10·14
1915 ...	13,390	63	13,453	9·43
1916 ...	11,264	52	11,316	8·03

Drunkennes
—**Comparison**
with previous
years.

The amount of drunkenness in proportion to population, as evidenced by arrests, being taken as 100 in 1874-8, the numbers for subsequent periods will show the increase or decrease by comparison:—

Period.	Index Number.
1874-8	Average 5 years 100
1879-85	" 7 " 88
1886-92	" 7 " 106
1893-97	" 5 " 65
1898-1902	" 5 " 84
1903-7	" 5 " 77
1908-12	" 5 " 68
1913 ..	" 72
1914 ..	" 69
1915 ..	" 64
1916 ..	" 55

A very considerable decrease in drunkenness is shown for the five years 1893-7, which was a period of general depression. In the five years following an increase occurred, but since that time the arrests for this offence have declined, and during the eight years ended 1915 the number relatively to population was only slightly above the lowest point of previous years. It will be noticed that the index number for the year 1916 was the lowest on record. In the middle of the year 1915 an Act was passed limiting the number of hours during which alcoholic liquors could be sold in hotels, and this may account in part for the decrease in drunkenness in the following year.

Young persons
charged
with
drunkenness.

The accompanying table shows the number of persons under 20 years of age arrested for drunkenness, also the proportion per 100,000 of the population under that age,

from which it will be seen that very few young persons are arrested for this offence:—

ARRESTS OF PERSONS UNDER 20 YEARS OF AGE CHARGED WITH DRUNKENNESS, 1895 TO 1916.

Year.	Number.	Proportion per 100,000 of the Population under 20 years of age.
1895	185	35·60
1900	222	42·38
1910	128	24·19
1912	146	26·48
1913	148	26·09
1914	163	28·12
1915	135	22·96
1916	113	19·25

The following tabulation shows the number of charges of drunkenness made against persons in each State and in New Zealand during 1915, also the number of convictions and the percentage of the latter to the former:—

PERCENTAGE OF CONVICTIONS FOR DRUNKENNESS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND, 1915.

State.	Charges of Drunkenness.	Convictions.	
		Total.	Percentage of Charges.
Victoria	13,453	7,086	52·67
New South Wales	26,010	25,863	99·51
Queensland	16,260	16,196	99·61
South Australia	4,060	4,027	99·19
Western Australia	4,836	4,806	99·38
Tasmania	628	612	97·45
Northern Territory	158	158	100·00
Australia	65,405	58,748	89·82
Dominion of New Zealand	13,028	12,962	99·49
Australasia	78,433	71,710	91·43

It will be seen from the last column in the above table that the percentage of convictions in Victoria was much less than in the other States and the Dominion of New Zealand, nearly every case resulting in a conviction in the latter places, as compared with about one out of every two cases in the former. These figures seem to denote a comparative leniency on the part of magistrates in drunkenness cases in

Victoria, but investigations show that in this State an offender on his first appearance is generally discharged, and that those who have been arrested on a Saturday and detained in custody until Monday are similarly dealt with. In some cases also, when an offender has been admitted to bail after arrest, he is discharged on putting a donation in the poor-box. In all these cases no conviction is recorded in Victoria, but in the other States a conviction is entered on the records in nearly every case, whether any punishment is inflicted or not.

CONSUMPTION OF INTOXICATING LIQUOR.

The next table shows for a period of five years the average yearly consumption of intoxicating liquors in the principal countries of the world, the information for foreign countries having been compiled from a return prepared to the order of the British House of Commons, dated 21st November, 1910 :—

AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF SPIRITS, BEER, AND WINE IN AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, AND THE PRINCIPAL BRITISH POSSESSIONS AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Countries.	Yearly Average Quantity Consumed. 1912 to 1916.			Proportion per Head.		
	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.
	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.	gallons.
British—						
Commonwealth of						
Australia ..	3,599,100	63,048,900	1,721,600	•74	13•02	•36
Dominion of New Zealand ..	868,100	10,675,100	151,800	•80	9•88	•14
	1909 to 1913.					
Canada ..	7,523,400	48,785,000	889,200	1•04	6•74	•12
Cape of Good Hope*	1,391,400	3,812,200	4,589,000	•56	1•56	1•84
Natal*	338,000	955,300	51,000	•28	•31	•04
Newfoundland ..	100,400	66,200	9,600	•41	•30	•04
United Kingdom ..	30,667,000	1,213,269,000	11,577,400	•70	26•80	•26
	1905 to 1909.					
Foreign—						
Austria ..	39,050,000	422,721,000	127,362,000	1•41	15•18	4•52
Belgium ..	7,907,000	355,436,000	7,660,000	1•08	48•58	1•04
Bulgaria ..	449,000	2,622,000	26,721,600	•11	•63	6•42
Denmark ..	6,026,000	53,878,000	..	2•29	20•50	..
France ..	51,902,000	313,236,000	1,353,823,000	1•33	7•96	34•52
German Empire ..	92,664,000	1,485,004,000	73,986,000	1•48	23•74	1•19
Holland ..	7,955,000	..	1,989,000	1•39	..	•35
Hungary ..	37,030,000	44,559,000	98,534,000	1•85	2•20	4•74
Italy ..	14,498,000	10,850,000	875,464,000	•43	•32	25•84
Norway ..	1,338,000	9,376,000	..	•67	4•06	..
Portugal ..	..	..	108,574,000	..	..	20•60
Roumania ..	5,130,000	3,507,000	35,468,000	•76	•53	5•36
Russian Empire ..	173,600,000	173,731,000	..	1•15	1•15	..
Servia ..	..	2,020,000	12,241,000	..	•73	4•40
Spain ..	..	..	325,015,000	..	..	17•32
Sweden ..	7,137,000	68,231,000	..	1•33	12•80	..
Switzerland ..	2,698,000	53,095,000	53,174,000	•77	15•22	15•26
United States ..	105,844,000	1,439,525,000	42,181,000	1•23	16•78	•49

NOTE.—Where blanks occur the information is not available.

* Figures refer to period 1905 to 1909.

Consumption
of drink in
various
countries
compared.

By comparing the figures for Australia in the foregoing table with those for the other countries mentioned therein it will be seen that the consumption of intoxicants was proportionately less in Australia than in many of them. As regards spirits, whilst the consumption in Australia was three-fourths of a gallon per head per year, in Denmark it amounted to $2\frac{1}{4}$ gallons; in Hungary to nearly 2 gallons; in Germany and Austria to about $1\frac{1}{2}$ gallons; in Holland, Sweden, France, Belgium, the Russian Empire, and the United States to more than a gallon; and in the United Kingdom to nearly three-fourths of a gallon. The greatest beer-producing countries of the world are the German Empire, the United States, and the United Kingdom, in that order; but in consumption per head of the population Belgium, with $48\frac{1}{2}$ gallons; the United Kingdom, with 27 gallons; Germany, with $23\frac{3}{4}$ gallons; and Denmark, with $20\frac{1}{2}$ gallons, are the foremost. The particulars in this table would indicate that Belgium consumes more beer than any other country in the world, but the statistics of the States comprising the German Empire show that Bavaria is entitled to that distinction, with a consumption of $50\frac{1}{2}$ gallons per head. The consumption in Würtemberg and in Baden was also high, reaching 32 gallons per head. The Australian consumption of 13 gallons does not appear to be large by comparison with those figures. The chief wine-producing countries of the world—France and Italy—are also the greatest consumers, the former averaging $34\frac{1}{2}$ gallons, and the latter 26 gallons per head. Portugal, with $20\frac{1}{2}$ gallons; Spain, with $17\frac{3}{4}$ gallons; and Switzerland, with $15\frac{1}{4}$ gallons, are also large consumers. The inhabitants of the British Empire are small wine-drinkers. At the Cape of Good Hope the consumption is highest, with nearly 2 gallons per head; Australia consumes less than two-fifths of a gallon per head; the United Kingdom about one-quarter of a gallon; and Canada nearly one-eighth of a gallon.

It will be observed that the figures for foreign countries relate to a period which terminated some years before the commencement of the war.

Expenditure
by the people
on intoxicating
liquor.

With the assistance of the figures in the preceding table, it is possible to estimate for Australia, with some degree of accuracy, the approximate expenditure of the people on intoxicating liquors in a year, and this is done in the

following table, taking as a basis the yearly average consumption over a period of five years :—

AUSTRALIAN DRINK BILL.—YEARLY AVERAGE, 1912 TO 1916.

	Expenditure by the People on—					
	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.	Total.		
				Amount.	Per Head.	Per Adult Individual
	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Commonwealth of Australia	6,478,700	9,457,300	864,800	16,800,800	3 9 5	6 2 2
Dominion of New Zealand	1,558,100	1,601,300	75,900	3,235,300	2 19 11	5 3 8

These figures show that the average yearly expenditure on drink in Australia during the quinquennium 1912 to 1916, amounted to £16,800,800, and that in New Zealand to £3,235,300. The proportion per head for the Commonwealth was £3 9s. 5d., and for New Zealand £2 19s. 11d. The corresponding proportions for the quinquennium, 1907-11, were £3 6s. 1d., and £2 18s. 5d. per head.

The subjoined table shows the average quantity and the amount per head of population of alcoholic liquors consumed in Victoria during the five-year periods ended 1885 and 1909. The period immediately preceding 1886 has been selected for comparison because in the year 1885 was passed an important measure—*The Licensing Act 1885*—relating to the obtaining and holding of licences :—

AVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF SPIRITS, BEER, AND WINE IN VICTORIA, 1881 TO 1885 AND 1905 TO 1909.

Average of five years ended—	Quantity Consumed.			Amount per head.		
	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.	Spirits.	Beer.	Wine.
	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons	gallons
1885	1,130,000*	14,110,800	713,500	1·21*	15·45	·78
1909	832,100	14,933,900	600,100	·66	11·92	·48

* Average of three years ended 1885.

After allowing for the increase of population, the fall between the five-year periods ended 1885 and 1909 in the quantities consumed per head represents a reduced consumption in the period ended 1909 of 683,300 gallons of spirits, 4,416,300 gallons of beer, and 376,800 gallons of wine. As the Commonwealth Government has discontinued keeping records of Inter-State trade, it is not possible to obtain the Victorian consumption for a later year than 1909. The consumption per head for the whole of Australia has increased slightly during the last five years.

INTOXICATING LIQUOR (TEMPORARY RESTRICTION) ACTS 1915 AND 1916.

Owing to the necessity which existed after the outbreak of war for removing all obstacles to its successful prosecution, it was considered desirable to limit the time during which alcoholic liquors may be sold in hotels. With this end the State Parliament passed a measure [Intoxicating Liquor (Temporary Restriction) Act No. 2584], which came into force on 6th July, 1915. Its principal provisions are as follows:—

In any licensed premises or club premises the hours during which intoxicating liquor may be sold are fixed at from nine o'clock in the morning until half-past nine o'clock at night. Power is given to keep billiard-rooms in hotels open until half-past eleven o'clock at night. Masters of vessels conveying passengers from any place within Victoria to any other place within the State are not allowed to sell liquor on Sundays. *Bona-fide* travellers, who may be served on Sundays, are defined as persons who have travelled at least twenty miles in a direct line to the licensed premises where they apply for refreshments. The penalty for drinking on unlicensed premises during prohibited hours is fixed at a sum not exceeding £2, and, for supplying drink on such premises, for a first offence the penalty is not less than £5 or more than £20, and for a second offence not less than £25 or more than £50. The term unlicensed premises embraces any premises where meals or refreshments are ordinarily sold for consumption on the premises, and includes any café, restaurant, oyster saloon, or other eating-house for which a victuallers' licence or Australian wine licence is not in force, and any building used in connexion therewith. Power is given to the members of the police force to execute search warrants at any time by day or night. If admittance to any unlicensed premises be refused or wilfully delayed to a member of the police force the offender is liable to a penalty of not less than £2 or more than

£10, and such officer may break into the premises. The penalties for the sale of liquor by unlicensed persons are increased. Consumption or intended consumption of liquor on premises is considered *prima facie* evidence of sale. The Act is to operate only during the continuance of the war.

An Act passed in 1916 (No. 2,827), which came into force on 9th October of that year, restricts the hours for the sale of intoxicating liquor to from 9 o'clock in the morning to 6 o'clock at night.

**Licences
Reduction
Board.** Just before the close of the year 1916 an amending Licensing Act (No. 2855) was passed, in which the members of the Licences Reduction Board were constituted a Licensing Court for the whole State. The taking of a local option poll was postponed to the second general election after January, 1917, and the Court was authorized in the meantime to close hotels to the extent of the Compensation Fund available, as if reduction had been carried in every Licensing District. No alteration was made in the provisions abolishing the statutory number of hotels for a district, so that the number existing on 1st January, 1917, is now the maximum number; a similar provision applying to grocers' licences, Australian wine licences, and club licences. The Mallee area was made the subject of special legislation, under which it is possible after a petition and a poll, to obtain victuallers' licences in proclaimed areas containing at least 500 electors. These hotels are to be 12 miles apart, except at Mildura, where there can be three hotels. The whole system of licence-fees was re-cast, fixed fees in the retail liquor trade being abolished and percentage fees substituted. In the wholesale section there are now percentage fees for the sales to private customers, and fixed fees in respect of the balance of the trade. The percentage fee in the case of hotels has been fixed at 6 per cent. on the annual liquor purchases, the owner paying three-eighths and the licensee five-eighths. This combines and takes the place of the old fixed fees, the 3 per cent. compensation fee, and the assessments for lost licence fees arising out of the closing of hotels. Spirit merchants and holders of grocers' licences and Australian wine licences pay 4 per cent. on the cost of liquors sold to non-licensed purchasers.

Provision was also made for the adjustment of rents owing to the reduction in the hours for selling liquor. This work was intrusted to the Board under the "9.30 Closing Act," and is now extended to include alterations due to the "6 o'clock closing." In the year 1916, about 400 cases of rent adjustment were dealt with. That number may be exceeded in the year 1917.

Up to 30th June, 1917, 1,117 hotels had been closed by the Board, or had surrendered their licences. Compensation has so far been awarded in 1,059 cases, and the total sum paid has been £543,586, or an average of £513 each. Two hundred and eighty-three of these hotels were located in the Greater Melbourne district, and their compensation totalled £250,004, making an average of £883 each; there were 776 in country districts, whose owners and licensees received £293,582, or an average of £378 for each hotel. In the appended table particulars are given regarding the hotels in the various licensing districts dealt with by the Board:—

OPERATIONS OF THE LICENCES REDUCTION BOARD TO 30TH JUNE, 1917.

Licensing District.	Licences, 31st December, 1906.			Hotels closed by Board.	Compensation Awarded.	
	Number in Existence.	Statutory Number.	Number in Excess.		Owner.	Licensee.
GREATER MELBOURNE.						
Barkly (Collingwood)	27	12	15	11	£ 7,070	£ 1,270
Beaconsfield	26	20	6	8	2,352†	280†
Bourke	82	24	58	40	31,994	7,210
Broadmeadows	23	10	13	11	3,666	490
Cardigan	58	19	39	31	21,466	3,682
Collingwood East	22	18	4	3	1,639	262
Darling (Collingwood)	30	16	14	10	7,245	1,035
Eltham	13	10	3	3	635	Nil
Emerald Hill	58	26	32	26	18,409	3,530
Fitzroy Central	22	13	9	6	4,270	600
Fitzroy South	36	15	21	16	12,226	2,090
Gipps	84	12	72	43	34,230	8,673
Jolimont	12	11	1	2	1,673	325
Latrobe	53	17	36	17	15,703	3,844
Lonsdale	51	29	22	13	12,495	2,231
Mulgrave	10	12	-2	2	...	...
North Melbourne	33	21	12	4	3,295	670
Nunawading	4	8	-4	1	...	...
Port Melbourne	46	23	23	18	12,239	2,260
Prahran	27	21	6	3	2,157	325
Princes Hill	34	19	15	12	9,326	1,253
Richmond Central	24	26	-2	4	...	...
Richmond North	24	21	3	6	1,762*	232*
Richmond South	17	18	-1	4	...	...
South Yarra	20	22	-2	5	...	...
Williamstown South	26	14	12	9	5,010	880
Total Greater Melbourne ...	862	457	405	308	208,862	41,142

* Compensation for two hotels.—† Compensation for three hotels.

OPERATIONS OF THE LICENCES REDUCTION BOARD TO 30TH JUNE, 1917—continued.

Licensing District.	Licences, 31st December, 1908.			Hotels closed by Board.	Compensation Awarded.	
	Number in Existence.	Statutory Number.	Number in Excess.		Owner.	Licensee.
COUNTRY.						
Alexandra	17	9	8	5	£ 1,706	£ 145
Allansford	11	10	1	1	375	60
Ararat	17	6	11	7	2,255	570
Bacchus Marsh	11	6	5	5	1,818	155
Bairnsdale	13	10	3	1	400	100
Ballan	21	12	9	10	2,295	250
Ballarat East	41	39	2	4	1,905	245
Ballarat West	83	36	47	33	19,372	4,206
Barkly (Bendigo)	34	19	15	14	5,756	970
Beaufort	26	11	15	11	2,587	135
Beechworth	33	12	21	21	5,069§	265§
Benalla	14	11	3	3	920	195
Berwick	14	14	...	2	...	...
Boort	5	5	...	1	260	Nil
Branxholme	12	10	2	1	350	Nil
Bridgewater	23	8	15	11	2,714	415
Bright	26	10	16	16	3,983†	420†
Bullarook	8	5	3	4	1,102	170
Bungaree	21	11	10	10	1,917	310
Buninyong	25	11	14	16	3,063‡	693‡
Carisbrook	11	3	8	6	1,436	142
Castlemaine	49	12	37	33	7,969	1,666
Charlton	20	10	10	5	1,800	285
Chiltern	15	6	9	8	2,270	270
Clunes	36	12	24	28	6,668	603
Creswick	22	10	12	14	3,506	536
Dargo	6	6	...	1	75	Nil
Darling (Bendigo)	71	13	58	39	23,707	3,535
Daylesford	20	6	14	9	3,665	660
Dimboola	12	10	2	1	225	No claim
Dowling Forest	19	9	10	10	3,085	306
Drouin	11	11	...	1	...	...
Dunmunkle	16	8	8	4	1,325	135
Dunolly	24	10	14	13	3,754	616
Eaglehawk	42	16	26	22	8,533	1,150
Echuca	22	8	14	7	5,034	830
Franklin	31	11	20	19	3,676	436
Fryers	18	6	12	13	2,358	289
Geelong East	26	21	5	5	1,860*	220*
Geelong West	31	22	9	7	1,932*	300*
Gisborne	15	8	7	5	1,594	302
Glenorchy	10	8	2	1	160	48
Golden Square	57	26	31	22	11,346	1,520
Goulburn	26	12	14	10	3,547	324

Compensation for—

* Three hotels. † Fourteen hotels. ‡ Fifteen hotels. § Twenty hotels.

OPERATIONS OF THE LICENCES REDUCTION BOARD TO 30TH JUNE,
1917—continued.

Licensing District.	Licences, 31st December, 1906.			Hotels closed by Board.	Compensation Awarded.	
	Number in Existence.	Statutory Number.	Number in Excess.		Owner.	Licensee.
<i>COUNTRY—continued.</i>						
Healesville	7	4	3	1	210	Nil
Heathcote	24	9	15	13	3,634	381
Heywood	4	7	-3	1	250	No claim
Horsham	16	10	6	3	1,765	125
Huntly	21	7	14	11	3,476	660
Inglewood	20	8	12	12	3,216	448
Kangaroo Flat	31	14	17	20	5,438	718
Kerang	20	12	8	1	250	Nil
Kilmore	13	8	5	4	1,655	180
Koroit	15	11	4	2	710	90
Kyneton	31	14	17	14	4,619	447
Lancefield	19	7	12	9	2,700	550
Landsborough	8	6	2	2	311	1
Lara	7	7	...	2	200*	90*
Lawloit	4	5	-1	1	160	50
Leigh	6	5	1	2	445*	Nil
Lexton	7	3	4	3	710	75
Lilydale	17	17	...	3	...	...
Maldon	23	10	13	13	2,872	510
Mansfield	13	8	5	5	1,253	217
Melton	26	8	18	11	3,697	490
Meredith	5	4	1	2	275*	Nil
Mirboo	6	7	-1	1	...	...
Moyston	10	8	2	2	405	45
Newstead	10	7	3	4	1,067	98
Newtown and Chilwell	8	10	-2	1	...	...
Numurkah	27	13	14	9	4,790	565
Oxley	7	9	-2	1	...	...
Penshurst	8	6	2	1	370	30
Phillip Island	12	12	...	2	...	...
Pitfield	15	12	3	7	1,428†	80†
Port Fairy	14	11	3	2	700	90
Portland	8	7	1	1	374	Nil
Queenscliff	16	13	3	2	300*	145*
Rochester	13	9	4	3	965	270
Rochester East	7	7	...	1	200	Nil
Rosedale	7	6	1	1	57	3
Runnymede	8	5	3	3	660	115
Rushworth	19	9	10	10	2,980	291
Rutherglen	19	18	6	5	1,726	380
Sale	17	7	10	8	3,441	640
Sebastopol	22	11	11	11	3,310	591
Serpentine	6	4	2	1	75	30

* Compensation for one hotel. — † Compensation for six hotels.

OPERATIONS OF THE LICENCES REDUCTION BOARD TO 30TH JUNE,
1917—continued.

Licensing District.	Licences, 31st December, 1906.			Hotels closed by Board.	Compensation Awarded.	
	Number in Existence.	Statutory Number.	Number in Excess.		Owner.	Licensee.
<i>COUNTRY—continued.</i>						
Seymour	10	8	2	1	£ 450	£ 110
Shepparton	13	9	4	4	No claim	150*
St. Arnaud	15	7	8	4	2,610	455
Stawell	28	9	19	19	5,934	1,169
Strathfieldsaye	17	6	11	8	1,885	214
Talbot	26	12	14	15	3,425	335
Taradale	17	7	10	12	1,944†	70†
Terrick	5	6	- 1	1	200	No claim
Timor	25	12	13	13	2,774	266
Towong	21	14	7	7	1,265	173
Trentham	15	7	8	5	1,458	100
Walhalla	22	10	12	15	3,910	575
Wangaratta	24	11	13	9	5,045	525
Warragul	9	9	...	1	...	...
Warrenheip	12	6	6	6	1,655	257
Warrnambool	19	12	7	4	2,260	390
Whittlesea	11	8	3	3	1,050	185
Wodonga	9	6	3	3	785	Nil
Wood's Point	10	7	3	1	120	Nil
Yackandandah	10	9	1	3	255*	No claim
Yarrawonga	23	12	11	5	1,610	25
Total Country	2,002	1,076	926	809	256,701	36,881
Grand Total	2,864	1,533	1,331	1,117	465,563	78,023

* Compensation for one hotel.

† Compensation for eleven hotels.

The return given hereunder shows the number of hotels
Hotels,
1885 and 1917. in Victoria in 1885 and 1917, and the persons to each hotel
in both years. The year 1885 has been selected because in
that year an important alteration was made in the liquor licensing laws:—

NUMBER OF HOTELS, 1885 AND 1917.

Year.	Estimated Population.	Number of Hotels.	Persons to each Hotel.
1885	969,200	4,265	227
1917 (30th June)	1,404,379	2,300	611
Increase	435,179	...	384
Decrease ... ..	...	1,965	...

While the population has increased by 45 per cent., the number of hotels has decreased by 46 per cent., and the number of persons to an hotel is now 169 per cent. more than in 1885. During the period 1885-1917, 217 hotels were closed as the result of local option polls, 1,117 were deprived of their licences by the Licences Reduction Board, or surrendered their licences to the Board, and 631 closed voluntarily.

The *Lotteries Gaming and Betting Act* 1906 (now Section 152 of the *Police Offences Act* 1915) provides that all race-courses must be licensed, for which a fee of £1 per annum is charged. It is stipulated that, in addition to this fee, there shall be paid annually a sum equal to 3 per cent. of the gross revenue derived from all sources. Where the gross revenue is less than £1,500, but more than £600, the annual sum payable is 2 per cent. of the revenue, and where the gross revenue is £600 or less no percentage is charged. The amounts paid into the Consolidated Revenue for licence fees and percentages on receipts during the past eleven years were as follows:—

REVENUE FROM RACECOURSE LICENCES AND PERCENTAGE FEES, 1907 to 1917.

Year ended 30th June.			Amount.	Year ended 30th June.			Amount.
			£				£
1907	..	..	4,962	1913	..	..	10,019
1908	..	..	5,818	1914	..	..	12,034
1909	..	..	6,007	1915	..	..	13,611
1910	..	..	6,201	1916	..	..	14,259
1911	..	..	7,977	1917	..	..	12,906
1912	..	..	9,216				

GAOLS AND PRISONERS.

There are eight gaols in Victoria, including the Pentridge Penal Establishment, and four reformatory prisons, also six police gaols which are used as receiving stations, and the figures below show that there is still accommodation in the gaols for about two and a half times the average number of prisoners in confinement. The following statement gives for the year 1916 the accommodation for prisoners, the daily average in confinement, the

Goals and prisoners.

number received during the year, and the number in confinement at the end of the year :—

GAOL ACCOMMODATION AND PRISONERS, 1916.

Name of Institution.	Number of Prisoners.							
	For whom there is Accommodation.		Daily Average.		Total Received.		In Confinement, 31.12.16.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Pentridge ..	732	..	380	..	504	..	416	..
Pentridge Reformatory Prison	86	..	77	..	37	..	70	..
Ballarat ..	62	18	18	2	255	25	18	1
Beechworth ..	66	15	12	..	56	..	2	..
Bendigo ..	28	3	9	..	181	18	10	..
Castlemaine Reformatory Prison ..	92	..	31	..	26	..	22	..
Coburg Female Prison ..	..	324	..	63	..	181	..	53
Jika Reformatory Female Prison	..	9	..	5	..	1	..	2
Geelong ..	213	3	72	..	333	13	90	..
McLeod Settlement Reformatory Prison ..	17	..	13	..	23	..	17	..
Melbourne ..	249	60	132	31	2,323	1,204	70	17
Sale ..	30	5	5	..	51	..	1	..
Police Gaols ..	60	12	3	..	150	4	8	..
Total ..	1,635	449	752	101	4,439	1,446	724	73

Prisoners in confinement, 1871 to 1916—decrease.

A statement is given below of the average number of prisoners in detention in the gaols of the State in the last years of decennial periods 1871 to 1911 inclusive, and in each of the last five years. From this it will be seen that there has been a considerable decrease in late years as compared with earlier periods. The rate per 10,000 of population, aged fifteen years and over, was, in 1916, 39 per cent. less than in 1901, 65 per cent. less than in 1891, 71 per cent. less than in 1881, and 77 per cent. less than in 1871.

PRISONERS IN CONFINEMENT, 1871 TO 1916.

Year.	Average number of Prisoners in confinement.			Proportion per 10,000 of Population, aged 15 years and over.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1871 ...	1,345	274	1,619	54·77	15·46	38·30
1881 ...	1,294	304	1,598	45·25	12·35	30·03
1891 ...	1,550	350	1,900	38·78	10·07	25·43
1901 ...	951	200	1,151	23·92	5·06	14·53
1911 ...	713	100	813	15·73	2·16	8·87
1912 ..	726	112	838	15·56	2·35	8·88
1913 ...	776	127	903	16·01	2·61	9·30
1914 ...	774	103	877	15·71	2·06	8·84
1915 ...	792	104	896	16·73	2·03	9·10
1916 ...	752	101	853	16·44	1·98	8·81

Birthplaces,
religions,
and ages of
prisoners.

The birthplaces, religions, and ages of prisoners constantly detained, as deduced from the numbers passing through the gaols, are shown below for the five decennial periods ended with 1911 and for 1916:—

BIRTHPLACES, RELIGIONS, AND AGES OF PRISONERS CONSTANTLY DETAINED, 1871 TO 1916.

	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1916.
Total	1,619	1,598	1,900	1,151	813	853
Birthplace—						
Australia and New Zealand	259	584	845	689	595	636
England and Wales ..	628	401	420	149	87	95
Scotland	129	105	129	56	26	30
Ireland	430	378	336	160	62	47
China	75	27	14	18	4	3
Others	98	103	156	79	39	42
Religion—						
Protestants	977	888	1,098	651	476	496
Roman Catholics ..	556	671	729	465	317	325
Jews	7	7	14	8	4	3
Buddhists, Confucians, &c.	74	27	14	12	1	2
Others	5	5	45	15	15	27
Age—						
Under 20 years	Information not available.	229	129	75	54	54
20 to 30 years		473	669	316	205	224
30 to 40 years		312	457	337	211	216
40 to 50 years		294	279	234	193	179
50 to 60 years		166	193	102	96	119
60 years and over ..		124	173	87	54	61

BIRTHPLACES, RELIGIONS, AND AGES OF PRISONERS CONSTANTLY DETAINED PER 10,000 OF POPULATION, 1871 TO 1916.*

	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1916.
Birthplace—						
Australia and New Zealand	7·23	10·84	10·65	7·25	5·32	5·31
England and Wales ..	36·75	27·20	25·78	12·72	9·73	9·93
Scotland	22·95	21·81	25·46	15·66	9·78	10·54
Ireland	42·80	43·58	39·39	26·01	14·95	10·59
China	42·00	22·88	16·53	28·89	7·14	4·95
Others	35·22	35·34	39·24	25·80	11·64	11·69

* The ratios refer to 10,000 persons in the community whose birthplaces, religions, or ages were as stated above.

BIRTHPLACES, RELIGIONS, AND AGES OF PRISONERS CONSTANTLY
DETAINED PER 10,000 OF POPULATION, 1871 TO 1916*—*continued.*

	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1916.
Religion—						
Protestants	18·88	14·36	13·12	7·19	4·90	4·76
Roman Catholics.. ..	32·59	32·98	29·33	17·63	11·07	10·59
Jews	19·60	16·17	21·68	13·54	6·38	4·43
Buddhists, Confucians, &c.	41·63	24·20	20·75	21·95	3·89	7·07
Others	2·27	2·00	10·78	7·03	3·11	5·24
Age—						
Under 20 years	Information not available.	5·30	2·53	1·42	1·01	·92
20 to 30 years		34·18	27·36	15·30	8·67	9·37
30 to 40 years		34·82	31·30	18·23	11·66	11·41
40 to 50 years		30·95	32·00	20·07	11·64	9·99
50 to 60 years		24·84	23·95	15·35	9·60	10·92
60 years and over		30·88	23·90	8·73	5·58	5·78

* The ratios refer to 10,000 persons in the community whose birthplaces, religions, or ages were as stated above.

It will be seen from the following figures that there has been a steady increase during the last 46 years in the proportion of prisoners who are able to read and write, and that there has been a corresponding diminution in the number of those who are entirely illiterate :—

EDUCATION OF PRISONERS, 1871 TO 1916.

Year.	Number of Prisoners in every 100—		
	Able to Read and Write.	Able to Read Only.	Illiterate.
1871	63	23	14
1881	81	7	12
1891	88	3	9
1901	91	1	8
1911	96	...	4
1916	98	...	2

The accompanying table shows the number of prisoners in confinement in the Australian States and New Zealand, also the proportion per 10,000 of the population, on 31st December, in the last year of each of the five decennia ended 1911, and in each of the past four years :—

PRISONERS IN GAOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND DOMINION OF NEW ZEALAND, 1871 TO 1916.

State.	Number of Prisoners in Confinement on the 31st December.								
	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Victoria	1,623	1,509	1,810	1,150	797	863	898	861	797
New South Wales	1,430	2,075	2,616	1,812	1,249	1,551	1,740	1,676	1,525
Queensland	231	304	613	574	514	450	518	450	340
South Australia	185	489	278	238	229	305	354	290	248
Western Australia	*	*	*	360	330	311	283	243	222
Tasmania	*	*	165	117	65	69	70	55	50
Northern Territory .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	8	11	18	8
Australia .. .. .	..	..	..	4,251	3,186	3,557	3,874	3,593	3,190
Dominion of New Zealand (including Maoris)	*	698	534	713	873	919	1,045	998	890
Prisoners per 10,000 of Population.									
Victoria	21.71	17.15	15.63	9.48	5.96	6.11	6.28	6.07	5.69
New South Wales	27.62	26.53	22.51	13.13	7.38	8.47	9.35	8.96	8.21
Queensland	13.46	13.70	15.31	11.35	8.26	6.82	7.65	6.55	5.08
South Australia	9.80	17.10	8.56	6.51	5.43	6.93	7.72	6.60	5.74
Western Australia	*	*	*	18.55	11.22	9.70	8.76	7.64	7.19
Tasmania	*	*	10.92	6.71	3.36	3.42	3.48	2.74	2.50
Northern Territory .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6.16	21.79	27.69	39.45	16.78
Australia .. .. .	..	..	..	11.11	6.97	7.30	7.84	7.29	6.54
Dominion of New Zealand	*	12.81	7.90	8.58	8.12	8.01	9.12	8.66	7.74

* Information not available.

POLICE PROTECTION.

The table below contains the numbers in the various grades of the police force in Victoria on the 31st December, 1916 :—

POLICE IN VICTORIA, 31st DECEMBER, 1916.

Designation.	Number.		
	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.
<i>Foot.</i>			
Chief Commissioner	1	..	1
Superintendents	2	9	11
Inspectors	4	3	7
Sub-Inspectors	11	6	17
Sergeants, First class	32	15	47
" Second class	30	19	49
Senior Constables	108	71	179
Constables	748	279	1,027
Detectives	39	2	41
Others	2	..	2
Total	977	404	1,381

POLICE IN VICTORIA, 31ST DECEMBER, 1916—continued.

Designation.	Number.		
	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.
<i>Mounted.</i>			
Sergeants, Second class	1	...	1
Senior Constables	2	...	2
Constables	30	224	254
Total	33	224	257
Grand Total	1,010	628	1,638

Strength of
police force in
Australia and
New Zealand.

The figures given hereunder show the numerical strength of the police force in Australia and New Zealand, and the proportion of same to population on 31st December, 1916 :—

POLICE IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1916.

State.	Number.			Proportion per 10,000 of Population.
	Metropolitan.	Country.	Total.	
Victoria	1,010	628	1,638	11·70
New South Wales	1,152	1,435	2,587	13·92
Queensland	378	825	1,203	17·97
South Australia	332	235	567	13·13
Western Australia	188	285	473	15·32
Tasmania	66	167	233	11·65
Northern Territory .. ..	..	26	26	54·54
Total Australia	3,126	3,601	6,727	13·80
Dominion of New Zealand	121	808	929	8·44

It will be seen that the Northern Territory and Queensland have the greatest police protection in proportion to population, Western Australia and New South Wales having the next greatest, and New Zealand by far the lowest. Of course, where the population is scattered, it is natural that more police in proportion to population will be required than in a densely populated centre where the area requiring protection is comparatively small.

Expenditure
on police,
gaols, &c.

The following table contains a statement of the amount and the amount per head of population expended in connexion with the police, and the penal establishments and gaols of Victoria, for the year 1871-2, and for every tenth year there

after until 1911-12 inclusive, also for each of the four years ended with 1915-16 :—

EXPENDITURE ON POLICE AND GAOLS, 1871-2 TO 1915-16.

Year ended 30th June.	Amount Expended (exclusive of Pensions) on—					Amount per Head of Population.
	Maintenance, &c.		Buildings.		Total.	
	Police.	Gaols and Penal Es- tablishments.	Police.	Gaols and Penal Es- tablishments.		
£	£	£	£	£	s. d.	
1872 ..	190,711	57,855	5,722	2,133	256,421	6 10
1882 ..	201,063	53,032	14,996	3,328	272,419	6 2
1892 ..	283,409	65,679	19,113	23,319	391,520	6 9
1902 ..	271,561	51,948	7,064	3,613	334,186	5 6
1912 ..	316,456	48,514	12,856	2,300	380,126	5 8
1913 ..	333,027	50,952	24,369	2,237	410,585	5 11
1914 ..	343,518	54,083	20,174	2,472	420,247	5 11
1915 ..	358,624	57,272	11,757	1,593	429,246	6 0
1916 ..	341,821	57,791	1,725	604	401,941	5 8

Expenditure on
police and
gaols in
Australasia.

The following were the amounts expended on police and gaols in the Australian States and New Zealand during the year 1915-16 :—

EXPENDITURE ON POLICE AND GAOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1915-16.

State.	Amount Expended (exclusive of Pensions) on—					Amount per Head of Population.
	Maintenance, &c.		Buildings.		Total.	
	Police.	Gaols and Penal Es- tablish- ments.	Police.	Gaols and Penal Es- tablish- ments.		
	£	£	£	£	£	s. d.
Victoria ..	341,821	57,791	1,725	604	401,941	5 8
New South Wales ..	575,367	108,023	2,645	1,172	687,207	7 4
Queensland ..	265,048	17,671	19,272	1,181	303,172	8 11
South Australia ..	130,925	21,514	1,895	398	154,732	7 1
Western Australia ..	126,696	22,294	3,452	291	152,733	9 7
Tasmania ..	45,752	7,261	..	..	53,013	5 3
Northern Territory ..	10,275	2,127	222	123	12,747	55 10
Australia ..	1,495,884	236,681	29,211	3,769	1,765,545	7 2
Dominion of New Zealand	244,166	59,669	25,440	16,981	346,256	6 0

Executions.

During the twelve years ended with 1916 there were only four executions in Victoria, one of which took place in 1908, one in 1912, and two in 1916. Since the first settlement of Port Phillip in 1835, 172 criminals have been executed within the State, of whom

only four were females. The following table shows the crimes for which they were executed, also their birthplaces and religions:—

OFFENCES FOR WHICH CRIMINALS WERE EXECUTED, ALSO THEIR BIRTHPLACES AND RELIGIONS, 1842 TO 1916.

Offence—						
Murder	...	...	...	...	...	133
Attempt to murder	...	...	...	...	...	17
Rape	...	...	...	...	...	9
Carnally knowing and abusing a girl under 12 years of age	...	...	...	...	...	1
Unnatural offence on a child	...	...	...	...	...	1
Robbery with violence	...	...	...	...	...	9
Burglary and wounding	...	...	...	...	...	1
Arson	...	...	...	...	...	1
						172
Birthplace—						
Victoria	...	...	...	...	...	16
Other Australian States	...	...	...	...	...	9
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	70
Scotland	...	...	...	...	...	8
Ireland	...	...	...	...	...	42
China	...	...	...	...	...	8
Other Countries	...	...	...	...	...	19
						102
Religion—						
Protestants	...	...	...	...	...	53
Roman Catholics	...	...	...	...	...	7
Mahomedans, Buddhists, Confucians, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	5
No Religion (Aborigines)	...	...	...	...	...

Inquests. The number of inquiries into the causes of deaths of individuals during each of the last five years is given below:—

INQUESTS, 1912 TO 1916.

Causes of Death found to be due to—	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
External Causes—					
Accident	420	392	433	438	436
Homicide	14	12	14	14	13
Suicide	133	135	115	128	126
Execution	1	..	..	..	2
Doubtful	68	59	64	62	48
Disease or Natural Causes	736	596	669	741	665
Intemperance	2	9	3	4	2
Unspecified or Doubtful Causes	2	2	3	6	8
Being "Still Born"	1	1	..	2	2
Total	1,377	1,206	1,301	1,395	1,302
Proportion per 10,000 of Population	10·17	8·66	9·14	9·78	9·24

Of the deaths from external causes during the last five years, 68 per cent. were due to accidental causes, 2 per cent. to homicide, and 20 per cent. to suicide, while in 10 per cent. of the cases the nature or motive of the violence which caused death was doubtful.

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.		Excluding 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	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 municipalities } ...	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 4½ 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.

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

	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Claims			13,050	1 1			29,291	11 10
Less claims recovered and provision for unadjusted claims as at 30th June, 1916	165	4 11					3,042	4 6
	<u>1,951</u>	<u>5 6</u>						<u>26,249 7 4</u>
			2,116	10 5				12,660 0 0
					10,933	10 8		
Provision for unearned premiums	..	..	..	..	13,142	0 0		
Provision for unadjusted claims	..	..	..	..	3,043	2 0		
Net Revenue, carried down ..	..	..	..	..	11,790	14 8		
Total					<u>£38,909</u>	<u>7 4</u>		
							<u>£38,909</u>	<u>7 4</u>

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

	£	s. d.	£	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					<u>£12,463</u>	<u>15 7</u>
Net Revenue, brought down	11,790	14 8
Interest on funds at Treasury	873	0 11
Total					<u>£12,463</u>	<u>15 7</u>

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1917.

<i>Liabilities.</i>				<i>Assets.</i>			
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Unearned Premiums			13,142	0 0	Amount of Funds at Treasury	23,233	12 9
Outstanding Claims			3,043	2 0	Premiums due	12	10 10
Agents' Balances			153	11 5	Treasury Interest Accrued	186	7 4
Sundry Accounts unpaid			47	7 6	General Reserve Fund	9,750	0 0
Bonus Reserve			5,459	3 2	Bonus Reserve Fund	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			<u>£38,641</u>	<u>14 1</u>	Total	<u>£38,641</u>	<u>14 1</u>

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 Invald 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	866,862
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

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.

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 :—

Federal
Invalid and
Old-age
Pensions Act.

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
" " " " dead	13
" in gaol and mother poor	64
" " " " in lunatic asylum	1
" " " " dead	2
" unknown and mother poor	26
" " " " an imbecile	3
" " " " in lunatic asylum	3
" " " " dead	9
Mother deserted and father poor	3
" " " " dead	1
" " " " an invalid	2
" divorced and father poor	2
" drunkard " " "	2
" " " " dead	2
" " " " on active service	5
" immoral " " " dead	2
" " " " poor	5
" unknown " " " interned	3
Both parents—	
Father drunkard and mother immoral	3
" deserted and mother of bad character	1
" " " " drunkard	2
" in gaol " " immoral	5
" unknown and mother deserted	5
" " " " drunkard	1
" " " "	3
Parents bad character	14
" deserted	3
" drunkards	12
" unknown	3
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. 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 £59, 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.

INTERCHANGE.**COMMERCE.**

Customs and Excise. By the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (section 51) the power to make laws with respect to trade and commerce with other countries and among the States was conferred on the Federal Parliament, and by the same Act (section 86) the collection and control of duties of Customs and Excise passed to the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on 1st January, 1901. The first Commonwealth Customs Tariff was assented to on 16th September, 1902, and was made retrospective to 8th October, 1901. Uniform rates of duty were imposed in all the States, and all restrictions on trade between the States were removed with the exception of the right of Western Australia, under the Commonwealth Constitution Act, to levy duty on goods from other States during the first five years after the imposition of uniform duties. In 1906 certain amendments of the Tariff took place. In 1908 there was a revision of the Tariff, which was made retrospective to 8th August, 1907. Amendments of some rates of duty in the Tariff of 1908 came into force in 1910, and further amendments came into operation on 1st December, 1911.

Further amendments of some rates of duty in the Customs and Excise Tariffs became operative on 3rd December, 1914, and minor amendments in the Customs Tariff on 12th December, 1914, 9th June and 12th November, 1915, but the Acts providing for the validation of their collection were not assented to until 19th March, 1917.

The Excise Tariff in force on 10th August, 1917, and the rates of duties imposed on articles imported in 1916-17, are shown in part "Interchange" of the *Statistical Register* for that year.

Up to the end of 1902 each State published statistical information regarding its trade, showing countries from and to which articles were imported and exported. Under this arrangement there occurred material differences in the classification of the goods, making it practically impossible to institute accurate comparisons. Arrangements were accordingly made by the Federal Government for uniform tabulation of trade returns in each State, and the information so tabulated was issued for the first time in 1903, and maintained until 1910. On the 13th September of the latter year the Federal Government abandoned the collecting and recording of Inter-State imports and exports, and consequently the trade particulars since available relate exclusively to oversea imports and exports, *i.e.*, direct imports from and exports to countries outside Australia. A further curtailment of particulars in regard to exports took place in 1911, as the distinction that had previously been made between Victorian produce and Australian produce was not then observed, and it has not been made since that year.

In order that uniformity in statistical compilation should be secured, especially in the matter of production and trade statistics, an arrangement was made with the Commonwealth Statistician in September, 1914, to the effect that the annual tabulation of imports and exports be recorded for the year ended 30th June, instead of 31st December, as formerly.

On the 23rd October, 1914, the Commonwealth Parliament passed the *Trading with the Enemy Act* which declares that any person trading with the enemy is guilty of an offence. The *Customs Act* 1914 (No. 19 of 1914) amends the *Customs Act* 1901-10 by giving the Governor-General authority to prohibit the exportation of goods in time of war. By virtue of the latter Act, proclamations prohibiting or controlling exports from the Commonwealth have been issued from time to time—hence the Acts mentioned have materially affected the figures for the years 1914-15 and 1915-16, as shown in the following tables.

Trade Returns.
Alteration of
the Statistical
Year.

Regulation of
Trade during
the War.

The total values and the values per head of population of imports from and exports to oversea countries for the ten years 1907 to 1916-17 are set forth hereunder :—

VALUE OF OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,
1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Imports Oversea.		Exports Oversea.	
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
1907 ...	17,101,022	13 12 10	17,112,298	13 13 0
1908 ...	16,433,382	12 19 6	15,165,031	11 19 6
1909 ...	16,531,981	12 18 1	17,842,876	13 18 6
1910 ...	20,002,606	15 7 11	18,188,236	14 0 0
1911 ...	21,850,963	16 10 9	18,915,716	14 6 4
1912 ...	25,081,074	18 10 5	19,113,121	14 2 3
1913 ...	24,387,073	17 10 10	17,835,395	12 16 7
1914-15 ...	20,997,294	14 13 6	12,335,779	8 12 6
1915-16 ...	26,782,893	18 17 10	14,744,135	10 8 0
1916-17 ...	25,465,464	18 3 10	19,029,502	13 11 11

The figures for 1916-17 compare favorably with the annual average of the last decade, and show a revival of trade since the outbreak of war. During the period 1907 to 1916-17 imports increased by £8,364,442 and exports by £1,917,204.

The values of the combined oversea and inter-state trade, which are not available since 1909, were as follows, in the ten years 1900-1909 :—

VALUE OF TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1900 TO 1909.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.			
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Gold.	Merchandise.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1900 ...	18,301,811	15 6 9	4,132,061	13,290,491	17,422,552	14 12 0
1901 ...	18,927,340	15 14 8	4,298,528	14,347,569	18,646,097	15 10 0
1902 ...	18,270,245	15 2 8	4,305,697	13,904,826	18,210,523	15 1 8
1903 ...	17,859,171	14 15 6	5,420,974	14,286,094	19,707,068	16 6 0
1904 ...	20,096,442	16 12 10	4,444,011	19,960,906	24,404,917	20 4 2
1905 ...	22,337,886	18 8 5	1,999,297	20,759,531	22,758,828	18 15 5
1906 ...	25,234,402	20 11 4	4,910,177	24,007,815	28,917,992	23 11 4
1907 ...	28,198,257	22 12 4	2,660,544	26,074,460	28,735,004	23 0 11
1908 ...	27,197,696	21 10 2	4,363,078	22,833,123	27,196,201	21 10 2
1909 ...	23,150,198	21 18 6	2,846,981	27,049,294	29,896,275	23 5 8

Imports from
and exports to
principal
countries.

The value of Victorian trade with various oversea countries and the surplus of imports or exports in each case during 1916-17 are as follows :—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES,
1916-17.

Country.	Value of Imports into Victoria from each Country.	Value of Ex- ports from Victoria to each Country.	Victorian excess of Imports (+) Exports (-)
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	13,624,806	12,391,919	+1,232,887
Canada	428,214	55,516	+ 372,698
Ceylon	434,719	31,380	+ 403,339
Egypt	11,188	677,768	- 666,580
Fiji	73,913	46,847	+ 27,066
Hong Kong	93,508	50,981	+ 42,527
Hong Kong	1,373,255	298,210	+1,075,045
India (including Burmah)	2,260	67,382	- 65,122
Malta	582,762	873,145	- 290,383
New Zealand	141,117	12,314	+ 128,803
Ocean Island	113,562	451,589	- 338,027
South African Union	285,828	200,077	+ 85,751
Straits Settlements	41,340	126	+ 41,214
West Indies	28,412	30,764	- 2,352
Other British Possessions	13,157	..	+ 13,157
Alaska	51,132	..	+ 51,132
Brazil .. ..	..	190,468	- 190,468
Canary Islands	58,589	..	+ 58,589
Chili	95,905	30,460	+ 65,445
China	13,973	..	+ 13,973
Denmark	6,438	15,838	- 9,400
East Indies—Borneo (Dutch)	1,476	12,625	- 11,149
Celebes	572,788	363,701	+ 209,087
Java	878	47,821	- 46,943
Sumatra	52,432	1,448,482	-1,396,050
France	21,223	..	+ 21,223
Holland (Netherlands)	80,453	1,124,090	-1,043,637
Italy	1,338,578	48,417	+1,290,161
Japan (including Formosa)	314,269	153,175	+ 161,094
Norway	1,701	46,591	- 44,890
Peru	95,426	48,425	+ 47,001
Philippine Islands	29,304	11,825	+ 17,479
Pleasant Island	290	65,362	- 65,072
Russia	18,826	588	+ 18,238
Samoa .. ..	..	13,963	- 13,963
Siam	23,811	283	+ 23,528
Society Islands	334,831	..	+ 334,831
Sweden	43,840	138	+ 43,702
Switzerland	5,013,064	197,622	+4,815,442
United States of America	48,196	21,610	+ 26,586
Other Foreign Countries ..	..	..	..
Total	25,465,464	19,029,502	+6,435,962

The oversea trade in 1916-17 shows an excess in the value of imports amounting to £6,435,962. The excess in favour of imports from British countries was £2,046,866, there being a balance of imports to the amount of £3,409,330 as regards the United Kingdom, India, Ceylon, Canada, Ocean Island, Straits Settlements, Hong Kong, West Indies, and Fiji; and a balance of exports amounting to £1,362,464 in respect of the remaining British countries. As regards foreign countries, the values of the imports from the United States and Japan were greater by £4,815,442 and £1,290,161 respectively than the values of the exports thereto; while, on the other hand, exports to France and Italy showed surpluses over imports of £1,396,050 and £1,043,637 respectively. The value of all goods received from other foreign countries exceeded that of goods sent thereto by the sum of £723,180.

The value of the trade with the leading countries of the world in each of the last five years was as specified hereunder:—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES,
1912 TO 1916-17.

Countries.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.		
			1915.	1916.	1917.
Imports (Oversea).					
From—	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	999,958	772,194	786,601	952,157	582,762
United Kingdom ...	14,631,958	14,096,121	12,395,553	14,204,562	13,624,806
Canada ...	283,929	289,586	286,959	379,322	428,214
India, Burmah and Ceylon	1,124,888	1,459,058	1,372,249	1,828,469	1,807,974
South African Union	60,148	43,631	71,071	156,389	113,562
Straits Settlements (including Federated Malay States)	68,203	132,642	206,435	248,104	265,828
Other British Possessions	397,756	596,883	401,451	380,018	391,738
Belgium ...	613,955	683,083	154,708	397	5,964
France ...	226,343	215,475	84,348	110,376	52,432
Germany ...	1,878,043	1,738,678	*474,410	+6,365	+16,955
Italy ...	126,000	128,951	126,718	181,282	80,453
Japan (including Formosa)	303,835	328,127	540,316	1,242,383	1,338,578
United States of America	2,913,341	2,580,362	2,668,565	4,808,234	5,013,064
Other Foreign Countries	1,452,717	1,322,282	1,427,910	2,284,835	1,723,134
Total ...	25,081,074	24,387,073	20,997,294	26,782,893	25,465,464

* Approximately one month's trade.

† On account of interned vessels.

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1912 TO
1916-17—*continued.*

Countries.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.		
			1915.	1916.	1917.
Exports (Oversea).					
To—	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	781,723	834,354	912,471	1,121,227	873,145
United Kingdom ...	9,023,343	9,095,329	8,346,832	7,176,338	12,391,919
Canada ...	7,334	5,383	17,707	28,793	55,516
India, Burmah and Ceylon	2,476,143	330,570	298,039	286,219	329,590
South African Union	434,723	606,945	399,416	675,436	451,539
Straits Settlements (including Federated Malay States)	155,134	133,814	114,729	111,196	200,077
Other British Possessions	245,718	249,090	199,345	158,244	886,182
Belgium ...	812,674	767,749	*14,911	...	...
France ...	2,136,898	2,563,201	248,640	565,865	1,448,482
Germany ...	1,287,540	1,029,433	*36,552	...	...
Italy ...	182,278	211,308	106,329	784,008	1,124,090
Japan (including Formosa)	40,172	176,638	83,557	126,125	48,417
United States of America	331,259	632,996	1,162,825	2,099,476	197,622
Other Foreign Countries	1,198,177	1,198,585	394,426	1,613,208	1,022,873
Total ...	19,113,121	17,835,395	12,335,779	14,744,135	19,029,502

* Approximately one month's trade.

In 1909, the last year for which such information is available, Victoria's trade with the other Australian States represented 41 per cent. of the total imports and 40 per cent. of the total exports, and the exports to such States exceeded the imports therefrom by £435,182. In each of the last five years exports were of greater value than imports in the trade with South Africa, France, and Italy (with the exception of the year 1914-15); but, in trade with the United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, and the United States of America, the value of imports was greater than that of exports. There was an excess of exports in trade with New Zealand in each of the last four years, with India, Burmah, and Ceylon in 1912, and with Straits Settlements in 1912 and 1913; but in other years there was an excess of imports from those countries. Prior to the war trade with Germany showed an excess of imports, and that with Belgium an excess of exports.

Principal imports.

The principal articles imported from oversea countries into Victoria during the year 1916-17 are shown in the sub-joined statement:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED OVERSEA INTO VICTORIA, 1916-17.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Acids	51,687	Grain—	
Ale, Beer, and Porter	29,998	Rice	64,241
Alkalies	122,351	Other—Prepared and Un-	
Animals—Horses	14,151	prepared	10,033
Apparel and Attire	1,222,945	Grass, Straw, &c.—Straw Platf	48,125
Arms, Ammunition, and Ex-		Gums, dry	62,263
plosives	173,000	Hats, Caps, and Bonnets	115,233
Bags and Sacks	756,624	Hessians, &c.	150,171
Bags, Purses, N.E.I., Wallets,		Hops	11,609
Baskets, Boxes, Trunks, &c.	68,979	Inks	11,028
Bark (Tanning)	28,880	Insecticides and Disinfectants,	
Belting—Composition, Leather,		&c.	29,115
and Rubber	18,994	Instruments—Musical, and parts	
Blankets and Blanketing	41,151	thereof—	
Books, printed	221,132	Pianos	112,011
Boots, Shoes, and Goloshes, &c.	115,716	Other	8,680
Brass—Pipes and tubes, sheet,		Instruments—	
plate, &c.	22,527	Surgical and Dental	34,680
Brushware	51,114	Talking Machines, &c.	13,193
Butter	21,696	Other	12,872
Buttons, Buckles, &c.	93,241	Iron and Steel—	
Calcium, Carbide of	13,769	Bar, Rod, Angle, and Tee	367,314
Canvas and Duck	304,980	Girders, Beams, Joists, &c.	80,776
Caramel, Caramel Paste, &c. .. .	69,473	Hoop	31,505
Carpets and Carpeting, Floor		Pig	56,282
Coverings, Rugs, and Mats .. .	186,618	Plate and Sheet	262,539
China, Parian and Porcelain		Other	2,649
Ware	48,096	Jewellery and Imitation Jewel-	
Clocks	16,472	lery, &c.	112,336
Cocoa, Cocoa Beans, and Choco-		Kapok	27,288
late	212,927	Lamps and Lampware	65,704
Coffee, and Coffee and Chicory ..	44,143	Leaf and Foil of any Metal .. .	14,438
Confectionery	38,892	Leather	365,825
Copper—Pipes and tubes, sheet,		Leather Manufactures, N.E.I.	14,463
plate, wire, &c.	107,484	Machines and Machinery—	
Copra	16,463	Agricultural	215,012
Cordage and Twines—		Electrical and Gas	386,849
Sewing Silks, Twists, Cot-		Engines	15,153
tons, &c.	255,672	Machine Tools	64,419
Other	67,050	Mining	34,105
Counterpanes, Quilts, Table		Motive Power	71,684
Covers, &c.	46,700	Printing	11,339
Cosies, Cushions, D'Oyleys, &c.	93,750	Sewing	83,787
Cotton—Raw, Waste, &c.	40,009	Typewriters	21,314
Curtains and Blinds	24,297	Other	248,386
Cutlery	80,509	Manures	193,038
Drugs and Chemicals	252,181	Matches and Vestas	54,146
Dyes	83,923	Meats	22,938
Earthenware, Brownware, &c.	81,730	Medicines	75,732
Electrical Articles and Materials	197,586	Metals	48,475
Fancy Goods	98,441	Metals, Manufactures of—	
Feathers, Dressed and Undressed		Bolts and Nuts	48,524
Fibre—Flax, Hemp, &c.	20,283	Nails	45,919
Films for Kinematographs	278,979	Pipes and Tubes	133,213
Fish—Fresh and Preserved, &c.	13,261	Wire	153,105
Floorcloths and Linoleums	237,665	Other	528,135
Fruits—Dried and Preserved .. .	96,425	Milk and Cream	19,771
Fresh	26,928	Mustard	12,782
Furniture	62,966	Nuts, Edible	48,412
Furs and other Skins	15,145	Oakum and Tow	20,115
Gelatine and Glue	38,198	Oilmen's Stores	49,782
Ginger	34,423	Oils, Bottled and in bulk—	
Glass and Glassware	13,194	Benzine	237,373
Gloves	169,643	Benzoline, Gasoline, &c. .. .	143,902
	136,199	Essential, N.E.I.	26,294

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED OVERSEA INTO VICTORIA,
1916-17—continued.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Oils, Bottled and in Bulk— <i>continued.</i>		Specie—	
Kerosene	187,679	Bronze	29,006
Linseed	19,081	Silver	18,058
Lubricating	133,341	Spices	39,444
Other	81,708	Spirits—	
Ores, Clays, and Mineral Earths	11,019	Brandy	56,298
		Gin and Schnapps	37,023
Packings	11,078	Whisky	253,625
Paints and Colours	204,496	Other	39,109
Paper—		Stationery, manufactured, &c. ..	89,746
Printing	622,412	Stone, Marble, and Slate, &c. ..	15,778
Wrapping	122,807	Sugar (produce of Cane)	473,406
Writing and Typewriting ..	243,575	Sulphur, Brimstone	125,778
Other, including Millboard, Strawboard, Paperhang- ings, and Manufactures of	290,175	Tea	617,485
Perfumery, &c.	39,998	Timber	360,487
Personal and Household Effects	10,544	Tinned Plates and Sheets (plain)	606,613
Photographic Goods and Access- ories	37,036	Tobacco, Cigars, &c., and Snuff	433,511
Pickles and Sauces	13,004	Tools of Trade (not being ma- chines)	137,977
Piece Goods—		Trimmings and Ornaments ..	224,749
Cottons and Linens	2,272,070	Turpentine	41,473
Flannels	14,469	Varnishes	23,079
Silks	696,776	Vehicles and parts thereof—	
Velvets and Velveteens ..	479,210	Motor Bodies and Chassis	313,308
Woollens	1,233,799	Other	270,510
Other	238,429	Vessels (ships)	431,500
Pipes, Smoking	37,418	Washes—Sheep, Cattle, and Horse	11,398
Rubber and Rubber Manufac- tures	441,781	Watches and Chronometers ..	71,637
Rugs, N.E.I., including Buggy Rugs	15,106	Waxes	69,138
		Wines	13,650
Sago and Tapioca	24,381	Wood, Articles made of	67,837
Sausage Casings	25,213	Wood Pulp	13,701
Seeds	75,137	Yarns	663,422
Skins and Hides	201,938	All other Articles	384,160
Soap	17,859	Total	25,465,464

The principal articles exported to oversea countries from
Victoria during the year 1916-17 were as shown here-
under:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED OVERSEA
FROM VICTORIA, 1916-17.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Ale, Beer, and Porter	12,288	Drugs and Chemicals	27,572
Ammonia, Sulphate	37,753	Fruits and Vegetables—Fresh, Dried, and Preserved	265,373
Animals—		Gelatine, Glue, and Cements, N.E.I.	20,193
Horses	62,943	Glassware	10,341
Sheep	21,261	Glycerine, Lanoline, &c. ..	12,223
Apparel and Attire	12,723	Grain, &c.—	
Biscuits	79,129	Barley	49,296
Books (Printed), &c.	28,074	Oats	55,259
Books, Shoes, and Slippers ..	14,938	Wheat	4,177,726
Butter	2,189,025	Flour	1,213,751
Cheese	91,675	Other, Prepared and Un- prepared	25,105
Concentrates—Zinc	35,515		
Confectionery	17,345		
Cordage and Twines	38,685		

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM VICTORIA,
1916-17—continued.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Hay and Chaff	14,270	Onions	28,620
Iron and Steel	26,461	Ores other than Gold and Silver	
Jams and Jellies	371,753	Ores	74,856
Jewellery—Cameos and Pre- cious Stones	14,769	Piece Goods	26,990
Lard and Refined Animal Fats	26,374	Potatoes	15,720
Lead	501,775	Rags	11,261
Leather	439,706	Rubber and Rubber Manufac- tures	95,394
Machines and Machinery—		Skins and Hides	548,736
Agricultural	18,335	Soap	47,525
Mining	29,209	Stearine	19,499
Other	23,857	Tallow—Unrefined	246,091
Manures	56,623	Tea	40,797
Meats—		Tin Ingots	114,635
Beef (Frozen)	121,329	Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	95,073
Mutton and Lamb (Frozen)	394,044	Vehicles and Parts	10,566
Rabbits and Hares (Frozen)	111,632	Vessels (Ships)	25,000
Preserved in Tins, &c. .. .	61,976	Wines	25,410
Other	8,869	Wool	6,149,212
Metals	11,645	Zinc (Spelter)	22,574
Metals, Manufactures of	41,443	All other Articles	263,098
Milk and Cream	311,213		
Oilmen's Stores	13,671	Total	19,029,502
Oils—Bottled and in bulk .. .	71,260		

Principal
articles of
trade.

A list of the principal articles of trade between Victoria and oversea countries during the last five years is as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND
EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1912 TO 1916-17.

Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
			1915.	1916.	1917.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria from Oversea Countries.</i>					
Piece Goods	3,525,788	3,238,855	3,162,086	4,507,526	4,984,753
Paper, Paperhangings, &c .. .	686,113	666,250	642,444	704,541	1,278,969
Apparel and Attire	1,049,221	993,922	823,574	1,071,678	1,222,945
Machines and Machinery .. .	1,449,019	1,339,688	1,206,394	1,245,480	1,152,048
Metal Manufactures	1,398,562	1,119,405	1,016,106	1,064,508	908,296
Oils	602,593	486,356	537,921	751,535	879,378
Iron and Steel	529,912	1,380,030	1,037,485	1,115,866	801,065
Tea	527,618	519,046	596,737	744,077	617,485
Vehicles and parts	842,840	791,006	579,778	761,291	583,818
Rubber and Rubber Manufac- tures	543,125	616,654	384,940	601,239	441,781
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	424,172	398,751	303,734	253,165	433,090
Timber	979,354	951,295	700,719	647,024	360,487
Gold—Bullion	338,796	238,749	131,176	54,638	248
All Other Articles	11,418,961	11,647,066	9,874,200	13,260,325	11,851,101
Total	25,081,074	24,387,073	20,997,294	26,782,893	25,465,464
<i>Exported from Victoria to Oversea Countries.</i>					
Wool	6,990,918	6,282,291	5,251,177	6,203,565	6,149,212
Wheat and Flour	2,436,654	2,763,870	351,856	3,420,589	5,301,477
Butter	1,545,771	1,681,987	800,385	719,653	2,189,025
Meat	935,293	1,634,806	2,037,001	159,415	697,850
Skins and Hides	1,329,400	1,683,409	885,075	534,440	548,736
Leather	253,914	227,497	495,801	492,751	439,706
Tallow	324,497	371,316	192,400	45,214	246,091
Tin Ingots	346,118	282,817	109,337	224,598	114,635
Gold—Specie	3,155,987	611,025	400,120	217,871	643
All Other Articles	1,794,569	2,291,377	1,812,627	2,720,039	3,252,127
Total	19,113,121	17,835,395	12,335,779	14,744,135	19,029,502

It is worthy of notice that the larger portion of the oversea trade consisted of imports, also that these were composed mainly of manufactured goods, and contained a greater variety of articles than in the case of exports. The latter were accounted for almost entirely by a small number of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral products. During the last five years the value of wool, wheat, and flour exported exceeded that of the five principal items included in the imports, while the value of wool, meat, butter, wheat, flour, and skins and hides exported almost equalled that of the thirteen leading articles imported. The varied nature of the imports is shown by the fact that the thirteen principal articles represented only 53 per cent. of the total value; in the case of the exports, on the other hand, 86 per cent. of the value came under nine headings.

In trade between Victoria and the United Kingdom the value of imports exceeded that of exports, by £7,028,224 in 1915-16, but by only £1,232,887 in 1916-17. The principal articles imported from and exported to the United Kingdom in the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1911 TO 1916-17.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
				1915.	1916.	1917.
<i>Imported into Victoria from United Kingdom.</i>						
Piece Goods—						
Cotton and Linen ..	1,511,023	1,517,049	1,478,876	1,480,357	1,862,562	2,050,112
Woolen	791,258	826,701	715,566	620,488	1,114,057	1,219,272
Velvets, &c. ..	352,376	427,864	346,383	259,365	340,170	453,886
Silk	323,193	299,954	292,338	370,653	389,952	371,764
Apparel and Attire ..	651,798	880,066	827,118	685,392	761,306	743,407
Machines, Tools, and Implements	688,147	912,090	751,667	746,547	667,285	504,232
Paper, Paperhangings, &c.	339,937	354,795	396,333	359,246	351,165	501,690
Vessels (Ships) ..	10,000	245,210	705,000	182,000	211,143	420,000
Iron and Steel ..	800,117	885,441	925,224	790,151	738,741	297,090
Books	251,904	267,200	229,853	197,098	195,874	192,567
Vehicles and Parts ..	306,493	460,073	457,529	323,723	230,318	159,119
All other Articles ..	6,475,988	7,555,515	6,970,234	6,380,533	7,341,929	6,708,167
Total	12,502,234	14,631,958	14,090,121	12,395,553	14,204,562	13,624,800
<i>Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.</i>						
Wool	3,261,235	3,573,697	2,701,688	3,901,335	3,469,079	5,722,261
Butter	2,178,650	1,360,978	1,620,499	645,728	522,568	1,938,206
Wheat and Flour ..	2,137,643	1,220,403	1,291,836	35,768	855,352	1,558,777
Meat, Frozen—						
Beef, Mutton and Lamb	815,147	781,126	1,387,961	1,618,931	47,348	515,373
Rabbits and Hares ..	65,351	55,626	104,723	127,506	90,588	111,632
Hides and Skins ..	442,005	574,036	622,890	575,345	377,783	405,419
Leather	84,782	169,138	157,068	422,970	374,278	258,617
Tallow	318,730	190,428	172,547	163,594	29,327	206,950
Fin Ingots	294,363	286,154	186,478	92,482	189,717	94,454
Copper	48,290	160	..	63,000	2,040	5,880
Gold (Bullion and Specie)	313,372	342,011	58,000	1,029	1,395	643
All other Articles ..	547,448	460,886	891,630	699,144	1,210,863	1,573,707
Total	10,507,025	9,023,343	9,695,329	8,346,832	7,176,338	12,391,919

Imports from the United Kingdom are chiefly made up of manufactures, while exports thereto from Victoria consist almost entirely of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral products. It will be observed from the figures for 1916-17 that, of the imports, piece goods and apparel and attire represent 35½ per cent. of the total, also that, of the exports, wool is responsible for 46 per cent., and, if to its value be added that of butter, frozen meat, wheat and flour, hides and skins, leather, and tallow, 86 per cent. of the total is accounted for. The great increase in the export figures for 1916-17 is due to large purchases of wool and wheat by the Imperial Government.

The trade with New Zealand for the year ended 30th. June, 1917, amounted to £1,455,907. Compared with the previous year there was a falling off in the total trade of £617,477, of which £369,395 was due to imports, and £248,082 to exports. The decrease in the exports is not remarkable when it is considered that no gold was exported during the year. The principal articles imported and exported during the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO NEW ZEALAND, 1911 TO 1916-17.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
				1915.	1916.	1917.
<i>Imported into Victoria from New Zealand.</i>						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Timber	173,828	202,922	160,720	134,515	190,779	166,219
Flax and Hemp	17,965	32,116	62,531	28,218	124,790	123,618
Skins and Hides	68,248	48,515	76,485	78,190	212,743	122,475
Gold—Bullion	541,132	338,500	238,013	130,951	54,314	
Fish	21,679	23,159	17,254	21,204	29,039	19,713
Seeds	9,254	20,526	12,582	26,506	8,724	9,591
Meat, preserved in tins	1,577	7,421	1,251	2,217	6,683	6,956
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs)	71,190	30,908	30,567	7,640	19,984	6,622
Machines, Tools, and Implements	6,220	10,722	4,236	5,478	3,118	6,265
Books	5,390	2,951	3,545	4,597	1,894	2,155
All other Articles	62,194	282,218	164,410	347,082	800,689	119,148
Total	978,677	999,958	772,194	786,601	952,157	582,762
<i>Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.</i>						
Gold—Specie	100,000	150,000	250,000	275,000	202,000	
Tobacco, manufactured	65,425	75,291	66,652	66,357	104,424	87,504
Rubber manufactures	91,181	61,386	71,846	77,362	100,745	85,495
Manures	27,798	30,881	42,265	48,265	80,619	56,548
Fruits—Dried	5,321	17,059	7,775	20,295	57,207	40,141
Tea	42,850	38,532	27,289	42,623	43,085	36,446
Leather	24,375	19,475	15,058	13,716	26,324	24,063
Machinery	31,575	35,728	27,527	26,614	26,725	23,896
Books	36,964	44,267	33,711	23,325	36,714	22,959
Rice and Rice Meal	19,565	17,876	18,673	25,869	18,943	10,122
All other Articles	359,975	291,228	278,568	288,135	424,431	436,061
Total	805,029	781,723	834,354	912,471	1,121,227	873,145

In 1916-17 the imports from New Zealand were less than the exports thereto by 33 per cent. It will be observed that in the same year the items specified accounted for 44 per cent. of the total in the case of exports.

Trade with India (including Burmah) and Ceylon, which amounted to about 5 per cent. of the Victorian oversea trade in 1916-17, was greater by £206,655 than in 1911, the value of the imports being more by £679,320, but that of the exports less by £472,665. The principal articles interchanged during the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO INDIA AND CEYLON, 1911 TO 1916-17.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
				1915.	1916.	1917.
Imported into Victoria from India and Ceylon.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bags and Sacks ..	405,166	264,596	588,270	410,679	682,514	750,879
Tea	400,641	443,239	451,389	486,645	627,494	503,545
Hessian	50,847	63,476	87,520	100,932	98,027	137,790
Skins	10,628	20,543	7,506	10,966	12,721	58,570
Fig Iron	20,229	20,264	24,155	47,368	39,731	50,756
Rice	67,854	118,629	89,245	86,159	75,178	50,481
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures ..	10,618	43,539	66,904	72,093	115,325	48,075
Coffee	22,087	27,227	22,904	17,485	22,956	26,912
Nuts	11,301	12,412	14,509	12,127	17,172	20,521
Cotton (raw) ..	14,563	11,680	9,813	3,043	1,360	2,205
All other Articles ..	114,720	99,283	96,843	124,752	135,991	160,240
Total	1,128,654	1,124,888	1,459,058	1,372,249	1,828,469	1,807,974
Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.						
Gold (Bullion and Specie)	611,792	2,299,703	144,087	45,314	100,712	..
Wool	20,797	16,463	23,886	28,127	32,442	87,860
Horses	67,764	57,681	37,769	97,449	16,578	55,694
Biscuits	6,179	6,084	7,904	8,098	28,239	24,758
Fruits (preserved in liquid)	2,732	3,938	3,651	2,609	4,378	22,979
Jams and Jellies ..	1,864	2,589	2,113	4,930	7,792	19,180
Hay and Chaff ..	10,606	15,003	14,333	36,818	15,008	12,704
Soap	8,969	8,815	11,709	7,933	14,219	7,277
Butter	6,531	7,169	6,834	4,227	6,009	3,921
Oats	5,952	1,309	6,396	2,446	3,901	1,365
Wheat and Flour ..	11,683	20,234	19,693	17,433	2,058	666
Tallow	8,200	2,459	3,553	1,260	36	385
All other Articles ..	44,186	34,696	48,637	41,395	54,797	92,801
Total	802,255	2,476,143	330,570	298,039	286,219	329,590

The import trade from India and Ceylon is largely made up of jute goods, tea, rubber, and rice, whose value in 1916-17 formed 82 per cent. of the total. In return, wool, horses, biscuits, fruits, and jams and jellies were in that year the leading items of exchange, all other exports being responsible for only 36 per cent. of the total.

Imports from Belgium increased by 102 per cent. between 1909 and 1913, but exports thereto increased by only 3 per cent. in the same period. That country accounted for about 3 per cent. of Victoria's oversea trade in the years immediately preceding 1914-15. The trade during the last two years consisted of imports only, and amounted to £397 in 1915-16 and £5,964 in 1916-17. The principal articles of trade with Belgium in each of the five years ended 30th June, 1915, were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO BELGIUM, 1910 TO 1914-15.

Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June. 1915.
	£	£	£	£	£
Imported into Victoria from Belgium.					
Iron and Steel	121,098	168,073	127,968	205,932	39,960
Glass and Glassware	39,871	52,672	52,521	54,718	11,232
Confectionery	968	5,359	22,951	22,122	6,719
Vehicles, and parts	16,771	30,205	63,854	25,910	6,597
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	34,858	59,419	31,596	26,947	5,800
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. ..	20,748	24,722	25,290	25,052	5,354
Piece Goods	16,506	19,552	20,794	20,700	4,823
Wire and Wire Netting	20,868	23,023	24,342	24,272	4,350
Copper	9,748	3,802	21,361	28,872	3,741
Wine	7,554	20,656	17,178	15,779	1,238
All other Articles	129,929	201,403	206,100	232,779	65,089
Total	418,719	608,891	613,955	682,083	154,708
Exported from Victoria to Belgium.					
Hides and Skins	241,635	194,814	233,806	280,705	11,577
Wool	381,183	365,026	442,832	387,793	1,924
Tallow	18,993	55,650	24,358	40,085	..
Wheat	105,239	73,800	59,362	30,945	..
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	1,791	3,132	17,393	9,085	605
Leather	23,397	9,050	11,119	6,010	..
Ores—Silver, Lead, &c.	23,342	22,098	16,370	120	..
All other Articles	14,029	26,536	7,434	13,006	805
Total	809,609	755,106	812,674	767,749	14,911

During the five years ended 1913 exports to Belgium exceeded imports therefrom. In exports the principal articles were wool and hides and skins, together representing 82 per cent. of the total; if to these be added the other five articles specified in the above table, less than 2 per cent. is unaccounted for.

With France there has, on account of the war, been considerable interruption in trade in the last three years.

The export figures for 1916-17, however, show an improvement as compared with the two preceding years, due principally to the wheat exported, the value of which is responsible for 77½ per cent. of the total exports. The great bulk of the trade is represented by exports. These amounted in 1913—the year immediately preceding the war—to £2,563,201, as against imports of £215,475. The increase in the total trade in the five years ended 1913 was £671,687, viz., exports £608,653, and imports £63,034. The principal articles imported from and exported to France in the years 1911 to 1916-17 were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO FRANCE, 1911 TO 1916-17.

Articles.	Value in Year—						
	Imported into Victoria from France.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
					1915.	1916.	1917.
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Piece Goods	28,935	34,807	34,330	14,252	15,330	12,285	
Rubber Manufactures ..	3,554	4,753	15,909	5,601	17,290	5,607	
Cream of Tartar	50,002	51,323	47,463	13,871	14,905	5,291	
Wine	11,374	10,538	17,021	3,281	3,870	2,790	
Cameos and Precious Stones	9,774	7,108	5,128	1,896	3,162	218	
Corks, Cork Mats, &c. ..	6,965	4,068	3,148	1,232	3,048	1,228	
Gelatine, &c.	5,589	4,162	4,040	1,500	2,278	907	
Acids	9,691	3,562	1,822	2,317	1,749	..	
Vehicles, and parts ..	26,117	10,911	9,678	4,330	454	..	
All other Articles ..	97,910	94,476	76,946	36,068	48,290	24,106	
Total ..	250,411	226,343	215,475	84,348	110,376	52,432	
Exported from Victoria to France.							
Wheat	499,428	1,197	43,545	1,699	234,069	1,124,829	
Flour .. ..	..	..	..	..	38,307	130,927	
Wool	1,465,492	1,668,061	1,792,625	42,334	205,078	97,402	
Hides and Skins	390,969	437,967	675,669	194,992	76,909	74,978	
Tallow	38,322	24,855	40,122	670	6,774	..	
Horns	995	272	611	..	..	..
All other Articles ..	12,252	4,426	10,699	8,945	4,688	20,346	
Total ..	2,407,978	2,136,898	2,563,201	248,640	565,865	1,448,482	

Imports direct from France, of which more than one-fifth consisted of cream of tartar, did not in 1913 indicate the extent to which articles produced in France were received in Victoria, as goods of French origin to the extent of £879,718 were imported in that year. The value of exports was practically covered by that of wool and hides and skins, as all other items accounted for less than 4 per cent. of the total.

The trade with Germany, which amounted to 6½ per cent. of the total with oversea countries in 1913, was discontinued early in the year 1914-15 owing to the outbreak of war and the passing of the *Trading with the Enemy Act* 1914. The principal articles interchanged with Germany during the six years 1908 to 1913 are shown in the subjoined table:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO GERMANY, 1908 TO 1913.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Imported into Victoria from Germany.						
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures	£ 57,777	£ 95,373	£ 60,279	£ 110,029	£ 109,123	£ 147,570
Machines, Tools, and Implements	89,810	70,191	84,557	127,718	123,100	127,781
Pianos	78,784	69,753	81,523	119,392	140,602	110,658
Apparel and Attire	46,009	62,059	74,351	82,381	95,703	98,354
Wire and Wire Netting	131,718	112,284	136,739	125,027	97,436	98,080
Piece Goods	68,819	53,956	65,851	60,900	80,851	76,352
Paper, Paperhangings, &c.	110,103	56,024	77,494	91,416	83,719	66,609
Vehicles and parts	27,557	23,777	16,523	24,533	60,972	82,383
Glass and Glassware	34,673	26,758	33,523	39,973	58,259	58,740
Iron and Steel	24,213	31,662	61,167	39,174	78,205	48,267
All other Articles	636,139	603,522	646,605	810,312	950,073	823,884
Total	1,305,602	1,205,359	1,338,612	1,631,455	1,878,043	1,738,678
Exported from Victoria to Germany.						
Wool	533,050	792,840	952,760	688,166	934,723	716,127
Tin Ingots	1,250	..	5,542	10,842	33,397	79,659
Apples—Fresh	9,630	17,405	14,080	17,213	28,149	63,544
Wheat .. .. .	..	9,003	39,089	11,931	16,873	39,945
Ores	2,958	1,436	3,770	3,072	16,146	36,817
Sausage Casings	11,698	10,596	12,431	13,400	15,170	14,471
Hides and Skins	31,961	17,733	9,908	7,711	4,465	11,468
Tallow	59	940	11,100	15,803	3,282	6,478
Gold—Specie	1,410,000	..	..	..	200,000	..
All other Articles	14,930	22,508	22,711	33,164	35,335	60,924
Total	2,015,536	872,461	1,071,391	801,302	1,287,540	1,029,433

The articles imported from Germany were very varied in character, as may be seen from the fact that only half their total value was accounted for in the ten leading items shown above. In exchange for the imports, 59 per cent. of their value was returned in merchandise in 1913. Of the exports for that year 70 per cent. consisted of wool.

Trade with Japan (including Formosa) consists mainly of imports, which have increased considerably during the last two years. In 1914-15 the imports amounted to £540,316, in 1915-16 to £1,242,383, and in 1916-17 to £1,338,578. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows :—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO JAPAN, 1912 TO 1916-17.

Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
			1915.	1916.	1917.
Imported into Victoria from Japan.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Piece Goods	91,429	98,312	190,850	304,171	327,111
Apparel and Attire	19,145	20,510	20,704	88,599	168,306
Sugar—Produce of Cane				271,826	127,173
Sulphur—Brimstone	17,651	51,646	48,809	46,905	101,474
Timber	25,550	31,736	13,060	29,205	60,824
Glass and Glassware	2,511	3,189	9,159	31,454	42,382
Cosies, Cushions, Counterpanes, &c.	16,040	17,122	12,953	26,107	36,755
Fancy Goods	4,408	3,772	8,005	24,053	34,721
Hats, Bonnets, and Caps	1,709	7,572	15,791	24,830	27,762
Buttons, Buckles, &c.			11,962	23,301	26,283
Earthenware, Brownware, &c.	4,033	2,267	4,106	19,408	23,481
All other Articles	121,359	92,010	204,917	352,524	362,306
Total	303,835	328,127	540,316	1,242,383	1,338,578
Exported from Victoria to Japan.					
Wool	2,544	13,839	51,397	77,421	..
All other articles	37,628	162,799	32,160	48,704	48,417
Total	40,172	176,638	83,557	126,125	48,417

For the year 1916-17, the eleven articles specified accounted for 73 per cent. of the total imports, whilst the items piece goods and apparel and attire formed 37 per cent. thereof. On page 634 *post* it is shown that the articles produced in Japan and received in Victoria during the latest year amounted in value to £1,334,317.

Wool was the chief item of export, and for the four years ended 30th June, 1916, it amounted to 34 per cent. of the total.

Trade with the United States in 1916-17 amounted to £5,210,686, of which £5,013,064 represented imports. As compared with the year 1915-16 this trade had decreased by £1,697,024, there having been a growth of £204,830 in imports, and a falling off of £1,901,854 in exports, the decline in the latter having been due to the suspension of the direct export of wool. The principal articles included in the trade with the United States in the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES, 1911 TO 1916-17.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
				1915.	1916.	1917.
Imported into Victoria from the United States.	£	£	£	£	£	£
Machines, Tools, and Implements	477,271	494,569	505,743	481,222	593,391	684,575
Oil	207,004	335,901	228,975	237,423	469,490	574,646
Iron and Steel	115,671	163,042	161,038	140,919	326,906	420,189
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	286,783	220,255	230,504	120,865	186,324	355,481
Leather	50,396	75,927	124,232	106,441	154,337	327,264
Vehicles, and parts	85,905	147,943	116,668	143,289	429,023	305,686
Paper, Paperhangings, &c.	43,592	74,393	33,962	30,299	146,419	228,212
Piece Goods	65,981	66,370	36,993	42,860	108,749	204,630
Wire and Wire Netting	89,781	96,724	74,534	50,545	134,084	98,812
Timber	325,668	326,835	321,429	220,900	238,995	97,037
Rails, Fishplates, &c.	139,686	41,823	2,760	3,496	39,821	5,139
All other Articles	704,294	869,504	743,534	1,040,306	1,980,695	1,711,393
Total	2,592,032	2,913,341	2,580,362	2,668,565	4,808,234	5,013,064
Exported from Victoria to the United States.						
Wool	362,072	260,318	300,202	1,066,144	2,008,725	..
Leather	3,601	2,064	1,194	1,422	5,780	58,426
Hides and Skins	35,637	60,891	89,530	75,389	60,849	51,833
Eucalyptus Oil	3,926	1,060	4,993	2,185	7,117	20,264
All other Articles	6,874	6,926	37,077	17,685	17,005	67,099
Total	412,160	331,259	632,996	1,162,825	2,099,476	197,622

The imports from the United States cover a wide range of articles, as after the six leading items, which in 1916-17 accounted for 53 per cent. of their amount, the next largest four were responsible for only 12½ per cent. of the total, and 34½ per cent. of the whole was made up of articles of much smaller value.

The value of the imports from different countries does not represent the value of the produce of such countries received by Victoria. In the next table the country of shipment is contrasted with the country of origin of the oversea imports for 1916-17.

OVERSEA IMPORTS, 1916-17—COUNTRY OF SHIPMENT AND COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

Country.	Value of Oversea Imports.		Percentage of Oversea Imports.	
	Imported from each Country.	Produced in each Country.	Imported from each Country.	Produced in each Country.
	£	£		
Canada	428,214	516,433	1·682	2·028
Ceylon	434,719	447,543	1·707	1·757
Fiji	73,913	63,929	·290	·250
Hong Kong	93,508	664	·367	·003
India (including Burmah)	1,373,255	1,383,632	5·393	5·433
New Zealand	582,762	567,158	2·288	2·227
Ocean Island	141,117	141,102	·554	·554
South African Union ...	113,562	152,008	·446	·597
Straits Settlements ...	285,828	101,377	1·122	·398
United Kingdom	13,624,806	11,849,592	53·503	46·532
West Indies (British) ...	41,340	50,713	·162	·199
Other British Countries	41,860	64,891	·164	·255
Belgium	5,964	23,235	·023	·091
Borneo (Dutch)	6,438	42,705	·025	·168
Brazil	51,132	132,560	·201	·521
Chili	58,589	58,589	·230	·230
China	95,905	206,065	·377	·809
Cuba	122	27,700	...	·109
Denmark	13,973	12,985	·055	·051
France	52,432	657,929	·206	2·584
Holland (Netherlands) ...	21,223	124,337	·083	·488
Italy	80,453	229,175	·316	·900
Japan (including Formosa)	1,338,578	1,334,317	5·257	5·240
Java	572,788	514,462	2·249	2·020
Norway	314,269	379,936	1·234	1·492
Philippine Islands	95,426	96,581	·375	·379
Russia	290	25,186	·001	·099
Spain	1,908	26,927	·008	·106
Sumatra	878	193,679	·004	·761
Sweden	334,831	275,183	1·315	1·081
Switzerland	43,840	625,958	·172	2·458
United States of America	5,013,064	4,951,750	19·686	19·445
Other Foreign Countries	128,477	187,113	·505	·735
Total	25,465,464	25,465,464	100·000	100·000

Australian
produce
exported.

Leaving gold out of consideration, an examination of the various articles of Australian produce exported from Victoria to oversea countries reveals the fact that in 1916-17 about 92 per cent. of the total was covered by the thirteen articles specified below :—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE
EXPORTED FROM VICTORIA TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES,
1912 TO 1916-17.

Principal Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
			1915.	1916.	1917.
	£	£	£	£	£
Gold (Bullion, Ore and Specie) ...	2,880,010	624,264	446,788	320,995	643
Butter ...	1,545,771	1,681,987	798,569	653,115	2,154,673
Flour ...	600,267	710,416	191,214	653,490	1,213,751
Wheat ...	1,836,387	2,053,454	160,642	2,767,099	4,177,725
Fruits (Fresh, Dried, and Preserved) ...	155,189	184,389	42,339	367,806	264,850
Jams and Jellies ...	14,404	20,686	36,625	196,979	371,753
Lead ...	9,621	1,209	144,734	338,083	501,775
Leather ...	245,707	221,454	492,553	488,956	433,950
Meat, Frozen—					
Mutton and Lamb ...	762,344	1,296,741	1,248,035	47,348	394,044
Other ...	126,953	268,320	531,867	92,807	236,450
Milk and Cream ...	25,426	53,873	77,388	14,847	305,738
Skins and Hides ...	1,328,817	1,685,700	884,997	534,396	548,725
Tallow ...	324,497	371,316	192,400	45,214	246,091
Tin Ingots ...	346,118	282,817	109,337	224,598	114,635
Wool ...	6,990,918	6,282,291	5,237,304	6,203,565	6,149,212
All other articles ...	1,173,663	1,011,361	1,414,655	1,330,184	1,554,553
TOTAL ...	18,366,092	16,750,278	12,009,497	14,279,482	18,668,569
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per Head of Population	13 11 3	12 0 11	8 7 11	10 1 5	13 6 9
Percentage of Total Oversea Exports ...	96·09	93·92	96·54	96·85	98·10

Those articles of Australian produce exported oversea which are not specified in the above table, but are grouped under the heading "All other Articles," represented only 6 per cent. of the oversea exports in 1912 and 1913, 12 per cent. in 1914-15, 9 per cent. in 1915-16, and 8 per cent. in 1916-17.

Distribution of
Australian
produce.

The subjoined table shows the destination under general headings of Australian produce exported from Victoria to overseas countries in each of the past five years:—

EXPORTS OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE, 1912 TO 1916-17.

Destination.	Value in Year —				
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.		
			1915.	1916.	1917.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	8,864,218	8,606,317	8,281,709	7,074,914	12,359,067
Other British Possessions	3,582,434	1,637,256	1,692,457	2,101,525	2,521,613
Foreign Countries ...	5,919,440	6,506,705	2,035,331	5,103,043	3,787,889
Total ...	18,366,092	16,750,278	12,009,497	14,279,482	18,668,569

Of the Australian produce exported overseas during 1916-17, 66 per cent. was sent to the United Kingdom, about 14 per cent. to "Other British Possessions," and 20 per cent. to foreign countries.

The following statement illustrates the development of Inter-State trade in each of the Australian States between the year preceding Federation and the ninth year thereafter—the latest year for which Inter-State records are available:—

TRADE BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN STATES, 1900 AND 1909.

State.	Value of Trade with Other States.					
	1900.			1909.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports (+) Exports (-)	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports (+) Exports (-)
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria	6,364,167	5,267,188	+1,106,979	11,618,217	12,053,399	-435,182
New South Wales ..	10,164,080	9,979,214	+184,866	17,146,943	15,792,608	+1,354,335
Queensland	3,067,278	5,412,881	-2,345,603	5,594,309	8,982,846	-3,388,537
South Australia ..	4,225,876	4,018,678	+207,192	6,239,257	4,177,986	+2,061,271
Western Australia ..	2,675,156	1,125,031	+1,550,125	3,084,578	2,060,537	+1,024,041
Tasmania	1,872,552	1,071,829	+800,723	2,387,854	3,003,782	-615,928

The Victorian export trade grew from £5,257,188 in 1900 to £12,053,399 in 1909, there being thus an increase in the nine years of

£6,796,211, or 129 per cent. In New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, exports showed increases of 58 per cent., 66 per cent., 4 per cent., 83 per cent., and 180 per cent. respectively. The import trade of Victoria increased during the same period by 83 per cent., as compared with increases of 69 per cent. in New South Wales, 82 per cent. in Queensland, 48 per cent. in South Australia, 15 per cent. in Western Australia, and 74 per cent. in Tasmania. The growth of exports exceeded that of imports by £1,542,161 in Victoria, £1,042,934 in Queensland, £526,084 in Western Australia, and £916,651 in Tasmania; whereas the growth of imports exceeded that of exports by £1,169,469 in New South Wales, and £1,854,079 in South Australia.

The following are the net amounts of Customs and Excise duty collected in Victoria in each of the last five years, the principal items being shown separately:—

REVENUE OF CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

Hheads of Revenue.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.
	£	£	£	£	£
Import Duty—					
Alcoholic Liquors ...	655,313	652,416	687,599	574,690	422,693
Narcotics ...	459,874	434,413	434,447	476,721	497,662
Sugar... ..	397,189	74,735	11,957	249,220	112,753
All other Articles ...	2,569,625	2,612,855	2,395,549	2,901,721	2,799,442
Total ...	4,082,001	3,774,419	3,529,552	4,202,352	3,832,550
Excise Duty—					
Spirits	111,812	113,184	129,821	139,437	124,083
Beer	229,108	260,825	401,041	494,161	458,430
Tobacco	254,869	265,237	282,412	290,365	303,307
Sugar... ..	57,703	3,945	1,481	350	...
Total ...	653,492	643,191	814,755	924,313	885,820
Miscellaneous ...	14,645	12,685	12,522	13,553	14,652
Grand Total ...	4,750,138	4,430,295	4,356,829	5,140,218	4,733,022

These figures have been furnished by the Customs Department. The discrepancies between the totals in the table and those given in part "Finance" of the *Year-Book* are due to refunds recorded at the Treasury but not at the Customs House. The item "Miscellaneous" in the table is distributed between Customs and Excise duties in part "Finance."

The amounts shown for the five years are exclusive of drawbacks and refunds. No record has been kept since 1st July, 1910, of goods which were imported into or manufactured in the State, and afterwards

passed into another State for consumption, and consequently no adjustment of duties paid has been possible between the States concerned. The net debit against Victoria on this account amounted to £564,746 for the financial year 1909-10, so that the total duties shown for each subsequent year may be assumed to be overstated to at least that extent.

INTER-STATE COMMISSION.

Inter-State Commission. The Inter-State Commission is a body incorporated under the terms of Act No. 33 of 1912 of the Commonwealth of Australia. The members of the Commission, of whom there are three, were appointed on 5th August, 1913.

The Commission is charged with the duty of investigating all matters which, in the opinion of the Commission, ought in the public interest to be investigated, affecting—

- (a) the production of, and trade in, commodities ;
- (b) the encouragement, improvement, and extension of Australian industries and manufactures ;
- (c) markets outside Australia, and the opening up of external trade generally ;
- (d) the effect and operation of any Tariff Act or other legislation of the Commonwealth in regard to revenues, Australian manufactures, and industry, and trade generally ;
- (e) prices of commodities ;
- (f) profits of trade and manufacture ;
- (g) wages and social and industrial conditions ;
- (h) labour, employment and unemployment ;
- (i) bounties paid by foreign countries to encourage shipping or export trade ;
- (j) population ;
- (k) immigration ; and
- (l) other matters referred to the Commission by either House of the Parliament, by resolution, for investigation.

Further, the Commission may investigate all matters affecting—

- (a) the extent of diversions or proposed diversions, or works or proposed works for diversions, from any river and its tributaries, and their effect or probable effect on the navigability of rivers that, by themselves or by their connexion with other waters, constitute highways for Inter-State trade and commerce ;
- (b) the maintenance and the improvement of the navigability of such rivers ;
- (c) the abridgment by the Commonwealth by any law or regulation of trade or commerce of the rights of any State or the residents therein to the reasonable use of the waters of rivers for conservation or irrigation ;

(d) the violation by any State, or by the people of any State, of the rights of any other State, or the people of any other State, with respect to the waters of rivers.

The Act requires that all rates fixed or made by any common carrier for any service rendered in respect of Inter-State commerce, or which affect Inter-State commerce, shall be reasonable and just, and prohibits all such rates which are unreasonable or unjust, and all undue preferences upon State railways in respect of Inter-State commerce.

SHIPPING.

Victorian shipping as dealt with in the succeeding tables **Vessels entered and cleared.** refers to vessels trading with other States and oversea countries. Vessels trading on the Victorian coast and on the River Murray have not been taken into consideration, although in the particulars of the shipping of the port of Melbourne given on page 643 *post* shipping trading on the Victorian coast is included. The number of vessels entered and cleared, their total tonnage, and the number of men forming their crews in each of the last five years were as follows :—

SHIPPING INWARD AND OUTWARD, 1912 TO 1916-17.

	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.		
			1915.	1916.	1917.
Vessels Entered—					
Number	2,399	2,481	2,324	2,392	1,962
Tons	5,426,146	5,950,035	5,290,063	4,935,129	4,042,819
Average tonnage	2,262	2,398	2,276	2,063	2,061
Crews	163,055	176,844	157,209	142,885	119,200
Vessels Cleared—					
Number	2,385	2,469	2,329	2,385	1,967
Tons	5,410,801	5,902,277	5,308,817	4,902,245	4,050,095
Average tonnage	2,269	2,391	2,279	2,055	2,059
Crews	161,611	175,704	157,745	141,698	118,360

The figures for the year 1916-17 in the above table show a decrease in the tonnage and crews of vessels as compared with the average of the last five-year period. For the twelve months ended 30th June, 1917, steamers numbered 1,787 of the vessels entered, and 1,791 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 3,977,613 and 3,980,621 respectively.

The inward shipping of 1916-17 included 97 vessels **Shipping in ballast.** in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 334,123, whilst the outward shipping included 366 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 564,816.

Shipping with principal countries. The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1916-17 are set out in the following statement:—

SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1916-17.

Countries.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Australian States	1,423	2,254,634	1,530	2,755,961
United Kingdom	161	830,792	114	491,667
New Zealand	58	70,621	48	102,741
Other British	97	276,238	85	275,637
Oversea Country (unspecified)*	11	37,735	66	240,621
Total British Countries	1,750	3,470,020	1,893	3,866,627
Japan	59	141,241	22	66,929
Java	15	47,063	12	38,473
United States	89	248,470	15	19,079
Other Foreign	49	136,025	25	58,987
Total Foreign Countries	212	572,799	74	183,468
Total	1,962	4,042,819	1,967	4,050,095

*Due to war conditions.

Nationality of vessels. The nationality of vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports in each of the years 1912 to 1916-17 was as shown hereunder:—

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1912 TO 1916-17.

Year.	NUMBER OF VESSELS.				TONNAGE OF VESSELS.			
	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.
	Entered.							
1912	1,372	749	278	2,399	1,880,992	2,713,182	831,972	5,426,146
1913	1,444	741	296	2,481	2,278,624	2,757,350	914,061	5,950,035
1914-15	1,480	709	135	2,324	2,294,137	2,633,365	362,561	5,290,063
1915-16	1,499	714	179	2,392	2,044,398	2,519,317	371,414	4,935,129
1916-17	1,253	586	123	1,962	1,713,714	2,035,346	293,759	4,042,819
	Cleared.							
1912	1,356	752	277	2,385	1,866,304	2,720,180	824,317	5,410,801
1913	1,447	731	291	2,469	2,276,338	2,722,324	903,615	5,902,277
1914-15	1,484	712	133	2,329	2,303,739	2,645,617	359,461	5,308,817
1915-16	1,498	709	178	2,385	2,034,655	2,494,320	373,270	4,902,245
1916-17	1,255	587	125	1,967	1,713,916	2,038,340	297,839	4,050,095

The proportions of the shipping of each nationality, as tabulated to the total entered and cleared for the respective years in their proper sequence from 1912 to 1917 are:—Australian vessels, 57, 58, 64, 63, and 64 per cent.; Australian tonnage, 35, 39, 43, 41, and 43 per cent.; other British vessels 31, 30, 30, 30, and 30 per cent.; other British tonnage 50, 46, 50, 51, and 50 per cent.; foreign vessels, 12, 12, 6, 7, and 6 per cent.; and foreign tonnage 15, 15, 7, 8, and 7 per cent.

In the next table further details of the nationality of the shipping for the year 1916-17 are given:—

NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1916-17.

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British—				
Australian	1,253	1,713,714	1,255	1,713,916
United Kingdom	450	1,910,288	453	1,913,751
Indian	3	11,228	3	11,228
New Zealand... ..	128	108,760	126	108,291
South African	5	5,070	5	5,070
Total British	1,839	3,749,060	1,842	3,752,256
Foreign—				
Chilian	1	1,272	1	1,272
Danish	2	6,800	2	6,800
Dutch	13	39,708	13	39,708
French	7	18,951	7	18,951
Greek	2	5,360	2	5,360
Italian	4	13,950	4	13,950
Japanese	49	113,179	49	113,179
Norwegian	8	21,813	9	23,808
Portuguese	1	3,706	1	3,706
Russian	2	3,503	1	1,869
Swedish	6	16,583	6	16,583
United States	28	48,934	30	52,633
Total Foreign	123	293,759	125	297,839
Total	1,962	4,042,819	1,967	4,050,095

Vessels on
Victorian
register.

The vessels on the Victorian register on 31st December, 1916, were as follows, the ports of registration and net tonnage being distinguished:—

VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1916.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne	222	133,713	191	37,843	413	171,556
Geelong	3	449	5	360	8	809
Port Fairy	3	621	...	...	3	621
Total	228	134,783	196	38,203	424	172,986

During 1916 there were added to the register 12 steamers with net tonnage of 12,821, and 2 sailing vessels with a tonnage of 560; whilst 8 steamers having net tonnage of 4,576, and 9 sailing vessels having a tonnage of 1,536, were taken off the register.

The following statement, compiled by the Marine Underwriters' and Salvage Association of Victoria, shows the number and net tonnage of vessels on the registers of all the Australian States and New Zealand on 30th June, 1917:—

VESSELS OWNED IN AUSTRALASIA, 1917.

States, &c.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Victoria ...	197	133,811	212	38,003	409	171,814
New South Wales ...	528	97,171	583	36,754	1,111	133,925
Queensland ...	95	20,286	191	7,474	286	27,760
South Australia ...	115	57,814	198	16,808	313	74,622
Western Australia ...	37	24,413	437	17,155	474	41,568
Tasmania ...	58	11,397	158	5,872	216	17,269
Total Australia ...	1,030	344,892	1,779	122,066	2,809	466,958
Fiji ...	5	432	5	833	10	1,265
New Guinea ...	...	...	15	289	15	239
New Zealand ...	259	64,180	312	24,209	571	88,389
Total ...	1,294	409,504	2,111	147,397	3,405	556,901

Compared with 1916, vessels owned in Australia decreased by 17 in number, though there was an increase of 28,291 in tonnage.

PORT OF MELBOURNE.

The port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 10·08 miles of wharfs, piers, and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 55½ acres, of which 17 acres 2 roods are under sheds. An outline of some of the Trust's activities is given below.

The river has been widened from Queen's Bridge to the Bay from about 140 to 300 feet, and three swinging basins have been provided, one just below Queen's Bridge, 500 feet wide, one three-quarters of a mile further down the river, 550 feet wide, and one at the entrance to the Victoria Dock, 500 feet wide. The depth of the river has been gradually increased, until at the present time it is 27 feet at low water for all but the upper half-mile, where the depth is from 18 feet upwards, but is being increased to 27 feet. Turning to the wharfage available for shipping, there is a berthing space of 49,010 feet, the whole of which has a good depth of

Port of Melbourne.

Works undertaken by Trust in River and Victoria Dock.

water—7,780 feet at Williamstown, 9,150 feet at Port Melbourne, 20,320 feet in the River Yarra, and 11,760 feet in the Victoria Dock. This dock, which is 4 miles from the river entrance, was opened in 1892, and has an area of 96 acres, and a depth of 30 feet of water at low tide. The entrance to the dock is 160 feet wide, and on the 8,500 feet of wharfage there are six closed and seven open sheds, all 53 feet in width, and two open and two closed sheds 60 feet in width, the total length of all the sheds being 4,870 feet. On the pier in this dock, which is 1,631 feet in length and 250 feet in width, two sheds each 486 feet long and 60 feet wide are being erected.

Coode Canal. In 1886 a canal across the flats below Fisherman's Bend was completed at a cost of £96,000, the length being 2,002 yards. The construction of the canal had the effect of reducing the distance from Queen's Bridge to the river entrance from 7 miles to $5\frac{3}{4}$ miles, and of greatly facilitating navigation. This channel, which is called Coode Canal, has been widened by 164 feet, making its total width 487 feet, its width at low water 430 feet, and its bottom width 264 feet. It has a depth of 27 feet at low water, and is being dredged to 32 feet.

Dredging. The material dredged and disposed of during 1916 amounted to 3,711,157 cubic yards, viz., 933,270 cubic yards from Hobson's Bay, and 2,777,887 cubic yards from the River Yarra and Victoria Dock. Since the establishment of the Trust the river dredgings have amounted to 32,359,085, and the Bay dredgings to 25,532,728 cubic yards, making a total of 57,891,813 cubic yards. Of the dredgings 44,536,173 cubic yards were deposited in deep water and 13,355,640 cubic yards were landed and deposited for reclamation work. The average cost of dredging, towing, and depositing in 1916 was 5·55d. per cubic yard.

Plant. The floating plant of the Trust consists of 7 dredgers, 2 steam tugs, 9 steam hopper barges, 10 iron dumb hopper barges, 3 steam launches, 4 motor launches, 1 Lobnitz rock-breaker, 4 grab cranes, 3 coal hulks, 2 derrick punts, and diving equipment.

Trade of the Port. Since the inception of the Trust, in the year 1877, the trade of the port has greatly increased. In the year 1878 vessels to the number of 5,060, comprising 164 ships, 414 barques, 96 brigs, 849 schooners, 350 cutters, 458 ketches, 2,084 steamers, and 645 lighters, with a registered tonnage aggregating 1,169,320, berthed within the port, whereas in the year 1916 the total number of vessels was 4,825, comprising 4,004 steamers, 21 ships, 47 barques, 19 barquentines, 362 ketches, 134 schooners, and 238 lighters, with registered tonnage aggregating 5,555,000. The tonnage of imports in 1916 was 2,634,000, and that of exports 1,358,000.

The trade of the port for the past five years was as follows :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Registered Tonnage.
	Oversea.	Inter-State.	Oversea.	Inter-State.	
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	
1912	1,445,000	1,511,000	657,000	607,000	6,343,000
1913	1,620,000	1,305,000	665,000	705,000	7,004,000
1914	1,313,000	1,663,000	576,000	740,000	6,934,000
1915	1,290,000	1,683,000	239,000	730,000	5,994,000
1916	982,000	1,652,000	655,000	703,000	5,555,000

The abnormal conditions arising out of the war are responsible for the decrease of vessels' tonnage in the last three years.

Of the trade in 1916, 91 per cent. of imports and 65 per cent. of exports were dealt with in the river and Victoria Dock, the balance, of course, being handled at the piers in the Bay.

Coal forms a great part of the above Inter-State imports, the particulars being as follows :—

COAL IMPORTED FROM OTHER STATES.

(Exclusive of Coal transhipped.)

	Tons.		Tons.
1912	801,074	1915	846,980
1913	831,219	1916	809,209
1914	906,962		

A new railway pier at Port Melbourne has been completed, its length being 1,902 feet, and its width 186 feet.

The total cost of the pier and superstructures is £212,415, and the cost, including dredging, to the end of 1916 was £377,848. Dredging is being carried to 37 feet, to provide for four berths for vessels drawing 35 feet. Two shelter sheds are being provided, to enable passengers to board and disembark from vessels clear of the railway traffic.

The construction of the new Central Pier at the Victoria Dock, the first contract for which was let for £102,785, is almost complete. A bed for the centre roadway on this pier has been formed by the insertion of reinforced concrete plates on which wood blocks have been made, the cost of the work being £23,983. A contract for two large cargo sheds has been let for £15,880. The pier is 1,631 feet in length by 250 feet in width.

A contract for reinforced concrete sheet piling with relieving platforms at the middle swinging basin has been let for £37,445 and the work is in progress. This is the first contract in connexion with the widening and lengthening of this Basin.

A new wharf at Newport in the River Yarra has been completed, the amount expended thereon having been £13,785. The new Railway Pier, Williamstown, has been extended a further 100 feet and widened at a cost of £9,791. The old Railway Pier, Williamstown, has been extended a further 250 feet and widened to 81 feet, at a cost of £17,918, and the Town Pier, Port Melbourne, has also been extensively renovated.

Other improvements proposed for the near future include the widening of the river by 100 feet on the south side between the swinging basin and Coode Canal, lengthening and widening the middle swinging basin by increasing its size from 550 feet by 800 feet to 650 feet by 1,000 feet, the re-alignment of the Australian Wharf, provision for greater facilities for the timber trade, a re-arrangement of the berths at Yarraville, the provision of machinery for the handling of cargo, and the lighting of the port throughout by electricity. Timber is being accumulated for the carrying out of these works, and contracts have been let for the supply of over £60,000 worth of timber, which will form an addition to large quantities already in hand.

The expenditure for the year 1916 was £461,158, as compared with £205,664 in 1911, £366,954 in 1912, £439,191 in 1913, £427,001 in 1914, and £434,625 in 1915.

With a view to preventing pillage on the wharfs, the Trust is paying for a police patrol of 21 men, and this, together with the cost of providing wharfingers and shedmen, costs £6,505 per annum. During the year 1916 prosecutions for pillaging goods were instituted in 60 cases, and 58 convictions were obtained. Fines were inflicted amounting to £302. Rewards amounting to £229 were paid during the year for the apprehension of offenders.

The police patrol has proved effective, the powers of the police and their sources of information having been of assistance in obtaining convictions.

PARTICULARS OF BERTHAGE ACCOMMODATION AND DEPTH OF WATER
AT THE WHARFS AND PIERS WITHIN THE PORT OF MELBOURNE.

Name.	Berthing Space, in Feet.	Depth, in Feet, O.L.W.
Breakwater Pier, Williamstown	920	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (old)	2,500	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (new)	1,200	28 to 30
Graving Dock Pier, Williamstown	860	25 to 28
Reid-street Pier, Williamstown	1,000	20 to 24
Ann-street Pier, Williamstown	800	17 to 22
Gem Pier, Williamstown	500	8 to 10
New Railway Pier, Port Melbourne	2,650	35 to 37*
Railway Pier, Port Melbourne	3,000	28 to 30
Town Pier, Port Melbourne	3,500	27 to 30
Newport Wharf (river)	400	27
Footscray Wharf (river)	700	13 to 14
Queen's Wharf (river)	1,800	17 to 26
Princes' Wharf (river)	2,050	17 to 24
Australian Wharf (river)	7,620	24 to 26
South Wharf (river)	7,750	23 to 26
Victoria Dock (river)	11,760	25 to 27
	49,010	

* Dredging in progress to 37 feet.

NOTE.—For rise of spring tides throughout harbor, 2 ft. 8 in. to be added to all depths; for rise of neap tides, 2 feet to be added.

At the various piers and wharfs are the following cranes:—

One steam crane, to lift 75 tons.

One hydraulic crane, to lift 35 tons.

One hydraulic crane, to lift 15 tons.

Seven hand cranes, to lift from 1 to 10 tons.

The following particulars relating to the dry and floating docks in Australasia have been taken from *Lloyd's Register*:—

DOCKS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

Port.		Description of Dock.	Extreme Length. — Length on Bottom.	Breadth at Entrance	Height of Sill above Bottom of Dock.	Depth on Sill at High Water. Ordinary Spring Tides.
			ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.
Albany	W.A.	Small Floating Dock ..	{ 130 0 121 0	{ 22 2	3 0	6 10
Brisbane	Q.	Government Dry Dock	431 6	53 0	3 2	19 0
Clarence River	N.S.W.	Dry Dock ..	110 0	42 0	3 0	8 6
Launceston	Tas.	Floating Dry Dock ..	172 0	37 0	2 4	12 6
Melbourne	V.	Graving Dock ..	{ 520 0 510 0	{ 70 0 (top) 60 0 (bottom)	4 0	23 6
"	"	" " ..	{ 430 0 420 0	{ 64 0 (top) 52 0 (bottom)	4 0	23 6
"	"	Alfred Graving Dock	{ 475 0 459 0	80 0	2 6	26 0
"	"	Floating Dry Dock ..	{ 216 0 200 0	36 6	1 0	12 6
Newcastle	N.S.W.	Floating Dock ..	426 0 (on blocks)	84 0	..	{ 25 0 (over blocks)
Sydney	"	Mort's Graving Dock	{ 640 0 640 0	{ 69 0 83 0 (top)	4 6	18 0
"	"	New Graving Dock ..	700 0	83 0	4 0	28 9
"	"	Floating Dock ..	{ 320 0 317 0	{ 44 0	..	..
"	"	" " ..	{ 109 0 100 0	{ 23 0 extreme	..	..
"	"	Pontoon Floating Dock	195 0 (on blocks)	60 6 (inside walls)	..	..
"	"	Floating Dock ..	163 0	40 0	..	12 0
"	"	Fitzroy Graving Dock	{ 477 0 463 0	{ 59 0	1 4	21 6
"	"	Sutherland Dock ..	{ 637 0 630 0	{ 84 0	3 6	32 0
"	"	Drake's Floating Dock	{ 159 0 150 0	{ 40 0	5 0	8 0
Auckland	N.Z.	Calliope Graving Dock	{ 566 0 521 0	..	1 7	33 0
Lyttelton	"	Graving Dock ..	{ 481 6 450 0	{ 62 0	2 0	23 0
Port Chalmers	"	Dry Dock ..	{ 328 0 300 0	{ 50 0	3 0	19 6
"	"	" " ..	{ 528 0 599 0	{ 70 0	3 0	21 0

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs was transferred to the Federal Government by proclamation on 1st March, 1901.

Rates of postage.

The rates of postage in force within the Commonwealth and Papua are as follows:—

Letters	1d. per half ounce
Letter-cards	{ Single, 1d. each
	{ Reply, 1d. each half
Post-cards	{ Single, 1d. each
	{ Reply, 1d. each half
Printed papers (other than newspapers)	½d. per 2 ounces
Books printed in Australia	½d. per 8 ounces
Books printed outside Australia	½d. per 4 ounces
Magazines printed and published in Australia ... each	½d. per 8 ounces
Magazines printed and published outside Australia ... each	½d. per 4 ounces
Commercial papers, patterns, samples, and merchandise as prescribed	1d. per 2 ounces
Newspapers printed and published in Australia	½d. per 10 ounces
Newspapers printed and published outside Australia	½d. per 4 ounces

The rate of postage on letters from the Commonwealth to the United Kingdom and the Oversea Dominions, British colonies and protectorates, is 1d. per half-ounce.

Cable rates. The ordinary rate for cabling to the United Kingdom is 3s. per word, and the deferred rate is 1s. 6d. per word. Deferred cablegrams are transmitted only after the despatch of non-urgent private cablegrams and press cablegrams. In January, 1913, the Pacific Cable Board instituted a tariff for week-end cable letters available between Australia and the United Kingdom. The rate is 9d. per word, with a minimum charge of 15s. A scheme exists under which week-end messages may be lodged up to midnight on Saturday, and are deliverable on Tuesday morning, or if practicable on Monday. This has, however, been temporarily suspended, as an arrangement has been made for the transmission of messages to soldiers, which are chargeable at the rate of 9d. per word without a minimum.

Postal returns. The post-offices in the State on 30th June, 1917, numbered 1,782, and in addition there were 852 receiving offices (principally loose-bags), 12 travelling offices, and 1,653 letter boxes. The postal and telegraphic staff numbered 5,065 persons, and there were in addition 4,388 non-official postmasters, mail contractors, and casual employees employed part time only in the service. The postal routes in 1916-17 covered a distance of 16,039 miles, of which 3,945 were by railway, the distance traversed being 9,275,716 miles, including 4,847,090 railway miles. In the following table is shown the business done by the Postal Department in each of the last five years:—

POSTAL RETURNS, 1912 TO 1916-17.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.
Posted and Received—					
Letters and Post-cards	175,588,805	189,975,987	188,440,698	191,427,078	201,093,447
Newspapers	37,826,929	40,950,516	40,737,663	40,246,088	43,175,024
Packets	20,631,887	18,292,538	16,464,556	11,146,357	11,490,795
Parcels	764,821	893,934	961,755	1,163,140	1,283,949
Total	234,812,442	250,112,975	246,604,672	243,982,663	257,043,215

Registered letters and articles are included in this statement, and numbered 1,645,982 in 1916-17. The total number of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels passing through the post-office in 1916-17 showed an increase of 5 per cent. on the number for 1915-16. The large increase in the number of letters posted and received in 1916-17 was chiefly due to the mails of the soldiers on active service. A clear idea of the magnitude of the postal matter dealt with will be obtained when it is stated that in 1916-17 the letters posted and received represented 143 and the newspapers, packets, and parcels, 40 per head of the population.

The next table gives in three groups the destination of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels posted, whether for delivery inland, in other States, or in countries outside the Commonwealth, and shows whence those received came, whether from other States or from outside countries.

**POSTAL SERVICE—INLAND, INTER-STATE AND
INTERNATIONAL: 1912 TO 1916-17.**

Service.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.
LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.					
Posted for delivery inland	129,610,388	135,963,724	139,043,933	134,212,538	133,312,357
" " in other States	15,177,996	15,201,166	16,234,172	16,267,863	16,366,285
" " outside the States ..	6,780,247	7,687,758	6,760,903	13,944,397	15,935,748
Total	151,568,631	158,852,648	162,039,008	164,424,798	165,614,390
Received from other States	15,220,243	16,977,659	16,220,068	16,481,811	17,529,247
" " outside the States ..	8,799,931	14,145,680	10,181,622	10,520,469	17,949,810
Total	24,020,174	31,123,339	26,401,690	27,002,280	35,479,057
NEWSPAPERS.					
Posted for delivery inland	10,894,399	14,980,478	13,526,750	14,410,719	19,871,312
" " in other States	13,934,818	14,548,365	15,962,880	14,823,566	12,830,757
" " outside the States ..	3,153,631	3,332,069	2,793,660	3,955,133	2,987,080
Total	27,982,848	32,860,912	32,283,290	33,189,418	35,689,149
Received from other States	4,748,731	4,762,405	5,212,038	4,685,452	4,776,097
" " outside the States ..	5,095,250	3,327,199	3,242,335	2,371,218	2,709,778
Total	9,844,081	8,089,604	8,454,373	7,056,670	7,485,875
PACKETS.					
Posted for delivery inland	13,084,847	11,725,748	9,783,256	6,136,500	6,060,216
" " in other States	2,577,753	3,095,332	4,051,319	2,495,132	2,737,515
" " outside the States ..	1,400,431	1,149,648	750,134	922,389	881,171
Total	17,063,031	15,970,728	14,584,759	9,554,021	9,678,902
Received from other States	1,870,407	1,511,567	1,232,022	1,039,866	1,080,527
" " outside the States ..	1,698,449	810,243	647,775	552,470	731,366
Total	3,568,856	2,321,810	1,879,797	1,592,336	1,811,893
PARCELS.					
Posted for delivery inland	421,342	508,652	577,585	593,895	520,785
" " in other States	184,457	213,047	210,404	243,655	227,773
" " outside the States ..	21,248	23,573	17,658	145,907	357,689
Total	627,047	745,272	805,647	983,457	1,106,247
Received from other States	90,678	96,985	107,327	118,626	115,307
" " outside the States ..	47,096	51,677	48,731	61,057	62,395
Total	137,774	148,662	156,108	179,683	177,702

Dead letters, &c. Dead letters in 1916-17 numbered 531,146, of which 33,748 were irregularly posted. These letters contained money amounting to £8,353, as well as other articles of value, and were disposed of as follows:—Returned to writers, 392,131; destroyed, 80,124; returned to other States or countries as unclaimed, 58,891. There were also 519,300 undelivered packets and newspapers, of which 45,501 were returned to the senders, 463,710 were destroyed, and 10,089 were returned to other States and countries.

Money orders and postal notes. There are 534 money order offices in the State, which in 1916-17, issued 420,347 orders for £2,046,113. Of these 294,039 (for £1,591,010) were inland, 56,750 (for £256,009) inter-state, and 69,508 (for £199,094) international orders. The orders paid in the same year numbered 461,477, and were for an aggregate amount of £2,213,594, the inland being 315,650 (for £1,603,502), the inter-state 106,333 (for £488,207), and the international 39,494 (for £121,885). Inland postal notes paid totalled 2,087,326 (for £689,222), Victorian notes paid in other States 651,476 (for £200,196), and the notes of other States paid in Victoria 348,019 (for £127,684). The following is a comparative statement of the business done since 1911:—

MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES, 1912 TO 1916-17.

—	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.
Money Orders Issued—					
Number	316,538	376,961	381,671	654,324	420,347
Amount £	1,261,829	1,673,878	1,714,513	2,646,488	2,046,113
Money Orders Paid—					
Number	355,540	408,988	405,841	676,062	461,477
Amount £	1,506,658	1,922,665	1,928,550	2,800,880	2,213,594
Postal Notes—					
Victorian—Paid in Victoria	£ 811,606	849,013	849,888	731,044	689,222
Victorian—Paid in Other States	£ 181,540	215,334	225,836	197,412	200,196
Of Other States—Paid in Victoria	£ 168,771	177,967	171,414	132,429	127,684

The value of money orders issued and paid increased year by year from 1912 to 1915-16, but the large increase in 1915-16 was due to the payment of military allotments, which practice ceased in November, 1915. Since that date only the relatives of men in camp have been paid by money order.

The total business in postal notes showed a reduction in 1916-17, the amount of Victorian notes paid within the State and the amount of notes of other States paid in Victoria during that year being less by £41,822 and £4,745 respectively than the amounts paid in 1915-16. The amount of Victorian notes paid in other States during the year was greater by £2,784 than in 1915-16.

There are 1,711 telegraph offices in the State, 215 of which are attached to the railway service. Of the mileage of line and wire, 5,202 miles of line carrying 23,524 miles of wire are controlled by the Postal Department, and 3,797 miles of line carrying 5,922 miles of wire by the Railway Department. The length of lines and wire open, and the number of telegrams sent from Victorian offices, and of those received from outside the State, in each of the last five years, were as follows :—

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEGRAMS, 1912 TO 1916-17.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.
Number of Offices ...	1,538	1,648	1,748	1,796	1,711
Miles open—					
Line (poles) ...	7,455	7,628	7,998	8,800	8,999
Wire ...	18,649	19,403	26,146	28,937	29,446
Telegrams despatched—					
Inland ...	1,994,436	1,969,752	2,217,361	2,189,333	2,258,435
Inter-State ...	882,051	902,969	948,497	1,012,605	1,038,411
International ...	92,750	98,320	101,337	133,088	132,025
Total ...	2,969,237	2,971,041	3,267,195	3,335,026	3,428,871
Telegrams received—					
Inter-State ...	950,015	1,006,618	1,009,362	1,061,206	1,059,334
International ...	89,709	92,456	95,489	150,951	160,497
Total ...	1,039,724	1,099,074	1,104,851	1,212,157	1,219,831

The total telegrams despatched show a gradual improvement annually in the five-year period, the number for 1916-17 exceeding that for the previous year by 93,845. Compared with 1912 the telegrams despatched in 1916-17 showed an increase of 459,634, of which 263,999 were inland, 156,360 inter-state, and 39,275 international. Telegrams received from outside the State have increased by 180,107 since 1912. In 1916-17 the value of inland telegrams was £86,982, of inter-state despatched £86,357, of inter-state received £82,054, of international despatched £192,847, and of international received £251,601.

The telephone exchanges were worked by a private company until September, 1887, in which month the business, buildings, and plant were purchased by the Government. The following statement shows for the past five years the length of lines

and wire open and the number of subscribers, telephones, and private lines :—

TELEPHONES, 1912 TO 1916-17.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.
Miles Open—					
Lines (Poles and under-ground Cables)	2,467	2,902	3,097	3,145	3,271
Wire	153,400	189,193	208,444	218,603	218,706
Subscribers	26,562	30,640	34,071	36,372	38,025
Telephones	35,541	39,968	44,505	46,454	50,636
Private Lines	530	548	562	578	592

During the last five years the length of wire and the number of subscribers have both increased by 43 per cent. The subscribers given in the table are direct connexions. The actual number of telephones in use in 1916-17 was 50,636. This number represents an increase of 9 per cent. as compared with 1915-16, and of 42 per cent. as compared with 1912.

The revenue of the Post and Telegraph Department amounted to £1,491,153 in 1916-17, the items being postage £759,067, commission on money orders and postal notes £28,954, telegrams, cablegrams, &c., £200,390, telephones, &c., £432,361, and various, £70,381. It is estimated that the number of stamps and pre-payment forms sold for postal and telegraphic purposes in 1916-17 was 153,877,972, and the value thereof £908,439. The ordinary expenditure of the Department in 1916-17 amounted to £1,201,575, whilst capital expenditure (exclusive of salaries) on buildings, furniture, &c., telegraph lines, and telephone exchanges amounted to £136,658. The items of ordinary expenditure were :—Salaries, &c., £844,580 ; inland mail services, £151,587 ; British and foreign mail services, £16,897 ; maintenance of buildings, &c., £66,693 ; and miscellaneous, £121,818. In the following table the revenue and expenditure of the Department are summarized for the last five years :—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT, 1913 TO 1916-17.

	1913.	Year ended 30th June.			
		1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	1,172,639	1,191,206	1,220,681	1,353,287	1,491,153
Expenditure (ordinary)...	1,157,841	1,140,823	1,206,202	1,211,123	1,201,575
Surplus	14,798	50,383	14,479	142,164	289,578
Capital Expenditure* ...	324,329	397,793	323,084	257,456	136,658

*Exclusive of salaries which are included with ordinary expenditure.

RAILWAYS.

Victorian
Railways,
length and
cost.

All railways in Victoria available for general traffic are, with the two exceptions referred to on pages 658 and 659, the property of the State, and are under the management of three Commissioners appointed by the Government.

The succeeding tables relate to the State railways, the motive power of which, with the exception of the St. Kilda to Brighton Electric Street Railway, is steam. Parliament has sanctioned the electrification of the Melbourne Suburban Railways, and it is expected that electric traction will be introduced in 1918. The gauge of the lines is 5 ft. 3 in., with the exception of 121·9 miles of single lines, of which the gauge is 2 ft. 6 in. The following table shows the length of double and single lines, the cost of construction, and the average cost per mile at the close of each of the last five years :—

RAILWAYS, LENGTH AND COST OF CONSTRUCTION, 30TH JUNE, 1913, TO 30TH JUNE, 1917.

	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Length of Lines on 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	325·71	325·71	325·71	328·19	328·19
Single Lines (miles)	3,374·69	3,562·26	3,602·47	3,825·33	3,847·57
Total ...	3,700·40	3,887·97	3,928·18	4,153·52	4,175·76
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Construction	34,732,556	35,792,561	36,411,149	37,906,057	38,305,630
Average Cost per mile	9,386	9,206	9,269	9,126	9,173

In addition to the lines embraced in this table, the following were in course of construction on 30th June, 1917 :—

	Miles.
5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.	
Dartmoor to Mumbannar ...	13·48
Shelley to Cudgewa ...	19·64
Cavendish to Toolondo ...	44·00
Neerim South to Toorong River ...	5·98
Koo-wee-rup to McDonald's Track ...	30·75
North Geelong to Fyansford ...	2·87
	<u>116·72</u>
4-ft. 8½-in. Gauge.	
Sandringham to Black Rock (electric tramway) ...	2·33

and the following lines had been authorized, but their construction had not been commenced :—

	Miles.
5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.	
Part of Woomelang to Mildura and Yelta ...	10
Alberton to Won-Wron ...	12½
Nandaly to Kulwin ...	19½
Bittern to Red Hill ...	10
	<u>52</u>

The capital cost of lines opened, works, rolling-stock and equipment at 30th June in each of the last five years was as follows :—

CAPITAL COST OF RAILWAYS AND EQUIPMENT, 1913 TO 1917.

30th June.	£
1913	47,076,911
1914	49,311,907
1915	51,620,187
1916	54,560,106
1917	55,808,163

The cost given is the actual cost of construction, exclusive of expenses of floating loans, &c. Of the capital expended to 30th June, 1917, £3,912,012 was derived from the general revenue, and the balance (£51,896,151) from loans. The latter liability is represented by debentures and stock outstanding to the nominal amount of £53,599,000, on which the annual interest payable is £2,026,042, or at the average rate of 3·78 per cent. The nominal amount of loans, however, was reduced by £1,702,849—the cost of flotation, together with the discount at time of flotation. It has been computed that, whilst the nominal rate of interest on loans outstanding on 30th June, 1917, was 3·78 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds available for railway construction was 3·9 per cent.

The capital expenditure incurred in respect of lines now closed for traffic was approximately £392,741, and for surveys of lines not constructed £365,436.

The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1912, are given in the following table :—

RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Miles Constructed ...	3,700·40	3,887·97	3,928·18	4,153·52	4,175·76
„ Dismantled ...	18·03	18·03	18·03	18·03	36·13
„ Closed to Traffic	29·93	29·93	29·93	29·93	11·83
„ Open for Traffic	3,652·44	3,840·01	3,880·22	4,105·56	4,127·80
Train Mileage ...	14,648,489	15,570,098	15,880,677	14,424,357	14,594,775
Passengers carried ...	113,430,526	119,002,397	119,978,898	118,898,222	111,791,982
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ...	5,150,404	5,816,088	5,410,045	5,829,835	5,962,602

The mileage given in the above tables relates to lines of railway, irrespective of the number of tracks, the actual length of which open for traffic on 30th June, 1917, was 4,484·36 miles of main tracks, and 818·97 miles of sidings.

The passenger traffic of 1916-17, though more than in any year prior to 1912-13, was less than in any other of the last five years. In 1914-15 this traffic was the heaviest experienced by the Railway

Department, passenger journeys exceeding those of the second heaviest year—1913-14—by 976,501, and those of 1915-16, the next in volume, by 1,080,676. Of the passenger journeys in 1916-17, 103,589,028 were made by metropolitan-suburban, and 8,202,954 by country passengers, the former being a decrease of 6,465,737, and the latter of 640,503, as compared with the corresponding journeys for the previous year. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried in 1916-17 was the highest recorded, and exceeded that for 1915-16, which now stands second in importance, by 132,767. The items of goods carried in 1916-17 showing greatest tonnage were :—Wheat, 1,596,883 tons; firewood, 523,582 tons; stone, gravel, and sand, 521,639 tons; minerals (including coal, coke, ores, &c.), 371,985 tons; hay, straw, and chaff, 274,240 tons; and timber, 214,651 tons. Live stock carried in the same year had an aggregate weight of 408,241 tons, and comprised 42,333 horses, 422,348 cattle, 5,261,116 sheep, and 273,100 pigs. Comparing 1916-17 with 1912-13, the goods and live stock carried had increased by 812,198 tons, or by 16 per cent., whilst the passenger traffic was less by 1,638,544 passengers, or by $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., and the number of train miles run showed a reduction of 53,714, or of rather less than one-half per cent.

The receipts and working expenses of the Railway Department during the last five financial years were as follows :—

**RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,
1912-13 TO 1916-17.**

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Passenger Fares ...	2,445,324	2,541,285	2,481,621	2,667,289	2,606,339
Freight on Goods and Live Stock	2,373,978	2,625,338	2,289,482	2,628,487	2,951,513
Sundries ...	402,969	414,851	412,584	434,967	422,786
Total ...	5,222,271	5,581,474	5,183,687	5,730,743	5,980,638
Working Expenses—	£	£	£	£	£
Way and Works...	959,836	939,902	1,200,298	1,128,286	1,100,192
Rolling-stock ...	1,471,346	1,644,180	1,724,358	1,676,395	1,838,605
Transportation ...	953,976	1,075,021	1,090,796	1,094,877	1,105,741
General Charges*	219,843	227,245	242,864	242,030	261,420
Total ...	3,605,001	3,886,348	4,258,316	4,141,588	4,305,958
Net Receipts ...	1,617,270	1,695,126	925,371	1,589,155	1,674,680
Percentage of Ex- penses to Receipts	69·03	69·63	82·15	72·27	72·00

* Including pensions and gratuities.

The railway receipts for 1916-17 were larger than those for any previous year, exceeding the receipts for 1915-16 by £249,895, or more than 4 per cent. The passenger fares received in 1916-17 were less than those received in 1915-16 by £42,431 in the case of country passengers, and by £18,519 in the case of metropolitan-suburban passengers. The most notable features in receipts from goods in 1916-17 as compared with the previous year were increases of £317,161 for the carriage of wheat, £31,876 for the carriage of wool, and £30,246 for the carriage of flour, bran, and pollard, and a decrease of £27,697 for the carriage of stone, gravel, and sand. The freight on live stock in 1916-17 was less than that for the previous year by £10,828. There has been an increase in working expenses in recent years, chiefly on account of the improved train facilities, the higher cost of materials, &c., and the better conditions which have been provided for the staff. Abnormal expenditure for the purpose of meeting adverse conditions occasioned by the war, alterations connected with electrification, the relaying of lines with heavier rails, and the allowances to the staff owing to the increased cost of living, amounted to £354,597 in 1916-17 and is included in the working expenses for that year.

Railway
interest
charges
compared
with net
revenue.

The amount of interest on current loans allocated to railways, together with the expenditure incurred by the Treasury in connexion with the payment of such interest, is compared with the net revenue of the Department for the last five years in the following statement:—

RAILWAY INTEREST CHARGES AND EXPENSES AND NET REVENUE, 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.
	£	£
1912-13	1,595,020	1,617,270
1913-14	1,677,369	1,695,126
1914-15	1,767,807	925,371
1915-16	1,927,107	1,589,155
1916-17	2,012,447	1,674,680

The financial position of the railways in recent years is exhibited by this table, the figures showing that in two out of the last five years there were surpluses after payment of working expenses, pensions and gratuities, special expenditure and interest charges and expenses. The surpluses were £22,250 in 1912-13 and £17,757 in 1913-14. The deficit in 1914-15 was largely the result of the drought of 1914, and the deficits in 1915-16 and 1916-17 were due mainly to special expenditure arising from conditions created by the war, including higher average payments to the staff.

Railway earnings and expenses per mile.

The earnings, expenses, and net profits per mile of railway open for the years ended 30th June, 1913 to 1917, were as follows:—

RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE PER TRAIN MILE, 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	3,644	3,752	3,853	3,960	4,109
Gross Earnings per Mile	£ 1,433	£ 1,488	£ 1,345	£ 1,447	£ 1,456
Expenses per Mile ..	989	1,036	1,105	1,046	1,048
Net Profits per Mile	444	452	240	401	408

This table excludes all consideration of the interest payable on railway loans and expenses of paying the same, which are given in the preceding table.

The inventory of the rolling-stock at 30th June, 1917, showed that there were at that time 812 locomotives, 1,612 carriages, 19,270 trucks, and 890 vans and sundry stock, of which 17 locomotives, 34 carriages, 247 trucks, and 5 luggage vans were narrow-gauge stock. The electric railway stock comprised 32 combined cars and trailers. During the year 1916-17, the following new stock (built at the Newport workshops, with the exception of 12 locomotives) was put into service:—25 locomotives, 33 carriages, 370 trucks, and 28 vans. The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £10,920,148, of the narrow-gauge £104,474, and of the electric railway stock £48,511.

The number of officers and employees in the railway service and the amount of salaries and wages (including travelling and incidental expenses) paid in each of the last three financial years were as set forth below:—

RAILWAY STAFF—NUMBERS, SALARIES, ETC.

Year.	Number of Employees at end of Year.	Amount of Salaries and Wages Paid during Year.
1914-15	26,577	£ 3,667,251
1915-16	21,819	3,558,893
1916-17	19,591	3,191,516

Figures relating to the Railway Construction Branch, the State Coal Mine, and co-operative labour parties are not included in the above statement, but particulars of the staff on the St. Kilda and Brighton Electric Street Railway are included. The number of employees excludes members of the staff who were absent on service in connexion with the war.

**AMOUNTS PAID IN DAMAGES, CLAIMS, ETC., AND PERSONS KILLED OR INJURED ON
VICTORIAN RAILWAYS: 1907-8 TO 1916-17.**

Year ended 30th June.	Amount Paid on Account of Compensation, Damages, Claims, Costs, &c.	Passengers.				Employees whilst in the execution of their duty.				Employees proceeding to or from duty; Persons at Cross- ings; Trespassers, and Others.		Total.	
		Due to Causes beyond their own Control.		Due wholly or partly to their own Action or Negligence.		Due to Causes beyond their own Control.		Due wholly or partly to their own Action or Negligence.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.				
1908* ...	£ 9,509	45	434	2	203	...	29	6	263	26	41	79	970
1909 ...	128,154*	...	9	5	155	...	12	10	232	30	43	45	451
1910 ...	8,528	...	11	2	101	...	7	6	205	13	29	21	353
1911† ...	146,135	10	526	8	99	...	31	5	148	26	25	49	829
1912 ...	23,100	...	13	9	117	...	44	23	146	35	42	67	362
1913‡ ...	66,694	2	441	5	131	1	15	5	100	23	36	36	723
1914 ...	13,567	...	33	8	199	1	61	11	142	25	38	45	473
1915 ...	14,359	...	40	6	185	2	36	8	104	32	44	48	409
1916 ...	20,766	...	29	11	198	2	28	10	68	31	37	54	360
1917 ...	15,556	...	46	5	133	1	35	4	225	22	26	32	465
Yearly Average ...	44,637	5·7	158·2	6·1	152·1	·7	29·8	8·8	163·3	26·3	36·1	47·6	539·5

* Including Sunshine accident, claims for which were not fully paid on 30th June, 1908.

† Including Richmond accident.

‡ Including West Melbourne accident.

The amounts paid on account of compensation, damages, claims, costs, &c., in each of the last ten years and the number of persons killed or injured in the same years, also the yearly averages for the period are as follows:—

With regard to the payments referred to in the above table, it should be pointed out that for the year ended 30th June, 1908, they only cover cases of passengers where the accidents causing death or injury were "due to causes beyond their own control"; but that for the other nine years they include, in addition thereto, compensation paid on account of injuries sustained by employees whilst on duty, such payments being £2,685 in 1908-9, £4,669 in 1909-10, £7,021 in 1910-11, £9,178 in 1911-12, £4,670 in 1912-13, £5,903 in 1913-14, £7,008 in 1914-15, £17,143 in 1915-16, and £12,925 in 1916-17.

It may be of some interest to examine the probability of accident to passengers. The average annual ratio of those killed or injured, based on the Victorian figures for the last ten years, is compared with the latest available ten years' experience of different countries in the return which follows:—

**AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER AND RATIO OF PASSENGERS
KILLED OR INJURED ON THE RAILWAYS IN VICTORIA
AND OTHER COUNTRIES OVER A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS.**

Country.	Average Annual Number of Passengers in 10 years.		Average per Ten Million Passengers carried.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
France	24·2	393·5	·52	8·46
Belgium	12·2	459·9	·69	25·91
Austria	16·1	369·5	·75	17·15
Germany	108·8	546·3	·81	4·09
Holland (The Netherlands) ...	3·7	19·9	·88	4·72
Norway	1·3	1·5	1·09	1·26
Victoria	11·8	310·3	1·15	30·18
New South Wales	8·5	143·8	1·26	21·35
Switzerland	13·0	87·5	1·33	8·98
Japan	22·7	296·3	1·67	21·83
Sweden	8·6	13·9	1·81	2·92
Hungary	24·8	122·1	2·19	10·76
Spain	19·6	92·4	4·62	21·77
United States of America ...	391·9	9,857·5	4·99	125·46
Canada (Steam Railways) ...	37·3	370·1	9·81	97·34
Russia in Europe	165·5	867·8	12·28	64·38

A railway between Kerang and Koondrook, owned and worked by the municipality of the Shire of Kerang, is open for general traffic. This railway, which has a 5 ft. 3 in. gauge, is 13 miles 75 chains in length, and, up to the end of 1916, cost £39,229 for construction and equipment. For the year 1916, the gross

Municipal
railway.

receipts were £2,977, and the working expenses were £2,204. The train mileage for the same year was 18,978 and the passengers carried numbered 9,859.

Another railway in Victoria not belonging to the State system is one of 3-ft. gauge and 12 miles in length between Yarra Junction and Powelltown. It was constructed principally for private use, but, in addition to serving its immediate purpose, does general passenger and goods traffic. Up to 30th September, 1916, the cost of construction was £46,684, and for the year ended on the same date the receipts and working expenses were £3,112 and £3,219 respectively.

A statement of freights, which came into operation on 1st July, 1917, in respect of commodities affecting rural producers, has been supplied by the General Passenger and Freight Agent of the Victorian Railways, and is appended hereto :—

VICTORIAN RAILWAY GOODS RATES.

Commodities.	50	100	150	200	250	300	350
	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Rate per ton.							
Agricultural Produce, in truck loads of 6 tons*	6 2	9 8	11 4	12 8	13 10	14 8	15 8
Dairy Produce, consisting of Butter, Milk, Cream, Cheese, Hams and Bacon (minimum, 1 ton) and Eggs†	10 6	19 2	26 0	32 8	37 2	41 10	46 4
Fresh Fruit	7 0	12 6	16 2	20 0	22 8	25 6	28 6
Fresh Meat, in 5-ton lots; Fencing Wire, in lots of 10 tons and upwards; Woolpacks and Cornsacks, in truck loads of 6 tons	9 2	16 6	21 6	26 6	30 4	34 0	37 10
Poultry†	14 8	26 6	36 2	45 6	51 8	58 2	64 6
Wool†	18 9	37 0	47 6	54 3	61 3	68 0	75 0
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Binder Twine†	20 3	39 6	58 9	73 0	87 6	97 3	106 9
Fencing Wire, in truck loads of 6 tons	13 0	24 6	36 0	44 9	53 0	57 3	61 6
Wire Netting, in truck loads of 6 tons	4 8	8 4	11 8	13 6	15 8	17 6	19 2
Manures, in 6-ton lots	3 2	4 8	5 10	7 0	8 2	9 4	9 10
Rate per truck.							
Live Stock	44 6	86 0	100 6	132 0	164 6	196 6	229 0

* Agricultural Produce includes Wheat, Oats, Barley, Maize, Beet, Onions, Hay, Straw, Chaff, compressed Fodder, Flour, Bran, Pollard, Peas, Potatoes, Sharps, Molasses and Treacle for cattle food (on declaration), Pigs' Food, unrefined Salt, and Malt, also Wine, Fruit, Jams, Jellies, Sauces, and Pickles, if produced in the Commonwealth and consigned direct for export.

† These commodities are subject to the Tariff for "Smalls," and when consigned in lots up to 3 cwt., the charges are slightly higher than *pro rata* of the tonnage rates.

Fares on
Victorian
Railways.

A summary of passenger fares, as increased on 1st July, 1917, has also been obtained from the same source

VICTORIAN RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES.

Distance.	Single.		Return.			
	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class Holiday Excursion.	2nd Class Holiday Excursion.
Miles.	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
50 ..	8 10	6 0	14 6	9 10	11 10	7 10
100 ..	17 6	11 8	29 0	19 4	23 6	16 0
150 ..	26 2	17 6	43 6	29 0	35 4	23 6
200 ..	34 8	23 2	57 10	38 6	46 8	31 2
250 ..	43 6	29 0	72 4	48 4	58 6	39 0
300 ..	51 8	34 4	85 8	57 4	70 2	46 8
350 ..	59 6	39 8	98 10	66 0	81 8	54 8

Cheap excursion tickets, at the rate of 2d. per mile for first class return and 1½d. per mile for second class return, are issued to and from Melbourne and the various country stations as may be advertised from time to time.

From the 15th November to the 30th April each year return tickets are issued to the various seaside and mountainous district resorts from all stations throughout Victoria at holiday excursion fares, and are available for two months from date of issue.

TRAMWAYS.

The various tramway systems in the State comprise 45·927 miles of cable lines, double track; 84·14 miles of electric lines, of which 48·2 miles are double, and 35·94 miles single track; ·625 of a mile of horse-line, double track, and a steam tramway of 1 mile, double track.

The towns other than the metropolis having tramway systems which are represented in these figures are:—Ballarat, with 13·85 miles of electric lines; Bendigo, with 8·113 miles of electric lines; Geelong, with 4·9 miles of electric lines; and Sorrento, with 1 mile of steam tramway.

The electric street railway, St. Kilda to Brighton, under the management of the Victorian Railways Commissioners, is not referred to in this connexion, being included under the heading Railways.

The following table contains a summary of particulars relating to all tramways in Victoria :--

VICTORIAN TRAMWAYS, 1912-13 TO 1916-17.

Financial Year.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Rolling Stock.	Persons Employed.
			£	£		
1912-13	14,747,353	106,952,134	888,240	596,246	1,160	2,524
1913-14	15,225,665	112,814,550	933,979	624,154	1,191	2,559
1914-15	15,852,348	116,118,517	948,543	607,761	1,217	2,709
1915-16	16,188,674	127,550,994	1,037,681	626,306	1,247	2,958
1916-17	17,900,697	148,484,311	1,154,998	689,888	1,267	3,157

Tramway Board tramways.

The sub-surface cable tramways were held by the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company under lease, which expired on 1st July, 1916, and were constructed by the Melbourne Tramway Trust under authority of Parliament, Act No. 47 Vict. No. 765. The Trust was composed of representatives of all the municipalities in the streets of which tramways were authorized to be constructed under the Act referred to. On the security of the municipal properties and revenues and of the tramways the Trust issued debentures, at 4½ per cent., for £1,650,000, for which it received £1,705,794 in cash. The obligations of the company which leased the tramways were to provide its own rolling-stock, keep the tramways in repair and hand the same over to the Trust at the expiration of the lease, pay the interest on the money borrowed by the Trust, and contribute to a sinking fund for the extinction of the Trust's loan. On 1st July, 1914, £1,200,000 of the Trust's debentures fell due and were redeemed, leaving a balance of £450,000, which matured and was paid off on 1st July, 1916.

Under authority of the Tramway Board Acts, the Melbourne Tramways Trust was dissolved on 1st March, 1916, and a Board created, consisting of five members nominated by the Government, to take over and operate the undertaking from 1st July, 1916, to 31st October, 1918, or such earlier date as may be proclaimed by the Governor in Council. The Board is authorized to borrow up to £500,000 for the purposes of the Act, and to finance the amount required to purchase such property, car houses, cars, &c., of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company Limited as may be

necessary to carry on the undertaking. The amount of the compensation was fixed at £335,000 by His Honor Mr. Justice Cussen, who had been appointed arbitrator by the Governor in Council, but this award has been appealed against to the Privy Council. Surplus profits, which are paid to the State Savings Bank, are to be used to pay the aforementioned compensation, and to repay any moneys borrowed by the Board, and are to be applied in such other manner as is directed by any Act of Parliament hereafter enacted. The surplus profits at 31st October, 1917, amounted to about £490,000.

The following table has been compiled from information furnished by the secretary of the Tramway Board :—

TRAMWAYS OF THE TRAMWAY BOARD, 1907-8 TO
1916-17.

Year ended 30th June.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
1908	9,810,808	63,954,512	£ 545,269
1909	9,856,345	66,522,463	565,601
1910	10,010,975	68,695,853	581,390
1911	10,636,440	76,295,825	644,187
1912	11,313,212	84,926,712	715,524
1913	11,839,473	89,359,248	751,092
1914	12,056,510	91,438,777	766,426
1915	11,887,462	87,707,934	734,177
1916	11,977,916	96,290,131	807,356
1917	12,423,929	103,118,377	841,784

The length of lines open on 30th June, 1917, comprised 43·677 miles of double track cable tramway, and ·625 of a mile of double track horse tramway. The cables are driven by steam power generated at eleven engine houses situated at various points upon the routes, and an average of about 5,000 horse-power is in daily use. The average speed of cars between termini, including stops, is 8·986 miles per hour. The rolling-stock consists of 1,064 dummies and trailers, which are housed at fifteen car depôts. The traffic of 1916-17 eclipsed that of any former year and, compared with 1915-16, showed increases of 446,013 in tram mileage, 6,828,246 in number of passengers carried, and £34,428 in traffic receipts.

In addition to the lines of the Tramway Board, there are within or on the fringe of the metropolitan area 57·282 miles of electric tramways (44·215 miles being double track and 13·067 miles single track), and 2½ miles of cable tramways (double track). These tramways and their mileage are as follows:—The North Melbourne-Essendon electric lines, 7·117 miles; the Prahran and Malvern electric lines, 32·058 miles; the Hawthorn electric lines, 11·175 miles; the Brunswick and Coburg electric lines, 6·932 miles; and the Northcote Municipal cable line, 2½ miles. Particulars of their traffic are given in the following statement:—

OTHER METROPOLITAN TRAMWAYS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
1912-13	27·776	1,558,731	10,873,564	£ 73,955
1913-14	33·851	1,839,555	14,414,803	101,090
1914-15	40·9	2,644,574	21,841,246	151,806
1915-16	51·358	2,993,379	25,222,802	172,399
1916-17	59·532	4,280,404	39,296,747	253,907

In 1917 there were in country towns 26·863 miles of electric tramways and 1 mile of steam tramway, of which the traffic particulars for the last five financial years are given below:—

TRAMWAYS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
1912-13	28·423	1,349,149	6,719,322	£ 63,193
1913-14	27·863	1,329,600	6,960,970	66,463
1914-15	27·863	1,320,312	6,569,337	62,560
1915-16	27·863	1,217,379	6,038,061	57,926
1916-17	27·863	1,196,364	6,069,187	59,307

LICENSED VEHICLES.

Licensed vehicles in Melbourne. The licensing of vehicles plying, kept, or let out for hire within the city of Melbourne or for a distance of 8 miles beyond the city boundaries is controlled by the Melbourne City Council. The appended statement gives details of vehicles and drivers licensed annually during the last five years:—

LICENSED VEHICLES IN MELBOURNE, 1912 TO 1916.

	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Cabs (4 wheel)	527	517	537	577	527
" (Hansoms)	251	237	231	211	178
Omnibuses	11	9	18	6	9
Tram Cars	432	432	432	432	407
" Dummies	389	389	389	389	414
Motor Cars	17	25	57	212	232
" Omnibuses	12	43	63	69	33
Total	1,639	1,652	1,727	1,896	1,800
<i>For Conveyance of Goods.</i>					
Drivers licensed	2,643	2,534	2,522	2,199	2,373

Motor cars, &c. The use of motor cars and motor cycles in Victoria is regulated by Act No. 2702, under the provisions of which every motor car and motor cycle must be registered with the Chief Commissioner of Police, and the registration renewed annually. On 31st December, 1916, the number of motor cars registered was 10,713, on which fees were fixed at the following annual rates:—113 at six guineas each, 522 at five guineas each, 5,911 at four guineas each, 2,822 at three guineas each, 1,128 at two guineas each, and 217 at one guinea each. On the same date, 8,123 motor cycles, which are subject to an annual fee of 5s. each, and 372 traction engines were registered. No person may drive a motor car or motor cycle upon any public highway without having been licensed for that purpose. On 31st December, 1916, the number of drivers of motor cars and motor cycles licensed by the Chief Commissioner was 21,634. There were also 69 dealers registered.

PRODUCTION.

LAND SETTLEMENT, ETC.

The total area of the State is 56,245,760 acres. This comprises—

	Acres.
Lands alienated in fee simple	24,345,425
Lands in process of alienation	7,751,415
Crown lands	24,148,920
Total	56,245,760
Crown lands comprise—	
Permanent forests	3,360,240
Timber Reserves	744,400
Water Reserves	316,092
Reserves for Agricultural Colleges, &c. ..	85,100
Reserves in the Mallee	397,881
Other Reserves	305,619
Roads	1,739,850
Water frontages, beds of rivers, lakes, &c.	} 2,420,876
Unsold land in cities, towns, and boroughs	
Land in occupation under—	
Grazing Area Leases	2,502,556
Perpetual Leases	228,543
Other Leases	127,112
Temporary Grazing Licences	9,621,642
Unoccupied	2,299,009
Total	24,148,920

In the following table are shown the area of Crown lands sold absolutely and conditionally, and the area of such lands alienated in fee simple in each year since 1899. A proportion of the area conditionally sold each year

Alienation of land, 1899 to 1916.

reverts to the Crown in consequence of the non-fulfilment of conditions by the selectors. The lands alienated each year include areas selected in previous years.

ALIENATION OF CROWN LANDS, 1900 TO 1916.

Year.	Area of Crown Lands Sold.		Crown Lands alienated in Fee Simple.	
	Absolutely, at Auction, &c.	Conditionally to Selectors.*	Area.	Purchase Money.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	£
1900	7,685	225,098	494,752	526,650
1901	7,052	516,412	406,145	438,363
1902	7,304	299,502	523,574	555,538
1903	13,223	334,590	510,080	542,011
1904	9,588	253,592	534,010	613,511
1905	8,778	217,419	907,339	934,386
1906	6,642	173,113	344,519	375,296
1907	6,313	191,232	181,050	208,619
1908	6,552	213,883	137,023	176,335
1909	7,393	257,179	150,948	188,017
1910	5,795	248,694	127,993	171,904
1911	4,068	205,708	159,392	136,277
1912	4,120	114,630	128,427	165,854
1913	4,205	171,449	153,051	164,065
1914	3,705	166,026	129,525	145,003
1915	3,287	129,232	117,257	113,167
1916	2,061	140,341	89,203	80,238

* Exclusive of Mallee selectors.

From the period of the first settlement of the State to the end of 1916 the amount realized by the sale of Crown lands was £33,486,214, which represents an average of £1 ls. per acre for all lands alienated or in process of alienation. Payment of a considerable portion of this amount extended over a series of years without interest, upon very easy terms.

Amount realized by sale of Crown lands.

The next table shows the whole of the unalienated lands of the Crown remaining for disposal :—

CROWN LANDS REMAINING FOR DISPOSAL ON 31st DECEMBER, 1916.

Location.	Classification.					Total.
	Agricultural and Grazing.				Auri-ferous.	
	First.	Second.	Third.	Un-classed.		
County.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Bulu Bulu	2,056	48,136	44,387	..	..	94,529
Croajingolong	2,510	6,056	553,110	840,400	14,150	1,416,226
Dargo .. .. .	..	..	87,880	435,400	77,800	601,080
Tambo .. .. .	..	..	203,050	398,800	900	602,750
Tanjil .. .. .	..	..	96,190	363,650	67,000	526,840
Wonnangatta .. .. .	..	39	129,618	942,100	..	1,071,757
Bogong	3,300	12,395	200,175	208,692	124,989	549,551
Benambra .. .. .	..	372	220,747	320,994	75,994	618,107
Delatite	743	21,901	202,064	157,100	67,896	449,704
Molra	41	..	9,336	..	..	9,377
Anglesey	37	4,452	62,526	..	8,243	75,258
Bourke .. .. .	..	265	100	..	..	365
Dalhousie .. .. .	..	951	3,324	..	6,082	10,357
Evelyn .. .. .	..	21,510	1,205	..	3,837	26,552
Mornington .. .. .	..	4,680	44,327	..	..	49,007
Bendigo	85	715	6,093	..	8,704	15,602
Rodney	137	103	125	..	2,660	3,025
Borong .. .. .	..	343	36,757	..	9,775	46,875
Gladstone	453	1,147	2,275	..	24,400	28,275
Lowan .. .. .	..	177	44,186	..	..	44,363
Kara Kara .. .. .	..	163	4,183	..	7,738	12,084
Talbot	20	485	205	..	54,425	55,135
Tatchera .. .. .	..	70	..	..	..	70
Heytesbury .. .. .	..	400	165,740	..	..	166,140
Potwarth	705	9,476	35,544	..	..	45,725
Grant .. .. .	..	75	25,487	..	17,290	42,852
Grenville .. .. .	..	20	..	..	15,640	15,660
Ripon .. .. .	..	50	13,993	..	7,990	22,033
Normanby	65	433	61,163	..	..	61,671
Dundas	425	135	20,595	11,500	..	32,655
Villiers .. .. .	..	..	288	..	..	288
Follett .. .. .	..	..	11,170	..	..	11,170
Totals	10,577	134,554	2,285,753	3,678,636	595,513	6,705,033
Throughout the State .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1,491
The north-western portion of the State .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	9,833
						5,204,294
Total area remaining for disposal .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	11,920,651

Much of the land included in the above statement is temporarily leased under grazing licences.

The particulars of Crown lands leased for pastoral occupation on 31st December, 1916, are as follows :—

Number of Licences and Leases	13,809
Area (acres)	12,433,959
Annual Rental	£40,581

These licences and leases are not all on the same basis as regards the terms and the privileges of tenure. For instance, grazing area leases are granted for any term of years expiring not later than 29th December, 1920, whilst grazing licences are renewable annually, and are only granted for waste lands of the Crown until required under the principal sections of the Act. The lessee of a grazing area has the privilege of selecting (i.e., of purchasing under the deferred payment system on certain conditions) out of his lease for agricultural or grazing purposes an area not exceeding 200 acres of first class, 320 acres of second class, or 640 acres of third class land, according to classification; and the lessee of a Mallee allotment has a like privilege of selecting out of his lease 640 acres of first class, 1,000 acres of second class, or 1,280 acres of third class land, according to classification.

For the purposes of administration, the State is divided into seventeen districts, in each of which there is a land office under the management of a land officer. These offices are situated at Melbourne, Ararat, Alexandra, Bairnsdale, Ballarat, Beechworth, Benalla, Bendigo, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Omeo, Sale, Seymour, St. Arnaud, Stawell, and Warracknabeal, and the officers stationed at these centres are in a position to point out the exact localities of available lands to intending selectors. Pamphlets with fuller details are obtainable from the Crown Lands Inquiry Office, Melbourne.

Persons who may select land. Any person of the age of 18 years or upwards is eligible to take up or select under the Land Acts a prescribed area varying according to the classification of the land—less the area of previous selections.

Land Acts. The present system of disposing of the Crown lands of Victoria dates from the passing of *The Land Act 1884* and *The Mallee Pastoral Leases Act 1883*, which, with subsequent amendments, were consolidated by the *Land Act 1890*. This Act was in turn amended by the Land Acts 1891, 1898, 1900, and 1900 (No. 2); and by the *Settlement on Lands Act 1893* and the *Mallee Lands Act 1896*. These Acts were consolidated in the *Land Act 1901*, which has been amended by the Land Acts of 1903, 1904, 1905, 1909, and 1911, and all these have been consolidated in the *Land Act 1915*. With the *Land Act 1898* (Part III.) was introduced a system by which the Government was enabled to repurchase private lands for closer settlement. This subject is dealt with on page 675.

Agricultural and grazing lands. The Crown lands termed Agricultural and Grazing lands are arranged in three classes—first, second, and third.

The lands of the first class, comprising 10,577 acres, are situated principally in the counties of Buln Buln, Croajingolong, and Bogong, are heavily timbered, and consist for the most part of good chocolate

soil of volcanic origin, and the grey soil of the coal-bearing country. The second class lands, embracing 134,554 acres, are fairly distributed throughout the State, and comprise silurian and granite ranges, and lower lands of tertiary formation. A large portion of these lands has chiefly a grazing value, though parts, comprising creek flats and gullies, are suitable for cultivation, while large areas are specially suitable for vineyards and orchards. The area of third class lands, which are to be found in almost every county in the State, is very extensive, amounting to 2,285,753 acres.

Grazing area leases. Grazing area leases may be issued for any term of years expiring not later than 29th December, 1920, for areas not exceeding 200, 640, or 1,280 acres of first, second, or third class land, at annual rentals, according to classification and valuation, of not less than 3d., 2d., and 1d. per acre respectively. The areas must be enclosed by a fence within the first three years, or, with approval, otherwise improved to an amount equal to the cost of fencing. A lessee may at any time apply to select from his area, as provided in the lease, under the provisions of sections 32 to 44 of the *Land Act* 1915. Grazing area leases are transferable with consent obtained through the Department.

Selection purchase cases. A person desirous of selecting land and obtaining the freehold thereof may do so by either taking up a grazing area lease and selecting therefrom as described in the preceding paragraph, or by taking up direct a selection purchase lease. Selection purchase leases of agricultural and grazing lands may be acquired under the provisions of the table on the next page, with or without residence condition. The Acts provide for either 20 or 40 years' tenure (at option) with half-yearly payments towards the purchase of areas not exceeding 200, 320, or 640 acres of first, second, or third class land respectively. Specified conditions must be complied with, and improvements effected during the first six years, as indicated in the appended explanatory table, after which the Crown grant may be obtained, if desired, upon payment in full of the balance of the purchase money at any time during the currency of the lease. The lease is not negotiable during the first six years, though a lien may be registered upon the improvements effected. After six years the lease may be operated upon as freely as a Crown grant if all conditions have been complied with. The selector under residence conditions is required to reside on the land, or within 5 miles thereof, for a minimum of three years and nine months during the first six years, but substituted occupation by a selector's wife, or child over 18 years of age, or parent dependent for support, may be sanctioned.

EXPLANATORY SELECTION TABLE.

Classification of Land.	Maximum Area.		(a) Value per Acre.				(b) Value of Improvements per Acre to be effected by a Licensee before the end of specified Periods.									
	Ordinary Crown Lands.	Mallee Lands.	Total (Minimum).	Annual Rental (payable half-yearly).		Residence Lease (Section 49 of Land Act 1915).				Non-Residence Lease (Section 50 of Land Act 1915).						
				20-Year Period (Residence or Non-Residence).	40-Year Period (Residence only).	2nd Year.	3rd Year.	4th Year.	6th Year.	1st Year.	2nd Year.	3rd Year.	4th Year.	5th Year.	6th Year.	
	Acres.	Acres.	£ s. d.	per Acre. £ s. d.	per Acre. £ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Total. £ s. d.	
1st	200	640	1 0 0	0 1 0	0 0 6	0 3 4	0 6 8	0 10 0	1 0 0	0 6 8	0 13 4	1 0 0	1 6 8	1 13 4	2 0 0	
2nd	320	1,000	0 15 0	0 0 9	0 0 4½	0 2 6	0 5 0	0 7 6	0 15 0	0 5 0	0 10 0	0 15 0	..	..	0 15 0
3rd	640	1,280	0 10 0	0 0 6	0 0 3	..	0 5 0	..	0 10 0	0 3 4	0 6 8	0 10 0	..	..	0 10 0

(a) Under Section 8 of the Land Act 1915, if the value of the land is greater than the minimum stated, the half-yearly payments may be increased *pro rata*.

(b) Any payment made by an incoming applicant for existing improvements is credited as expenditure, and improvements made in excess for any one year (if maintained) are set off against expenditure required in the next or following years.

Perpetual leases.

Instead of selecting by way of selection purchase lease under which the freehold is obtained, a person may acquire a similar area of agricultural and grazing lands under perpetual lease. The annual rental is 4 per cent. of the unimproved value of the land, which is fixed at £1, 15s., or 10s. per acre for first, second, or third class lands respectively. The rent is subject to revision every ten years, but must not exceed 4 per cent. of the unimproved value of the land. Residence on or within 5 miles of the land for six months during the first year, and for eight months during each of the four following years, is necessary; but if one-fourth of the allotment be cultivated during the first two years, and one-half before the end of the fourth year, the residence covenant will not be enforced.

Mallee lands.

The "mallee country"—so named from the scrub found growing there—occupies about 11,000,000 acres in the north-west portion of the State. The soil is light chocolate and sandy loam, and in its virgin state is covered with mallee scrub, interspersed with plains lightly timbered with box, she-oak and pines. Since the introduction of the "mallee roller" and the "stump-jump" plough, it has been possible to clear off the scrub at a moderate cost. With the extension of railway facilities and irrigation works successful settlement in this part of the country is rapidly extending. There are now 5,204,294 acres included in the general list of unalienated lands, portions of which, as opportunity offers, may become classified as first, second, or third class lands for selection. The terms of purchase by selection purchase lease are similar to those previously described, viz., for first, second, and third class land, not less than £1, 15s., and 10s. per acre respectively, payable during either 20 or 40 years. Larger areas may be held, however, the maximum being 640 acres, 1,000 acres, and 1,280 acres respectively. In the case of Mallee Perpetual Leases the rental must not exceed $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. of the unimproved value, and, if one-fourth of the area be cultivated within four years, and one-half by the end of the sixth year, or improvements be effected to the extent of 10s., 7s. 6d., or 5s. per acre, according to the classification, residence is unnecessary.

Auriferous lands.

The "auriferous lands" unalienated comprise 595,513 acres, and are distributed over nineteen counties in various parts of the State. Any portions which are found to be non-auriferous, or which can be alienated without injury to mining interests, may be reclassified as agricultural and grazing lands for selection. These lands are for the most part suitable for fruit culture and grazing. Annual licences are issued for areas of auriferous lands not exceeding 20 acres on payment of a yearly licence-fee of 5s. for areas of 3 acres or under, of 10s. for areas of from 3 to 10 acres, and of 1s. per acre for areas of over 10 acres. The licensee has the right to use the surface of the land only, cannot assign or sublet without permission, and must either reside on the land or within four months enclose the same with a fence and cultivate one-fifth of the area. He must post notices on the land, indicating that it is auriferous; and

miners must be allowed free access to any part of the land not occupied by buildings. If at any time the mining objections be removed, a licensee who has complied with conditions may surrender the licence—credit being given for all rent paid, occupation, and improvements effected—and obtain a selection purchase lease which enables the freehold to be obtained. Holders of miners' rights, issued under the *Mines Act* 1915, are entitled to occupy for the purpose of residence or business a maximum area of 1 acre or less as fixed by local mining by laws. The fee is £5 per annum for a business licence, and 2s. 6d. for a miner's right, and a habitable dwelling must be erected on the area within four months. After having been in possession for two and a half years, and having erected buildings or other improvements, the holder may apply for leave to purchase his allotment at a price to be determined by the Board of Land and Works.

Special settlement areas. Any area of Crown lands (not being auriferous, nor permanently reserved), on which expenditure has been incurred by the Crown, may be proclaimed a "Special Settlement Area," and surveyed into allotments not exceeding 200 acres. Such allotments may be acquired under Conditional Purchase Lease, with provisions that the land shall at all times be maintained and used for the purpose of residence and agriculture; and, further, that only one such allotment can be held or used by any one person.

Swamp or reclaimed lands. The area of swamp or reclaimed lands unalienated amounts to 1,491 acres. The most important of these are situated at Koo-wee-rup, Moe, and Condah, which have been reclaimed at considerable cost to the Crown. These lands are divided into allotments not exceeding 160 acres. When the value of an allotment has been determined, it may be disposed of in one of four ways, viz., under a 21 years' lease; under perpetual lease, at a rental of 4 per cent. on the value of the land; under a conditional purchase lease, payment extending over 31½ years by 63 half-yearly instalments, including 4½ per cent. interest on the balance of the unpaid purchase money; or by public auction, on terms similar to those explained in the following paragraph.

Lands for sale by auction. The area of country lands specially classed for sale by auction (not including swamp or reclaimed lands) and remaining unalienated on 31st December, 1916, was 9,833 acres. Any unsold land in a city, town, or borough, areas specially classed for sale, isolated pieces not exceeding 50 acres and sites for church or charitable purposes of not more than 3 acres may be sold by auction. The terms are cash, or a deposit of one-eighth of the purchase money and the balance in from 6 to 20 half-yearly instalments with interest at 4 per cent. per annum. There are stringent provisions prohibiting agreements which would prevent fair competition.

Unclassed lands. The area of "unclassed lands" unalienated is 3,678,636 acres. These lands are situated in the counties of Wonnangatta, Croajingolong, Tambo, Tanjil, Benambra, Dargo, Bogong, Delatite, and Dundas. Generally speaking, they are

difficult of access, and large portions are in high altitudes, where cultivation is impossible and grazing impracticable except during the summer months. Areas which are found suitable may as occasion requires be reclassified Agricultural and Grazing lands for selection.

Annual grazing licences. Annual grazing licences may be issued to enter with cattle, sheep, or other animals upon reserves, "pastoral lands," "Mallee lands," or other Crown lands, not required in the meantime for other purposes. Such licences are renewable for a period not exceeding seven years, subject to cancellation at any time during the period. Any fencing erected by a licensee may be removed by him.

Bee ranges. Annual licences for bee farms may be granted (not exceeding three to one individual) for areas of not more than 10 acres in the whole at a rental of 1s. per acre per annum—for conditions see section 133, *Land Act* 1915. A bee range licence may be secured on payment of one half-penny for every acre of Crown land within a radius of 1 mile of the apiary, and for the purpose all suitable timber may be protected from destruction on any area, even though held under grazing lease or licence.

Other leases, purchases, &c. Leases up to 21 years at an annual rental of not less than £5, and annual licences at various rates are issued for different purposes, such as sites for residences, gardens, inns, stores, smithies, butter factories, creameries, brick-works, &c. Licensees who have been in possession of land for five years (if the land is outside the boundaries of a city), may purchase at a price to be determined. In such cases any rents previously paid are credited towards purchase money.

Village settlement. An Act (the *Settlement on Lands Act* 1893, No. 1311) was passed on 31st August, 1893, providing for the establishment of three descriptions of rural settlements, viz.:—Village Communities, Homestead Associations, and Labour Colonies, and certain lands were set apart in connexion therewith.

The Homestead Associations were originally combinations of not less than six persons who desired to settle near each other. These Associations, however, proved unsuccessful, and the section of the Act relating to them was repealed in 1904.

The area originally made available for Village Communities and Homestead Associations was 156,020 acres in 85 different localities in the State. A large portion of that area was, however, found to be unsuitable for Village Settlement purposes, and has been withdrawn from the operation of the Act. The area which a settler could acquire, viz., 20 acres, was altered by the *Land Act* No. 1957 to such an area as would not exceed £200 in value. The total area now occupied is 19,989 acres, on which there are 809 settlers. These figures do not apply to a considerable number of settlers who have surrendered their Village Settlement leases and have become selectors under the *Land Act* No. 1749.

Monetary aid to the extent of £67,379 has been afforded to settlers in these communities and associations by way of loans, but no advances have been made since 1903. At 31st December, 1916, £43,015 of the amount advanced had been repaid by the settlers.

Official register of private farms for sale. At the Lands Inquiry Office, in addition to particulars regarding Crown lands, &c., available for settlement, a register is kept of suitable private farms for sale. These are classified according to value and utility. The list is comprehensive and embraces the whole State, and intending purchasers can inspect with confidence any of the properties submitted. No charge is made by the Government for any work done in this connexion.

Transfer of Land Act. The "Torrens System," whereby persons acquiring possession of land may receive a clear title, was introduced into Victoria in 1862. The system has been the means of simplifying procedure in connexion with the transferring of land. It gives a title to the transferee free of any latent defect and reduces the cost of dealing in real estate by reason of the simplicity of the procedure. All land parted with by the Crown since 1862 is under the operation of the Transfer of Land Act, and the Crown grant issues through the Titles Office; but, to bring under the Act land that was parted with prior to that year, application must be made accompanied by strict proofs of the applicant's interest in the property. During 1916 there were submitted 408 applications to have brought under the Act land amounting to 25,040 acres in extent, and to £529,076 in value; whilst the land actually brought under the Act during the year by application was 19,147 acres valued at £491,953. Up to the end of 1916 there had been brought under the Act 2,921,372 acres valued at £59,123,320. The number of certificates of title issued in 1916 was 13,625.

Assurance Fund. When application is made to have land brought under the Transfer of Land Act, a contribution to the assurance fund of $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 on the value of the land is levied on the applicant, to assure and indemnify the Government in granting a clear title against all the world, as some other person may have a latent interest in the property, and it may be necessary for the Government to recompense such person out of the fund for the loss of his interest. The amount at credit of the fund at 30th June, 1915, was £185,596. Receipts during 1915-16 comprised contributions £2,127, interest on stock £2,845, and interest on £75,073, advanced for the purchase of land adjoining the Titles Office, £3,003. Under the provisions of the Special Funds Act 1915, No. 2,800, there was transferred out of the assurance fund, during 1915-16, £50,000 to the Technical Schools Fund, £7,000 to the Agricultural High Schools Fund, and £15,500 to the Lunatic Asylums Fund. The balance at the credit of the assurance fund on 30th June, 1916, was £121,071. The amount paid up to 30th June, 1916, as compensation and for judgments recovered, including costs, was £7,503, representing 39 claims.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT.

Closer Settlement.

Under the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act, the Lands Purchase and Management Board is empowered to expend at the rate of £500,000 per annum in the purchase, for the Crown, of privately owned lands throughout the State, for subdivision into suitable allotments according to the class of the land, and for disposal by the Board to eligible applicants, as stated hereafter. Lands well adapted for settlement are thus made available in those portions of the State in which railways, water supply and markets are provided, and in which roads and other facilities are good. The areas purchased comprise ordinary farming lands in a more or less improved condition, and lands in irrigated districts with plentiful supplies of water for irrigation.

Every application for a Closer Settlement allotment must be accompanied by the registration fee of 5s., a lease fee of £1, and a deposit (equal to 3 per cent. of the capital value of the land) which is deducted from the purchase money. The applicant is required to give evidence of suitability and fitness, &c., to occupy the land. If successful, a permit giving immediate possession is issued (followed by a lease as soon as practicable), and no further payment is required for six months. The deposit, less the 5s. registration fee, is at once returned to any unsuccessful applicant. Only one allotment of the maximum value can be granted to any one person and the principle of residence is a permanent condition in the title.

In addition to the provisions for the purchase of large estates for subdivision, the Closer Settlement Act provides that any one or more persons, who are eligible to acquire a farm allotment under the Closer Settlement Act, may enter into a provisional agreement with the owner of a block of private land for the purchase thereof, and acquire it through the Lands Purchase and Management Board. The value of the land must not exceed the maximum allowed under the Act, unless two or more eligible persons agree to purchase it. Agreements with full details and an application on the proper forms must be filled in and lodged with the Board, together with a valuation fee of £4, when an inspection and valuation of the property will be made. The fee may be returned if, after a preliminary inspection, the Board does not approve of the application. Should the Board decide to acquire the land, the purchaser is required to deposit an amount not exceeding four half-yearly instalments, and is otherwise subject to all the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act with regard to payments, permanent residence, improvements, &c.

Repurchased lands are disposed of as farm allotments, agricultural labourers' allotments, and workmen's home allotments under conditional purchase lease, the terms of which are briefly stated herein, but are more particularly described in each title as issued.

Conditional purchase leases are granted to successful applicants under the Closer Settlement Act, and are for such a term not exceeding $31\frac{1}{2}$ years as may be agreed upon between the lessee and the Board. The purchase money is payable by 63 or a less number of half-yearly instalments. In some cases the Board has granted applications made for extension of payments under a lease to $46\frac{1}{2}$ years, the payments being by 93 half-yearly instalments. The deposit lodged with the application is credited as part of the principal, and the balance bears interest at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Each instalment includes interest upon the balance of purchase money remaining unpaid, and is thus 3 per cent. half-yearly (6 per cent. per annum) of the capital value of the allotment (less the amount of the deposit). Payments in advance may be made at any time, at the option of the lessee, and a proportionate reduction of interest secured thereby.

In special cases, when a lessee is unable to meet the instalments of purchase money as they fall due, the Board has power to suspend such payments up to an amount not exceeding 60 per cent. of the value of the improvements effected by the lessee. Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum is charged on the amount in arrears or on any instalments which may have been suspended.

The lessee must reside on the allotment. Personal residence by the lessee's wife, or child over 18 years of age, or parent dependent for support, may, with the approval of the Board, be considered personal residence by the lessee. A farm lessee cannot transfer, assign, mortgage, or sublet the whole or any part of his allotment within the first six years of the lease. The Crown grant may be issued to the lessee at the end of any half-year after the first twelve years have expired, on payment of the balance of purchase money, and the residence condition may be fulfilled thereafter by any one approved by the Governor in Council.

Farm allotments. Lands for farm allotments are subdivided into suitable areas not exceeding in value a maximum amount of £2,500; and no lease thereof can issue to a person who at the date of application is directly or indirectly the owner of any other land in Victoria (township land excepted) which, together with the allotment applied for, exceeds such value. Improvements of a permanent and substantial character must be effected by the lessee of a farm allotment to the value of at least two instalments of the purchase money before the end of the first year from the date of the lease, 10 per cent. of the purchase money before the end of the third year, and a further 10 per cent. before the end of the sixth year. Improvements must thus be made to the value of at least 20 per cent. of the total purchase money payable for the allotment; and, if they are made in excess of requirements during either of the two earlier periods mentioned, the excess is set off against the expenditure necessary by the end of the sixth year.

Agricultural labourers' allotments.

Agricultural labourers' allotments are made available in the vicinity of larger holdings, with the object of providing workmen for the farmer, and of providing small areas for agricultural labourers, who in their sparetime may work the allotments with the aid of their families. Lands for agricultural labourers' allotments are subdivided into suitable areas not exceeding in value a maximum amount of £350, and no lease thereof can be granted to any person who, at the date of application, is directly or indirectly the owner of any other land in Victoria which, together with the allotment applied for, exceeds such value. Improvements required to be effected by the lessee of an agricultural labourer's allotment are the erection of a dwelling-house of the value of at least £30 within one year from the date of the lease; and the enclosure of the allotment with a substantial fence within two years from the date of the lease. A lessee who has complied with conditions may, at any time, with the Board's consent, transfer, sublet, or mortgage his lease.

Workmen's home allotments.

Workmen's home allotments are made available near centres of population, and, being of comparatively fair size and away from congested areas, provide open surroundings. Only one residence or place of business is permitted to be erected on each allotment. Lands for workmen's home allotments are subdivided into suitable areas not exceeding in value a maximum amount of £250, and no lease thereof can be granted except to a person (a) who is engaged in some form of manual, clerical, or other work for hire or reward, and whose salary is not more than £250 per annum; (b) who at the date of application is not the owner (either directly or indirectly) of any other land in Victoria which exceeds in area one-eighth of an acre if township or suburban, or 50 acres if country land; and (c) whose real and personal estate does not exceed £350. Improvements required to be effected by the lessee of a workman's home allotment are as follows:—The allotment must be fenced, and a substantial dwelling house of the value of at least £50 must be erected thereon within one year and additional improvements of a value of at least £25 made within two years from the date of the lease. A lessee who has complied with conditions may at any time transfer, mortgage, or sublet his allotment, subject to the Board's approval.

Advances to settlers.

The Closer Settlement Act provides for advances by the Lands Purchase and Management Board to settlers who are—

- (a) Lessees under the *Closer Settlement Act 1915*.
- (b) Licensees of an agricultural or grazing allotment under the *Land Act 1915*.
- (c) Licensees under section 86 of the *Land Act 1915* or corresponding sections of any repealed Act.
- (d) Conditional purchase lessees under the *Land Act 1915*; or

- (e) Conditional purchase lessees under the Murray Settlements Act, now Section 245 *Land Act* 1915.
- (f) Selection purchase lessees under Sections 46 and 50, *Land Act* 1915.
- (g) Perpetual lessees under Section 54, *Land Act* 1915.

Advances of not more than £500, and not exceeding 60 per cent. of the value of improvements effected on the land, may be made during the first six years of the lease for the following purposes :—

1. The erection of dwelling-houses or outbuildings, or the effecting of other improvements.
2. Carrying on farming, grazing, agricultural and horticultural pursuits.

After six years the lessee or grantee may obtain an advance up to £1,000 on a 60 per cent. basis of the value of his improvements and the purchase money paid for the land. The amounts allowed by the Board to lessees under the Closer Settlement Act towards the cost of erecting dwelling-houses and outbuildings are made on the following bases :—

For a farm allotment.—An amount not exceeding 10 per cent. of the value of the land ; but, where the land is valued at less than £500, a maximum not exceeding £50.

For an agricultural labourer's allotment.—An amount not exceeding £50.

For a workman's home allotment.—An amount not exceeding £50 where the lessee is in intermittent employment, but where in permanent employment the advance may be £150. (In special areas within the Metropolitan district the Board has power to advance up to £250.)

Advances are repayable by equal half-yearly instalments, extending over a period fixed by the Board not exceeding twenty years, with interest at 5 per cent. per annum ; but may be repaid at any time in whole or in part under a duly proportionate rebate of interest.

Wire netting advances. Advances of wire netting may also be made under the Closer Settlement Act to owners of land—

- (a) if such land is held as above mentioned ; or
- (b) if such land immediately adjoins any unoccupied Crown land or is not included in any municipality.

The wire netting supplied is No. 17 gauge, 1½-in. mesh, 42 inches wide, weighs 28 cwt. to the mile, and is supplied in rolls of not less than 100 yards. Each advance is limited to a quantity sufficient for 6 miles of vermin-proof fencing, and the price of the wire netting is deemed to be the amount of the advance, which is repayable by a cash payment, or on terms over a period not exceeding ten years with interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

Estates purchased.

The following is a complete statement of all estates acquired by the Closer Settlement Board for the purpose of closer settlement at 30th June, 1917, including the estates acquired under the provisions of the Small Improved Holdings Act, the administration of which has been transferred to the Board.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT ESTATES AT 30TH JUNE, 1917.

Estates.	Area.*	Purchase Money including Discount.	Price Paid Per Acre.	No. of Lessees.			Area Vacant and Available.
				Farm Allotments.	Workmen's Home Allotments.	Agricultural Labourers' Allotments.	
Dry Areas—	acres. .	£	£ s. d.				acres.
Wando Vale ..	10,446	63,985	6 2 6	67	..	..	26
Walmer ..	13,769	44,751	3 5 0	42	..	2	6
Whitfield ..	4,247	36,096	8 10 0	33	..	1	236
Brunswick ..	91	2,793	29 0 0	..	56	..	9
Eurack ..	5,109	53,640	10 10 0	46	..	..	4
Footscray ..	31	2,494	80 0 0	..	85	..	..
Dal Campbell ..	45	2,357	47 8 0	..	63	..	2
Springvale ..	3,396	25,895	7 12 6	22	..	..	..
Memsie ..	10,023	57,159	5 14 0	44	..	..	11
Richmond Vale ..	1,851	11,000	8 11 6	11	..	1	..
Overnewton ..	11,336	71,492	6 4 6	67	..	..	..
Wyuna ..	23,016	120,876	5 5 0	120	..	10	38
Restdown ..	17,894	60,391	3 7 6	53	..	..	..
Strathkellar ..	10,227	74,150	7 5 0	55	..	6	228
Bona Vista ..	2,060	28,832	14 0 0	32	..	4	12
Cadman's ..	18	844	50 0 0	..	42	..	..
Lara ..	8,329	45,825	5 10 0	33	..	7	186
Tandarra ..	4,558	21,083	4 12 6	19	..	..	8
Exford ..	8,054	64,039	8 0 0	45	..	6	4
Colbinabbin ..	19,164	110,198	5 17 6	84	..	..	69
Pirron Yaloak ..	1,058	23,796	22 7 6	21	..	..	..
Numurkah ..	2,360	18,901	8 0 0	13	..	1	..
Allambee ..	5,025	31,794	6 6 4	13	..	..	3,010
Pender's Grove ..	233	23,337	100 0 0	..	259	..	..
Phoenix ..	23	968	40 0 0	..	47	..	2
Keayang ..	1,494	14,966	10 0 0	13	..	..	..
Werneth ..	6,588	31,043	4 15 0	21	..	..	11
Staughton Vale ..	9,857	66,466	6 15 0	45	..	..	236
Glenhantly ..	74	7,040	94 0 0	..	158	..	2
The Heart ..	3,793	56,322	14 12 2	42	..	..	5
Mooralla ..	17,199	60,197	3 10 0	25	..	..	1,249
Maribyrnong ..	1,112	10,842	9 15 0	12	..	2	..
Kenilworth ..	18,440	55,321	3 0 0	21	..	14	3,600
Doogalook ..	4,640	29,002	6 5 0	17	..	..	..
Werribee ..	15,218	148,802	13 0 0	26	..	..	3,898
Konongwootong ..	10,181	104,363	10 3 0	64	..	16	173
Cornella Creek ..	29,567	121,034	4 15 0	78	..	1	704
Koyuga ..	789	3,914	..	2	..	..	..
Meadowbank ..	313	9,085	29 0 0	5	..	..	..
Oaklands ..	8,069	26,309	3 5 0	12	..	..	..
Hurstwood ..	6,493	31,311	4 15 0	14	..	..	..
Eumeralla ..	10,034	57,570	5 13 7	28	..	7	1,864
Morven ..	8,029	39,533	4 17 6	20	..	..	503
Mt. Widderin ..	8,300	48,634	5 15 6	23	..	..	3
Tooronga ..	191	17,675	178 4 4	..	210	..	..
Nerrin Nerrin ..	6,809	58,497	8 10 0	28	..	..	896
Bellarine ..	204	5,457	26 15 0	6	..	..	49
Daylesford ..	70	2,957	42 5 2	11	..	..	18

* The area given is that to the nearest acre, and in some cases includes Crown lands transferred to the Board without purchase.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT ESTATES AT 30TH JUNE, 1917—continued.

Estates.	Area.*	Purchase Money including Discount.	Price Paid Per Acre.	No. of Lessees.			Area Vacant and Available.
				Farm Allotments.	Workmen's Home Allotments.	Agricultural Labourers' Allotments.	
	acres.	£	£ s. d.				acres.
Dry Areas—continued.							
Mordialloc ..	480	7,850	17 1 6	..	..	35	23
Thomastown ..	581	11,230	19 5 6	28	..	2	1
Wangarratta ..	796	9,660	12 3 4	16	..	..	427
Warragul ..	98	2,060	21 0 0	3	..	5	..
Belmont ..	113	3,161	28 0 0	..	..	17	..
Highton ..	425	11,032	26 0 0	7	..	..	279
Deepdene ..	2,985	35,742	12 0 0	16	..	..	253
Glenaladale ..	2,109	28,787	13 10 0	16	..	..	44
Cremona ..	1,292	20,140	Various	5	..	1	704
Boisdale ..	2,521	72,174	Various	36	..	..	620
Pannoo ..	15,102	98,455	Various	44	..	..	572
Marathon and Willow Grove ..	14,783	58,752	Various	26	..	..	1,869
Dunrobin ..	18,814	119,779	6 6 0	56	..	21	29
Kilmany ..	8,746	106,080	12 0 0	60	..	..	1,122
Westmere ..	934	9,418	10 0 0	..	..	..	707
Waubra ..	47	1,042	22 10 0	1	..	11	4
Nathalia ..	30	362	12 0 0	..	..	5	..
Moyhu ..	2,422	19,580	8 0 0	13	..	..	265
†Condah ..	157	1,725	10 19 8	..	..	..	..
‡Mackey ..	1,078	20,626	19 2 10	..	..	..	..
Ascot Park ..	488	3,671	Various	6	..	..	..
Nanneella ..	738	7,767	Various	1	..	12	18
Cohuna ..	223	2,215	Various	1	..	1	..
Bamawm ..	162	1,391	8 12 0	..	..	..	162
Thornbury ..	10	5,114	..	..	42	..	1
Crown Lands ..	2,904	20,043	Various	13	79	24	37
Sec. 6-11—Purchases	51,681	362,617	Various	319	..	12	1,377
Acquired, but not available ..	1	511	..	..	..	..	..
Irrigable Areas—							
Nanneella ..	8,565	78,654	Various	85	..	3	1,641
Bamawm ..	13,365	122,944	Various	142	..	11	1,584
Shepparton ..	9,243	136,839	Various	216	..	41	136
Swan Hill ..	7,353	73,637	Various	121	..	1	1,612
Cohuna ..	11,531	114,856	Various	98	..	5	2,157
Tongala ..	15,223	172,396	Various	184	..	21	2,700
Kyabram ..	993	14,025	Various	19	..	7	257
Koondrook ..	3,423	23,201	Various	25	..	..	1,565
Werribee ..	6,767	123,062	..	86	..	18	2,019
Koyuga ..	4,173	36,228	..	39	..	12	195
Echuca ..	3,235	29,142	Various	27	..	..	..
Dingee ..	472	4,160	Various	6	..	8	96
Cornelia Creek ..	2,507	16,501	..	15	..	..	..
Stanhope (including Lauderdale and Bonshaw) ..	7,738	92,339	Various	46	..	3	3,273
Sec. 6-11—Purchases	679	6,188	..	5	..	..	203
Acquired, but not available ..	16,437	184,164	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	571,156	4,277,356	..	3,113	1,041	354	43,017

* The area given is that to the nearest acre, and in some cases includes Crown lands transferred to the Board without purchase.

† Disposed of to the Crown Lands Department.

‡ Disposed of for public purposes.

On 30th June, 1917, the Board had 99 properties, with a total area of 571,156 acres, of which 43,017 acres were available for allotment, and 16,437 acres had not at that date been made available for occupation. Portions of estates amounting in the aggregate to 26,299 acres have been sold by public competition and for public reserves without any restrictions, and are not under conditional purchase lease.

Extent of
Closer
Settlement.

The extent of the settlement effected by the Board at 30th June in each of the years 1913 to 1917 is summarized in the next statement.

CLOSER SETTLEMENT HOLDINGS 1913 TO 1917.

	At 30th June.				
	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
In occupation—					
Number of Holdings ...	3,906	4,112	4,227	4,321	4,509
Area ... acres	438,321	449,791	460,592	494,965	507,500
Resident Population ...	16,000	16,800	17,200	17,600	17,782
Area unallotted ... acres	64,550	60,028	56,977	51,879	43,017

The sum of £1,901,878 had been repaid to the Closer Settlement Fund up to 30th June, 1917. Of this amount £1,178,968 has been transferred to revenue to meet interest due to stockholders, £20,000 has been invested to replace amounts written off estates re-valued, and £608,437 has been utilized for redemption and cancellation of stock and for capital and working expenditure, the balance to the credit of the fund on 30th June, 1917, being £94,473. The balance of unredeemed stock is now £4,959,486, on which the interest payable amounts to £176,901 per annum. Up to the 30th June, 1917, 10,805 applications for advances aggregating £914,925 had been approved, and that amount had been advanced to effect improvements, or upon improvements already effected by lessees.

Small Improved Holdings. Under the *Closer Settlement Act* 1909 (No. 2) the administration of the *Small Improved Holdings Act* 1906 was placed in the hands of the Closer Settlement Board, subject to the Minister. The particulars of estates dealt with under the latter Act are shown in the table on page 679 relating to closer settlement estates at 30th June, 1917.

WATERWORKS.

Victorian Waterworks. Victorian Waterworks are all controlled by official bodies, either State or local, and the following table summarizes those waterworks on which the Government has expended or advanced moneys. It is practically a summary of all waterworks in the State, although there are minor works constructed by municipalities out of municipal funds.

**WATERWORKS—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND ADVANCES
BY STATE TO 30TH JUNE, 1916.**

Controlling Bodies.	Purposes of Supply.	Storage Capacity of Reservoirs.	Capital Expenditure and Advances by State.
		Gallons.	£
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission—			
Coliban System	Domestic and Mining	8,825,037,000	1,243,519
Broken River Works	Stock and Domestic	...	14,853
		Acre feet.	
Goulburn-Waranga	Irrigation, &c.	218,090	1,373,945
North-west (Kerang) Lakes	Stock and Domestic	82,650	9,587
Kow Swamp Works	Irrigation, &c.	40,860	187,084
Loddon River Works	" "	14,000	167,476
Sugarloaf Reservoir	" "	(Under construction.)	91,547
		Cubic feet.	
Lake Lonsdale Reservoir ...	Stock and Domestic	1,981,000,000	49,054
Lower Wimmera Compensation Works	" "	125,000,000	8,558
Long Lake Pumping Works	" "	160,000,000	27,346
Pyke's Creek and Werribee Scheme	Irrigation, &c.	14,850	167,027
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts (18) ...	" " ... ..	...	1,604,767
Waterworks Districts (15) ...	Stock and Domestic	...	1,096,660
First Mildura Irrigation and Water Supply Trust	Irrigation ... ..	...	87,232
		Gallons.	
Waterworks Trusts (97)	Stock and Domestic	1,110,387,500	1,206,938
Municipal Corporations (28) ...	" "	3,093,189,000	700,832
Abolished Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts (8)	Irrigation ... ..	...	31,953
Miscellaneous Expenditure ...	" " ... ..	...	161,573
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	Domestic	6,460,000,000	4,835,628
Geelong Waterworks Trust ...	" "	1,468,157,000	603,118
Total ... ..	... ..	... ..	13,668,697

Of the expenditure given in the case of the Melbourne waterworks, £3,189,934 represents money borrowed by the State, £1,630,148 of which has been redeemed—£800,000 out of consolidated revenue, and £830,148 by payments from the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, to which body the waterworks were transferred in 1891. The loan liability to the State of the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works on 30th June, 1916, was £1,559,786. Further particulars relating to this Board will be found on page 281, Part IV., of this work.

The Geelong Waterworks were sold by the Government to the Geelong Municipal Waterworks Trust in 1908 for £265,000. The expenditure shown in the above table includes, in addition to this amount, the outstanding State loan liability on account of the works, viz., £190,676, and the capital expenditure by the Trust since acquiring the works, viz., £147,442.

Expenditure
and
Advances
for
Waterworks.

The next table summarizes the amounts disbursed on State works and those granted and lent to local bodies by the State on account of waterworks. In addition to their receiving free grants large sums have been written off the liabilities of the local bodies.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND LOANS FOR WATERWORKS.

	Expenditure and Advances by State.	Interest Capitalized.	Free State Grants.	Capital Written Off.	Payments towards Redemption.	Amount standing at Debt, 30th June, 1916.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
State Works	3,339,996	..	2,798*	..	..	3,339,996
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts (18)	1,604,767	..	15,406	575,152	13,623	1,015,992
First Mildura Irrigation and Water Supply Trust	87,232	..	..	..	1,683	85,549
Waterworks Districts (15)	1,096,660	..	46,439	169,927	32,016	894,717
Waterworks Trusts (97)	1,162,653	6,871	37,414	130,989	108,974	929,561
Geelong Water Supply Works	455,676	..	..	..	265,000	190,676
Municipal Corporations (19)	691,289	43,633	..	165,870	118,534	450,518
(9)	9,543	346	..	..	9,889	..
Melbourne and Metropolitan Waterworks System	3,189,934	..	..	..	1,630,148	1,559,786
Abolished Trusts (8)	31,710	..	243	31,680	30	..
Miscellaneous	161,573	..	..	..	..	161,573
Total	11,831,033	50,850	102,300	1,073,618	2,179,897	8,623,968

* Originally grants to Waterworks Trusts, the works on which spent having been taken over by the State.

In addition to the capital written off, as shown above, arrears of interest amounting to £579,786 have been written off certain liabilities to the State, viz., £342,773 from the liabilities of what were originally Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts, £85,556 from the liabilities of Waterworks Trusts, and £151,457 from the liabilities of Municipal Corporations. Thus the amount actually written off the liabilities of the Trusts (Irrigation and Waterworks) and Corporations is £1,653,404. Interest outstanding at 30th June, 1916, amounted to £26,559, viz., £11,382 against the First Mildura Trust, £13,127 against Waterworks Trusts, and £2,050 against Municipal Corporations.

IRRIGATION.

Progress of Irrigation. Prior to 1905 the management of irrigation in Victoria was in the hands of various Irrigation Trusts, which were financed by the State. These Trusts drifted into financial difficulties and the State was compelled to assume control.

In the year mentioned, by the authority of Parliament, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was constituted and intrusted with the management of all irrigation works, except those controlled by the first Mildura Trust. This authority is embodied in the *Water Act 1915*—which consolidates the Water Acts of 1905 and 1909, of which an epitome has been given in previous issues of this work—and the *Water Act 1916*. The chief difficulties under which the Irrigation

Trusts laboured were sparse settlement, and the absence of powers to make compulsory charges on the properties commanded by the irrigation channels. Since the assumption of control by the Commission, a policy of closer settlement on the lands served by the irrigation channels has been inaugurated and vigorously pushed on, and a system of compulsory rating enforced, along with which there has been the allotment of water as a right to properties in channelled areas.

An illustration of the influence of closer settlement and the allotment of water rights in extending irrigation is contained in the following table, which shows the progress made since 1909, the year in which these two factors were first put into operation.

PROGRESS OF IRRIGATION IN CLOSER SETTLEMENT AREAS.

District (having allotted Water Rights).	Area Irrigated.	
	1909-10.	1916-17.
Supplied from the Goulburn—	Acres.	Acres.
Shepparton .. .. .	..	10,270
Rodney	32,356	56,681
Tongala	2,270	4,164
Rochester	500	18,437
Dingee .. .. .	..	1,140
Tragowel Plains	20,000	30,737
Supplied from the Murray—		
Cohuna	12,000	14,528
Gannawarra	7,825	14,037
Koondrook	5,029	13,260
Swan Hill	5,410	8,676
Nyah	569	1,526
Merbein	202	5,271
Supplied from the Werribee—		
Bacchus Marsh	31	4,249
Werribee .. .. .	..	2,929
Total	86,192	185,905

Progress of Settlement in Irrigation Districts.

The demand for blocks in the Irrigated Closer Settlement Areas in 1916-17 was slightly greater than in the previous year, this being due to some extent to the desire of returned soldiers to settle on irrigable farms. During the year the Water Supply Commission granted blocks to 127 applicants, 19 of whom were returned soldiers, while the Lands Department made available 400 acres known as the "mid area" between Merbein and Mildura. After the Commission had reticulated this area, it was divided into 23 irrigation blocks, which were all allotted to returned soldiers. The total area now settled in the Irrigation Districts as a whole is over 82,000 acres. Of this area 27,000 acres are under lucerne, 12,000 acres under fruit, and 15,000 acres under other crops. The following table shows the areas purchased and subdivided by the State in Irrigation Districts, the number of families on such areas when purchased, and the number now occupying blocks under the State's Closer Settlement scheme:—

CLOSER SETTLEMENT IN IRRIGATION DISTRICTS.

Closer Settlement Estates.	Area of Lands purchased by the State.	Properties Subdivided.						Increase in No. of Families.	
		Area.	Number.	No. of families thereon when purchased.	Subdivided into—		No. of Closer Settlement Blocks now occupied.		
					No. of Closer Settlement Blocks.	Average Area.			
	acres.	acres.				acres.			
Shepparton ..	9,200	9,200	21	20	269	32	258	238	
Stanhope ..	20,900	8,200	2	9	153	49	51	42	
Kyabram ..	3,000	1,000	1	3	31	30	24	21	
Tongala ..	15,200	15,200	31	30	242	60	196	166	
Cornelia Creek ..	2,500	2,500	} Pt. 1	..	{	14	176	14	14
Koyuga ..	4,200	4,200				61	65	49	49
Nanneolla ..	8,600	8,600	16	6	112	74	88	82	
Echuca ..	3,200	3,200	6	4	26	122	26	22	
Bamawm ..	13,400	13,400	28	21	173	73	149	128	
Dingee ..	500	500	3	1	18	25	14	13	
Cohuna ..	11,500	11,500	27	8	130	85	95	87	
Koondrook ..	3,400	3,400	5	4	41	80	25	21	
Swan Hill No. 1	5,400	5,400	18	9	81	65	65	56	
Swan Hill No. 2 (Burtons)	1,500	1,500	1	1	54	25	44	43	
Swan Hill No. 3 (Crown lands)	500	500	1	..	18	27	9	9	
Werribee ..	8,000	6,700	1	6	145	43	102	96	
<i>Murray Frontage Settlements.</i>	111,000	95,000	162	122	1,568	..	1,209	1,087	
Nyah ..	2,900	2,900	25	5	141	20	128	123	
Merbein ..	6,400	6,400	Crown lands	..	239	26	239	239	
	120,300	104,300	187	127	1,948	..	1,576	1,449	

The figures show that the settlements referred to in the above table were supporting more than twelve times as many families in 1917 as there were on the same areas when they were purchased. In addition to this, the improvements in cultivation rendered possible by irrigation must be taken into consideration.

The total area now subdivided is about 104,000 acres which, after making the necessary deductions for roads, channels, and township reserves, has been made available in 1948 blocks of an aggregate area of 100,000 acres.

There are now available, including lands at Nyah and Merbein, 374 allotments, in sizes varying from 2 to 100 acres. In addition, there is in reserve an area of about 16,000 acres, mainly at Stanhope, which will be subdivided and made available as required. The terms upon which these allotments may be acquired are explained on page 675.

The construction of storage works by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was continued during the year. The Melton Reservoir, on the Werribee River, was completed and filled to its full capacity of 17,000 acre feet. The construction of Sugarloaf Reservoir, on the Upper Goulburn, and the enlargement of Waranga Reservoir, which are the principal works for irrigation requirements now being carried on, were advanced as far as the abnormally wet season would permit.

Progress was also made with the works for supplementing the domestic and stock supplies to the districts served by the Wimmera-Mallee system.

The recently completed Fyan's Lake Storage—capacity 17,100 acre feet—was filled and brought into use, and the embankment works for converting Taylor's Lake into a controllable storage were well advanced. This reservoir will hold 30,000 acre feet.

Another work of considerable importance that has been taken in hand is the construction of a main channel to connect the channels of the Long Lake and Tyntynder Waterworks Districts with the Wimmera-Mallee System. When this work is completed, these districts, hitherto supplied from the Murray River by pumping, will be supplied, with equal efficiency and at a lower cost, from the Wimmera River by gravitation. The comprehensive Wimmera-Mallee gravitation channel system will then serve a total area of 8,500 square miles, extending approximately from Lake Lonsdale—at the foot of the Grampians Ranges—on the south, to Ouyen and Piangil—some ten to twenty miles beyond Lake Tyrrell—on the north, and from the Richardson and Avoca Rivers on the east to Lake Hindmarsh on the west. The channels which supply this extensive area have a total length of 3,600 miles.

The enlargement of the Upper Coliban Reservoir was completed during the year, its storage capacity having been increased by 2,000,000,000 gallons. This reservoir, in conjunction with that on the same river at Malmsbury and several subsidiary reservoirs, supplies the Bendigo and Castlemaine districts with water for domestic and stock

use, and for irrigation and mining purposes. The aggregate storage capacity of the reservoirs of the Coliban System is now 10,826,000,000 gallons, or 39,860 acre feet.

At the request of the Naval authorities, a scheme was prepared for the supply of water to the Naval Base which is being established at Crib Point, Western Port. It was found that efficiency with economy could best be secured by providing at the same time a domestic supply for the several townships and bayside resorts en route, and the scheme adopted includes these important services.

The supply is to be drawn from the head-works of the Bunyip River, and will be conveyed through cement-lined races and pipes, *via* Berwick, Beaconsfield, Pakenham, Cranbourne, and Somerville townships to a service reservoir at Frankston, from which the townships of Mornington, Frankston, Seaford, Carrum, Chelsea, and Aspendale will be reticulated. From Frankston, a pipe main connects with the Base Reservoir, which will serve the Naval Base and the neighbouring seaside resorts.

The scheme is estimated to cost £156,000. The works are already well advanced, and those portions which more directly affect the Naval Base are being expedited, so as to give water to that important area as early as possible in 1918.

When the works now in hand are completed, the total storage capacity of the reservoirs under the Commission's control will be, in round figures, 1,000,000 acre feet.

The subjoined table shows the total extent of irrigated land in the State for 1909-10 and each of the last four years, and the purposes for which the land was utilized :—

Total area irrigated.

IRRIGATED AREAS : HOW UTILIZED.

Crop.	1909-10.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.
	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.	acres.
Cereals	23,715	74,927	74,658	61,663	18,790
Lucerne	24,124	55,535	71,217	70,372	74,042
Sorghum and other annual fodder crops	8,094	21,374	37,759	15,412	14,707
Pastures	50,541	110,193	81,463	82,622	87,458
Vineyards, orchards, and gardens ..	17,524	26,489	28,666	32,918	38,246
Fallow	4,988	8,536	13,368	5,621	3,220
Miscellaneous ..	785	2,233	2,214	2,399	4,242
	129,771	299,287	309,345	271,007	240,705
Details not available (private diversions)..	8,000	18,000	15,000	17,000	17,000
Total ..	137,771	317,287	324,345	288,007	257,705

Notwithstanding the unusually wet season in 1916-17 the area irrigated was within 3,000 acres of the average of the preceding six years, which included a drought period. Of the total area irrigated in 1916-17, for which details of crops are available—240,705 acres—the percentages devoted to different purposes were as follows:—Pastures, 36; lucerne, 31; cereals, 8; vineyards, orchards, and gardens, 16; sorghum and other annual fodder crops, 6; fallow, 1; and miscellaneous, 2.

Mildura Irrigation Settlement. The Mildura Irrigation Settlement, on the Murray River, was established in 1887 under the management of the Chaffey Brothers Limited, and in 1895 was vested in the First Mildura Irrigation Trust. Water is obtained by pumping from the river. The following particulars are an indication of the prosperity of the settlement:—

POPULATION OF MILDURA SHIRE, 1891 TO 1916.

1891	April (Census)	...	2,321	1913	December	...	...	6,300
1896	September	...	2,000	1914	"	...	...	7,250
1901	March (Census)	...	3,325	1915	"	...	...	7,618
1911	April (Census)	...	6,119	1916	"	...	...	8,000

The receipts and payments of the Mildura Irrigation Trust during the year ended 30th June, 1916, were as follows:—

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF FIRST MILDURA IRRIGATION TRUST, 1915-16.

<i>Receipts.</i>		£	<i>Payments.</i>		£
Horticultural Rates	..	18,734	Wages	.. ..	11,932
Special Waterings, &c.	..	4,145	Firewood	.. ..	10,109
Miscellaneous	.. ..	6,092	Interest, Sinking Fund and Depreciation	.. ..	5,555
			Miscellaneous	.. ..	2,754
Total	.. ..	28,971	Total	.. ..	30,350

The extent of watering done represented 36,909 water acres in 1908-9, 35,475 acres in 1909-10, 40,860 acres in 1911-12, 36,553 acres in 1912-13, 39,541 acres in 1913-14, 42,476 acres in 1914-15, and 41,405 acres in 1915-16.

State Water-works Capital Debit.

The control of all State waterworks is vested in the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Such works

and their capital debit at 30th June, 1917, are set forth in the following statement :—

WATERWORKS UNDER CONTROL OF STATE RIVERS AND WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION.

(a) Free Head-works.						Capital Debit at 30th June, 1917.
						£
Broken River Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	14,853
Goulburn River Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	736,904
Kerang North-West Lakes Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	10,014
Kow Swamp Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	187,084
Lake Lonsdale Reservoir .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	49,054
Loddon River Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	167,636
Long Lake Pumping Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	27,346
Lower Wimmera Compensation Works .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	8,558
Total—Free Head-works						1,201,449

(b) Waterworks Districts.					
	Total Capital Expenditure.	Capital Written off by Acts 1625 and 1651.	Redem- ption paid to Treasury.	Capital Debit at 30th June, 1917.	
	£	£	£	£	
Birchip	233,959	700	2,203	231,056	}
Sea Lake					
Tyrrell					
Wycheproof					
Carwarp	7,855	..	..	7,855	
Coliban	1,251,492	..	..	1,251,492	
Karkaroo	94,115	..	2,493	91,622	
Kerang North-West Lakes (free head-works excluded)	2,000	..	..	2,000	
Long Lake (free head-works excluded)	46,078	..	571	45,507	
Naval Base and Mornington Peninsula	12,348	..	..	12,348	
Ouyen	3,591	..	..	3,591	
Tyntynder	51,006	..	..	51,006	
Walpeup East	3,493	..	..	3,493	
Walpeup West	4,157	..	..	4,157	
Western Wimmera	249,488	132,835	13,966	102,687	
Wimmera United	187,412	36,392	11,064	139,956	
Wonthaggi	62,990	..	2,237	60,753	
Wimmera Main Channels	130,765	..	..	130,765	
Wimmera Storages	72,449	..	..	72,449	
Total	2,413,198	169,927	32,534	2,210,737	2,210,737

WATERWORKS UNDER CONTROL OF STATE RIVERS AND WATER SUPPLY
COMMISSION—*continued.*

	Total Capital Expenditure.	Capital Written off by Acts 1625 and 1651.	Redem- tion paid to Treasury.	Capital Debit at 30th June, 1917.	Capital Debit at 30th June, 1917.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>(c) Irrigation and Water Supply Districts.</i>					
Bacchus Marsh	58,088	8,906	493	48,689	
Boort	54,840	35,259	894	18,687	
Campaspe	63,361	52,685	305	10,371	
Cohuna	128,693	49,197	521	78,975	
Deakin	93,655	34,748	2,144	56,763	
Dingee	12,789	..	..	12,789	
Dry Lake	1,704	686	299	719	
Gannawarra	82,615	33,179	180	49,256	
Kerang	84,077	35,338	1,710	47,029	
Koondrook	110,461	30,872	1,475	78,114	
Merbein	78,632	..	..	78,632	
Nyah	24,224	..	..	24,224	
Rochester	117,659	..	..	117,659	
Rodney	366,453	149,949	6,578	209,926	
Shepparton	50,672	..	..	50,672	
Swan Hill	54,567	19,799	342	34,426	
Tongala	61,390	..	..	61,390	
Tragowel Plains	186,709	124,534	444	61,731	
Total	1,630,589	575,152	15,385	1,040,052	1,040,052
<i>(d) Main Supply Works (to be apportioned to Irrigation and Water Supply Districts benefited).</i>					
1. Goulburn Main Channels—					
East Goulburn .. .. .	..	..	..	130,057	
Waranga Reservoir to Campaspe .. .. .	..	..	..	246,835	
Campaspe to Serpentine Main Distributary Channels .. .. .	..	..	..	194,305	
.. .. .	..	..	..	28,772	599,969
2. Goulburn Storages					
.. .. .	..	..	..	..	234,636
3. Pyke's Creek and Werribee Scheme					
.. .. .	..	..	..	..	195,756
<i>(e) Waterworks Trusts Districts.*</i>					
Avoca Waterworks Trust	12,495	2,494	979	9,022	
Carrum Waterworks Trust	25,732	7,732	1,944	16,056	
Loddon United Waterworks Trust	21,234	1,717	2,229	17,288	
Grand Total .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5,482,599

* In consequence of the undermentioned Trusts having made default in the payment of interest on loans, their districts have been temporarily placed under the Commission's control.

The receipts and disbursements of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission during the year ended 30th June, 1917, were as follows:—

STATE RIVERS AND WATER SUPPLY COMMISSION.—
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1916-17.

Works.	Receipts.	Expenditure.			Excess.	
		Total from Annual Votes.	On Capital Works from Annual Votes.	Net Expenditure on Management and Maintenance.	Revenue over Net Expenditure.	Net Expenditure over Revenue.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Coliban	36,791	10,791	144	10,647	26,144	..
Goulburn	283	2,064	..	2,064	..	1,781
Loddon River	8	309	..	309	..	301
Kow Swamp	188	1,885	..	1,885	..	1,697
Broken River	7	203	..	203	..	196
North-West Lakes	68	906	..	906	..	838
Lake Lonsdale	7	375	..	375	..	368
Lower Wimmera .. ..	..	74	..	74	..	74
Irrigation Districts	105,071	48,136	..	48,136	56,935	..
Waterworks Districts	65,436	24,117	492	23,625	41,811	..
Urban Districts and Divisions	14,354	4,089	..	4,089	10,265	..
Licences, Diversions, Pumping, &c.	8,212	3,891	..	3,891	4,321	..
	230,425	96,840	636	96,204	134,221	..
<i>Not Earning Revenue.</i>						
River Gaugings, Surveys and Reports, New Projects .. ..	..	3,691	..	3,691	..	3,691
Irrigation Engineering Scholarships .. ..	..	152	..	152	..	152
Cost of Administration— Waterworks Trusts, Boring for water, Road Clearing, and Land Settlement .. ..	..	4,969	..	4,969	..	4,969
Loan Works .. ..	..	2,774	..	2,774	..	2,774
Total	230,425	108,426	636	107,790	122,635	..

NOTE.—This table does not take into consideration the questions of interest, redemption and depreciation.

Waterworks
Trusts'
Indebtedness.

The extent of Government assistance to the Waterworks Trusts which are not under the control of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, and the financial position of such Trusts are exhibited below.

WATERWORKS TRUSTS—CAPITAL INDEBTEDNESS AND INTEREST OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916.

Waterworks Trust.	Cost of Works at 30th June, 1916, defrayed from—		Capital Indebtedness.				Interest Outstanding at 30th June, 1916.
	Free State Grant.	Loan Advances made by State.	In-creased by Interest Capitalized.	Reduced by—		At 30th June, 1916.	
				Amounts Written Off.	Payments towards Redemption.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alexandra .. ..	..	3,849	..	..	317	3,532	..
Avenel .. ..	..	2,383	..	..	266	2,117	.. 42
Avoca*	2,662	12,495	..	2,494	908	9,093	75
Avoca Township .. ..	..	10,000	..	..	172	9,828	246
Bairnsdale .. ..	..	43,822	..	23,439	1,328	19,055	381
Ballan .. ..	..	1,100	..	..	276	824	16
Benalla .. ..	..	15,579	..	..	3,410	12,169	243
Bet Bet Shire	1,384	5,694	..	..	1,592	4,102	..
Boort	28	1,150	..	150	94	906	..
Bright .. ..	..	5,490	..	..	544	4,946	..
Broadford .. ..	..	11,000	..	..	352	10,648	..
Carisbrook .. ..	..	8,400	..	2,400	406	5,594	..
Carrum* .. ..	..	25,732	..	7,732	1,784	16,216	113
Charlton .. ..	..	11,083	..	..	887	9,878	..
Cobram	4,040	4,500	..	..	401	4,099	328
Colac .. ..	..	44,574	..	..	1,194	43,380	165
Dandenong .. ..	..	27,628	..	5,128	1,063	21,437	866
Daylesford Borough ..	..	24,206	2,794	3,139	2,640	21,221	359
Donald	3,058	13,120	..	1,166	927	11,027	..
Donald Shire	1,691	4,353	..	..	1,293	3,060	61
Echuca Borough .. ..	..	28,606	..	..	2,045	26,561	619
Elmore .. ..	..	4,150	..	..	526	3,624	72
Euroa .. ..	..	21,992	..	..	2,173	19,819	396
Geelong† .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gisborne .. ..	..	4,986	..	..	1,271	3,715	..
Glenrowan .. ..	..	1,900	..	..	8	1,892	225
Hamilton .. ..	..	45,666	..	..	3,371	42,295	844
Healesville .. ..	..	4,661	..	..	689	3,972	79
Heathcote .. ..	..	8,480	..	..	700	7,780	257
Horsham Borough .. ..	..	30,713	..	7,712	1,384	21,617	..
Kara Kara Shire	1,522	9,447	..	..	797	8,650	..
Kerang	88	8,986	..	..	1,036	7,950	329
Kerang Shire	213	1,200	..	..	107	1,093	..
Kilmore .. ..	..	15,223	..	..	2,508	12,715	..
Koroit .. ..	..	5,502	..	2,047	788	2,717	..
Korumburra .. ..	..	11,492	..	..	1,710	9,782	..
Kowree	292	2,707	..	..	540	2,167	..
Kyabram .. ..	..	3,802	..	..	227	3,575	..
Kyneton Shire .. ..	..	31,345	..	..	17,646	13,699	..
Lancefield .. ..	..	7,082	..	..	720	6,362	256
Lawloit	1,302	12,095	..	..	1,102	10,993	220
Leongatha .. ..	..	8,459	..	..	487	7,972	..
Lllydale .. ..	..	7,034	..	..	403	6,631	133
Loddon United*	4,122	21,234	..	1,717	1,964	17,553	352
Longwood .. ..	..	3,070	..	550	183	2,367	79

(For footnotes, see end of table.)

**WATERWORKS TRUSTS—CAPITAL INDEBTEDNESS AND INTEREST
OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916—continued.**

Waterworks Trust.	Cost of Works at 30th June, 1916, defrayed from—		Capital Indebtedness.				Interest Outstanding at 30th June, 1916.
	Free State Grant.	Loan Advances made by State.	Increased by Interest Capitalized.	Reduced by—		At 30th June, 1916.	
				Amounts Written Off.	Payments towards Redemption.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Lowan Shire ..	1,258	11,680	..	..	1,059	10,621	213
Macedon ..	..	2,824	..	..	303	2,521	50
Maffra ..	..	7,500	..	..	61	7,439	149
Mansfield ..	..	7,931	..	..	1,142	6,789	..
Maryborough ..	..	76,257	..	9,200	6,239	60,818	..
Mooroopna ..	..	4,278	..	1,400	191	2,687	..
Mortlake ..	..	794	..	..	..	794	6
Morwell ..	..	10,400	..	..	229	10,171	203
Murchison ..	..	4,078	..	..	462	3,616	..
Murtoa ..	..	4,945	..	..	116	4,829	..
Nagambie ..	..	3,275	..	..	485	2,790	56
Nhill ..	..	10,911	..	2,482	695	7,734	155
Numurkah Shire ..	1,278	25,194	..	1,376	5,042	18,776	245
Omeo ..	..	3,982	..	..	532	3,450	70
Pyramid Hill ..	..	2,437	..	..	98	2,339	47
Riddell's Creek ..	..	4,050	..	497	291	3,262	65
Rochester ..	..	5,574	..	..	248	5,326	106
Romsey ..	..	4,700	..	..	1,060	3,640	73
Rushworth ..	..	4,500	..	..	338	4,162	..
Rutherglen ..	..	21,735	..	..	1,604	20,131	402
Seymour ..	..	30,432	..	..	2,917	27,515	534
Shepparton Urban ..	24	20,789	..	2,416	2,328	16,045	321
Shepparton Shire ..	110	14,423	..	..	1,824	11,223	224
St. Arnaud Borough ..	57	45,076	4,077	15,077	2,798	31,280	..
Stawell Shire ..	545	1,370	..	250	1,120	..	..
Sunbury ..	..	16,497	..	..	597	15,900	352
Swan Hill ..	231	6,780	..	..	353	6,427	123
Swan Hill Shire† ..	6,421	36,043	..	36,043	..	..	..
Tallangatta ..	..	4,328	..	..	215	4,113	..
Tatura ..	..	5,939	..	650	451	4,838	..
Tongala ..	..	1,049	..	..	11	1,038	..
Traralgon ..	..	14,746	..	..	597	14,140	283
Trentham ..	..	5,000	..	..	89	4,911	98
Tungamah Shire ..	4,130	13,826	..	..	1,307	17,519	347
Upper Macedon ..	..	2,290	..	..	403	1,887	..
Violet Town ..	..	5,750	..	..	447	5,303	..
Wahgunyah ..	..	2,450	..	..	20	2,430	..
Wangaratta ..	..	9,889	..	..	654	9,235	186
Warburton ..	..	3,686	..	..	22	3,664	146
Warracknabeal ..	262	6,687	..	..	678	6,009	120
Warragul ..	..	15,776	..	..	533	15,243	305
Warrambool ..	..	38,500	..	..	3,548	34,952	699
West Charlton ..	..	2,822	..	..	183	2,639	..
Winchelsea ..	..	3,228	..	..	4	3,224	59
Winchelsea Shire ..	..	6,259	..	..	436	5,823	116
Wodonga ..	..	7,722	..	..	729	6,993	..
Woodend ..	..	10,563	..	..	2,486	8,077	162
Yackandandah ..	..	4,075	..	..	8	4,067	78
Yarram ..	..	8,902	..	..	140	8,762	..
Yarrawonga Urban ..	1,897	9,573	..	..	1,709	7,864	153
Yatchaw ..	..	6,262	..	1,661	416	4,185	83
Yea ..	..	3,885	..	..	167	3,718	142
Total ..	37,414	1,162,652	6,871	130,989	108,973	929,561	13,127

* The property of this Trust has been taken possession of by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, under the provisions of the *Water Act 1915*.

† The Geelong Municipal Trust loan was not obtained from the Government.

‡ This Trust was abolished under the provisions of the *Water Act 1905*.

The free State grant to Waterworks Trusts for the construction of headworks was originally £100,000, but, owing to the transfer of works, portion of the grant now appears against Irrigation districts and other State works.

The following return contains full particulars of the receipts and expenditure of the Waterworks Trusts during the year ended 31st December, 1916:—

WATERWORKS TRUSTS—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1916.

Waterworks Trust.	Receipts from—				Expenditure on—				
	Water Rates.	Sale of Water.	Other Sources.	Total.	Maintenance and Management.	Salaries and Wages.	Interest and Redemption.	Other Services.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Alexandra ..	481	22	3	506	87	262	168	4	521
Avenel ..	201	..	..	201	33	50	101	7	191
Avoca *	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Avoca Township	526	51	..	577	21	68	500	9	698
Bairnsdale	1,580	286	62	1,928	650	526	906	34	2,116
Ballan ..	276	3	..	279	133	41	39	3	216
Benalla ..	2,094	602	1	2,697	197	595	874	38	1,704
Bet Bet Shire	483	..	..	483	19	31	208	58	316
Boort ..	348	28	3	379	189	45	65	7	306
Bright ..	303	57	..	360	29	78	325	2	434
Broadford	758	..	..	758	12	83	613	9	717
Carlsbrook	356	..	20	376	18	47	417	2	484
Carrum* ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Charlton ..	963	39	..	1,002	320	200	550	25	1,095
Cobram ..	373	39	..	417	14	155	203	33	405
Colac ..	2,427	563	57	3,047	203	423	1,370	25	2,021
Dandenong	886	74	1	961	432	223	840	11	1,556
Daylesford Borough	1,320	704	314	2,338	304	195	1,021	23	1,543
Donald ..	874	351	30	1,255	296	208	968	24	1,496
Donald Shire	201	..	2	203	30	33	48	..	111
Echuca Borough	2,315	79	201	2,595	784	534	1,525	23	2,866
Elmore ..	382	166	9	557	428	185	173	17	803
Euroa ..	955	301	2	1,258	168	98	942	27	1,235
Geelong† ..	16,377	6,013	890	23,280	2,824	2,484	18,002	10	23,320
Gisborne ..	399	..	6	405	38	48	388	..	474
Glenrowan†	68	..	..	68	29	143	..	1	173
Hamilton ..	3,393	352	208	4,453	552	447	2,010	116	3,125
Healesville	500	..	25	525	101	78	95	9	283
Heathcote ..	393	79	1	473	53	45	367	7	472
Horsham Borough	2,072	565	112	2,749	583	325	1,017	5	1,930
Kara Kara Shire	830	..	14	844	136	41	216	19	412
Kerang ..	1,518	84	4	1,556	554	354	686	25	1,619
Kilmore ..	512	440	2	963	208	265	608	15	1,096
Koroit ..	382	310	16	708	449	117	131	2	699
Korumburra	583	362	175	1,120	748	218	513	..	1,479
Kowree ..	370	2	12	384	162	50	118	3	393
Kyabram ..	373	94	2	469	95	209	167	14	485
Kyneton Shire	1,206	1,147	34	2,387	368	303	1,795	48	2,514
Lancefield	511	99	3	613	22	31	303	4	360
Lawloit ..	1,539	29	10	1,578	228	379	263	87	957
Leongatha	636	87	41	763	94	85	380	..	559
Lilydale ..	561	150	3	714	313	188	472	26	999
Loddon United*	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Longwood ..	150	..	..	150	19	36	221	10	286
Lowan Shire	3,170	..	74	3,244	119	416	508	77	1,120

(For footnotes see end of table.)

WATERWORKS TRUSTS—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1916—continued.

Waterworks Trust.	Receipts from—				Expenditure on—				
	Water Rates.	Sale of Water.	Other Sources.	Total.	Maintenance and Management.	Salaries and Wages.	Interest and Redemption.	Other Services.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Macedon ..	169	..	1	170	5	35	120	1	161
Maffra ..	670	60	17	747	54	241	333	1	629
Mansfield ..	481	183	..	664	38	205	327	5	575
Maryborough ..	3,197	991	20	4,208	153	592	2,915	9	3,669
Mcroopna ..	380	123	60	563	24	259	127	11	421
Morwell ..	370	196	4	570	19	51	467	8	540
Murchison ..	264	219	8	491	78	174	332	15	599
Murtoa ..	651	215	11	877	696	218	317	56	1,287
Nagambie ..	369	46	4	419	29	214	133	4	380
Nhill ..	1,219	107	79	1,405	460	297	368	72	1,197
Numurkah Shire ..	2,479	215	86	2,780	942	870	1,478	54	3,344
Omoo ..	255	3	2	260	67	38	165	7	277
Pyramid Hill ..	301	15	10	326	108	56	110	..	274
Riddell's Creek ..	225	..	..	225	16	39	156	3	214
Rochester ..	881	91	4	976	499	117	246	13	875
Romsey ..	283	..	3	286	46	44	175	2	267
Rushworth ..	577	142	5	724	181	158	200	22	561
Rutherglen ..	1,593	15	13	1,626	393	258	957	5	1,613
Seymour ..	772	1,373	8	2,153	531	440	1,240	23	2,234
Shepparton Urban ..	1,613	720	19	2,352	747	467	765	49	2,028
Shepparton Shire ..	1,073	..	17	1,090	24	433	544	38	1,039
St. Arnaud Borough ..	2,204	2	82	2,288	199	228	1,495	51	1,973
Sunbury ..	319	654	6	979	19	95	861	19	994
Swan Hill ..	950	1	15	966	239	387	437	15	1,128
Tallangatta ..	453	102	20	575	133	164	195	15	507
Tatura ..	404	106	13	523	92	189	227	12	520
Tongala ..	154	6	..	160	59	57	71	..	187
Traralgon ..	914	110	18	1,042	138	109	664	11	922
Trentham ..	361	10	8	379	10	49	225	10	294
Tungamah Shire ..	1,924	212	66	2,202	290	827	817	81	2,015
Upper Macedon ..	238	27	5	270	52	61	91	10	214
Violet Town ..	345	..	8	353	13	92	126	2	233
Wahgunyah ..	358	..	14	372	315	69	110	11	505
Wangaratta ..	1,477	275	37	1,789	375	517	442	18	1,352
Warburton ..	324	..	5	329	31	48	165	7	251
Warracknabeal ..	1,224	94	41	1,359	830	183	283	15	1,320
Warragul ..	912	276	52	1,240	440	238	710	43	1,431
Warrnambool ..	3,249	782	114	4,145	833	712	1,678	109	3,332
West Charlton ..	284	..	3	287	91	32	127	..	250
Winchelsea ..	403	..	2	405	64	51	98	1	214
Winchelsea Shire ..	440	..	2	442	171	53	273	4	501
Wodonga ..	521	77	9	607	16	165	336	6	523
Woodend ..	245	200	2	447	64	103	383	4	554
Yackandandah† ..	..	..	1	1	46	33	4	12	95
Yarram ..	696	85	24	805	133	36	376	49	594
Yarrowonga Urban ..	704	208	12	924	467	123	353	4	947
Yatchaw ..	337	..	14	351	612	91	300	4	1,007
Yea ..	587	261	10	858	277	203	258	20	763
Total ..	91,298	21,839	3,296	116,433	23,390	20,468	62,596	1,785	108,239

* The property of this trust has been taken possession of by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. † Year ended 31st December, 1915. ‡ Year ended 30th June, 1916.

Of the waterworks controlled by Municipalities, the most important are those at Ballarat vested in the Ballarat Water Commission and having reservoirs with a storage capacity of nearly 2,226 million gallons. Other important reservoirs in this group are those supplying Beechworth, Clunes, and Talbot, their respective storage capacities being 191, 267, and 200 million gallons.

The following statement shows the financial position existing between the State and corporations on account of these Waterworks:—

WATERWORKS OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS—CAPITAL INDEBTEDNESS AND INTEREST OUTSTANDING, 30TH JUNE, 1916.

Local Body.	Cost of Works to 30th June, 1916, defrayed from Loan Advances made by State.	Capital Indebtedness.				Interest out-standing at 30th June, 1916.
		Increased by Interest Capitalized	Reduced by—		At 30th June, 1916.	
			Amounts written off.	Payments towards Redemption.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Arapiles Shire ..	3,600	..	..	1,525	2,075	..
Ararat Borough ..	49,935	..	18,266	3,043	28,626	..
Ballarat Water Commission ..	355,121	41,869	2,111	66,539	328,340	..
Beechworth Shire ..	30,426	1,256	5,953	5,067	20,657	..
Bet Bet Shire ..	1,000	..	985	15	..	..
Castle Donnington (Swan Hill) Shire ..	777	..	..	650	127	..
Chiltern Shire ..	4,500	508	508	899	3,601	72
Clunes Borough Water Commission ..	70,195	..	62,395	708	7,092	143
Creswick Borough ..	3,500	..	..	3,500	..	..
Dimboola Shire ..	687	..	..	415	272	..
Dunolly Borough ..	3,123	..	..	382	2,241	45
Inglewood Borough ..	6,131	..	..	1,780	4,351	87
Kerang Shire ..	2,566	..	..	491	2,075	..
Korong Shire ..	2,952	..	..	468	2,484	..
Ripon Shire ..	3,000	..	..	1,391	1,609	..
Stawell Borough ..	108,506	..	61,661	4,514	42,331	1,703
Talbot Borough ..	15,000	..	13,986	108	906	..
Tarnagulla Borough ..	1,380	..	..	182	1,198	..
Wimmera Shire ..	28,890	..	..	26,357	2,533	..
Total ..	691,289	43,633	165,870	118,534	450,518	2,050

The corporations of Echuca Borough and Ballan and Melton Shires also have waterworks, the first purchased from the State, and the other two constructed out of Shire funds.

In addition to the above, £9,889 (including £346 capitalized interest) was paid towards redemption by municipal corporations whose liabilities to the State have been transferred to Waterworks Trusts, and £3,591 by municipalities whose works have been transferred to the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.

The following particulars relating to artesian boring have been supplied by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission:—

ARTESIAN AND SUB-ARTESIAN BORING.

Number of Bores Sunk.		Total Depth Bored.	
State.	Private.	State.	Private.
		Feet.	Feet.
97	140	39,783	30,000

In 82 of the Government bores fresh water was struck at depths varying from 150 to 700 feet, the water rising to heights varying from 200 to 7 feet below the surface. In three cases the water rises from 4 feet to 17 feet above the surface.

METEOROLOGY.

Particulars in regard to climate and weather conditions have been furnished by the Commonwealth Meteorologist, and are given in the following tables. In the first are shown the rainfall for each of the years 1914, 1915, and 1916, and the average yearly amount of rainfall deduced from all available records to December, 1916, in each of the 26 river basins or districts constituting the State of Victoria:—

RAINFALL—YEARLY RECORDS AND AVERAGES.

Basin or District.	Rainfall.			
	During 1914.	During 1915.	During 1916.	Yearly Average to December, 1916.
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
Glenelg and Wannon Rivers ..	16.41	28.10	29.09	26.92
Fitzroy, Eumeralla, and Merri Rivers ..	19.86	31.05	32.02	29.22
Hopkins River and Mt. Emu Creek ..	14.66	21.86	29.64	25.23
Mt. Elephant and Lake Corangamite ..	16.82	23.65	30.28	25.14
Cape Otway Forest ..	26.69	39.35	42.04	38.62
Moorabool and Barwon Rivers ..	16.39	20.97	31.66	24.85
Werribee and Saltwater Rivers ..	16.90	18.78	34.98	23.69
Yarra River and Dandenong Creek ..	23.83	27.26	43.66	33.25
Koo-wee-rup Swamp ..	26.74	32.72	45.31	36.02
South Gippsland ..	23.89	30.92	46.46	38.95
Latrobe and Thomson Rivers ..	26.10	33.56	43.22	38.72
Macallister and Avon Rivers ..	16.11	17.74	34.18	24.31
Mitchell River ..	17.83	20.44	31.17	29.23
Tambo and Nicholson Rivers ..	21.56	21.60	30.44	27.77
Snowy River ..	27.01	23.36	37.24	34.82
Murray River ..	8.40	14.64	23.40	16.42
Mitta Mitta and Kiewa Rivers ..	19.06	33.64	41.62	32.51
Ovens River ..	20.13	35.04	47.47	32.40
Goulburn River ..	14.56	27.77	36.45	26.47
Campaspe River ..	12.07	22.01	31.51	23.00
Loddon River ..	9.84	17.87	27.23	19.77
Avoca River ..	7.96	15.46	20.80	17.04
Avon and Richardson Rivers ..	7.74	17.10	20.54	16.30
Eastern Wimmera ..	11.75	22.37	28.02	21.20
Western Wimmera ..	9.37	21.26	23.37	19.88
Mallee ..	6.26	10.83	16.50	12.32
Weighted Averages..	14.66	22.35	30.27	24.25

The wettest portions of the State are the South Gippsland, the Latrobe and Thomson, and the Cape Otway Forest districts, and the driest district is the Mallee, where the average rainfall is only 12.32 inches, as compared with an average of 24.25 for the State.

The actual areas of the State in square miles, subject to different degrees of rainfall, are as follows:—

DISTRIBUTION OF AVERAGE RAINFALL.

Rainfall.				Area in Square Miles.
Under 15 inches	..	..	..	19,912
From 15 to 20 inches	..	..	..	12,626
From 20 to 25 inches	..	..	..	14,070
From 25 to 30 inches	..	..	..	15,247
From 30 to 40 inches	..	..	..	14,025
From 40 to 50 inches	..	..	..	7,055
From 50 to 60 inches	..	..	..	3,348
Over 60 inches	..	..	..	1,597

The rainfall recorded for each quarter in 1916, and the quarterly averages up to 1916 deduced from all available records are as follows:—

RAINFALL—QUARTERLY RECORDS AND AVERAGES.

Basin or District.	First Quarter.		Second Quarter.		Third Quarter.		Fourth Quarter.	
	Amount.	Average.	Amount.	Average.	Amount.	Average.	Amount.	Average.
	Pts.	Pts.	Pts.	Pts.	Pts.	Pts.	Pts.	Pts.
Glencly and Wannon Rivers	271	376	690	810	959	900	989	606
Fitzroy, Eumerella, and Merri Rivers	359	440	673	873	1,069	961	1,101	648
Hopkins River and Mt. Emu Creek	254	416	591	756	1,042	777	1,077	574
Mt. Elephant and Lake Corangamite	351	457	599	714	1,114	747	964	596
Cape Otway Forest	517	597	1,002	1,170	1,468	1,266	1,217	829
Moorabool and Barwon Rivers	362	473	540	688	1,248	716	1,016	608
Werribee and Saltwater Rivers	538	516	430	633	1,477	635	1,553	585
Yarra River and Dandenong Creek	682	678	701	870	1,430	880	1,053	897
Koo-woe-rup Swamp	741	679	906	1,019	1,378	996	1,508	908
South Gippsland	1,011	772	897	1,096	1,637	1,132	1,101	895
Latrobe and Thomson Rivers	909	714	759	1,027	1,403	1,141	1,251	990
Macallister and Avon Rivers	1,126	608	363	563	1,278	608	651	652
Mitchell River	719	705	445	733	1,207	716	746	769
Tambo and Nicholson Rivers	906	703	371	697	1,010	671	757	706
Snowy River	1,184	820	368	941	1,228	899	944	822
Murray River	260	311	467	488	913	458	700	385
Mitta Mitta and Klewa Rivers	550	591	908	929	1,611	961	1,093	770
Ovens River	440	541	1,023	924	1,911	1,046	1,373	729
Goulburn River	322	436	751	806	1,494	814	1,078	591
Campaspe River	324	404	617	707	1,301	703	909	486
Lodron River	273	339	565	604	1,133	592	752	442
Avoca River	204	273	442	535	882	524	552	372
Avon and Richardson Rivers	119	247	448	507	885	518	602	358
Eastern Wimmera	165	293	641	649	1,043	699	953	474
Western Wimmera	148	247	594	639	866	671	729	431
Mallee	149	225	326	352	683	375	492	280
The whole State	411	435	588	700	1,136	726	892	564

The averages of the climatic elements for the seasons in Melbourne deduced from all available official records are given below :—

AVERAGES OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

Meteorological Elements.	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.	Winter.
Mean pressure of air in inches	29·971	29·923	30·080	30·081
Monthly range of pressure of air—Inches	·888	·773	·808	·974
Mean temperature of air in shade—° Fahr.	57·6	66·5	59·4	50·0
Mean daily range of temperature of air in shade—° Fahr.	18·7	21·3	17·4	14·0
Mean relative humidity. Saturation = 100	66	60	70	76
Mean rainfall in inches	7·24	5·87	6·64	5·71
Mean number of days of rain	37	23	33	41
Mean amount of spontaneous evaporation in inches	10·11	17·18	7·76	3·63
Mean daily amount of cloudiness—Scale 0 to 10	6·0	5·2	5·9	6·4
Mean number of days of fog	1	1	5	11

In the subjoined statement are shown the yearly averages of the climatic elements in Melbourne for 1916 and for the past 61 years as well as the extremes between which the yearly average values of such elements have oscillated in the latter period.

YEARLY AVERAGES AND EXTREMES OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS.

Meteorological Elements.	Yearly Averages and Extremes.			
	Year 1916.	Average for 61 Years.	Extremes between which the Yearly Average Values have oscillated in 61 years.	
			Highest.	Lowest.
Mean atmospheric pressure (inches) ...	29·968	30·015	30·106	29·961
Highest " " " ...	30·587	30·608	30·762	30·488
Lowest " " " ...	29·307	29·257	29·445	28·942
Range (inches) ...	1·280	1·347	1·719	1·169
Mean temperature of air in shade (°Fahr.)	58·2	58·4	59·9	57·3
Mean daily maximum ...	66·4	67·3	69·0	66·0
Mean daily minimum ...	50·1	49·4	51·2	47·2
Absolute maximum ...	104·2	105·2	111·2	96·6
Absolute minimum ...	29·9	30·6	33·9	27·0
Mean daily range ...	16·3	17·9	20·4	15·0
Absolute annual range ...	74·3	74·6	82·6	66·0
Solar Radiation (maximum) ...	114·8	118·2	127·6	106·0
Terrestrial Radiation (minimum) ...	43·5	43·8	46·7	39·5
Rainfall (in inches) ...	38·04	25·46	38·04	15·61
Number of wet days ...	170	134	171	102
Year's amount of free evaporation (in inches) ...	38·36	38·68	45·66	31·59
Percentage of humidity (saturation = 100) ...	66	68	76	62
Cloudiness (scale 10 = overcast, 0 = clear)	5·8	5·9	6·4	4·8
Number of days of fog ...	30	18	39	5

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

Department of Agriculture. This Department is controlled by a Minister of the Crown, under whom there is a large staff of experts with the Director of Agriculture as permanent head. These officers are actively engaged in supervising all matters relating to the Agricultural, Pastoral, Fruit and Dairying Industries of the State, and in giving instruction to those engaged therein. The Department publishes a monthly journal.

Government Experimental Farming. The great expansion in our rural industries during recent years has been largely brought about by the general adoption of better methods of farming, and by the introduction of more prolific wheats, and it is claimed that these improvements have been adopted as the result of the experimental and demonstration work of the Department of Agriculture. For many years the Department carried out research work on a large number of experimental plots on private farms throughout the State, but in 1912 the great majority of these plots were discontinued, and a commencement was made towards a policy of concentration in experimental investigation. In furtherance of this policy a Central Research Farm has been established at Werribee, and it is there that the initiative with regard to all experimental and research work will be undertaken. The State farms at Rutherglen, Longerenong, and Wyuna are used as district experimental stations for the North-East, the Wimmera, and the Goulburn Valley respectively. The problems investigated on these farms are fully described in the 1915-16 issue of this work.

Agricultural Colleges. An Act for the establishment of Agricultural Colleges was passed in 1884, and 14,460 acres, comprising 5,957 acres at Dookie, 2,386 acres at Longerenong, 2,500 acres at Gunyah, 2,800 acres at Olangolah, and 817 acres at Bullarto, were reserved as sites for colleges and experimental farms. An additional area of 800 acres has been purchased for cultivation purposes at Dookie. The areas at Dookie and Longerenong are being used for the purpose for which they were reserved, but the other three are devoted to other uses.

In addition to the college and farm lands, provision was made by the Act of 1884 to permanently reserve from sale an area of not more than 150,000 acres of Crown lands, and to vest it in trustees to be appointed, who should hold it in trust for the benefit of and by way of an endowment for State agricultural colleges and experimental farms. The land so reserved now amounts to 71,412 acres, which are let for grazing and agricultural purposes.

The fees for students in residence at the agricultural colleges are :— Maintenance—£20 per annum ; medical attendance and medicines, £1 5s. per annum ; stationery, laundry, and other charges, including sports fees, bring the total cost to £25 per annum. No charge is made for instruction. Accommodation is provided at Dookie for 100 and at Longerengon for 40 students.

School of Horticulture.

This school is situated at Burnley, about 3 miles from Melbourne. It is very accessible, being close to Burnley, Hawthorn, and Heyington railway stations and on the route of the Burwood electric tram.

The school has been re-organized, the new feature being the instruction given in the principles of agriculture. The various classes in horticulture will be continued and lectures will be given on all phases of the subject. Special attention will be devoted to the practical work in the orchards, gardens, and nurseries connected with the school.

The course for the Government Certificate in Horticulture occupies two years and is intended for youths of at least fourteen years of age. Students attend daily (Saturday excepted). The fees for the course are £5 per annum.

Part time classes are held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. The instruction is arranged to suit female students, but male students may also attend. The scope of the work of these classes includes garden management and designing, the growing of small fruits, seeds and seedlings, poultry farming, and bee-keeping. The fees for this course are £2 per annum.

The new feature of the school is the formation of classes for studying the principles of agriculture. These classes are being established primarily for boys attending secondary schools who are taking Agriculture as one of the subjects for the intermediate certificate of the University of Melbourne. The course for the intermediate certificate covers two years and that for the leaving certificate entails a further two years' attendance. Each class is held on one morning or afternoon of each week. The orchard, nursery, poultry farm, cultivation paddocks, and other accessories of the school are utilized by the students for outdoor practice and observations. Up-to-date farms are also visited by students.

For 1917 the students enrolled numbered 54 in the Horticultural and 129 in the Agricultural Class.

Various particulars relating to the State Experimental Farms and Agricultural Colleges are embodied in the appended statement.

GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL FARMS AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES, 1916.

Particulars.	Central Research Farm, Werribee.	Wyuna Irrigation Farm.	Ruther- glen Farm, &c.	Dookie Agri- cultural College.	Longere- nong Agri- cultural College.	Burnley School of Horti- cultural.	Bamawm Experi- mental Nursery, &c.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Professional Staff ..	1	1	2	12	5	3	1
Hands employed ..	25	5	*	30	14	6	..*
Students ..	..	..	15	47	38	64	..
Value of plant and machinery ..	£ 2,064	£ 1,106	£ 1,235	£ 3,829	£ 1,491	£ 150	£ 115
Value of produce for year ..	6,500	1,900	3,500	5,000	4,400	150	1,150
Receipts—							
Fees ..	..	..	..	916	970	163	..
Sale of produce, &c. ..	4,059	1,045	4,174	5,255	3,326	89	522
Other ..	23	33	39	..	..	824	..
Total receipts	4,082	1,078	4,213	6,171	4,296	1,076	522
Expenditure—							
Salaries—							
Professional Staff	300	208	540	2,163	1,300	446	165
General staff ..	2,793	622	3,263	3,178	1,457	683	654
Buildings and maintenance ..	1,329	421	1,623	6,208	4,386	88	39
Other ..	2,371	427	4,121	..	..	79	157
Total expendi- ture ..	6,793	1,678	9,547	11,549	7,143	1,296	1,015
Area under—	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres	acres
Cereals for Grain	848	75	185	615	413	..	..
Hay ..	324	45	90	165	110	..	..
Fruit trees, &c. ..	..	{	2	38	16	14	25½
Vines ..	..	1	60	20	10	½	..
Green fodder ..	185	190	220	50	51	..	4
Other crops ..	140	15	..	27	1	½	..
Total area under crop ..	1,497	236	557	915	601	15	29½
Area of land in fallow	402	176	400	389	342	..	..
Area under artifi- cially sown grasses	30	25	24	..	2	7	..
Area resting ..	165	..	47	893	679	..	..
Total area of arable land ..	2,094	437	1,023	2,197	1,624	22	29½
Balance of area	115	103	285	3,716	762	11	3
Total area of farm ..	2,209	540	1,313	5,913	2,386	33	32½
Live stock—	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Horses ..	72	25	37	113	43	1	2
Dairy cows ..	90	24	10	36	33	..	..
All other cattle	48	14	7	113	35	..	..
Sheep ..	625	118	358	1,350	1,069	..	..
Pigs ..	..	22	75	80	56	..	..

* Not available.

The orchards, nurseries, and gardens of the State are systematically inspected by the officers of the Vegetation Diseases Branch of the Department of Agriculture. Nurseries are inspected every six months, and certified to by

Inspection of
Orchards,
Nurseries, &c.

the departmental supervisor if clean and free from disease. Old, worn-out, and infected orchards are destroyed.

There has been considerable alteration in the departmental policy with respect to experimental orchards. The small and comparatively valueless demonstration orchards are being replaced by larger areas on which experimental and demonstration works have been concentrated. Two of these orchards have been commenced—one at Bamawm and the other at Creswick.

Experiments are carried out in the treatment of diseases; lectures and demonstrations are given on the various phases of horticulture; and sites are selected on the farms of intending fruit-growers, to whom advice is given as to the most suitable varieties to be planted and their after treatment.

The fear of introducing the fruit-flies *Tephritis tryoni* and *Halterophora capitata* and diseases arising from other causes has necessitated a thorough examination of fruit from Queensland, New South Wales, and elsewhere. The fruit-fly question is a very grave one, and, should either of the above-named insects obtain a footing in Victoria, a great portion of the large and important fruit industry of our State would be practically ruined.

Plants and cuttings coming from foreign parts are fumigated in the new fumigation building at Melbourne wharf if a certificate that they have been treated at the port of shipment does not accompany the consignment. Even when they have been thus certified, the Senior Fruit Inspector has the right of examination and, if necessary, of ordering a second fumigation.

Agricultural High Schools. Agricultural High Schools under the direction of the Department of Public Instruction have been established at Warrnambool, Sale, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Ballarat, Colac, Mansfield, Warragul, Leongatha, and Mildura. During 1915-16 the expenditure on these schools, including buildings, amounted to £24,314. They were established under condition that—

- (a) At least one-half of the cost of the necessary buildings and equipment shall be contributed by local subscriptions.
- (b) An area of land of not less than 20 acres, situated in a convenient position to the High School, shall be provided and vested in the Minister of Public Instruction.
- (c) At least 50 students paying prescribed fees shall be guaranteed before the proposal to establish an Agricultural High School is entertained.

Pupils for these schools must have passed the qualifying examination or an approved equivalent examination. During the first two years they take what is termed the common course, and during the last two years they may elect to take the Agricultural Course.

A local council appointed for each school exercises a general oversight of the work, particularly in regard to the farm operations and the expenditure thereon. It also nominates for free instruction students who possess the required qualifications, subject to the provision that the number of students so nominated shall not, in any

one year, exceed 10 per cent. of the total number paying full fees at the school.

As High Schools these institutions have been very successful on the whole, but the number of pupils taking the agricultural course has been very disappointing.

The State has about 12,000,000 acres of woodland, and **Forestry.** of this area 4,160,342 acres are set aside as climatic reserves and for the production of timber. Of the State forest domain, some 3,000,000 acres are situated on the slopes of high mountain ranges, and their protection is essential for the maintenance of streams and springs; over half-a-million acres are situated in the extreme Eastern part of the State and, owing to difficulties of transport, are not at present accessible for practical working; half-a-million acres, chiefly in the central district, which have been cut over, are closed for the protection of the young timber; while in the remaining area (over 500,000 acres) timber cutting is carried on in various parts. The bulk of the forest revenue is derived from a total area of about 250,000 acres. The trees are felled on the selection system of treatment; but for the supply of mine-props and fuel large blocks are allotted and worked as coppice, or coppice under standards, thinnings only, light or severe as the circumstances require, being taken out in many districts. The open timber licence system has been abolished in Victoria, and strict control is enforced over the operations of timber-getters.

As is usual in newly-settled countries, little care was formerly exercised in respect to the forests, and, though Victoria is the best-wooded of the Australian States, this is due to the extent of its mountain territory and its ample rainfall. In many districts, particularly in the moister portions of the State, re-forestation by natural process has been going on.

The timbers of commercial value in Victoria number twenty, all species of the eucalyptus family. Alarmist statements to the effect that there is an increasing scarcity of commercial timber here are ill-founded, as large supplies of hardwood are assured for many years to come.

A forest nursery, with provision for an annual output of from four to five million tree plants, has been completed at Creswick, the nursery at Macedon has been remodelled, and a large new nursery has been established at Broadford. The plantations at Creswick, Lara, and Mt. Alexander are being gradually extended, and large new plantations have been formed in the Wimmera district, in southern Gippsland, and in coastal areas near Frankston. In the past much of this work was experimental, but the experience gained in the propagation and growing of Australian hardwoods, as well as exotic conifers, has proved of great benefit to the community. Transplants are distributed to farmers, municipalities, and State schools. Farmers particularly benefit by planting trees around their homesteads, as the home is thereby protected from wind and weather, and shelter and shade are afforded to live stock, thus insuring healthier flocks and herds and increased returns. In addition to the three nurseries,

there are nineteen plantation trial stations having a total area of 20,740 acres.

The persons employed in connexion with the State forests and nurseries comprise administrative and professional staff, 16; protective and general staff, 82; and nursery staff, 44. The revenue from licences and royalties in 1916 amounted to £50,615. The expenditure was £53,551, of which sum about 50 per cent. was devoted to the improvement of the natural forests and the extension of plantations.

It is estimated that the quantity of timber produced in the rough in 1916 amounted to 75,000,000 super feet. In addition, 356,000 tons measurement of fuel timber were produced.

The State has rendered substantial assistance to the various branches of the agricultural and pastoral industries during past years. The appended table summarizes for the last five years the items of State expenditure from consolidated revenue in this direction, and shows the amount of revenue received by the Department of Agriculture, which consists chiefly of payments by exporters for packing produce for export:—

EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE CONNECTED WITH AGRICULTURE, ETC., 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
<i>Expenditure.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Department of Agriculture	18,454	21,182	25,211	26,297	23,622
Grants to Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, &c.	3,846	4,523	4,473	7,880	1,163
To promote the Agricultural, Dairying, Fruit, and Wine Industries	625	16	...	...	...
Development of Export Trade	37,185	32,819	40,505	34,275	33,622
Viticultural Education and Inspection of Vineyards	5,000	5,499	5,917	3,642	3,479
Maffra Beet Sugar Factory	37,975	28,341	32,493	25,228	18,693
Fruit Cool Stores	2,244	3,188	3,650	4,115	3,342
Technical Agricultural Education, &c.	30,588	27,985	18,478	21,451	19,479
Publishing Agricultural Reports	2,833	2,513	2,834	2,555	2,290
Advances to Settlers on account of Losses by Bush Fires, &c.	1,839	347	182	6,157	...
Rabbit and Vermin Extinction	29,524	27,309	29,596	32,211	24,257
Stock and Dairy Supervision	22,471	21,957	23,602	23,813	20,953
Scab Prevention and Stock Diseases					
Labour Colonies	2,992	395	...	500	500
State Forests and Nurseries	54,061	52,808	60,977	72,757	54,018
Miscellaneous	...	...	1,885	2,160	3,229
Total	249,637	228,882	249,803	263,041	208,647
<i>Revenue.</i>					
Department of Agriculture	49,932	47,713	49,320	51,410	36,252
State Forests	48,585	54,754	60,733	65,840	53,430

In addition to the expenditure shown, various sums have been advanced from loans and votes for the purpose of aiding closer settlement, for the resumption of mallee lands, for relief to farmers on account of bush fires and flood losses, and for purchase of seed wheat and fodder, which advances are gradually being repaid.

The loan expenditure in 1915-16 was £86,938 on account of closer settlement, and £3,078 on account of wire netting.

AGRICULTURAL AND HORTICULTURAL SOCIETIES.

Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, founded on the principle of voluntary membership, and having for their object the improvement of the agricultural, pastoral, and horticultural industries, have been established throughout the State. Ninety-five agricultural societies furnished returns for the year 1916, in regard to which condensed particulars are set out below:—

AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES, 1912 TO 1916.

Societies.	Area of Grounds.	Number of Members.	Government Grant.	Total Receipts (including Government Grant).	Total Expenditure.	Bank Overdraft and Loan Liability.
	Acres.		£	£	£	£
Royal (Melbourne) ...	48	2,001	675	29,722	24,335	44,951
Ballarat ...	10	70	81	179	291	618
Benalla ...	12	304	46	855	836	727
Bendigo ...	10	300	...	1,540	1,830	290
Colac ...	12	310	66	1,070	1,070	161
Hamilton ...	21	260	3	1,060	1,060	100
Horsham and Wimmera	29	560	...	1,383	894	997
Korumburra ...	16	223	43	704	640	886
Ovens and Murray ...	39	277	2	1,102	1,164	468
Shepparton ...	24	431	...	1,692	1,603	2,604
Others ...	1,220	10,699	700	27,409	26,734	14,687
Total, 1916 ...	1,441	15,435	1,616	66,716	60,457	66,489
Total, 1915 ...	1,666	15,726	3,253	53,204	62,971	65,213
Total, 1914 ...	1,748	19,118	4,022	72,339	82,707	40,715
Total, 1913 ...	1,637	19,916	3,496	78,770	78,708	30,358
Total, 1912 ...	1,774	21,382	2,837	72,214	74,069	28,183

The Horticultural Societies furnishing returns for 1916 numbered 40, their membership being 3,235, the receipts for the year £4,037 (including Government grant £29), the expenditure £3,702, and the liability on account of loans and bank overdraft £1,189.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA.

(Special Article contributed by the Victorian Department of Agriculture.)

Agriculture. Some 66 years ago, the attention of the world was suddenly focussed on the young colony of Victoria. Gold had been discovered, and stories of the untold wealth to be easily won from the soil were attracting enterprising and adventurous souls from all parts of the globe. So great was this influx that at the end of 1857 the population numbered 463,135, or more than six times that of 1850—the year before gold was discovered.

Since then Victoria has never looked back, although the mining industry has declined. The once eager gold-seekers and their descendants have turned their attention to agriculture. They have discovered a new and inexhaustible store of wealth in the large tracts of rich virgin soil.

From our Victorian wheat fields alone we have reaped during the past two years more wealth than was ever dug out of Victorian mines during any two years of their history. The aggregate wheat production of Victoria for 1915 and 1916 was 110 million bushels, worth at the ship's side £27,000,000. Our total wealth from primary production in 1915 was £35,000,000 sterling.

With mining, the more wealth taken from the soil, the less remains to be extracted. With agriculture, however, if carried out in conformity with the teachings of modern science, the more wealth won from the soil by cropping, the more wealth remains to be extracted; for, with scientific methods of cultivation, liberal fertilization of the soil, and judicious rotation of crops, the soil must get richer and more productive and wealth producing as the years roll by.

To-day not only wheat-growing, but also stock raising, dairying, and fruit production are in a flourishing condition, and irrigation and intense culture have progressed at such a pace that Victoria is known as the Garden State of Australia.

The agriculture of the country, having passed through the "pastoral" era, has now reached a stage in which good farming in the highest sense of the word has replaced the pioneering methods of the early days.

Climate and Rainfall. Victoria in its position at the south-eastern corner of Australia enjoys a most salubrious and equable climate, and, generally speaking, it may be regarded as a country of ample rainfall. North of the Dividing Range the bulk of the rain falls in the winter and spring months (May to October), whilst in the south the rainfall is more uniformly distributed throughout the year.

The type of climate is reflected in the methods of agriculture that are in vogue, and for the principal crops harvest time is accompanied by fine, dry weather and long days.

The distribution of the rain over the whole of the country is not equal, though it is well defined. A glance at a relief map of Victoria will show that there is a well-marked back-bone of mountain ranges,

and it is this feature, together with the coastline, that controls the distribution. The isohyets, or lines of equal rainfall, roughly follow the coast, but the influence of the elevated country is responsible for a greatly increased precipitation in its vicinity.

There is a belt of some 12,000 square miles, mostly rugged, which is most subject to this influence; here the annual rainfall is from 40 inches upwards. In the valleys and rich flats almost anything can be grown, and several rivers with a network of tributaries spring from these tree-clad hills and traverse the country in all directions. The waters of these rivers are being utilized to irrigate increasing areas of fertile soils in the drier parts. Further out from the hills, but subject to their influence, is a belt of country of 28,000 square miles in area, which enjoys a rainfall of between 25 and 40 inches. Dependent on the soil almost any type of crop can be grown there, but only the richer portions have so far been developed. Sheep raising and dairying flourish.

There is next a belt of 27,000 square miles with a 15 to 25 inch precipitation, and, lastly, a belt in the extreme north-west, comprising 20,000 square miles with less than 15 inches but more than 10 inches annually. The two areas comprise the great wheat belt of Victoria, and with them the rainfall may be said to be the determining factor in production.

The wetter of the two is essentially a safe area, and has long been settled, and the factors for successful wheat cultivation are thoroughly understood. Wheat and sheep raising are worked together, the ground is systematically fallowed, and the use of superphosphate manure is general. A settled system of rotation farming is gradually being evolved, and in every way agriculture is on a sound footing.

The drier of the two areas, known as the Mallee, was long thought to be arid waste, but within the last decade it has become one of the principal wheat-producing areas of the State. The Mallee is subject to periodical droughts, but, with the use of better farming methods, the influence of that factor is becoming minimized.

The conditions in the great wheat belt, especially in the Mallee, lend themselves to the use of large implements, and crops are seeded and harvested at a very low expense ratio, notwithstanding the high price of labour.

Situated between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude, and receiving a rainfall which averages about 24 inches for the whole State, but which varies according to locality from 10 up to 60 inches annually, Victoria can produce almost any crop that grows in temperate latitudes.

Out of a total of 56 million acres, so far only 12 per cent. is under cultivation, but some idea of the possibilities may be obtained when it is stated that large tracts of the most fertile soil are at present devoted merely to grazing sheep on the natural grass.

Wheat, grown for export, is the principal crop, and one-half of the total area under cultivation is devoted to that cereal. In 1916-17,

**Crops
produced.**

there were more than 3 million acres under wheat, yielding some 51 million bushels.

The factors for the successful cultivation of wheat, namely, early fallowing, liberal dressings of superphosphate manure, systematic crop rotation and the working in of wheat and sheep are well understood, while the use of labour-saving devices, such as multiple ploughs and drills, is universal. The long dry summer has led to the invention and perfection of the combined harvester, an implement with which one man can strip, thresh, winnow, and bag ready for the sewer up to 200 bags of wheat in a day. *Federation*, a cross-bred wheat produced by the late Wm. Farrer, is the chief variety grown.

There are over a million acres sown to grass, and nearly 2 million acres are fallowed annually in preparation for the succeeding crop, which is usually of wheat. Oats and barley receive a much smaller amount of attention, but large quantities of cereal hay, chiefly wheaten and oaten, are cut for horse feed. The staple diet of horses is chaffed cereal hay, either wheaten or oaten, together with a ration of oats. About 60 thousand acres are usually devoted to potatoes, while there are nearly 80 thousand acres of orchards. The advent of irrigation has greatly increased the number of orchards during the last few years, and a steady and growing export trade is being developed.

Agricultural Districts. Victoria may, for the purpose of describing its agriculture, be divided into eight districts, named respectively the Central, North Central, Western, Wimmera, Mallee, Northern, North Eastern, and Gippsland districts.

This division, though merely an arbitrary one used for statistical purposes, effectively separates a number of districts which differ largely in rainfall, soil condition, proximity to market and, consequently, in the style of agriculture in vogue.

The Western district, mostly of rich soil, and enjoying an ample rainfall, is the premier dairying district, while the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern districts comprise the wheat-growing areas. Gippsland, as yet not so fully developed as the rest, has a higher rainfall, and dairying and cattle raising are profitably carried on there.

Taking each district in turn:—

The Central District.

The rainfall ranges from 20 to 60 inches per annum; the higher rainfall occurs in the more rugged areas. This district is closest to the Melbourne market, and it grows one-third of the barley and peas produced, 40 per cent. of the potatoes, and 20 per cent. of the hay. Fruit growing and market gardening pay well in suitable localities. Dairying is also extensively carried on, and in some portions of the district there are large numbers of sheep.

The district includes three distinct types of soil:—(1) Hill country containing sedimentary, metamorphic and granitic rocks, and soils derived from them. These are in general poor soils, but are peculiarly suited to fruit growing. They are capable of improvement with the

plough and with stock. The soils are rich in potash, but poor in nitrogen and phosphoric acid. Oats and green fodders do well. (2) Coastal plain country of tertiary formation. For the most part this is light sandy loam, which is sometimes black in colour. Many parts require draining and sweetening with the plough. It responds readily to manure. (3) Volcanic land, of which there are two kinds, viz. :—

- (a) Friable loam, produced by lighter materials from old volcanoes.
- (b) Heavy clay loams intersected by reefs of basalt, and covered with floaters, and containing buckshot. When phosphoric acid is added, good wheat crops are obtained.

North Central District. This district is similar to the Central district, and contains hill soils; also a little of the tertiary soils of the northern areas. In places volcanic soil is present. This district grows about one-sixth of the potatoes produced in the State, and one-twelfth of the barley. The area embraces some rugged country. The grazing of sheep is one of the chief pursuits, but dairying and pig raising are also carried on extensively.

Western District. This district comprises for the most part rich volcanic undulating plains, often stretching for miles without a break. The country receives an adequate rainfall, and the native herbage is most prolific. The pastoral industry is the most important, and the best wool in the State is produced here. This is also the premier dairying district, and produces more than one-fourth of the total potato crop and one-seventh of the hay. Onions do well on the best land. On the open plain country, notably around Lismore, there is an area which has a rather lighter rainfall than most of the district. Recently wheat growing has been successfully developed in this area.

Wimmera District. This district is eminently suited for wheat growing, one-third of the total crop being produced here. It has an average rainfall of from 15 to 20 inches. The soil is a splendid red chocolate or grey loam, and the lime in the soil increases towards the west. The lighter loams of the Wimmera (and the same is true of the Mallee) have a greater percentage of available plant food than the stiffer soils of the Goulburn Valley. The addition of phosphates makes a large difference to the yield. Besides wheat, this district grows about one-fourth of the total oats and one-seventh of the total hay produced in the State. A four-course system of rotation farming has been evolved, known as the Wimmera rotation—bare fallow is followed by wheat, then oats, then pasture. Sheep are extensively grazed on the stubble, and lamb raising for export is producing very satisfactory results in combination with wheat growing.

Mallo District. The rainfall is the lowest in the State, and ranges from 15 inches down to 10 inches annually. The soil of this district is a light sandy loam, which in the poorer spots becomes nearly pure sand. The character of the surface is undulating, which has been brought about by the shifting of the sandy surface soils by wind action. The soil is very easy to cultivate, and is extremely responsive to moisture and manure. With good farming excellent crops of wheat may be grown, and, although it is the latest district to be opened up, it supplied more than one-third of the wheat and 10 per cent. of the oats produced in the State in 1916-17.

Northern District. This district has tertiary and alluvial soil. It is characterised by alternate hills of timber and plain land, and is a good wheat-producing district. The rainfall varies from 20 to 25 inches, and a variety of products is grown, including one-fourth of the wheat and oats of the State, and about one-sixth of the hay. In addition, fruit growing is extensively carried on, and irrigation farming is developing rapidly.

North-Eastern District. The district contains the same tertiary soil as the Northern district, but it also has a large mountainous area with a high rainfall. The valleys are very fertile and are well adapted for intense culture. Wheat is grown to a small extent, also hay and oats. Vineyards and orchards are doing well. Sheep and cattle are extensively bred. The river valleys produce good tobacco, the bulk of that produced in the State being grown there.

Gippsland. This area has a variety of soils ranging from coastal plain land to volcanic hill country, and, in places, rich alluvial valleys and flats. The rainfall is high, varying from 25 to 60 inches, and, in many parts, the country is very mountainous. The district is not so well opened up as the rest of the State, but it is producing largely maize and potatoes. Dairying and sheep and cattle breeding are extensively carried on.

LIVE STOCK.

Side by side with the development of agriculture came a steady increase in the number of live stock. This has been accompanied by a gradual change in the economic relation in which they stand to the other primary industries of the State.

In the initial stages of settlement it was found that the mild climate and the splendid native herbage rendered it possible to tend, with a minimum of labour, large numbers of sheep, cattle, and horses.

These animals required no housing nor hand-feeding whatever, and so profitable was this early pastoral industry that large tracts

of virgin country were taken up by "squatters," and flocks of from 10 to 50 thousand sheep were not uncommon.

The number of livestock under these conditions increased enormously. Gradually it was found, however, that much better returns per acre were obtained by the growing of cereal crops and by the adoption of a more intensive type of production. Large tracts of country which had previously supported only the roaming sheep or the wandering steer proved ideal for wheat, a commodity which rapidly established itself on the world's markets. Land values inevitably rose, and this led to the cutting up and pushing back of the great sheep and cattle runs.

The year 1891 saw the successful initiation of the use of cool storage in the overseas export trade, and by it the dairying, pig raising, and frozen mutton industries were placed on a sound business footing.

The march of agriculture and the cutting up of the large pastoral estates, contrary to what might have been anticipated, have not diminished the number of live stock carried, but have rather increased it. Mixed farming has proved to be most profitable, and, with the increase of animals on the farm, farmers have been able to maintain their land in a condition of maximum fertility.

The increase in numbers of live stock has not been without marked improvement in the quality, for breeders have not hesitated to import from time to time the best English blood to improve their studs, and it is not too much to say that to-day there are in Australia, and in Victoria in particular, studs of horses, cattle, and sheep, that compare very favorably with any in the world.

Horses. With horse-racing as a national pastime, it is not strange that great interest should be taken in the breeding of light horses. The foundation of the light horse stock of the State is the English thoroughbred, and not only have the bone and stamina of the imported horses been maintained, but Australian thoroughbreds have frequently competed on favourable terms with horses in the old country, while, in India and other Eastern countries, Australian thoroughbreds and remounts have proved superior to those from the United Kingdom.

The Clydesdale, and, to a lesser extent, the Shire breeds, are used for general farm work. The majority of farmers breed their own horses, and it is usual for them to do the bulk of the work on the farm with the breeding mares and the young horses of from three to five years old. During this time the young horses are steadily appreciating in value, and at five years old they are sold in the open market to cartage contractors and for export to neighbouring States.

A factor which has latterly contributed to the maintaining of the standard of horses, both light and draught, is the legislation resulting in the issuing of a certificate of soundness and approval in respect of all sires found free from hereditary unsoundness and being of a reasonable standard as regards breed, type, and conformation.

Sheep.

The sheep industry easily ranks first in respect of the returns received. From the sheep in the State about 100,000,000 lbs. of wool are now obtained, worth in the open market of the world about 6 millions sterling. The quality of this wool is second to none. In normal times buyers from all quarters of the globe attend wool sales in Australia, and there is keen competition. For high-class wool the merino is the predominant breed, but latterly there has been a strong demand for crossbred wool, which has consequently appreciated in value. The merino yields the finest and most valuable wool that can be produced, and on it Australia has built up its reputation as the first wool-producing country in the world. The Victorian climate appears to be particularly suitable for this breed, and it has attained a robustness of constitution, an increase of body weight, and a prolificacy in growth of wool far surpassing its progenitors in Spain or the same breed in any other country to which it has been introduced.

The merino is mostly confined to the large stations, where excellence of the clip is the chief desideratum, but on farms it is found more profitable to combine wool production with the raising of lambs for export. For this purpose a sheep of a more robust type than the merino is desirable, and it is found that, by crossing the merino with the Lincoln or either of the Leicester breeds, a strong-constituted, large-framed sheep that still carries a good wool is produced.

A favourite sheep of this class is the comeback. This is really a three-quarter merino, obtained by first crossing Lincoln rams on merino ewes, followed by a merino ram on the progeny. Comebacks give a very good clip of excellent and very saleable wool, and their frame and flesh are much in advance of the pure merino for mutton. A farmer's flock of comebacks will clip on the average 7 lbs. per head and will lamb between 80 per cent. and 90 per cent.

For the production of early lambs, the Shropshire, Suffolk, and South Down crosses are useful, for, although they are inferior in wool, they more than make up that loss in prolificacy and in early maturity of lambs. The Romney Marsh have proved very suitable for wet localities.

Cattle. Large stations where cattle raising for beef is carried on are now few and far between in Victoria. Nevertheless there are some famous Shorthorn, Hereford, and Polled Angus studs in the State that were founded in the pre-dairying days, and which have been maintained at such a high standard of excellence as to command the confidence and patronage of breeders throughout the Commonwealth.

Though few beef cattle are bred in Victoria, large numbers of stores from Queensland and other States are fattened annually for the metropolitan market on the native grasses.

Dairy Cattle. So far dairying has been confined to the richer country where the cows are fed on the natural pastures, but latterly much attention has been paid to the production of extra feed, with a consequent increase in the milk yield.

In the early days of settlement the cattle of the State were mainly Shorthorns and Herefords, and even to-day a strain of milking Shorthorn is very popular, especially in the richer districts. On lighter land and on small farms Ayrshires and Jerseys and lightweight crossbred stock are in more general use. The Ayrshire has become very popular during recent years, and the breeding of pure stock is now general. The dairying industry, with its steady weekly returns, has become increasingly popular for the man with small capital who is making a start on the land. This has been especially so since the advent of irrigation.

On large dairy farms the labour trouble is always a difficulty, but this has been overcome by the use of the milking machine and by what is known as the "share" system. Under this system the land, capital, stock, and implements are supplied by the owner, and the share-partner and his family supply the labour.

Systematic improvement in the quality of the dairy stock has taken place, and there is now a Government system of testing pedigree herds throughout the State, whereby accurate records of the milk yield and butter fat production of pure-bred cows are obtained. This information is useful to the breeders whose herds are tested, and, when published, forms a reliable guide to dairymen purchasing pure stock for mating with their ordinary dairy stock.

Pigs. Pig raising is the chief adjunct to the dairy farm, but the prices are subject to a good deal of fluctuation, owing to the fact that there is no extensive export trade. The Berkshire, Middle York, Large York, and Tamworth are the breeds kept. They are popular in the order given. Crosses between the Berkshire and the Middle York and between the Berkshire and Large York are very popular.

Agriculture and grazing, mining, and manufactures have been the three great sources of wealth to Victoria. Her development commenced with mining, owing to the richness of her gold deposits. Her future, however, largely depends on the developments possible in agriculture. If the agricultural resources are fully developed, we shall be able to carry in comfort a large population, and build up numerous profitable manufactures.

AGRICULTURE.

Progress of cultivation.

All divisions of the State are suitable for cultivation, but the Wimmera, Mallee, Northern, and Western are the principal wheat-growing districts and furnish about 95 per cent. of the total area under this crop. It was only comparatively recently that the Mallee was devoted to agriculture and that a new, fertile and important wheat area was added to the resources of the State. The addition of this district is due to the fact

that good and payable wheat returns are obtainable with a rainfall which was at one time considered to be wholly inadequate, to the extension of railway lines and to the great improvements in agricultural machinery. Its growing importance is indicated by figures for recent periods which show that of the wheat produced in the State the proportion obtained from the Mallee was nearly 37 per cent. in 1916-17, as against slightly less than 5 per cent. in 1891-2. The area under cultivation in the Mallee last season was 1,859,144 acres, or about 28 per cent. of the total for the State.

Statistics show that the increase in agricultural activities has been fairly general throughout the State. The area cultivated in 1916-17 was 6,750,894 acres as against an annual average of 3,860,108 acres for the seasons 1900-05 and 2,648,213 acres for the seasons 1890-95. Notwithstanding the great increase in the area cultivated the dairying and pastoral industries show a considerable expansion. The value of butter and cheese exported to oversea countries increased from £537,978 in 1893 to £2,280,700 in 1916-17, while the value of oversea exports of frozen meat increased from £74,732 to £630,494 in the same period.

The increase in cultivation has been associated with new and improved farming methods. The chief of these are the practice of fallowing, the use of fertilizers, the selection of suitable seeds and the increasing attention given to crop rotation. The more general adoption of improved methods in recent years has contributed greatly to the production of the State. The following table shows the progress of cultivation from period to period during the past 62 years :—

ACREAGE CULTIVATED ANNUALLY 1855 to 1917.

Period ended March.	Crop, Annual Average.	Fallow, Annual Average.	Total Cultivation, Annual Average.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1855-60	233,245	3,444	236,689
1860-65	418,108	20,848	438,956
1865-70	548,952	40,693	589,645
1870-75	699,802	73,855	773,657
1875-80	982,421	103,958	1,086,379
1880-85	1,631,420	171,114	1,802,534
1885-90	1,986,028	312,976	2,299,004
1890-95	2,232,625	415,538	2,648,213
1895-1900	2,838,381	395,734	3,234,115
1900-05	3,207,447	652,661	3,860,108
1905-10	3,375,273	1,029,071	4,404,344
1910-11	3,952,070	1,434,177	5,386,247
1911-12	3,640,241	1,469,608	5,109,849
1912-13	4,079,356	1,627,223	5,706,579
1913-14	4,391,321	1,738,572	6,129,893
1914-15	4,622,759	1,346,545	5,969,304
1915-16	5,711,265	1,358,343	7,069,608
1916-17	4,851,335	1,899,559	6,750,894

The principal crops grown in the State are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and hay. The annual acreage of these for five-year periods from 1855 to 1910 and for each of the last seven seasons are given in the next table:—

ANNUAL ACREAGE OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS 1855 TO 1917.

Period ended March.	Average Annual Area of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1855-60 ..	79,079	50,148	3,723	21,129	70,489
1860-65 ..	158,923	116,444	5,963	27,118	89,746
1865-70 ..	230,505	123,435	16,024	35,460	110,293
1870-75 ..	325,650	135,334	22,501	38,028	124,493
1875-80 ..	537,238	129,317	28,354	38,517	170,777
1880-85 ..	1,014,824	165,369	54,022	39,661	282,774
1885-90 ..	1,140,327	206,962	65,267	46,210	434,175
1890-95 ..	1,332,675	214,840	63,354	49,808	440,000
1895-1900 ..	1,794,131	301,317	61,090	45,669	495,337
1900-05 ..	2,002,429	380,597	44,568	44,817	585,608
1905-10 ..	1,965,320	379,078	56,016	52,897	743,167
1910-11 ..	2,398,089	392,681	52,687	62,904	832,669
1911-12 ..	2,164,066	302,238	53,541	47,692	860,205
1912-13 ..	2,085,216	439,242	71,631	47,575	1,203,728
1913-14 ..	2,565,861	442,060	83,351	74,574	977,684
1914-15 ..	2,863,535	434,815	62,492	65,495	895,755
1915-16 ..	3,679,971	353,932	61,400	56,910	1,330,455
1916-17 ..	3,125,692	441,598	93,015	73,618	897,186

Production
of Principal
Crops.

The annual production of the five principal crops for quinquennial periods from 1855 to 1910 and for each of the last seven seasons was as follows:—

ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS 1855 TO 1917.

Period ended March.	Average Annual Production of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	tons.	tons.
1855-60 ..	1,734,895	1,444,018	97,042	61,048	110,220
1860-65 ..	2,662,854	2,693,278	110,108	64,399	113,392
1865-70 ..	4,298,676	2,902,655	352,265	99,490	149,110
1870-75 ..	4,472,952	2,370,839	428,410	124,110	158,594
1875-80 ..	6,547,299	2,688,761	618,456	128,156	219,352
1880-85 ..	10,639,318	3,906,176	981,421	143,073	334,190
1885-90 ..	10,948,554	4,391,916	1,209,948	164,068	504,758
1890-95 ..	13,589,257	4,906,870	1,164,066	177,743	589,427
1895-1900 ..	11,631,934	5,229,188	973,661	133,122	563,809
1900-05 ..	16,432,357	8,069,719	921,499	135,593	782,155
1905-10 ..	22,052,448	8,063,570	1,182,288	149,022	1,006,061
1910-11 ..	34,813,019	9,699,127	1,340,387	163,312	1,292,410
1911-12 ..	20,891,877	4,585,326	1,024,584	119,092	1,032,288
1912-13 ..	26,223,104	8,323,639	1,744,527	191,112	1,572,933
1913-14 ..	32,936,245	8,890,321	1,812,890	176,602	1,350,374
1914-15 ..	3,940,947	1,608,419	600,599	189,225	568,956
1915-16 ..	58,521,706	9,328,894	1,734,511	173,821	2,312,094
1916-17 ..	51,162,438	8,289,289	1,799,784	187,992	1,232,721

Principal
crops in
Districts.

The percentage of total area under the principal crops in each district during last season was as given below :—

PERCENTAGE OF AREA IN EACH DISTRICT TO TOTAL AREA
UNDER EACH OF THE PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1916-17.

District.	Percentage in each District of Area under—						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Other Crops.	Fallow.
Central ..	1·35	10·97	36·65	43·69	20·87	35·23	3·26
North-Central	·91	5·38	6·65	16·22	7·16	3·23	1·05
Western ..	5·26	14·04	23·90	18·31	12·41	8·06	5·98
Wimmera ..	22·61	27·43	2·59	·47	15·41	2·49	34·38
Mallee ..	39·85	11·20	4·88	·01	14·93	8·24	21·44
Northern ..	27·17	23·56	15·54	·16	18·25	15·01	32·28
North-Eastern	2·17	5·35	1·18	2·74	4·94	8·14	1·32
Gippsland ..	·68	2·07	8·61	18·40	6·03	19·60	·29

NOTE.—For counties contained in each District, see table on page 721.

This statement shows that during last season 89 per cent. of the area under wheat was in the Wimmera, Mallee and Northern districts; 51 per cent. of that under oats was in the Wimmera and Northern districts; 60 per cent. of that under barley was in the Central and Western districts, and 96 per cent. of that under potatoes was in the Central, North-Central, Western and Gippsland districts. Hay was more uniformly cultivated over the whole State, though the proportion was somewhat small in the North-Central, North-Eastern and Gippsland districts. The Central district accounted for more than one-third of the area under minor crops, principally through a much larger area being used there for gardens and orchards and for peas than in other portions of the State. The fallowing of land is confined mainly to the wheat-growing districts.

The area under the principal crops in proportion to the cultivation in each district during last season was as follows:—

PERCENTAGE OF AREA UNDER PRINCIPAL CROPS TO TOTAL CULTIVATION IN EACH DISTRICT, 1916-17.

District.	Percentage of Total Cultivation under—						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.	Other Crops.	Fallow.
Central	8·73	10·01	7·04	6·65	38·71	16·04	12·82
North-Central ..	17·52	14·69	3·82	7·39	39·78	4·40	12·40
Western	32·59	12·28	4·40	2·67	22·05	3·52	22·49
Wimmera	43·43	7·44	·15	·02	8·49	·34	40·13
Mallee	67·01	2·66	·24	..	7·20	·98	21·91
Northern	47·77	5·85	·82	·01	9·21	1·86	34·49
North-Eastern ..	37·29	13·00	·60	1·11	24·37	9·86	13·77
Gippsland	13·71	5·92	5·18	8·77	34·99	27·93	3·50
Total of Victoria ..	46·30	6·54	1·38	1·09	13·29	3·26	28·14

NOTE.—For counties contained in each District, see table on page 721.

It is apparent that cultivation was confined mainly to wheat in the Wimmera, Mallee and Northern districts, and to wheat and hay in the Western and North-Eastern districts, and largely to hay in the Central and North-Central districts, and to hay and minor crops in the Gippsland district.

The area and produce of the principal crops per head of population are given in the next table for the past sixteen years.

AREA AND PRODUCTION PER HEAD OF POPULATION OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1901-2 to 1916-17.

Year ended March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Area per Head of Population.				
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1902	1·45	·27	·03	·03	·54
1903	1·65	·36	·03	·04	·48
1904	1·62	·36	·04	·04	·61
1905	1·88	·28	·04	·04	·37
1906	1·70	·26	·03	·04	·49
1907	1·66	·31	·04	·04	·51
1908	1·47	·32	·05	·04	·54
1909	1·40	·33	·05	·04	·75
1910	1·63	·30	·05	·05	·67
1911	1·83	·30	·04	·05	·64
1912	1·62	·23	·04	·04	·64
1913	1·54	·32	·05	·03	·89
1914	1·84	·32	·06	·05	·70
1915	2·01	·31	·04	·05	·63
1916	2·58	·25	·04	·04	·93
1917	2·22	·31	·07	·05	·64

AREA AND PRODUCTION PER HEAD OF POPULATION OF FIVE
PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1901-2 TO 1916-17—*continued.*

Year ended March.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	Produce per Head of Population.				
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1902	10·01	5·56	·57	·10	·73
1903	2·12	3·63	·46	·14	·50
1904	23·60	11·11	1·01	·14	1·02
1905	17·47	5·14	·72	·08	·42
1906	19·22	5·94	·87	·10	·71
1907	18·43	7·21	1·02	·14	·72
1908	9·62	4·13	·84	·11	·54
1909	18·33	8·74	1·19	·12	1·11
1910	22·42	6·16	·80	·14	·92
1911	26·63	7·42	1·03	·13	·99
1912	15·62	3·43	·77	·09	·77
1913	19·36	6·15	1·29	·14	1·16
1914	23·64	6·38	1·30	·13	·97
1915	2·77	1·13	·42	·13	·40
1916	41·04	6·54	1·22	·12	1·64
1917	36·30	5·88	1·28	·13	·87

Except in the three seasons 1895-6, 1902-3, and 1914-15, the wheat produced during each year since 1870 has been more than sufficient to supply home consumption.

The following table gives the annual values of the five principal crops, based upon prices realized upon farms, for each of the past ten years; also the value of each crop per acre on the average of the five years 1910-14 and for the years 1915 and 1916:—

VALUES OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS.

Year.	Annual Value of—				
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Potatoes.	Hay.
	£	£	£	£	£
1907	2,443,906	791,162	241,507	383,145	3,023,128
1908	4,405,303	989,844	253,309	411,840	3,256,308
1909	5,501,605	777,547	165,181	517,775	2,432,840
1910	5,512,060	909,295	227,332	534,515	2,455,560
1911	3,547,266	663,916	261,443	614,540	3,200,109
1912	4,343,202	953,750	332,430	678,448	4,010,979
1913	5,352,141	777,903	236,804	573,227	2,565,740
1914	1,391,647	397,078	161,899	800,269	4,181,827
1915	10,972,820	942,607	294,597	1,017,563	4,098,664
1916	10,232,488	828,929	299,481	550,086	2,033,990
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Value per acre 1910-14 average	1 13 4	1 16 10	3 15 5	10 14 8	3 8 10
Value per acre 1915	2 19 7	2 13 3	4 16 0	17 17 7	3 1 7
„ „ 1916	3 5 6	1 17 6	3 4 5	7 9 5	2 5 4

The value of the five principal crops was £13,944,974 in 1916, as against £17,326,251 in 1915, and £8,936,686 on the average of the five years 1910 to 1914.

On the experience of the past five seasons the area under wheat for grain represented 60 per cent. of the total under crop. The area harvested for, and the production of wheat last season were the second largest recorded, and the yield per acre was the highest experienced in the State since 1872-3. The acreage under wheat for grain, the total production, and the yield per acre are given in the next table for quinquennial periods from 1860 to 1905, and for each of the past twelve seasons:—

WHEAT PRODUCTION, 1860 TO 1917.

Season ended March.				Wheat.		
				Acres, Annual Average.	Total Production, Annual Average.	Yield per Acre.
				Bushels.	Bushels.	
1860-65	..	..	..	153,923	2,662,854	16·76
1865-70	..	..	..	230,505	4,298,676	18·65
1870-75	..	..	..	325,650	4,472,952	13·74
1875-80	..	..	..	537,238	6,547,299	12·19
1880-85	..	..	..	1,014,824	10,639,318	10·48
1885-90	..	..	..	1,140,327	10,948,554	9·60
1890-95	..	..	..	1,332,675	13,589,257	10·20
1895-1900	..	..	..	1,794,131	11,631,934	6·48
1900-1905	..	..	..	2,002,429	16,432,357	8·21
1906	..	..	..	2,070,517	23,417,670	11·31
1907	..	..	..	2,031,893	22,618,043	11·13
1908	..	..	..	1,847,121	12,100,780	6·55
1909	..	..	..	1,779,905	23,345,649	13·12
1910	..	..	..	2,097,162	28,780,100	13·72
1911	..	..	..	2,398,089	34,813,019	14·52
1912	..	..	..	2,164,066	20,891,877	9·65
1913	..	..	..	2,085,216	26,223,104	12·58
1914	..	..	..	2,565,861	32,936,245	12·84
1915	..	..	..	2,863,535	3,940,947	1·38
1916	..	..	..	3,679,971	58,521,706	15·90
1917	..	..	..	3,125,692	51,162,438	16·37

Although a large area in districts of limited rainfall has been brought under cultivation for wheat growing during late years, the yield per acre for the State on the average of the past twelve seasons was 11·67 bushels, which is better than the corresponding averages for periods back to 1880. This satisfactory result is largely due to the use of more prolific varieties of seed and to the more general practice of fallowing and fertilizing. In addition to the area shown for grain, 195,532 acres of wheat were cut for hay last season, so that the total area sown under wheat in 1916-17 was 3,321,224 acres. Early in August, 1917, it was estimated that the area under this grain 1917-18 was 2,933,600 acres—a decrease of about 388,000 acres as compared with the previous season.

Wheat growing in counties.

The principal wheat growing areas are the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern districts. Although other districts provide only small proportions of the area they are not to be regarded as unsuitable for wheat growing, as their average yield per acre is usually greater than in the areas mentioned. The production of wheat in different counties for each of the past three seasons is shown in the following table :—

WHEAT YIELDS IN COUNTIES FOR THE LAST THREE SEASONS.

Districts and Counties.	Year ended March.								
	Area.			Produce.			Average per Acre.		
	1915.	1916.	1917.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1915.	1916.	1917.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bush.	Bush.	Bush.
Central—									
Bourke ..	4,658	9,238	13,800	45,276	185,479	177,699	9.72	20.08	12.88
Grant ..	9,655	21,241	25,468	59,484	421,775	369,745	6.16	19.86	14.51
Mornington..	507	1,592	2,264	8,922	30,312	7,671	17.60	19.04	3.39
Evelyn ..	144	364	688	1,791	7,257	3,852	12.44	19.94	5.60
North-Central—									
Anglesey ..	2,730	3,887	2,404	4,539	74,504	29,850	1.66	19.17	12.42
Dalhousie ..	3,705	7,310	4,116	26,361	147,034	59,332	7.11	20.11	14.41
Talbot ..	19,378	27,659	21,794	59,565	555,143	390,738	3.07	20.07	17.93
Western—									
Grenville ..	28,944	41,153	40,213	291,907	866,497	443,991	10.09	21.06	11.04
Polwarth ..	53	606	1,126	7,444	13,604	14,869	8.38	22.45	13.21
Heytesbury	95	91	122	1,444	1,514	1,766	15.20	16.64	14.48
Hampten ..	18,266	23,218	31,216	234,443	597,211	356,277	12.83	21.16	11.41
Ripon ..	69,302	84,202	74,491	343,364	1,816,962	993,144	5.03	21.58	13.33
Villiers ..	2,103	3,458	2,854	14,692	58,748	37,860	6.99	16.99	13.27
Normanby ..	1,034	1,684	2,158	11,090	26,375	31,574	11.60	15.66	14.63
Dundas ..	9,632	12,936	11,671	68,651	151,259	143,103	7.13	11.69	12.26
Follett ..	409	627	709	3,128	11,285	14,975	7.65	18.00	21.12
Wimmera—									
Lowan ..	180,777	245,654	179,678	331,734	4,123,207	3,221,407	1.84	16.78	17.93
Borong ..	390,951	540,538	377,319	372,455	10,417,851	8,485,152	*95	19.27	22.49
Kara Kara ..	159,767	204,592	149,700	174,463	3,961,735	2,942,951	1.09	19.36	19.66
Mallee—									
Millewa ..	1,590	1,895	2,935	833	15,477	45,372	*52	8.17	15.46
Weeah ..	180,537	222,972	232,409	32,452	2,733,097	3,384,045	*18	12.26	14.56
Karkaroc ..	497,189	607,373	595,041	174,612	6,454,452	3,793,665	*35	10.62	14.78
Tatchera ..	333,682	442,382	415,376	124,989	4,464,336	6,563,338	*37	10.09	15.30
Northern—									
Gunbower ..	63,413	67,785	63,365	14,473	1,039,108	1,007,076	*23	15.33	15.89
Gladstone ..	149,919	176,646	143,547	227,431	3,169,007	2,742,139	*52	17.94	19.10
Bendigo ..	182,890	206,309	183,847	130,927	3,956,310	3,145,598	*72	19.18	17.11
Rodney ..	145,087	186,466	150,018	154,982	3,756,512	2,203,710	*05	20.15	14.69
Moir ..	337,485	426,410	308,378	687,557	7,623,010	4,454,077	*74	17.88	14.44
North-Eastern—									
Delatite ..	14,642	24,971	19,445	75,721	412,773	224,276	5.17	16.53	11.53
Bogong ..	44,942	60,460	47,024	209,560	979,887	520,379	4.66	16.21	11.07
Woomamba ..	196	1,012	1,296	1,955	17,021	22,012	9.97	16.82	16.98
Woomangatta	12	15	38	91	225	540	7.58	15.06	14.21
Gippsland—									
Croajingolong	21	36	57	280	1,021	912	13.33	28.36	16.00
Tambo ..	457	668	653	8,992	11,257	10,275	19.63	16.85	15.04
Dargo ..	492	738	873	8,448	11,196	13,365	17.17	14.21	15.31
Tanjil ..	7,798	15,135	15,983	116,733	338,158	247,102	14.97	22.34	15.46
Bun Bun ..	773	3,048	3,586	12,108	71,057	58,301	15.66	23.31	16.26
Total ..	2,863,535	3,679,971	3,125,692	3,940,947	58,521,706	51,162,438	1.38	15.90	16.37

The striking feature of the figures is the heavy yield shown for the Mallee District in 1916-17, the return per acre in that year having been greater by 57 per cent. in Tatchera, 39 per cent. in Karkaroo and 19 per cent. in Weeah than in the previous season, which was also a very favorable one.

The table which follows gives the average yield of wheat per acre in the principal wheat growing counties for each of the last ten years :—

**AVERAGE YIELD OF WHEAT PER ACRE IN WHEAT
GROWING COUNTIES, 1907-8 to 1916-17.**

District and County.	Average Yield of Wheat per Acre (in Bushels) during Year ended March.									
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Western District—										
Elpon	15·05	22·09	14·77	15·97	8·14	19·96	15·50	5·03	21·58	13·33
Wimmera District—										
Lowan	9·99	12·46	12·77	9·80	9·93	13·69	16·24	1·84	16·78	17·93
Borong	9·84	17·62	17·06	15·79	11·92	14·81	18·16	·95	19·27	22·49
Kara Kara ..	10·04	17·20	14·60	14·80	12·11	14·70	17·23	1·09	19·36	19·66
Mallee District—										
Weeah	6·23	12·01	11·66	12·52	4·95	10·03	4·89	·18	12·26	14·56
Karkaroo ..	2·51	9·11	10·17	11·41	5·84	7·58	5·44	·35	10·62	14·78
Tatchera ..	1·02	6·57	10·34	12·44	6·48	7·03	8·66	·37	10·09	15·80
Northern District—										
Gunbower ..	3·67	10·51	12·90	16·12	9·91	10·54	12·26	·23	15·33	15·89
Gladstone ..	7·64	15·19	14·28	14·15	11·63	13·00	17·38	1·52	17·94	19·10
Bendigo	6·29	15·84	16·71	18·92	12·22	14·37	15·60	·72	19·18	17·11
Rodney	7·32	15·88	15·21	15·23	11·50	14·60	14·75	1·05	20·15	14·69
Moira	5·61	10·77	14·49	16·25	10·83	14·52	16·14	1·74	17·88	14·44

The figures show that in seven of the twelve principal wheat growing counties the yields in 1916-17 were the highest recorded for the decade under review.

**Wheat
standard.**

The weight of an imperial bushel of wheat is 60 lbs., but the actual weight of a bushel of Victorian wheat of the fair average quality standard annually fixed by the

Chamber of Commerce was 62 lbs. on the average of the past ten years. The following statement shows the variation in the f.a.q. standard weight of a bushel of Victorian wheat for each season since 1900-01 :—

F.A.Q. WHEAT STANDARD, 1902 TO 1917.

Season ended March.			Weight of Bushel (f.a.q.).	Season ended March.			Weight of bushel (f.a.q.).
			lbs.				lbs.
1902..	..	..	62½	1910..	..	..	62½
1903..	..	..	61	1911..	..	..	62½
1904..	..	..	60½	1912..	..	..	61½
1905..	..	..	61½	1913..	..	..	63
1906..	..	..	63	1914..	..	..	62½
1907..	..	..	62½	1915..	..	..	62
1908..	..	..	62½	1916..	..	..	61
1909..	..	..	62½	1917..	..	..	60½

Stocks of wheat and flour.

It is estimated that about 9,500,000 bushels of wheat are required locally for food and seed. The stocks of wheat and flour in the State at 30th June, 1917, and at the same date in each of the previous seven years, were as follows :—

WHEAT AND FLOUR ON HAND, 30TH JUNE, 1910 TO 1917.

At 30th June.	Quantity in Bushels.		
	Wheat.	Flour (equivalent in Wheat).	Total.
1910	9,698,000	652,200	10,350,200
1911	15,388,600	746,400	16,135,000
1912	7,337,316	786,926	8,124,242
1913	8,780,673	585,688	9,366,361
1914	8,002,311	940,138	8,942,449
1915	582,448	510,300	1,092,748
1916	42,578,379	519,162	43,097,541
1917	63,852,078	1,078,875	64,930,953

Wheat Marketing Scheme.

Owing to the insufficiency of freight to transport the large wheat harvest of 1915-16, it became necessary for the Governments of Victoria and the other wheat-producing

States to make arrangements for marketing the grain. A scheme was therefore entered into between the Governments of the Commonwealth and of the States of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, and Western Australia, with a view to the equitable participation by all growers in the sale of the wheat crop and the proceeds thereof.

For this purpose it was decided that oversea shipping should be under the control of chartering agents appointed by the Government, and that all freights should be allotted between the States in accordance with the exportable surplus of each. It was agreed that local realizations should be controlled by local administrations in each State, subject, however, to the general control of prices by the central body.

The Australian Wheat Board, consisting of Ministerial representatives of the Commonwealth and of the States, and an elected representative of the wheat growers, Mr. Clement Giles, of South Australia, has the duty of realizing the crop overseas. Oversea sales are generally arranged by the London Wheat Committee and the States concerned, who have the advice of London representatives of certain shipping agents who constitute an Advisory Board to the Australian Wheat Board.

In this State the crop was bought by the State Government and the internal operations are controlled by a body known as the Victorian Wheat Commission. The authority under which the crop is dealt with is conferred by the *Wheat Marketing Act 1915*. The provisions of this Act were extended to cover the 1916-17 harvest and further extended to cover the 1917-18 harvest. The position of the wheat pool in regard to Victoria for the two seasons 1915-16 and 1916-17 was as follows on 30th September, 1917:—

	Season 1915-16.	Season 1916-17.
Total numberbu of shels received to 30th September, 1917	59,176,000	50,350,000
Amount paid to growers (cash at station) to 30th September, 1917	£11,594,000	£7,463,000
Total receipts for sales for both pools to 30th September, 1917	£12,792,000	
Bank overdraft at 30th September, 1917..	£1,166,000	

In connexion with the 1915-16 harvest, advances have so far been made to the extent of 4s. 6d. per bushel, from which have been deducted freight and handling charges.

Advances to the amount of 3s. per bushel have so far been paid on account of the 1916-17 harvest.

**Wheat
production
of the world.**

Reliable information relating to the wheat production of the world in 1916 is not available. In 1915 the quantity produced was 4,371,058,000 bushels as against 3,645,437,000 bushels in 1914, 4,128,711,000 bushels in 1913, 3,791,951,000 bushels in 1912, and 3,551,795,000 bushels in 1911. On the average of the five years 1911 to 1915 the production was 3,898 million bushels as compared with a yearly average yield of 3,332 million bushels in 1905-9 and 3,008 million bushels in the period 1900-4.

Oats.

In 1916-17 the area harvested for oats in Victoria was 441,598 acres, from which a yield of 8,289,289 bushels was obtained, giving an average of 18.77 bushels to the acre. The following statement shows the harvest results for this crop for each of the past twelve seasons and for five-year periods prior thereto back to 1865:—

OATS GROWN, 1865 TO 1917.

Period ended March.	Area under Crop (Annual Average)	Produce (Annual Average).	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1865-70	123,435	2,902,655	23.52
1870-75	135,334	2,370,839	17.52
1875-80	129,317	2,688,761	20.79
1880-85	165,369	3,906,176	23.62
1885-90	206,962	4,391,916	21.22
1890-95	214,840	4,906,870	22.84
1895-1900	301,317	5,229,188	17.35
1900-05	380,597	8,069,719	21.20
1906	312,052	7,232,425	23.18
1907	380,493	8,845,654	23.25
1908	398,749	5,201,408	13.04
1909	419,869	11,124,940	26.50
1910	384,226	7,913,423	20.60
1911	392,681	9,699,127	24.70
1912	302,238	4,585,326	15.17
1913	439,242	8,323,639	18.95
1914	442,060	8,890,321	20.11
1915	434,815	1,608,419	3.70
1916	353,932	9,328,894	26.36
1917	441,598	8,289,289	18.77

In addition to the area for grain shown for last season there were 672,905 acres of oats cut for hay, so that the total area sown with oats in 1916-17 was 1,114,503 acres. In August, 1917, it was estimated that the area under this grain for 1917-18 was 875,900 acres, or a decrease of about 239,000 acres as compared with the previous season. Imports into Victoria from oversea countries during 1916-17 included 1,315 bushels of oats, as well as 10,114 lbs. of oatmeal, whilst in the same year there were exported from Victoria to these countries 398,240 bushels of oats and 277,940 lbs. of oatmeal.

Barley. The area under barley in 1916-17 was 93,015 acres, of which 43,131 were under malting, and 49,884 under other

barley. The figures in the subjoined table show the acreage, production and yield per acre for the last ten years :—

CULTIVATION OF BARLEY, 1907-08 TO 1916-17.

Year ended March.	Area under Crop.		Produce.		Average per Acre.		
	Malting.	Other.	Malting.	Other.	Malting.	Other.	Total.
	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1908 ..	41,940	21,134	747,315	311,980	17·82	14·76	16·79
1909 ..	42,982	21,766	1,013,384	497,797	23·63	22·87	23·38
1910 ..	38,762	19,841	658,105	365,279	16·98	18·41	17·46
1911 ..	30,609	22,078	804,893	535,494	26·30	24·25	25·44
1912 ..	36,748	16,793	725,803	298,781	19·75	17·79	19·14
1913 ..	52,311	19,320	1,269,634	474,893	24·27	24·53	24·35
1914 ..	44,584	38,787	971,334	841,556	21·79	21·71	21·75
1915 ..	31,268	31,224	368,647	231,952	11·79	7·43	9·61
1916 ..	29,473	31,927	868,879	865,632	29·43	27·11	28·25
1917 ..	43,131	49,884	806,280	993,504	18·69	19·91	19·35

During 1916, 1,428,890 bushels of barley were used locally in the production of 1,410,270 bushels of malt.

The area planted with potatoes in 1916-17 was 73,618 acres, and the production was 187,992 tons, which represented a yield of 2·55 tons per acre as compared with 3·05 tons in the previous season and 2·89 tons in 1914-15. The following table shows the potato returns for the past twelve years and for earlier years in five-year periods back to 1860 :—

POTATO PRODUCTION, 1860 TO 1917.

Period ended June.				(Area under Crop Annual Average).	Produce (Annual Average).	Average per Acre.
				Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
1860-65 ..	..	..	..	27,118	64,399	2·37
1865-70 ..	..	..	..	35,460	99,490	2·81
1870-75 ..	..	..	..	38,028	124,110	3·26
1875-80 ..	..	..	..	38,517	128,156	3·33
1880-85 ..	..	..	..	39,661	143,073	3·61
1885-90 ..	..	..	..	46,210	164,068	3·55
1890-95 ..	..	..	..	49,808	177,743	3·57
1895-1900 ..	..	..	..	45,669	133,122	2·91
1900-05 ..	..	..	..	44,817	135,593	3·03
1906 ..	..	..	..	44,670	115,352	2·58
1907 ..	..	..	..	55,372	166,839	3·01
1908 ..	..	..	..	54,149	135,110	2·50
1909 ..	..	..	..	47,903	162,840	3·19
1910 ..	..	..	..	62,390	174,970	2·80
1911 ..	..	..	..	62,904	163,312	2·60
1912 ..	..	..	..	47,692	119,092	2·50
1913 ..	..	..	..	47,575	191,112	4·02
1914 ..	..	..	..	74,574	176,602	2·37
1915 ..	..	..	..	65,495	189,225	2·89
1916 ..	..	..	..	56,910	173,821	3·05
1917 ..	..	..	..	73,618	187,992	2·55

The estimated value of the potatoes produced last season was £550,086, as against £1,017,563 for the preceding year, and £800,269 for the year 1914-15.

Hay. In 1916 the production of hay amounted to 1,232,721 tons, as against 2,342,094 tons in the previous year and 568,956 tons in 1914. The quantity of straw returned for the season 1916-17 was 78,302 tons as against 104,495 tons for the previous year. The hay returns for five-year periods from 1860 to 1904 and for each of the past twelve seasons are shown in the following table :—

HAY PRODUCTION, 1860 TO 1916.

Period.	Area cut for Hay (Annual Average).	Produce (Annual Average).	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
1860-64	89,746	113,392	1.26
1865-69	110,293	149,110	1.35
1870-74	124,493	158,594	1.27
1875-79	170,777	219,352	1.28
1880-84	282,774	334,190	1.18
1885-89	434,175	504,758	1.16
1890-94	440,000	589,427	1.34
1895-99	495,337	563,809	1.14
1900-04	585,608	782,155	1.34
1905	591,771	864,177	1.46
1906	621,139	881,276	1.42
1907	682,194	682,370	1.00
1908	956,371	1,415,746	1.48
1909	864,359	1,186,738	1.37
1910	832,669	1,292,410	1.55
1911	860,205	1,032,288	1.20
1912	1,203,728	1,572,933	1.31
1913	977,684	1,350,374	1.38
1914	895,755	568,956	.64
1915	1,330,455	2,342,094	1.76
1916	897,186	1,232,721	1.37

The estimated value of hay was £2,033,990 for 1916, as compared with £4,098,664 for 1915 and £4,181,827 for 1914. Of the total hay produced in 1916, 929,401 tons were oaten, 261,306 tons were wheaten, and 42,014 tons were made from lucerne and other crops, and the yields per acre were 1.34, 1.38, and 1.46 tons respectively.

Crops in
Australian
States and
New Zealand.

The following return shows the yield of the principal crops in the various Australian States and New Zealand for each of the ten years ended March, 1917 :—

YIELD OF PRINCIPAL CROPS IN AUSTRALASIA, 1907-8 to 1916-17.

Year ended March.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
WHEAT.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1908 ...	12,100,780	9,155,884	693,527	19,135,557	2,925,690	644,235	5,567,139
1909 ...	23,345,649	15,483,276	1,202,799	19,397,672	2,460,823	700,777	8,772,790
1910 ...	23,780,100	28,532,029	1,571,589	25,133,851	5,602,368	793,660	8,661,100
1911 ...	34,813,019	27,913,547	1,022,373	24,344,740	5,897,540	1,120,744	8,273,926
1912 ...	20,891,877	25,318,092	285,109	20,352,720	4,358,904	659,615	8,290,221
1913 ...	26,223,104	32,475,813	1,975,505	21,496,216	9,168,594	630,315	5,179,626
1914 ...	32,936,245	38,029,082	1,769,432	16,936,988	13,331,360	349,736	5,231,700
1915 ...	3,940,947	12,830,530	1,585,087	3,527,428	2,624,190	384,220	6,644,336
1916 ...	58,521,706	66,764,910	414,438	31,134,504	18,236,355	993,790	7,108,360
1917 ...	51,162,438	36,743,500	2,463,141	43,830,972	16,103,216	348,330	5,055,457
OATS.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1908 ...	5,201,408	851,776	9,900	874,388	721,753	1,526,002	15,021,861
1909 ...	11,124,940	1,119,558	38,311	1,280,235	739,303	1,946,010	18,906,788
1910 ...	7,913,423	1,966,586	50,018	1,209,131	1,248,162	2,347,548	13,804,000
1911 ...	9,699,127	1,702,706	50,469	1,136,618	776,233	2,063,303	10,093,564
1912 ...	4,585,326	1,155,164	5,783	1,349,480	961,385	1,504,633	10,118,917
1913 ...	8,323,639	1,670,181	82,420	1,673,508	2,105,812	2,257,258	13,583,924
1914 ...	8,890,321	1,834,824	56,236	1,200,740	1,655,681	1,593,664	14,740,946
1915 ...	1,608,419	513,910	43,607	363,425	464,976	1,341,800	11,436,301
1916 ...	9,328,894	1,345,698	2,454	2,134,374	1,538,092	2,189,467	7,653,208
1917 ...	8,289,289	†	108,664	1,825,503	1,689,332	1,006,183	5,470,405
BARLEY.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1908 ...	1,059,295	75,148	64,881	566,937	76,205	149,186	1,163,406
1909 ...	1,511,181	166,538	137,667	825,740	74,433	158,645	1,938,452
1910 ...	1,023,384	272,663	193,586	691,424	101,673	153,654	1,304,000
1911 ...	1,340,387	82,005	83,621	544,471	33,566	142,318	920,536
1912 ...	1,024,584	130,998	15,369	702,855	37,011	148,009	977,112
1913 ...	1,744,527	338,179	146,847	1,318,734	93,418	265,908	1,377,610
1914 ...	1,812,890	302,940	115,975	1,332,714	167,915	187,484	1,205,628
1915 ...	600,599	46,500	105,613	447,310	24,090	104,798	596,828
1916 ...	1,734,511	114,846	8,130	1,697,670	130,870	115,523	820,174
1917 ...	1,799,784	†	250,167	1,839,692	134,055	88,696	737,982
POTATOES.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1908 ...	135,110	55,882	13,177	20,263	5,671	145,483	142,999
1909 ...	152,340	71,794	11,550	21,588	6,695	121,605	195,206
1910 ...	174,970	100,143	13,544	18,569	5,948	73,862	180,500
1911 ...	163,312	121,033	15,632	23,920	5,864	70,090	138,025
1912 ...	119,092	75,166	13,087	22,668	9,312	62,164	141,510
1913 ...	191,112	84,232	16,386	33,078	13,558	72,565	147,689
1914 ...	176,602	95,704	16,548	32,950	17,803	80,389	157,194
1915 ...	189,225	40,709	16,014	18,035	14,724	78,907	132,635
1916 ...	173,821	44,445	7,439	12,991	14,118	79,890	128,807
1917 ...	187,992	†	19,457	†	16,841	67,038	130,807
HAY.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1908 ...	682,370	376,800	77,601	376,170	137,511	98,406	†
1909 ...	1,415,746	730,014	92,947	591,141	170,008	137,518	†
1910 ...	1,186,738	981,201	96,854	574,475	195,182	118,746	†
1911 ...	1,292,410	843,044	151,252	595,064	178,891	115,190	†
1912 ...	1,032,288	728,533	94,553	605,239	299,695	107,684	†
1913 ...	1,572,933	1,089,602	119,867	714,766	255,751	183,079	†
1914 ...	1,350,374	954,592	103,935	571,616	278,565	112,958	†
1915 ...	568,956	613,235	102,193	210,437	156,784	81,971	†
1916 ...	2,342,094	1,573,938	53,858	1,100,127	395,172	168,450	583,262
1917 ...	1,232,721	†	145,279	616,104	236,989	103,141	446,505

† No Information.

Prices of agricultural produce.

The following information regarding prices in February and March, except that relating to potatoes, has been procured direct from the growers. The table gives the average price of each product for the last fifteen years :—

PRICES OF PRODUCE, 1903 TO 1917.

Year.	Average Price in February and March.						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.		Hay.	Potatoes.	
			Malting.	Other.		Early Crop.	Main Crop (after March).
	Per bushel.	Per bushel.	Per bushel.	Per bushel.	Per ton.	Per ton.	Per ton.
s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
1903..	6 0	3 2 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 5 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 8	100 1	91 3	47 1
1904..	2 8	1 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	27 2	52 6	26 1
1905..	2 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 6	3 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 1	33 6	110 0	84 0
1906..	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 11	2 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 0	115 6	101 5
1907..	2 9	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 2	2 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 2	59 1	37 6
1908..	4 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 7	88 7	70 4	54 11
1909..	3 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 5	46 0	80 0	51 0
1910..	3 9 $\frac{1}{4}$	1 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	41 0	78 0	57 0
1911..	3 2	1 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{2}$	38 0	82 0	63 0
1912..	3 4 $\frac{3}{4}$	2 10 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 7	3 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	62 0	116 0	101 0
1913..	3 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 1	3 1	51 0	116 0	66 0
1914..	3 3	1 9	3 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	38 0	81 0	62 0
1915..	7 0 $\frac{3}{4}$	4 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	5 8 $\frac{1}{4}$	4 10 $\frac{1}{4}$	147 0	80 0	85 0
1916..	3 9	2 0 $\frac{1}{4}$	3 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	2 10	35 0	201 0	106 0
1917..	4 0	2 0	3 11 $\frac{1}{4}$	2 10	33 0	114 0	53 0

The highest and lowest prices of wheat in Melbourne during each month in the last three years were as follows :—

PRICES OF WHEAT IN MELBOURNE, 1914, 1915, AND 1916.

Month.	Price per Bushel.					
	1914.		1915.		1916.	
	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
January ..	3 7	3 5	7 6	6 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
February ..	3 10	3 6 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 4	7 8	5 2 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 2 $\frac{1}{2}$
March ..	3 10 $\frac{3}{4}$	3 8 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 6	7 10	5 5	5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
April ..	3 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 9	8 0	7 9	5 5	5 5
May ..	3 11	3 9 $\frac{3}{4}$	8 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	8 0	5 5	5 5
June ..	3 11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3 10	8 0	7 10	5 5	5 0
July ..	3 11	3 10	8 3 $\frac{1}{4}$	7 11	5 0	4 9
August ..	4 8 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 2	8 3	7 6	4 9	4 9
September ..	5 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	4 9	8 3	7 0	4 9	4 9
October ..	4 9	4 9	8 0	7 8	4 9	4 9
November ..	5 6	4 9	7 0	5 0	4 9	4 9
December ..	6 9	6 6	5 3 $\frac{1}{2}$	5 2	4 9	4 9

The area under other than principal crops and the production since March, 1911, are shown in the subjoined table:—

OTHER THAN PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1911-12 TO 1916-17.

Crop.	1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.	
	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.	Area.	Production.
		1911-12.		1912-13.		1913-14.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.
Maize	18,223	792,660	19,986	715,299	17,962	800,529
Rye	1,098	9,981	1,428	17,141	1,779	19,029
Peas	11,535	181,113	11,875	232,856	11,774	206,846
Mangel-wurzel	797	Tons. 9,568	1,121	Tons. 14,615	952	Tons. 15,642
Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips	658	4,953	627	5,628	470	3,166
Onions	3,652	20,911	4,977	28,641	6,121	24,755
Green Forage ..	75,177	..	84,460	..	98,963	..
Grass and Clover Seeds	1,188	Bushels. 9,503	2,429	Bushels. 23,206	1,452	Bushels. 16,349
Hops	122	Cwt. 777	131	Cwt. 1,387	117	Cwt. 961
Tobacco	356	3,686	138	661	284	2,037
Vines—Grapes ..	24,193	683,250	24,579	733,579	22,435	836,493
Flax	443	{ 1,327 fibre 1,958 seed }	648	{ 1,189 fibre 4,536 seed }	1,046	{ 1,096 fibre 3,768 seed }
Gardens and Or- chards	70,316	..	73,623	..	77,960	..
Minor Crops ..	4,741	..	5,942	..	6,476	..
Land in Fallow	1,469,608	..	1,627,223	..	1,738,572	..
Artificial Grasses	1,041,772	..	1,085,346	..	1,094,566	..
		1914-15.		1915-16.		1916-17.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.	Acres.	Bushels.
Maize	19,433	1,018,419	22,258	999,886	23,076	1,172,330
Rye	1,955	13,415	3,137	42,857	3,481	42,953
Peas	12,159	114,493	8,221	147,488	9,642	154,964
Mangel-wurzel	893	Tons. 8,921	1,091	Tons. 13,067	860	Tons. 10,307
Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips	563	2,249	758	4,938	524	2,025
Onions	8,937	31,528	9,294	37,587	6,324	28,163
Green Forage ..	139,654	..	60,426	..	49,667	..
Grass and Clover Seeds	149	Bushels. 1,100	2,435	Bushels. 24,087	1,769	Bushels. 13,174
Hops	115	Cwt. 903	107	Cwt. 855	87	Cwt. 975
Tobacco	196	1,192	160	596	73	†
Vines—Grapes ..	21,801	620,876	22,353	1,084,766	23,264	1,013,197
Flax	671	{ 1,385 fibre 1,827 seed }	361	{ 1,987 fibre 1,370 seed }	443	{ 1,371 fibre 1,481 seed }
Gardens and Or- chards	87,237	..	91,499	..	93,833	..
Minor Crops ..	6,904	..	6,497*	..	7,183*	..
Land in Fallow	1,346,545	..	1,358,343	..	1,899,559	..
Artificial Grasses	1,202,130	..	1,182,995	..	1,292,817	..

* For details see page 740.

† Not available.

Maize. The area under maize for grain in 1916-17 was 23,076 acres, and the production was 1,172,330 bushels, which was the largest total recorded and represented a yield of 50·80 bushels per acre as compared with 44·92 bushels in the preceding season, 52·41 bushels in 1914-15, 44·57 bushels in 1913-14, 35·79 bushels in 1912-13, and 43·50 bushels in 1911-12. Of the total production for last season, 90 per cent. was obtained from the Gippsland district. The area, total production and produce per acre are given in the next table for each of the past twelve seasons and for five-year periods prior thereto back to 1890 :—

MAIZE PRODUCTION, 1890 TO 1917.

Period ended June.	Area under Maize for Grain (Annual Average).	Total Production (Annual Average).	Produce per Acre.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1890-5	7,483	376,844	50·36
1895-1900	9,894	528,970	53·46
1900-5	10,704	699,630	65·36
1906	11,785	641,216	54·41
1907	11,559	704,961	60·99
1908	10,844	508,761	46·92
1909	14,004	650,462	46·45
1910	19,112	1,158,031	60·59
1911	20,151	982,103	48·74
1912	18,223	792,660	43·50
1913	19,986	715,299	35·79
1914	17,962	800,529	44·57
1915	19,433	1,018,419	52·41
1916	22,258	999,886	44·92
1917	23,076	1,172,330	50·80

On the average of the past five seasons the yield per acre was 45·7 bushels as against 65·4 in 1900-5, 53·5 in 1895-1900, and 50·4 in 1890-5. The relatively light yield per acre for the latest five-year period was probably due to the cultivation of new areas which are less fertile than the rich river flats upon which this cereal was grown in earlier periods.

Rye. The area under rye in 1916-17 was 3,481 acres, from which 42,953 bushels of grain were obtained. The production was 42,857 bushels in the previous season, and 13,415 bushels in 1914-15. Although rye was grown in all districts, except the Mallee, the North-Eastern district supplied 51 per cent. of the total area and 54 per cent. of the production in 1916-17.

Peas. The area under peas in 1916-17 was 9,642 acres, and the return 154,964 bushels, the former being 1,421 acres more and the latter 7,476 bushels more than in the previous year. Last season peas were grown to some extent in all districts except the Mallee. The counties from which the largest returns were obtained

were Grant 26,097 bushels, Buln Buln 21,046 bushels, Bourke 16,543 bushels, Tanjil 16,049 bushels, and Mornington 9,936 bushels. The production of peas in the five counties mentioned was equal to 58 per cent. of the total for the whole State.

In 1916-17 there were 860 acres under mangel-wurzel, as against 1,091 in the previous season, 893 in 1914-15, 952 in 1913-14, 1,121 in 1912-13, and 797 in 1911-12. The production last year was 10,307 tons, as compared with an average of 12,363 tons for the preceding five-year period. Mangolds are grown principally in the counties of Villiers, Grant, Buln Buln, Tanjil, Mornington, and Grenville. The production for last season in the counties mentioned represented 74 per cent. of the total for the State.

The cultivation of beet, carrots, parsnips and turnips, exclusive of those grown in market gardens, showed a decrease in area and production as compared with the previous season. In 1916-17 the extent of land sown was 524 acres, as against 758 in the preceding year, 563 in 1914-15, 470 in 1913-14, 627 in 1912-13, 658 in 1911-12, and 872 in 1910-11. The produce for last year was 2,025 tons as compared with 4,938 in the previous season.

Onions are grown in nearly every county south of the Dividing Range. The returns for last season show that in Bourke the yield was 4,713 tons from 988 acres; in Grenville, 6,962 tons from 1,568 acres; in Villiers, 3,927 tons from 647 acres; in Buln Buln, 2,472 tons from 567 acres; in Mornington, 1,850 tons from 801 acres; in Grant, 3,293 tons from 851 acres; and in Polwarth, 4,115 tons from 678 acres. The following is a statement showing the area and yield for the last twenty years:—

ONION CULTIVATION, 1897-8 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Area.	Produce.	Year.	Area.	Produce.
	Acres.	Tons.		Acres.	Tons.
1897-8	3,751	11,217	1907-8	4,249	22,649
1898-9	4,472	17,308	1908-9	5,340	24,384
1899-1900	4,436	19,905	1909-10	6,434	31,715
1900-1	2,815	12,766	1910-11	6,161	37,484
1901-2	4,151	20,859	1911-12	3,652	20,911
1902-3	5,565	27,467	1912-13	4,977	28,641
1903-4	4,176	25,218	1913-14	6,121	24,755
1904-5	2,862	12,969	1914-15	8,937	31,528
1905-6	4,889	25,597	1915-16	9,294	37,587
1906-7	4,705	28,000	1916-17	6,324	28,163

The area under onions in 1916-17 was considerably lower than in the previous season, but the return per acre was greater by about 8 cwt.

Green forage. The area devoted to green forage in 1916-17 was only 49,667 acres, as compared with 60,426 in the previous season, 139,654 in 1914-15, 98,963 in 1913-14, 84,460 in 1912-13, 75,177 in 1911-12, and 71,826 in 1910-11.

Ensilage. The practice of preserving forage in a green state has existed in Victoria for many years, but up to the present only a small number of farmers have adopted it. The returns for the past ten seasons are given in the next table.

ENSILAGE RETURNS, 1907-8 TO 1916-17.

Year ended March.			Number of Farms on which made.	Number of Silos (Pits and Stacks).	Weight of Materials used.
1908	..	..	203	260	Tons. 11,031
1909	..	..	392	494	18,205
1910	..	..	518	656	27,280
1911	..	..	460	555	25,969
1912	..	..	371	450	20,888
1913	..	..	287	385	17,877
1914	..	..	270	362	19,505
1915	..	..	161	221	9,055
1916	..	..	269	353	16,356
1917	..	..	179	223	10,974

Grass and clover seed. The area harvested for grass and clover seed last season was 1,769 acres, as compared with 2,435 acres in the previous year, 149 acres in 1914-15, 1,452 acres in 1913-14, and 2,429 acres in 1912-13. The production in 1916-17 was 13,174 bushels, as against 24,087 bushels in the previous year, 1,100 bushels in 1914-15, 16,349 bushels in 1913-14, and 23,206 bushels in 1912-13.

Hops. The hop-growing industry attained its maximum development in 1883-4, when 1,758 acres yielded 15,717 cwt. In 1916-17 there were only 18 growers whose return from 87 acres was 975 cwt. The area cultivated last year was the smallest since 1872-3. Delatite, Bogong, Dargo, Polwarth, Heytesbury, and Buln Buln were the only counties in which hops were grown last season.

Flax. The flax (*Linum Usitatissimum*) growing industry is assisted by the Commonwealth Government, which gives producers a bounty of 10 per cent. on the market value of the fibre produced. This, together with the satisfactory price obtained and the fact that a very large market exists for the fibre, should enable the industry to make considerable progress. The whole of last season's produce came from the counties of Buln Buln and Grant. Particulars

of the crop for the last eight years are given in the following statement:—

FLAX: 1909-10 TO 1916-17.

Year.	No. of Growers.	Area under Crop.	Seed Produced.	Fibre Produced.	Straw awaiting Treatment.
		Acres.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Tons.
1909-10	106	1,213	1,515	676	836
1910-11	33	600	2,457	748	235
1911-12	29	443	1,958	1,327	75
1912-13	55	648	4,536	1,189	615
1913-14	62	1,046	3,768	1,096	652
1914-15	49	671	1,827	1,318	25
1915-16	22	361	1,370	1,987	..
1916-17	13	443	1,481	1,371	..

In 1916-17 imports into Victoria from countries outside Australia included linseed to the value of £4,228, linseed oil worth £19,081, and fibre worth £252,759.

Tobacco. Tobacco production reached its maximum in 1880-1, when 17,333 cwt. of dry leaf was produced. The subsequent sixteen years were marked by great variations in area and produce, and since 1896-7 the industry has fallen to small proportions. The area devoted to tobacco last year was the smallest since 1859-60. There are tobacco plantations in Delatite, along the banks of the King River, and in Bogong. Particulars relating to the cultivation of tobacco for the last twenty years are as follows:—

CULTIVATION OF TOBACCO, 1897-8 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Growers.	Area.	Produce.
		Acres.	Cwt. (dry).
1897-8.. ..	77	522	3,419
1898-9.. ..	31	78	190
1899-1900 ..	28	155	1,365
1900-1.. ..	16	109	311
1901-2.. ..	17	103	345
1902-3.. ..	24	171	781
1903-4.. ..	25	129	848
1904-5.. ..	20	106	1,112
1905-6.. ..	31	169	1,405
1906-7.. ..	30	133	603
1907-8.. ..	49	345	2,764
1908-9.. ..	60	413	2,647
1909-10 ..	50	321	2,704
1910-11 ..	57	329	1,090
1911-12 ..	58	356	3,686
1912-13 ..	54	138	661
1913-14 ..	67	284	2,037
1914-15 ..	46	196	1,192
1915-16 ..	39	160	596
1916-17 ..	26	73	..

Vines, wine, raisins, &c. During the period 1904-1915 the area under vines decreased by 6,712² acres, or by nearly 24 per cent., and the number of growers decreased by 521, or by 23 per cent. Since 1915 there has been a fairly large increase in the area and a slight increase in the number of growers. Vineyards are distributed fairly well over the State, but there are certain districts where the principal industries are connected with vine-growing. The Shire of Mildura produced last season 826,970 cwt. of grapes; Rutherglen, 61,793 cwt.; and Yackandandah, 1,053 cwt. In the Goulburn Valley wine-making is a flourishing industry. In the County of Borung there are many vineyards, particularly in the Stawell Shire, where 12,265 cwt. of grapes was produced in 1916-17. At Mildura the crop is principally dried for raisins and currants. The results of fifteen years' operations are given below:—

VINE PRODUCTION, 1903 TO 1917.

Year ended June.	Number of Growers.	Area.	Produce.			
			Grapes gathered.	Wine Made.	Raisins Made.	Currants Made.
			Acres.	Cwt.	Gallons.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1903 ..	2,347	28,374	444,966	1,547,188	35,534	3,722
1904 ..	2,260	28,513	654,965	2,551,150	53,447	7,490
1905 ..	2,253	28,016	452,433	1,832,386	30,295	5,974
1906 ..	2,009	26,402	498,590	1,726,444	42,975	6,403
1907 ..	1,860	25,855	752,826	2,044,833	98,127	11,730
1908 ..	1,967	26,465	535,804	1,365,600	68,617	10,440
1909 ..	1,637	24,430	561,679	1,437,106	69,536	11,929
1910 ..	1,606	22,768	548,823	991,941	81,044	27,408
1911 ..	1,652	23,412	592,438	1,362,420	79,318	26,394
1912 ..	1,650	24,193	683,250	983,423	102,924	46,789
1913 ..	1,808	24,579	733,579	1,206,111	109,677	48,337
1914 ..	1,776	22,435	836,493	1,121,491	120,303	62,098
1915 ..	1,739	21,801	620,876	605,636	111,006	28,527
1916 ..	1,700	22,353	1,084,766	1,380,367	180,104	70,556
1917 ..	1,751	23,264	1,013,197	1,302,660	142,970	66,449

Of the total quantity of grapes gathered in 1917, 185,230 cwt. was used for making wine, 775,847 cwt. for raisins and currants, and 52,120 cwt. for table consumption and export. Of the 142,970 cwt. of raisins made, 103,121 cwt. were sultanas almost entirely from Mildura.

Raisins are produced in Victoria upon a scale far in excess of the State's requirements. It is estimated that a year's consumption of raisins is about 20,000 cwt.; consequently, about 120,000 cwt. of the production in 1917 is available for Inter-State or oversea export. A year's consumption of currants is about 30,000 cwt., which would enable approximately 36,000 cwt. of last season's production to be exported to other States or oversea.

Orchards. The total number of persons in the State growing fruit for sale was 7,309 in 1916-17, as against 7,319 in the previous season, 6,811 in 1914-15, 6,498 in 1913-14, 6,285 in 1912-13, and 5,955 in 1911-12. The area under orchards in each of those years was 79,247, 76,382, 70,392, 63,058, 59,119, and 55,769 acres

respectively. The orchards are fairly spread over the whole State. The counties having the largest areas last season were as follows:—Evelyn, 14,690 acres; Bourke, 13,864 acres; Mornington, 12,772 acres; Rodney, 8,360 acres; Moira, 4,968 acres; Karkaroc (including Mildura), 3,435 acres; Talbot, 3,351 acres; Bendigo, 2,999 acres; Borung, 1,884 acres; Grant, 1,831 acres; Tatchera, 1,251 acres; and Buln Buln, 1,243 acres.

In the following table will be found a statement of the number of bearing and non-bearing fruit trees and plants for the seasons 1913-14 and 1916-17:—

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF FRUIT TREES, PLANTS, Etc., IN ORCHARDS AND GARDENS WHERE FRUIT WAS GROWN FOR SALE, 1913-14 AND 1916-17.

Fruit.	Number of Trees, Plants, &c.					
	1913-14.			1916-17.		
	Not Bearing.	Bearing.	Total.	Not Bearing.	Bearing.	Total.
Apples ..	989,176	1,606,321	2,595,497	1,060,675	1,818,520	2,879,195
Pears ..	398,290	445,276	843,566	455,822	580,476	1,036,298
Quinces ..	30,010	66,040	96,050	35,073	72,147	107,220
Plums ..	137,246	350,887	488,133	162,335	396,282	558,617
Cherries ..	67,331	250,229	317,560	62,489	230,388	292,877
Peaches ..	321,991	353,134	675,125	446,638	582,402	1,029,040
Apricots ..	99,985	255,413	355,398	154,413	278,926	433,339
Nectarines ..	6,418	6,266	12,684	9,636	11,198	20,834
Oranges ..	136,657	54,698	191,355	284,643	101,493	386,136
Lemons ..	33,335	38,687	72,022	84,363	48,421	132,784
Loquats ..	1,503	5,060	6,563	2,031	3,847	5,878
Medlars ..	82	153	235	37	176	213
Figs ..	13,213	27,835	41,048	17,827	28,837	46,664
Passion-fruit ..	10,356	8,794	19,150	9,301	18,514	27,815
Guavas ..	538	1,081	1,619	44	251	295
Pomegranates ..	130	87	217	47	116	163
Persimmons ..	243	436	729	185	460	645
Total Large Fruits	2,246,504	3,470,447	5,716,951	2,785,559	4,172,454	6,958,013
Raspberries ..	..	558,288	558,288	..	636,749	636,749
Strawberries ..	..	3,458,859	3,458,859	..	3,894,479	3,894,479
Gooseberries ..	..	227,858	227,858	..	230,244	230,244
Mulberries ..	782	1,037	1,819	342	1,104	1,446
Olives ..	3,886	4,198	8,084	3,006	6,351	9,357
Currants (Red, White, and Black) ..	5,470	59,259	64,729	7,507	34,400	41,916
Almonds ..	11,039	19,022	30,061	11,115	21,348	32,463
Walnuts ..	8,988	4,044	13,032	7,524	5,909	13,433
Filberts ..	439	3,800	4,239	835	649	1,484
Chestnuts ..	451	600	1,051	570	427	997
Total Nuts ..	20,917	27,466	48,383	20,044	28,333	48,377

The area under orchards growing fruit for sale increased from 5,800 acres in 1872-3 to 10,048 in 1882-3, 31,370 in 1892-3, 44,502 in 1902-3, 59,119 in 1912-13, and 79,247 acres in 1916-17, which is the largest area recorded. The striking feature of the figures

relating to the production of orchards in 1916-17 is the small quantity of apples and the large quantity of peaches gathered. The former was 79 per cent. below and the latter 159 per cent. above the corresponding quantities for the previous season. Details of the produce from orchards growing fruit for sale for each of the past ten years are as follows :—

ORCHARDS GROWING FRUIT FOR SALE, 1907-8 TO 1916-17.

Year ended March.	Number of Fruit-growers.	Area under Gardens and Orchards.	LARGE FRUITS GATHERED.			
			Apples.	Pears.	Quinces.	Plums.
			Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1908	5,241	Acres. 49,212	618,424	182,609	47,871	157,366
1909	5,586	50,675	1,241,826	373,145	99,608	167,012
1910	5,647	51,578	1,121,702	253,195	50,559	232,657
1911	5,780	53,325	1,667,271	640,436	86,355	325,677
1912	5,955	55,769	1,330,961	239,431	54,425	151,936
1913	6,285	59,119	2,036,756	669,898	90,119	260,330
1914	6,498	63,058	1,653,035	476,430	67,799	292,339
1915	6,811	70,392	509,697	401,301	32,949	88,698
1916	7,319	76,382	2,953,968	601,357	100,566	337,154
1917	7,309	79,247	617,929	661,962	80,093	258,218

Large Fruits Gathered—continued.

	Cherries.	Peaches.	Apricots.	Oranges.	Lemons.	Figs.	Others.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
	1908	71,798	290,178	239,735	28,620	46,827	20,460	10,753
1909	95,012	282,040	149,262	22,363	38,548	23,687	17,462
1910	100,064	291,766	292,496	34,027	51,130	22,675	10,566
1911	121,756	317,317	160,884	59,723	71,041	31,054	21,200
1912	96,663	260,258	281,460	48,982	65,833	17,891	10,259
1913	152,257	289,731	138,881	44,039	48,170	25,223	19,496
1914	151,262	361,414	308,307	63,542	57,562	23,764	15,639
1915	48,411	277,435	109,301	83,220	66,704	17,362	16,040
1916	98,382	303,992	256,229	63,434	56,569	21,433	16,546
1917	40,024	787,406	217,424	59,985	53,940	25,063	25,650

SMALL FRUITS GATHERED.

NUTS GATHERED.

	Rasp-berries.	Straw-berries.	Goose-berries.	Currants, Red, Black, & White.	Others.	Almonds.	Walnuts.	Filberts.	Chest-nuts.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
	1908	12,466	3,645	3,526	3,705	2,145	62,921	20,266	1,928	5,047
1909	8,640	4,874	6,950	1,278	2,747	91,230	23,100	3,323	3,355
1910	6,143	6,472	5,876	1,428	1,738	81,008	25,368	1,760	5,003
1911	9,231	7,788	6,430	1,334	2,607	126,877	24,242	3,209	8,546
1912	6,658	6,103	4,173	1,429	1,333	100,982	26,329	1,473	8,821
1913	5,207	3,839	3,874	876	1,179	90,317	22,127	1,220	8,306
1914	4,580	4,351	4,912	802	1,233	92,621	21,649	2,143	11,361
1915	6,011	2,290	223	183	1,072	70,139	26,026	2,664	9,316
1916	3,534	3,347	5,061	491	2,069	62,148	18,173	660	8,344
1917	4,996	4,960	3,902	273	1,822	53,590	7,895	2,339	11,384

The following return shows the average produce per bearing tree for the seasons 1910-11, 1913-14, and 1916-17:—

PRODUCE OF FRUIT TREES, 1910-11, 1913-14, AND 1916-17.

Fruit Trees.	AVERAGE PER BEARING TREE.		
	1910-1911.	1913-1914.	1916-17.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Apples	1·15	1·03	·34
Pears	1·76	1·07	1·14
Quinces	1·49	1·03	1·11
Plums	·92	·83	·65
Cherries	·50	·80	·17
Peaches	1·09	1·02	1·35
Apricots	·68	1·21	·78
Nectarines	1·11	1·18	1·41
Oranges	1·49	1·16	·59
Lemons	1·48	1·49	1·11
Loquats	1·19	·24	·29
Medlars	·14	·29	·07
Figs	·88	·85	·87
Passion Vines	·98	·75	·44
Guavas	·14	·02	·42
Pomegranates	1·73	·54	·32
Persimmons	1·50	·68	·82
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Almonds	6·03	4·87	2·51
Walnuts	5·43	5·35	1·34
Filberts	·88	·56	3·60
Chestnuts	6·65	18·94	26·66

In addition to the fruits shown (p. 737), large quantities of melons, rhubarb and tomatoes were produced in the orchards, the following being the quantities returned for 1916-17—Melons, 9,809 cwt.; rhubarb, 22,481 dozen bundles; and tomatoes, 42,969 cwt. There were also 3,840 acres laid down in private fruit gardens, the value of the produce from which was estimated at about £7,680.

According to prices received by growers the value of fruit which reaches market was estimated to be £373,600 in 1908-9, £423,500 in 1909-10, £524,380 in 1910-11, £558,604 in 1911-12, £629,863 in 1912-13, £742,900 in 1913-14, £470,970 in 1914-15, £742,100 in 1915-16, and £575,264 in 1916-17. This, of course, does not represent the actual value of all the fruit grown, as large quantities are privately consumed in various ways. No very reliable estimate of the value of such fruit can be prepared, but it may be set down at about £35,000.

Cider-making is now an established industry in the State. **Older-making.** The output of the various firms engaged in making the beverage is increasing each season, the quality is good, and the demand is improving.

Market gardens. The area under market gardens for the year 1916-17 was 10,746 acres. As these gardens are generally situated near large centres of population, and the producers are consequently able to dispose of the bulk of their goods with a minimum loss from waste, &c., an average return of £25 per acre is regarded as a fair estimate. On this basis, the total value of the produce may be given as £268,650. This does not include crops of one acre and over of potatoes, onions, mangel-wurzel, beet, carrots, parsnips, and turnips grown in market gardens, such crops being tabulated under their respective heads in the returns relating to agriculture.

Dried fruit. The quantity of dried fruit (weight after drying) was for the first time collected in 1895-6, when 179,460 lbs. were returned, and it increased to 636,294 lbs. in 1900-1, after which date the quantity, principally by reason of a reduction in apricots, declined to 306,603 lbs. in 1902-3. In 1909-10 the maximum production—811,935 lbs.—was recorded. In 1916-17 the production was 772,323 lbs., which exceeded the total for the previous year by 166,500 lbs. The details for the last ten seasons are as follows:—

DRIED FRUIT, 1907-8 TO 1916-17.

Year ended June.	Apples.	Prunes.	Peaches.	Apricots.	Figs.	Pears.	Total.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1908 ..	35,544	25,504	87,383	223,091	13,112	8,077	392,711
1909 ..	69,120	56,183	84,514	170,620	26,796	30,322	437,555
1910 ..	46,767	76,015	109,661	539,910	22,160	17,422	811,935
1911 ..	26,391	80,123	84,211	334,111	9,554	31,819	566,209
1912 ..	21,929	72,400	143,112	492,041	31,027	16,502	777,011
1913 ..	48,853	84,053	56,151	61,465	27,274	38,633	316,429
1914 ..	39,899	155,031	118,187	363,356	33,151	7,900	717,524
1915 ..	16,817	28,788	70,897	43,606	31,981	55,581	247,670
1916 ..	290,258	128,520	61,667	69,215	33,939	22,224	605,823
1917 ..	27,109	118,999	357,329	149,940	10,567	108,379	772,323

A striking feature of the returns for last season was the decrease in dried apples and the great increases in peaches, apricots, and pears. Nearly all the dried apples came from Evelyn. The bulk of the other dried fruit, except prunes, comes from Mildura, where in 1916-17 there were made, in addition to fruits included above, 15,596,224 lbs. of raisins, or 3,888,976 lbs. less than in the previous season.

Minor crops. The following is a return of the minor crops for the last two seasons. The items do not in all cases represent the whole of the respective crops grown, but refer only to such as were taken cognisance of by the collectors. The return, therefore, indicates the nature of the crops rather than the full extent of their cultivation.

MINOR CROPS, 1915-16 AND 1916-17.

Crop.	1915-16.		1916-17.	
	Area.	Produce.	Area.	Produce.
Beans	Acres. 342	4,020 bushels	Acres. 314	1,987 bushels
Chicory	805	595 tons (dry)	658	515 tons (dry)
Flowers	116	...	221	...
Garlic	1	29 cwt.	4	240 cwt.
Herbs	11	...	12	...
Millet—Broom	656	{ 4,904 cwt. fibre 4,414 cwt. seed }	1,096	{ 5,256 cwt. fibre 1,613 cwt. seed }
„ Japanese	59	367 cwt. seed	47	215 cwt. seed
Nursery	1,236	...	1,162	...
Opium poppies	2	5 lbs.	1	6 lbs.
Peanuts	59	1,729 lbs.	...	...
Pumpkins	2,440	18,380 tons	2,064	11,103 tons
Rice	4	...	...	...
Seeds—Agricultural and Garden	227	...	189	...
Sugar Beet	461	4,928 tons	1,320	15,159 tons
Sunflowers	78	915 cwt.	95	1,006 cwt.
Total	6,497	...	7,183	...

Land in fallow.

While the fallowing of land in Victoria commenced in 1858, and increased in popularity in later years, it is only within the past twelve years that this method of cultivation has become fairly general throughout the State. The area fallowed in 1916-17 was 1,899,559 acres, as compared with 853,829 acres in 1904-5, and 517,242 acres in 1898-9. The acreage so treated in each of the last nineteen years was as follows:—

LAND IN FALLOW.

Year ended March.	Acres.	Year ended March.	Acres.
1899	517,242	1909	1,034,422
1900	509,244	1910	1,175,750
1901	602,870	1911	1,434,177
1902	681,778	1912	1,469,608
1903	492,305	1913	1,627,233
1904	632,521	1914	1,738,572
1905	853,829	1915	1,346,545
1906	1,049,915	1916	1,358,343
1907	990,967	1917	1,899,559
1908	894,300		

Nearly all of the fallowed area is devoted to wheat production. Of the 1,899,559 acres in fallow last season 653,030 were in the Wimmera, 613,101 in the Northern, and 407,330 in the Mallee District. The area for these three districts represented 88 per cent. of the total for the State.

The increase in the proportion of farmers using manure indicates the popularity and the value of this method of treating the soil. Last year the number of farmers who used manure was 33,165 as compared with 21,586 in 1905, and 7,318 in 1898. The following table shows the number of farmers using manure, and the quantity used in each of the last fifteen years :—

MANURE USED FOR FERTILIZATION, 1902 TO 1916.

Year.	Farmers using.	Area used on.	Manure used—	
			Natural.	Artificial.
		Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
1902	18,537	1,099,686	206,676	36,630
1903	19,921	1,205,443	207,817	41,639
1904	20,167	1,521,946	190,903	45,940
1905	21,586	1,791,537	210,507	54,674
1906	23,072	1,985,148	205,906	60,871
1907	23,733	2,018,079	232,394	62,337
1908	24,437	2,053,987	235,492	64,715
1909	26,690	2,407,331	197,446	77,579
1910	27,845	2,714,854	203,884	86,316
1911	26,159	2,676,408	205,739	82,581
1912	29,524	3,029,418	222,253	94,010
1913	30,610	3,401,013	219,423	105,612
1914	31,874	3,728,279	209,534	117,935
1915	33,378	4,336,252	187,602	128,667
1916	33,165	3,870,742	181,268	117,812

The area on which manure was used represented only 7 per cent. of that under crop in 1898, but since then the proportion manured has rapidly increased. In 1901, it was 19 per cent.; in 1903, 36 per cent.; in 1905, 56 per cent.; in 1909, 66 per cent.; in 1911 and 1912, 74 per cent.; in 1913, 77 per cent.; and in 1916, 80 per cent. During 1916-17 the quantity of manure imported into Victoria from oversea countries was 81,831 tons, valued at £193,038. This included 51,880 tons of rock phosphates from Ocean Island valued at £122,508.

Characteristics
of Victorian
soils.

This subject is fully dealt with in the Year-Book for 1915-16, page 740.

Persons
employed on
Farming,
Dairying, and
Pastoral Hold-
ings.

Information is obtained by the collectors of agricultural statistics each year as to the number of persons ordinarily employed upon the land occupied. For the last ten years the numbers were as follows:—

**NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED UPON FARMING,
DAIRYING, AND PASTORAL HOLDINGS, 1907 TO 1916.**

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1907	93,981	51,905	145,886
1908	94,990	52,410	147,400
1909	96,873	52,782	149,655
1910	99,948	54,083	154,031
1911	100,689	55,040	155,729
1912	100,665	52,868	153,533
1913	101,353	51,837	153,190
1914	98,354	49,242	147,596
1915	98,617	49,038	147,655
1916	95,535	50,964	146,499

Persons absent from their farms for the greater portion of the year following other occupations, as well as temporary hands engaged

in harvesting, &c., are not included in the above tabulation, neither are domestic servants nor cooks; but females partly engaged in outdoor duties in connexion with the holdings are included therein. It is estimated that the temporary labour employed on farms and pastoral holdings is equivalent to about 24,000 men employed continuously throughout the year.

In the next return will be found particulars of the rates of wages paid (with rations) upon farms and pastoral holdings during 1916-17. The information has been furnished by the occupiers of holdings :—

Wages—
agricultural
and
pastoral.

WAGES, AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL, 1916-17.

Occupations.	Range.	Prevailing Rate.
Ploughmen	25s. to 50s. per week ..	30s. per week
Farm labourers	20s. to 50s. ,, ..	27s. 6d. ,,
Threshing machine hands	9d. to 1s. per hour ..	10d. per hour
Harvest hands	7s. to 10s. per day ..	8s. per day
Milkers	20s. to 30s. per week ..	25s. per week
Maize pickers (without rations) ..	5d. to 7d. per bag ..	6d. per bag
Hop pickers ,, ,, ..	3d. to 5d. per bushel ..	4d. per bushel
Married couples	30s. to 60s. per week ..	40s. per week
Female servants	10s. to 25s. ,, ..	15s. ,,
Men cooks	25s. to 50s. ,, ..	30s. ,,
Stockmen	£52 to £100 per annum ..	£65 per annum
Generally useful men	20s. to 40s. per week ..	25s. per week
Shearers, hand*	20s. to 25s. per 100 sheep	24s. per 100 sheep
,, machine*	20s. to 25s. ,, ..	24s. ,,
Bush carpenters	30s. to 60s. per week ..	35s. per week
Gardeners, market	20s. to 40s. ,, ..	27s. 6d. ,,
,, orchard	20s. to 50s. ,, ..	27s. 6d. ,,
Vineyard hands	20s. to 50s. ,, ..	25s. ,,

* It is believed that in the cases of some of the highest rates rations are not found.

Farm
Implements.

The numbers of engines, horse-works, machines and other implements on agricultural, dairying, and pastoral holdings in March, 1917, were as follows:—

MACHINERY AND IMPLEMENTS ON FARMS AND PASTORAL HOLDINGS IN EACH DISTRICT, 1917.

District.	Number of —													
	Engines.		Horseworks.	Harvesters.	Threshing Machines.	Winnowing Machines.	Reapers and Binders.	Strippers.	Ploughs.	Harrows.	Cultivators.	Grain Drills.	Chaff- cutters.	Cream Separators.
	Steam.	Oil.												
1917.														
Central ..	460	1,818	1,009	437	87	225	4,405	44	19,776	13,269	7,255	3,319	6,097	6,732
North-Central	225	511	827	313	48	310	1,985	61	5,526	3,922	1,497	1,500	2,059	3,490
Western ..	240	1,928	1,424	1,348	116	239	3,620	93	11,520	7,860	2,551	2,858	3,649	6,679
Wimmera ..	135	1,015	1,936	4,242	125	1,356	3,820	1,894	8,849	6,041	4,881	4,448	4,175	4,050
Mallee ..	111	699	1,002	2,720	36	1,634	2,081	3,589	6,572	3,570	4,036	3,660	1,723	1,968
Northern ..	608	973	1,379	6,017	112	1,680	6,622	1,179	14,467	9,400	8,382	5,959	2,741	6,328
North-Eastern	341	363	703	621	50	304	1,842	218	5,509	3,557	1,435	1,230	1,442	2,798
Gippsland ..	306	884	604	210	109	152	1,560	25	9,656	7,152	3,223	1,364	2,435	5,506
Total, 1917	2,426	9,091	9,434	15,938	683	5,900	24,885	7,108	81,874	54,771	33,260	24,338	24,321	38,050
„ 1916	2,588	8,220	10,122	14,832	606	6,267	24,872	7,884	82,124	54,237	32,882	24,090	24,245	36,349
„ 1915	2,612	7,436	10,408	12,988	525	6,604	23,421	8,403	81,810	53,261	31,241	22,810	23,688	35,187
„ 1914	2,709	6,586	10,598	13,427	574	6,553	23,701	8,287	80,197	52,876	30,447	22,128	24,050	34,733
„ 1913	2,664	5,274	10,994	12,575	515	6,828	23,088	8,556	77,847	52,196	28,274	20,962	23,754	32,561
„ 1912	2,873	4,271	11,376	12,027	475	6,870	21,973	8,621	75,368	50,208	26,752	19,865	23,172	30,891

NOTE.—The returns collected in March, 1917, showed that there were also in use 1,465 milking machine plants, 4,556 shearing machines, 4,064 wool presses, and 1,698 grain graders.

The numbers of all kinds of machinery and implements, except steam-engines, horse-works, winnowing machines and strippers, were greater in 1917 than in 1912. In the intervening period the increase per cent. was 113 for oil engines, 25 for shearing machines, 33 for harvesters, 44 for threshing machines, 24 for cultivators, and 23 for grain drills and cream separators.

PASTORAL AND DAIRYING INDUSTRIES.

The pastoral and dairying industries have always been important sources of wealth to the State, and their increasing value in recent years, despite the larger areas devoted to cultivation, indicates that both pastures and stock are, on the whole, steadily improving. The progress of stock breeding for 50 years is shown in the next

table, which gives the numbers of horses, milch cows, other cattle, sheep and pigs, and their numbers per head of population and per square mile in each of the last six census years.

LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA AT SIX CENSUS PERIODS.

Census Year.	Horses (including foals).	Cattle—		Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Other.		
	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.	Number.
1861	76,536	197,332	525,000	5,780,896	61,259
1871	209,025	212,193	564,534	10,477,976	180,109
1881	275,516	329,198	957,069	10,360,285	241,936
1891	436,469	395,192	1,387,689	12,692,843	282,457
1901	392,237	521,612	1,080,772	10,841,790	350,370
1911	472,080	668,777	878,792	12,882,665	333,281
<i>Per Head of Population.</i>					
1861	·14	·37	·97	10·70	·11
1871	·29	·29	·77	14·32	·25
1881	·32	·38	1·11	12·01	·28
1891	·38	·35	1·22	11·13	·25
1901	·33	·43	·90	9·03	·29
1911	·36	·51	·67	9·79	·25
<i>Per Square Mile.</i>					
1861	·87	2·25	5·97	65·78	·70
1871	2·38	2·41	6·42	119·22	2·05
1881	3·14	3·75	10·89	117·88	2·75
1891	4·97	4·50	15·79	144·43	3·21
1901	4·46	5·94	12·30	123·36	4·00
1911	5·37	7·61	10·00	146·59	3·79

There were more horses and milch cows and fewer sheep per head of population in 1911 than in 1891. The great increase in milch cows since 1891 indicates the growth of the dairying industry which followed the regular and successful transport of Victorian butter to England. By reducing horses and cattle to an equivalent in sheep on the assumption that one of the former will eat as much as ten, and one of the latter as much as six sheep, interesting comparisons of the carrying capacity of the land at different periods may be instituted. Calculations made on this basis show that each square mile carried an equivalent of 306 sheep in 1911 as against 237 in 1881—an increase of 29 per cent. in the carrying capacity of the land in 30 years.

Information relating to land occupied and cultivation and live stock thereon was collected in March, 1913. The land privately owned was summarized according to different-sized holdings, and in the instances where Crown lands were held in conjunction therewith these were, regardless of size, scheduled with the holdings to which they were attached. The particulars are given in the two succeeding tables :—

SIZE OF HOLDINGS SHOWING AREAS UNDER CULTIVATION AND PASTURE, MARCH, 1913.

Privately-owned Land.			Crown Land held in conjunction with that privately owned.	Total Area Occupied.	Area under—	
Size of Holdings. (In Acres.)	Number of Holdings.	Area Occupied.			Cultivation.	Pasture, &c.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1 to 5	4,158	12,627	44,966	57,593	3,458	54,135
6 " 15	5,052	51,293	18,442	64,735	16,894	47,841
16 " 30	5,259	117,141	58,577	175,718	36,188	139,530
31 " 50	4,238	175,898	111,784	287,682	50,606	237,076
51 " 100	7,356	558,534	145,742	704,276	138,352	565,924
101 " 200	9,891	1,477,264	334,088	1,811,332	329,657	1,481,675
201 " 300	5,698	1,428,071	428,597	1,856,668	311,947	1,544,721
301 " 320	2,894	914,365	454,144	1,368,509	233,921	1,134,588
321 " 400	3,179	1,149,040	351,048	1,500,088	263,975	1,236,113
401 " 500	3,073	1,390,510	283,553	1,674,063	363,700	1,310,363
501 " 600	2,451	1,352,613	402,941	1,755,554	362,674	1,392,880
601 " 640	2,509	1,583,779	154,348	1,738,127	433,671	1,304,456
641 " 700	1,267	851,486	334,013	1,185,499	207,262	978,237
701 " 800	1,608	1,210,856	278,910	1,489,766	302,622	1,187,144
801 " 900	1,135	966,221	224,076	1,190,297	245,126	945,171
901 " 1,000	1,211	1,158,447	404,668	1,563,115	319,990	1,243,125
1,001 " 1,500	2,784	3,417,332	1,074,623	4,491,960	875,165	3,616,795
1,501 " 2,000	1,208	2,091,974	293,421	2,385,395	457,373	1,928,022
2,001 " 2,500	552	1,239,679	484,480	1,724,159	214,073	1,510,086
2,501 " 3,000	305	840,565	714,723	1,555,288	119,619	1,435,669
3,001 " 4,000	348	1,208,523	148,751	1,357,274	163,726	1,193,548
4,001 " 5,000	167	754,331	222,295	976,626	68,913	907,713
5,001 " 7,500	185	1,125,333	253,977	1,379,360	71,262	1,308,098
7,501 " 10,000	82	700,479	88,871	789,350	40,648	748,702
10,001 " 15,000	78	963,016	391,783	1,354,799	21,926	1,332,873
15,001 " 20,000	38	640,029	7,460	653,489	7,084	646,405
20,001 " 30,000	20	494,237	396	494,633	8,747	485,886
30,001 " 40,000	11	362,726	8,839	371,565	1,023	369,542
40,001 " 50,000	3	135,558	1,232	136,790	596	136,194
50,001 and upwards	1	51,400	..	51,400	230	51,170
Total ..	66,811	28,429,357	7,710,753	36,140,110	5,670,423	30,469,682

Size of holdings and live stock thereon.

The last table shows the areas devoted to cultivation and grazing on different-sized holdings in March, 1913, whilst the next table, which is a supplementary one, gives the numbers of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs on these holdings at the same date.

SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND LIVE STOCK THEREON, MARCH, 1913.

Size of Holdings. (In Acres.)	Live Stock on Land Occupied.				
	Horses.	Cattle.		Sheep.	Pigs.
		Dairy Cows.	Other Cattle.		
1 to 5	4,633	5,480	4,039	2,808	1,684
6 " 15	7,343	10,182	6,813	4,424	4,250
16 " 30	10,500	14,825	10,766	12,697	6,643
31 " 50	10,831	19,056	13,923	17,652	8,602
51 " 100	25,005	55,362	38,211	68,230	23,323
101 " 200	48,133	119,635	87,462	228,752	48,969
201 " 300	38,494	83,342	70,488	302,423	31,535
301 " 320	22,265	35,668	35,541	197,667	12,345
321 " 400	27,441	47,801	48,253	303,947	17,085
401 " 500	30,435	42,224	49,042	395,625	14,109
501 " 600	25,791	32,928	41,697	392,867	9,716
601 " 640	22,835	16,648	26,125	292,312	5,480
641 " 700	12,719	13,015	20,996	237,750	4,289
701 " 800	19,358	16,147	27,360	387,856	5,118
801 " 900	15,935	13,715	25,960	358,213	5,228
901 " 1,000	18,099	14,164	26,848	436,856	4,198
1,001 " 1,500	47,940	33,438	77,594	1,427,735	10,206
1,501 " 2,000	24,208	12,998	38,953	977,380	3,751
2,001 " 2,500	12,519	7,693	25,304	649,203	2,261
2,501 " 3,000	6,983	4,332	15,699	515,414	1,351
3,001 " 4,000	9,616	5,411	19,939	726,481	1,355
4,001 " 5,000	4,750	2,872	13,590	478,333	507
5,001 " 7,500	6,776	3,952	29,987	831,290	1,495
7,501 " 10,000	3,933	1,583	13,167	504,726	258
10,001 " 15,000	3,611	1,512	17,905	761,201	457
15,001 " 20,000	1,918	777	8,344	504,279	104
20,001 " 30,000	1,398	544	4,748	334,753	104
30,001 " 40,000	1,069	180	5,704	269,172	35
40,001 " 50,000	278	74	820	116,723	61
50,001 and upwards	220	12	250	41,650	3
Total	465,636	615,520	805,618	11,773,924	224,582

The figures in the last two tables are exclusive of live stock travelling and those in cities, towns, &c.; also of 1,892 holdings containing 1,078,688 acres of Crown lands not held in conjunction with any private land, on which there were 36,151 acres of cultivation, 5,277 horses, 20,832 cattle, 84,737 sheep, and 3,901 pigs. The position disclosed was that 61,029 persons holding up to 1,000 acres each of private land occupied in the aggregate 14,398,125 acres of such land, as well as 4,024,897 acres of Crown land—a total of 18,423,022 acres, or 51 per

cent. of the total area in occupation. These occupiers controlled 64 per cent. of the total cultivation, and 49 per cent. of the pasture, and possessed 73 per cent. of the horses, 88 per cent. of the dairy cows, 66 per cent. of the other cattle, 90 per cent. of the pigs, and 31 per cent. of the sheep.

Size of holdings in 1910 and 1913. Particulars of land occupied and cultivation thereon are given in the following table for the years 1910 and 1913:—

SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND CULTIVATION THEREON.

Size of Holdings. (In acres.)	Year	Privately-owned Land.		Crown Land held in conjunction with that privately owned.	Total Area Occupied.	Area under—	
		Number of Holdings.	Area Occupied.			Cultiva- tion.	Pasture, &c.
			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1 to 100	1910	23,805	836,826	442,413	1,279,239	228,227	1,051,012
	1913	26,113	915,493	374,511	1,290,004	245,498	1,044,506
101 „ 320	1910	17,583	3,686,498	1,209,660	4,896,158	839,664	4,056,494
	1913	18,483	3,819,680	1,216,829	5,036,509	875,525	4,160,984
321 „ 640	1910	9,676	4,623,839	1,900,058	6,523,897	1,182,254	5,341,643
	1913	11,212	5,475,942	1,191,890	6,667,832	1,424,020	5,243,812
641 „ 1,000	1910	4,354	3,553,261	1,800,551	5,353,812	863,080	4,490,732
	1913	5,221	4,187,010	1,241,667	5,428,677	1,075,000	4,353,677
1,001 „ 2,500	1910	4,159	6,178,744	2,464,135	8,642,879	1,254,392	7,388,487
	1913	4,544	6,748,985	1,852,529	8,601,514	1,546,611	7,054,903
2,501 „ 5,000	1910	749	2,571,444	1,348,979	3,920,423	298,146	3,622,277
	1913	820	2,803,419	1,085,769	3,889,188	352,258	3,536,930
5,001 „ 10,000	1910	239	1,651,979	1,397,984	3,049,963	85,379	2,964,584
	1913	267	1,825,862	842,848	2,168,710	111,910	2,056,800
10,001 and up- wards	1910	175	3,298,227	145,420	3,443,647	45,770	3,397,877
	1913	151	2,652,966	404,710	3,057,676	89,606	3,018,070
Total	1910	60,240	28,400,818	10,709,200	37,110,018	4,796,912	32,313,106
	1913	66,811	23,429,357	7,710,753	36,140,110	5,670,428	30,469,682

The influence of legislation and the growing demand for land are evidenced by the steady decline from year to year in the number and the aggregate acreage of the largest sized privately owned holdings. The number of holdings of over 10,000 acres was 195 in 1906, 175 in 1910, and 151 in 1913, and the aggregate areas comprised therein were 4,134,067 acres, 3,298,227 acres, and 2,652,966 acres in the corresponding years. The reduction was equivalent to 22·6 per cent. in the number and 35·8 per cent. in the acreage of such estates during the seven years ended March, 1913. In all other holdings of the sizes mentioned in the above table there were increases in both numbers and acreage in the seven years referred to.

To illustrate the uses to which the land was applied in 1910 and 1913, various percentages relating to holdings of different sizes are given for those years in the succeeding table, which also shows the live stock carried by the holdings, reduced to their equivalent in sheep:—

SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND HOW UTILIZED, 1910 AND 1913.

Size of Holdings of Private Land. (In Acres.)	Year.	Percentage in each Division to Total of—				Live Stock Grazed reduced to equivalent in Sheep.	
		Area Occupied.	Area under Cultivation.	Area used for Pasture, &c.	Equivalent in Sheep Grazed.	Total.	Per Acre used for Grazing, &c.
1 to 100	1910	3.45	4.76	3.25	6.28	1,586,653	1.51
	1913	3.57	4.33	3.43	7.08	1,766,873	1.69
101 „ 320	1910	13.19	17.50	12.55	17.50	4,415,168	1.09
	1913	13.94	15.44	13.66	17.67	4,410,283	1.06
321 „ 640	1910	17.58	24.65	16.53	17.00	4,290,653	.80
	1913	18.45	25.12	17.21	17.14	4,278,079	.82
641 „ 1,000	1910	14.42	17.99	13.90	12.18	3,075,406	.68
	1913	15.02	18.95	14.29	12.15	3,031,015	.70
1,001 „ 2,500	1910	23.29	26.15	22.87	20.10	5,074,837	.69
	1913	23.80	27.27	23.15	20.34	5,076,868	.72
2,501 „ 5,000	1910	10.57	6.22	11.21	8.81	2,224,312	.61
	1913	10.76	6.22	11.61	9.22	2,300,276	.65
5,001 „ 10,000	1910	8.22	1.78	9.17	6.29	1,589,021	.54
	1913	6.00	1.98	6.75	6.95	1,735,240	.84
10,001 and upwards	1910	9.28	.95	10.52	11.84	2,989,460	.88
	1913	8.46	.69	9.90	9.45	2,358,478	.78
Total	1910	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	25,245,510	.78
	1913	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	24,957,112	.82

Horses and cattle have been reduced to an equivalent in sheep on the assumption that one head of the former will eat as much as ten, and one of the latter as much as six sheep. From this return it will be seen that, in 1913, 51 per cent. of the land occupied was in areas not exceeding 1,000 acres, and, while this portion furnished 64 per cent. of the cultivation, it contained nearly 49 per cent. of the total area under pasture, and supported 54 per cent. of the grazing stock. Dairying was carried on principally in the small holdings and pigs were most numerous where dairying prevailed. Nearly 56 per cent. of the dairy cows and about 61 per cent. of the pigs were on holdings of not more than 320 acres. The sheep-carrying capacity per acre of the total grazing area in 1913 was slightly in excess of that for 1910. The proportionate decrease of pastoral areas in estates of from 5,001 to 10,000 acres between the years mentioned is very noticeable, especially as it was accompanied by an increase in the number of live stock grazed.

Land occupied
in different
districts.

The following tables show the land in occupation in March, 1917, in districts, and the uses to which the land was applied:—

LAND IN OCCUPATION IN EACH DISTRICT OF VICTORIA, MARCH, 1917.

(Areas of 1 acre and upwards.)

District.	Number of Occupiers.	ACRES OCCUPIED.				Total.
		For Agricultural Purposes.	For Pasture.		Other Purposes and Unproductive.	
			Sown Grasses, Clover, or Lucerne.	Natural Grasses.		
Central ...	17,449	483,781	173,611	2,078,831	126,391	2,862,614
North-Central ...	5,956	161,607	38,281	1,790,241	75,451	2,065,580
Western ...	11,855	505,013	208,872	5,779,903	229,810	6,723,598
Wimmera ...	6,433	1,627,368	112,695	4,057,607	154,289	5,951,959
Mallee ...	5,846	1,859,144	2,858	3,513,483	682,693	5,858,178
Northern ...	12,016	1,777,655	49,005	3,414,150	31,938	5,272,748
North-Eastern ...	5,269	181,812	6,416	3,560,695	121,812	3,870,735
Gippsland ...	8,786	154,514	701,079	3,773,888	633,636	5,263,117
Total ...	73,610	6,750,894	1,292,817	27,768,798	2,056,020	37,868,529
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL OCCUPIED IN EACH DISTRICT.						
Central ...	...	16 90	6 06	72 62	4 42	100 00
North-Central ...	...	7 83	1 85	86 67	3 65	100 00
Western ...	...	7 51	3 10	85 97	3 42	100 00
Wimmera ...	...	27 34	1 90	68 17	2 59	100 00
Mallee ...	...	31 74	05	56 56	11 65	100 00
Northern ...	...	33 71	93	64 75	61	100 00
North-Eastern ...	...	4 70	16	91 99	3 15	100 00
Gippsland ...	...	2 94	13 32	71 70	12 04	100 00
Total ...	...	17 83	3 41	73 33	5 43	100 00
PERCENTAGE IN EACH DISTRICT OF TOTAL IN STATE.						
Central ...	23 70	7 17	13 43	7 49	6 15	7 56
North-Central ...	8 09	2 39	2 96	6 45	3 67	5 45
Western ...	16 11	7 48	16 15	20 81	11 18	17 76
Wimmera ...	8 74	24 11	8 72	14 61	7 50	15 72
Mallee ...	7 94	27 54	22	11 93	33 20	15 47
Northern ...	16 32	26 33	3 79	12 30	1 55	13 92
North-Eastern ...	7 16	2 69	50	12 82	5 93	10 22
Gippsland ...	11 94	2 29	54 23	13 59	30 82	13 90
Total ...	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00	100 00

It will be seen from these tables that the greatest area under cultivation and the greatest proportion of cultivation to land occupied are found in the Northern, Wimmera and Mallee districts. Of the occupied land about 34 per cent. in the Northern, 32 per cent. in the Mallee, and 27 per cent. in the Wimmera districts are devoted to agriculture, and these divisions supply 78 per cent. of the cultivation in

Victoria. In the North-Central, Western, and North-Eastern districts the land occupied is largely devoted to grazing; and in Gippsland considerable attention has been given to the cultivation of grasses, 54 per cent. of all the sown grasses in the State being found in that district.

The next table contains particulars of the distribution of horses, cattle, and sheep on agricultural and pastoral lands in March, 1917.

AREA OCCUPIED AND STOCK THEREON, 1917.

District.	Acres Occupied for—		Number of—		
	Agriculture.	Pasture.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
Central ...	483,781	2,252,442	107,849	203,630	1,203,986
North-Central ...	161,607	1,828,522	23,805	69,142	1,131,316
Western ...	505,013	5,988,775	73,519	273,175	3,932,889
Wimmera ...	1,627,368	4,170,302	69,510	40,900	1,785,752
Mallee ...	1,859,144	3,316,341	49,057	24,892	479,558
Northern ...	1,777,655	3,463,155	96,646	131,988	1,822,176
North-Eastern ...	181,812	3,567,111	38,217	146,373	953,014
Gippsland ...	154,514	4,474,967	50,800	284,998	1,267,896
Total ...	6,750,894	29,061,615	514,403	1,175,098	12,576,587

The area occupied does not include 2,056,020 acres which are mostly in an unproductive state. Compared with 1916, horses increased by 20,624, or 4.2 per cent., cattle by 131,494, or 12.6 per cent., and sheep by 2,030,955, or 19.3 per cent.

The following return shows the live stock in Victoria in each of the last five years. Tables showing the stock classified in conjunction with holdings in March, 1913, and sheep classified in different sized flocks in March, 1917, are given on pages 747 and 761 :—

LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA, 1913 TO 1917.

Live Stock.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
Horses (including foals) ...	530,494	562,331	552,053	493,779	514,403
Cattle—					
Dairy Cows ...	655,939	656,080	610,517	451,088	488,086
Other (including calves) ...	852,150	872,473	752,025	592,516	687,012
Sheep ...	11,892,224	12,113,682	12,051,685	10,545,632	12,576,587
Pigs ...	240,072	221,277	243,196	192,002	254,436

All classes of live stock were more numerous in March, 1917, than in the preceding year.

In the subjoined table will be found a statement of the average and the range of prices ruling in Melbourne during the years 1915 and 1916 for live stock. The information has been extracted from the Melbourne *Stock and Station Journal* :—

PRICES IN MELBOURNE OF LIVE STOCK, 1915 AND 1916.

Stock.	Prices in 1915.						Prices in 1916.													
	Average.			Range.			Average.			Range.										
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.								
<i>Horses.</i>																				
Extra heavy draught ..	39	17	6	23	0	0	to	50	0	0	43	7	6	32	0	0	to	52	0	0
Medium draught ..	30	17	6	21	0	0	to	36	0	0	31	0	0	23	0	0	to	38	10	0
Delivery Cart ..	24	0	0	19	0	0	to	28	10	0	21	17	6	18	5	0	to	30	0	0
Indian Remounts ..	22	15	0	21	10	0	to	36	0	0	21	12	6	20	10	0	to	27	0	0
Saddle and Harness ..	10	2	6	8	0	0	to	12	0	0	9	0	0	8	0	0	to	12	10	0
Ponies ..	11	15	0	9	0	0	to	15	0	0	11	12	6	9	15	0	to	16	10	0
<i>Fat Cattle.</i>																				
<i>Bullocks—</i>																				
Extra Prime.. ..	24	15	0	15	15	0	to	37	12	0	25	1	0	22	0	0	to	29	7	0
Prime	21	14	0	14	15	0	to	31	12	0	21	3	0	19	0	0	to	22	18	0
Good	17	13	0	12	11	0	to	24	17	0	17	19	0	16	19	0	to	19	5	0
<i>Good Light and Handy</i>																				
Weights	15	9	0	10	10	0	to	20	15	0	16	1	0	15	0	0	to	17	7	0
Second	10	7	0	8	0	0	to	14	11	0	14	9	0	12	17	0	to	15	15	0
<i>Cows—</i>																				
Best	15	3	0	9	16	0	to	22	10	0	15	1	0	14	0	0	to	16	16	0
Others	11	11	0	7	15	0	to	17	15	0	10	19	0	9	2	0	to	14	1	0
<i>Dairy Cattle.</i>																				
Best Milkers	12	16	0	9	0	0	to	15	5	0	18	0	0	12	10	0	to	27	15	0
Springers, best ..	10	2	0	6	0	0	to	13	0	0	14	0	0	9	17	0	to	18	5	0
<i>Fat Sheep.</i>																				
<i>Wethers (cross)—</i>																				
Extra Prime.. ..	1	16	1	1	1	6	to	2	15	3	2	2	7	1	12	1	to	2	13	3
Prime	1	9	5	0	18	3	to	2	4	0	1	16	10	1	8	0	to	2	4	3
Good	1	2	9	0	14	0	to	1	12	4	1	12	1	1	4	0	to	1	18	0
<i>Ewes (cross)—</i>																				
Extra Prime	1	14	4	0	19	3	to	2	16	0	1	19	2	1	11	0	to	2	10	0
Prime	1	8	2	0	16	4	to	2	3	0	1	14	1	1	7	0	to	2	0	10
Good	1	1	9	0	11	9	to	1	12	7	1	9	1	1	3	0	to	1	15	9
<i>Wethers (merino)—</i>																				
Extra Prime.. ..	1	9	2	0	17	6	to	2	8	4	1	14	9	1	6	6	to	2	0	6
Prime	1	4	1	0	14	6	to	1	16	6	1	9	11	1	4	0	to	1	15	1
Good	0	19	2	0	10	9	to	1	9	6	1	5	8	1	0	6	to	1	10	3
Ewes (merino) best ..	0	19	7	0	10	4	to	1	10	3	1	5	1	0	19	6	to	1	11	0
<i>Fat Lambs.</i>																				
Extra Prime	1	5	11	0	16	3	to	1	18	1	1	13	4	1	6	9	to	2	1	3
Prime	1	1	6	0	14	0	to	1	11	1	1	7	10	1	1	6	to	1	14	6
Good	0	17	3	0	11	0	to	1	4	9	1	3	2	0	18	1	to	1	8	5
Second	0	14	1	0	8	1	to	1	0	10	1	0	3	0	15	9	to	1	3	10
<i>Pigs.</i>																				
<i>Back Fatters—</i>																				
Extra Heavy Prime ..	8	12	0	6	0	0	to	13	0	0	7	19	0	5	10	0	to	10	10	0
Extra Prime	4	15	0	3	8	0	to	9	0	0	5	14	0	4	10	0	to	7	10	0
Weighty	4	15	0	3	8	0	to	9	0	0	5	14	0	4	10	0	to	7	10	0
<i>Baconers—</i>																				
Extra Prime.. ..	4	12	0	3	4	0	to	5	17	0	4	8	0	3	13	0	to	5	12	0
Prime	3	15	0	2	5	0	to	5	0	0	3	17	0	3	2	0	to	4	19	0
Porkers	2	7	0	1	12	0	to	3	4	0	2	14	0	2	4	0	to	3	8	0

The most striking feature of the figures is the increase in 1916 in the prices of dairy cattle and all classes of sheep and lambs.

The following is a statement of the stock slaughtered on farms and stations, as well as in municipal abattoirs, during each of the last ten years :—

STOCK SLAUGHTERED : 1907 TO 1916.

Year.	Number Slaughtered.		
	Sheep and Lambs.	Cattle.	Pigs.
1907	3,226,141	289,709	257,695
1908	3,309,865	279,710	225,162
1909	3,708,512	287,548	210,613
1910	4,245,881	319,665	257,287
1911	4,348,363	347,926	345,547
1912	4,153,269	368,512	331,364
1913	4,742,231	410,694	286,931
1914	4,550,272	470,011	260,017
1915	2,973,803	356,174	216,003
1916	2,647,200	247,781	214,228

The purposes for which the slaughtered animals were used were as follows :—

PURPOSES FOR WHICH STOCK WERE SLAUGHTERED :
1907 TO 1916.

Year.	For Butcher and Private Use.			For Freezing.			For Preserving and Salting.			For Boiling Down.		
	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Cattle.	Pigs.
1907	2,255,308	232,403	81,116	866,498	2,805	1,585	11,760	3,141	174,970	92,575	1,360	24
1908	2,480,072	260,529	71,309	773,396	15,789	2,296	10,775	2,015	151,478	45,622	1,377	79
1909	2,718,344	276,759	67,117	941,309	7,399	225	10,962	2,235	143,206	37,897	1,155	65
1910	2,592,514	302,232	91,850	1,573,516	13,009	1,557	41,420	3,624	163,844	38,431	750	36
1911	2,678,517	321,251	134,546	1,578,132	17,354	1,609	69,486	7,640	209,177	22,228	1,681	215
1912	2,610,665	344,706	148,394	1,409,243	10,793	3,120	104,472	10,129	179,710	28,889	2,884	133
1913	2,587,895	355,868	107,069	2,107,180	36,692	..	41,034	15,383	179,710	6,122	2,751	132
1914	2,783,302	385,548	76,464	1,710,152	64,838	1,713	34,141	15,276	181,756	22,177	4,349	84
1915	2,910,848	338,475	86,580	47,546	175	..	9,762	12,082	129,259	5,647	5,442	164
1916	2,206,952	233,910	46,922	418,418	8,243	156	20,925	4,850	167,003	905	778	147

The increase which took place in the number of sheep and lambs slaughtered for freezing, until it was checked by a drought in 1914, shows the growing importance of the frozen meat trade of the State. Of the 4,742,231 sheep and lambs slaughtered in Victoria in 1913, 2,107,180, or 44 per cent., were frozen, as compared with 651,914, or 23 per cent., in 1906. In 1916-17 the oversea exports included 12,999,314 lbs. of lamb and 2,940,770 lbs. of mutton, valued at £329,476 and £64,568 respectively, all of which was sent to the United Kingdom.

Mutton and Lamb frozen for Export. The soil and climate of Victoria are well suited to the economical production of both mutton and lamb, and properly selected breeds of sheep are profitable, not only as meat, but also as wool producers. The climate permits of flocks being kept on open pasture all the year round, and there are certain districts where, in consequence of the exceptionally mild conditions prevailing, the industry can be carried on with absolute success.

As there is practically no limit to the demand for mutton and lamb in Europe, the possibilities for those engaged in raising sheep for export are very great, especially as the number of sheep in the world is not keeping pace with the increase in population. The importance of this export trade to Victorian sheep owners is evidenced by the figures in the appended statement showing the numbers of carcasses frozen for export in 1894, a few years after the inception of the trade, and in each of the past six years. The quantity frozen for export in 1915 and 1916 was small in comparison with previous years. The chief reasons for this were, in 1915, the drought of the preceding year and, in 1916, the scarcity of shipping.

MUTTON AND LAMB FROZEN FOR EXPORT.

Year.	Number of Carcasses frozen for Export.		
	Mutton.	Lamb.	Total.
1894	250,000	..	250,000
1911	624,940	953,192	1,578,132
1912	566,541	842,702	1,409,243
1913	948,162	1,159,018	2,107,180
1914	653,329	1,056,823	1,710,152
1915 .. ..	..	47,546	47,546
1916	52,724	365,694	418,418

Dairying. The dairying industry is one of the principal sources of the wealth of the community. The value of dairy produce for 1916 was £6,886,513 as compared with £4,952,846 in 1915, £4,937,610 in 1914, and £5,163,416 in 1913. The following table shows the numbers of cowkeepers and cows, the total production of butter and cheese, and the number of cream separators in use in each of the last ten years :—

DAIRYING, 1907 TO 1916.

Year.	Number of Cow-keepers.	Number of Dairy Cows at end of Year.	Butter Made.	Cheese Made.	Number of Cream Separators in use.
			lbs.	lbs.	
1907	49,406	709,279	63,746,354	4,397,909	20,599
1908	49,158	609,166	48,461,398	4,328,644	22,395
1909	50,870	625,063	55,166,555	5,025,834	24,358
1910	52,610	668,777	70,603,787	4,530,893	27,307
1911	53,319	699,555	86,500,474	4,549,843	30,891
1912	54,447	655,939	67,655,834	4,176,778	32,561
1913	55,423	656,080	73,381,567	4,856,321	34,733
1914	55,553	610,517	62,421,288	4,395,502	35,187
1915	53,381	451,088	42,345,113	3,497,278	36,349
1916	53,940	488,086	59,568,771	5,869,562	38,050

The reduction in the figures in 1915 was due to a severe drought which occurred in the preceding year. In proportion to the number of dairy cows, the quantity of butter made in 1916 was considerably above the average of the preceding ten years.

Butter and cheese made on farms.

The next table shows the quantities of butter and cheese made on farms in each of the past ten years :—

BUTTER AND CHEESE MADE ON FARMS.

Year.	Butter.		Cheese.
	lbs.		lbs.
1907	4,696,123		1,705,952
1908	4,078,230		1,854,962
1909	5,611,927		1,857,879
1910	5,540,271		1,823,263
1911	5,233,355		1,502,582
1912	5,428,690		2,004,865
1913	5,879,670		2,008,370
1914	4,845,529		1,722,506
1915	4,750,866		1,367,243
1916	5,080,408		1,680,929

The quantities of butter, cheese, and concentrated, condensed, and powdered milk made, and of cream sold, in these factories during each of the last ten years were as follows:—

BUTTER, CHEESE, ETC., MADE IN FACTORIES, 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Butter Made.	Cream Sold.	Cheese Made.	Concentrated, Condensed, and Powdered Milk Made.
	lbs.	gallons.	lbs.	lbs.
1907 ...	59,050,231	25,442	2,691,957	4,684,656
1908 ...	44,383,168	17,527	2,473,682	3,781,548
1909 ...	49,554,628	19,417	3,167,955	3,894,859
1910 ...	65,063,516	29,910	2,707,630	3,004,842
1911 ...	81,267,119	34,028	3,047,261	13,697,691
1912 ...	62,227,144	41,952	2,171,913	18,456,094
1913 ...	67,701,897	45,762	2,847,951	21,479,263
1914 ...	57,575,759	54,388	2,672,996	19,093,750
1915 ...	37,594,247	27,934	2,130,035	16,690,426
1916-17 ...	54,488,363	68,842	4,188,633	33,280,635

NOTE.—In addition, 467,168 lbs. of casein were made.

The quantity of milk received at factories and creameries was 104,980,863 gallons in 1908, 116,034,058 gallons in 1909, 149,490,103 gallons in 1910, 191,128,362 gallons in 1911, 150,079,730 gallons in 1912, 166,339,178 gallons in 1913, 144,317,040 gallons in 1914, 93,846,750 gallons in 1915, and 138,746,860 gallons in 1916-17.

In 1916-17 there were exported from Victoria to countries outside Australia 30,706,719 lbs. of butter, valued at £2,189,025, practically all of which was Australian produce. The quantity sent to the United Kingdom was 27,710,038 lbs., valued at £1,938,206. The quantity of cheese exported to oversea countries was 2,219,563 lbs., and the value thereof £91,675.

Exports of
butter and
cheese.

Information relating to the wool clip is obtained direct from the growers, and an allowance is made for the wool on Victorian skins, both stripped and exported. On this basis the production of wool in 1916-17 and earlier seasons was as follows:—

VICTORIAN WOOL CLIP AND ESTIMATED TOTAL PRODUCTION FOR THE SEASON, 1916-17.

Districts.		Wool Clip, 1916-17.		
		Sheep.	Lambs.	Total.
		lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Central ...	...	5,847,257	768,057	6,615,314
North-Central ...	...	5,716,022	823,120	6,539,142
Western ...	...	24,437,969	2,594,336	27,032,305
Wimmera ...	...	10,932,437	1,071,039	12,003,476
Mallee ...	...	2,505,474	272,294	2,777,768
Northern ...	...	10,222,016	1,112,543	11,334,559
North-Eastern ...	...	4,923,082	693,186	5,616,268
Gippsland ...	...	6,063,605	864,487	6,928,092
Total Clip	1916-17	70,647,862	8,199,062	78,846,924
	1915-16	55,801,193	3,725,255	59,526,448
	1914-15	65,005,305	5,085,597	70,090,902
	1913-14	74,157,932	5,868,688	80,026,620
	1912-13	65,666,190	4,170,780	69,836,970
	1911-12	81,902,229	6,504,990	88,407,219
	1910-11	73,959,226	6,115,044	80,074,270
	1909-10	71,006,003	5,673,606	76,679,609
	1908-9	65,289,108	3,641,093	68,930,201
	1907-8	72,542,779	6,577,194	79,119,973

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Wool clip ...	80,026,620	70,090,902	59,526,448	78,846,924
Wool stripped from Victorian skins (estimated)	26,807,070	25,315,965	22,803,750	15,998,100
Wool on Victorian skins exported (estimated) ...				
Total production ...	106,833,690	95,406,867	82,330,198	94,845,024
Total value ...	£4,032,954	£3,410,913	£4,066,003	£5,927,814

The wool produced last season was 15·2 per cent. more than in the previous season. Slightly more than one-half of the increase was due to the higher average weight of fleeces.

Weight of
a fleece.

The next table shows the production of wool per sheep and per lamb shorn for each of the last nine years :—

WEIGHT OF A FLEECE, 1908 TO 1916.

Year.	Weight of a Fleece.		
	Sheep.	Lambs.	Sheep and Lambs combined.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
1908	5·98	2·11	5·45
1909	6·70	2·29	5·86
1910	6·99	2·50	6·15
1911	7·23	2·33	6·29
1912	6·31	2·20	5·68
1913	7·50	2·35	6·46
1914	6·37	2·16	5·58
1915	6·44	2·31	5·79
1916	7·53	2·55	6·26

The average wool clips for sheep and lambs in 1916 were 1·09 lbs. and ·24 lb. respectively heavier than the averages for the previous year.

The production of wool in Victoria, the quantity and value of that used locally for manufacturing purposes and the balance available for export in each of the last ten years were as follows :—

WOOL PRODUCTION: HOME CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTABLE BALANCE, 1907 TO 1916.

Year.	Production.		Used in Manufactures.		Available for Export.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	lbs.	£	lbs.	£
1907	93,082,341	3,878,431	5,600,873	199,403	87,481,468	3,679,028
1908	87,536,450	3,556,168	5,470,740	190,197	82,065,710	3,365,971
1909	95,332,829	4,044,755	5,239,806	180,036	90,093,023	3,864,719
1910	101,803,644	4,318,100	5,309,730	186,648	96,493,914	4,131,452
1911	110,463,041	4,142,747	5,774,870	228,920	104,688,171	3,913,827
1912	88,762,612	3,751,083	5,535,483	247,943	83,227,129	3,503,140
1913	106,833,690	4,032,954	5,917,410	240,395	100,916,280	3,792,559
1914	95,406,867	3,410,913	6,118,450	254,935	89,288,417	3,155,978
1915	82,330,198	4,066,003	11,052,250	460,510	71,277,948	3,605,493
1916	94,845,024	5,927,814	8,669,460	433,473	86,175,564	5,494,341

Prices
of wool.

The following information as to the average prices of wool per lb. prevailing during the past three seasons has been obtained from Melbourne wool brokers :—

PRICES OF WOOL, 1914-15 TO 1916-17.

Class of Wool.	Average Price per lb. in—		
	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.
GREASY MERINO.			
Extra Super (Western District)...	17½d. to 18¾d.	23d. to 24¾d.	30d. to 33½d.
Super	16d. to 17d.	20d. to 22d.	26d. to 29d.
Good	12d. to 13½d.	14d. to 16d.	18d. to 24d.
Average	11d. to 12d.	12d. to 13d.	15d. to 17d.
Wasty and Inferior	6½d. to 8d.	7d. to 9d.	9d. to 12d.
Extra Super Lambs	16d. to 17¾d.	18d. to 20d.	22d. to 25½d.
Super Lambs	13d. to 15d.	15d. to 17d.	18d. to 21d.
Good Lambs	11d. to 12½d.	12d. to 14d.	15d. to 17d.
Average Lambs	8d. to 10d.	9d. to 11d.	11d. to 14d.
Inferior Lambs	4d. to 6d.	5d. to 7d.	6d. to 9d.
GREASY CROSSBRED.			
Extra Super Comebacks	16d. to 17d.	22d. to 24d.	26d. to 30½d.
Super Comebacks	15d. to 16d.	20d. to 23d.	23d. to 27d.
Fine Crossbred	13d. to 14d.	17d. to 18d.	18d. to 22d.
Medium Crossbred	12d. to 13d.	14d. to 16d.	14d. to 17d.
Coarse Crossbred and Lincoln	12d. to 13d.	13d. to 15d.	13d. to 15d.
Super Fine Crossbred Lambs	12d. to 14½d.	15d. to 19d.	18d. to 22d.
Good Crossbred Lambs	10d. to 11d.	11d. to 12d.	12d. to 15d.
Coarse and Lincoln Lambs	8d. to 9d.	9d. to 10d.	9d. to 11d.
SCOURED.			
Extra Super Fleece	25d. to 26½d.	31d. to 34d.	42d. to 45½d.
Super Fleece	23d. to 24d.	27d. to 30d.	36d. to 40d.
Good Fleece	22d. to 23d.	22d. to 26d.	32d. to 34d.
Average Fleece	19d. to 20d.	20d. to 22d.	28d. to 30d.
RECORD PRICES FOR THE SEASON.			
Greasy Merino Fleece	18¾d.	24¾d.	33½d.
" Comeback Fleece	17d.	24d.	30½d.
" Merino Lambs	17¾d.	20d.	25½d.
" Comeback Lambs	14½d.	19½d.	24d.
Scoured Fleece	26½d.	38½d.	45½d.

Flocks of sheep in districts.

Returns which were collected in March, 1917, give full information in regard to the flocks of sheep in Victoria. The numbers of flocks and of sheep at that time in the different districts were as follows:—

NUMBERS OF FLOCKS AND OF SHEEP IN DISTRICTS, 1917.

District.	Number of—		Average Number of Sheep to a Flock.	Percentage of—	
	Flocks.	Sheep.		Flocks.	Sheep.
Central	3,250	1,190,656	366	12·36	9·49
North-Central ..	2,242	1,129,735	504	8·53	9·01
Western	5,475	3,928,864	718	20·82	31·32
Wimmera	4,009	1,782,890	445	15·25	14·21
Mallee	1,162	479,316	412	4·42	3·82
Northern	4,876	1,817,676	373	18·55	14·49
North-Eastern ..	2,328	951,596	409	8·85	7·58
Gippsland	2,949	1,264,282	429	11·22	10·08
Total	26,291	12,545,015	477	100·00	100·00

The figures do not include 31,572 sheep which were travelling on roads or were located in cities and towns. There were some very large-sized flocks in the Western District, and, as a consequence, it contained 31·3 per cent. of the total sheep in the State, though it possessed only 20·8 per cent. of the total flocks. In the Central, North-Eastern, and Gippsland districts, which contained 32 per cent. of the flocks and 27 per cent. of the sheep, there was a much better distribution, and also evidence that the raising of lambs and the production of wool were combined more with cultivation than in other districts of the State. The average number of sheep to a flock was 477 in 1917, as compared with 478 in 1913, 531 in 1910, 642 in 1908, and 706 in 1906. The number of flocks increased from 24,834 in 1913 to 26,291 in 1917. In the four years the flocks increased by 761 in the Central, 165 in the North-Central, 152 in the Northern, 180 in the North-Eastern, and 516 in the Gippsland districts. On the other hand, the flocks in the Mallee, Western, and Wimmera districts decreased by 196, 99, and 22 respectively. During the four years mentioned the number of sheep increased by 684,363, the principal increases being in the Northern, Gippsland, and North-Eastern districts.

Sizes
of Flocks.

Excluding sheep travelling and those in cities and towns, the following table contains a classification for the whole State of sheep according to sizes of flocks :—

SHEEP ACCORDING TO SIZES OF FLOCKS, 1917.

Size of Flocks.	Number of—		Percentage of—	
	Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.
Under 500	20,292	2,926,977	77·18	23·33
500 to 1,000	3,311	2,261,996	12·60	18·03
1,000 „ 2,000	1,670	2,255,242	6·35	17·98
2,000 „ 3,000	433	1,023,854	1·65	8·16
3,000 „ 5,000	266	976,156	1·01	7·78
5,000 „ 7,000	128	754,934	·49	6·02
7,000 „ 10,000	90	739,784	·34	5·90
10,000 „ 15,000	67	844,249	·25	6·73
15,000 „ 20,000	15	257,024	·06	2·05
Over 20,000	19	504,799	·07	4·02
Total	26,291	12,545,015	100·00	100·00

A comparison of the above figures with those for 1913 and earlier years shows that the number of large sheep-owners had substantially declined, while the number of those owning the smallest-sized flocks had very greatly increased. Flocks of 20,000 and over numbered 19 in 1917, as against 25 in 1913, 37 in 1910, 52 in 1908, and 56 in 1906. Flocks of from 15,000 to 20,000 numbered 15 in 1917, 29 in 1913, 35 in 1910, 39 in 1908, and 50 in 1906. Flocks of less than 500 were 20,292 in number in 1917, as compared with 19,582 in 1913, 18,589 in 1910, 15,797 in 1908, and 11,647 in 1906. From these figures it will be seen that, while flocks of over 15,000 decreased by 68 per cent., those of less than 500 increased by 74 per cent. during the eleven years 1906 to 1917. Owners of more than 15,000 sheep possessed 6·1 per cent. of the sheep in the State in 1917, as against 22·5 in 1906. On the other hand, owners of less than 500 sheep possessed 23·3 per cent. of the total sheep in 1917, as compared with 15·1 per cent. in 1906. Sixteen of the 19 largest and 11 of the 15 second largest flocks in 1917 were in the Western District.

Areas of holdings and numbers and sizes of flocks of sheep.

The striking features of the return relating to sheep on different-sized holdings in March, 1917, are the very large numbers of small flocks depastured on farms of from 100 to 500 and from 500 to 1,000 acres, and the relatively small number of flocks of all sizes on holdings having an area of more than 5,000 acres. On the holdings of from 100 to 1,000 acres the flocks of less than 500 were 15,531 in number, or 59 per cent. of the total flocks in the State, while on holdings whose area exceeded 5,000 acres the flocks of all sizes were only 635 in number, or 2·4 per cent. of the total. The numbers and sizes of flocks of sheep on holdings of various areas in March, 1917, are given in the next table:—

AREAS OF HOLDINGS AND NUMBERS AND SIZES OF FLOCKS THEREON, 1917.

Area of Holdings. (Acres.)	Number and Size of Flocks.																Total.					
	Under 500.		500 to 1,000.		1,000 to 2,000.		2,000 to 3,000.		3,000 to 5,000.		5,000 to 7,000.		7,000 to 10,000.		10,000 to 15,000.		15,000 to 20,000.		Over 20,000.		Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.
	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.	Number of Flocks.	Number of Sheep.				
1 and under 50	1,112	25,363	2	1,517	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,114	26,880
50 " 100	1,338	64,392	4	2,766	1	1,191	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,343	68,349
100 " 500	10,276	1,254,466	511	331,623	63	76,077	3	7,385	1	3,055	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	10,854	1,672,606
500 " 1,000	5,255	1,032,660	1,227	823,562	297	375,004	22	50,630	6	21,162	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,807	2,308,018
1,000 " 5,000	2,224	534,983	1,533	1,072,606	1,231	1,693,334	350	820,951	164	598,746	31	176,923	4	35,153	1	10,540	..	..	..	..	5,538	4,941,236
5,000 " 10,000	33	6,982	20	14,752	56	80,587	46	114,163	81	297,682	74	440,659	47	379,364	16	191,531	1	15,835	..	..	374	1,542,058
10,000 " 20,000	18	2,767	7	5,200	12	17,223	9	22,968	11	45,789	18	109,166	35	292,163	41	524,745	11	188,362	2	43,742	164	1,252,125
20,000 " 50,000	28	4,517	5	3,670	8	9,606	2	7,757	3	11,722	3	15,686	3	25,166	9	117,433	3	52,824	15	404,066	80	652,437
50,000 " 100,000	6	470	2	1,300	2	2,220	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11	18,028
100,000 and upwards	3	177	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	6,400	1	7,438	..	..	..	..	2	57,001	6	63,278
Total ..	20,292	2,926,977	3,311	2,261,966	1,670	2,255,242	433	1,023,854	266	976,156	128	754,934	90	739,784	67	844,249	15	257,024	19	504,799	26,291	12,545,015

Breed of sheep.

The numbers of sheep of different breeds in Victoria in March, 1917, have been estimated as follows:—

SHEEP ACCORDING TO BREED, MARCH, 1917.

Breed of Sheep.	Number.
Merino	4,530,000
Comeback	2,890,000
Crossbred, coarse	1,633,000
" Shropshire and Southdown	1,514,000
Lincoln	882,000
Shropshire	501,000
Other	624,587
Total	12,576,587

In the following statement are given the numbers of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs in the various Australian States and New Zealand, according to returns dated March, 1917, for Victoria and Tasmania; December, 1916, for Queensland and Western Australia; June, 1916, for New South Wales, and June, 1917, for South Australia. The returns for the Northern Territory are for December, 1915, and those for New Zealand relate to April, 1917, in the case of sheep, and to January, 1917, in the case of other stock.

LIVE STOCK IN AUSTRALASIA, 1916.

State, etc.	Horses.	Cattle.		Sheep.	Pigs.
		Milch Cows.	Other.		
Victoria	514,403	488,086	687,012	12,576,587	254,436
New South Wales ..	720,136	426,893	1,978,806	32,588,143	280,426
Queensland	697,517	343,311	4,422,346	15,524,293	129,733
South Australia ..	257,422	86,311	202,576	5,091,282	118,542
The Northern Territory ..	19,957	..	483,961*	57,827	500
Western Australia ..	169,730	33,788	830,142	5,529,960	90,756
Tasmania	46,320	..	179,360*	1,702,579	53,033
New Zealand	367,167	760,108	1,742,592	24,753,324	278,186

* Including milch cows.

In 1916, as compared with the preceding year, the number of cattle had increased in all the States except New South Wales and Queensland, the number of horses had increased in all States except New South Wales, and the number of sheep had increased in all States except New South Wales and Queensland. Live stock, in proportion to area, are most numerous in New Zealand, which possesses horses, cattle, and sheep equal to about 415 sheep to the

square mile; Victoria comes next with 282; then follow New South Wales with 175; Tasmania with 124; Queensland with 76; South Australia with 25; and Western Australia with 13; after which comes the Northern Territory with stock equivalent to 6 sheep to the square mile.

Horses, cattle, sheep and pigs in the world. The estimated numbers of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs in the world are given in the next table. The totals for Australasia relate to the year 1916, and those for other countries to 1915. The figures, except those for Australia and New Zealand, are taken from the Year-Book of the United States' Department of Agriculture:—

HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, AND PIGS IN THE WORLD.

Country.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
United Kingdom ..	1,851,000	12,185,000	27,964,000	3,953,000
France ..	2,227,000	12,287,000	13,483,000	5,491,000
Russia (European) ..	23,860,000	34,547,000	42,736,000	11,945,000
Italy ..	956,000	6,199,000	11,163,000	2,508,000
Germany ..	3,441,000	21,817,000	5,452,000	25,339,000
Austria-Hungary ..	4,380,000	17,649,000	12,337,000	14,948,000
Other European Countries ..	4,756,000	22,772,000	55,962,000	13,735,000
Australia and New Zealand ..	2,793,000	12,665,000	97,824,000	1,206,000
Canada ..	2,996,000	6,066,000	2,039,000	3,112,000
United States ..	24,437,000	63,786,000	49,636,000	69,472,000
Mexico ..	859,000	5,142,000	3,424,000	616,000
Other North American Countries ..	931,000	4,968,000	649,000	953,000
Argentina ..	9,239,000	29,123,000	83,546,000	3,045,000
Brazil ..	7,289,000	30,705,000	10,653,000	18,399,000
Uruguay ..	556,000	8,193,000	26,286,000	180,000
Other South American Countries ..	756,000	4,817,000	6,969,000	1,980,000
Asia ..	13,672,000	163,088,000	81,392,000	6,939,000
Africa ..	1,147,000	15,211,000	61,737,000	2,014,000
Total ..	106,146,000	471,220,000	593,252,000	185,835,000

BEE FARMING.

The returns for 1916-17 show that there were in that year 3,661 bee-keepers, who owned 28,920 frame and 7,641 box hives, producing 1,474,142 lbs. and 72,881 lbs. of honey respectively, and 22,131 lbs. of beeswax. The numbers of beekeepers and hives and the production of honey were greater than in the previous season. The quantity of honey produced in the Wimmera, the chief producing district, was 800,505 lbs. in 1916-17, as compared with 390,494 lbs. in the previous

season, 345,747 lbs. in 1914-15, and 691,263 lbs. in 1913-14. The more important particulars of the industry for the past ten years are given below:—

BEE-FARMING, 1907-8 to 1916-17.

Season ended May.			Number of Bee-farmers.	Number of Hives.	Honey produced.	Beeswax produced.
					lbs.	lbs.
1908	..	..	4,745	43,212	1,138,992	24,521
1909	..	..	4,303	40,595	2,373,628	38,674
1910	..	..	3,976	42,632	1,611,284	22,369
1911	..	..	4,043	52,762	2,308,405	34,695
1912	..	..	3,787	53,711	1,635,260	28,405
1913	..	..	4,796	52,723	3,277,590	45,354
1914	..	..	5,643	55,565	1,961,746	37,323
1915	..	..	2,639	35,051	700,672	20,017
1916	..	..	3,633	31,233	933,933	18,707
1917	..	..	3,661	36,561	1,547,023	22,131

A feature of the industry is the alternate occurrence of good and "off" seasons on account of the particular variety of eucalyptus from which the supplies of honey are chiefly drawn flowering only every other year. The poor results for the seasons 1914-15 and 1915-16 were due to the prolonged drought of 1914.

POULTRY FARMING.

The numbers of the various kinds of poultry in the State, in March, 1911, were as follows:—

Fowls	..	..	..	3,855,538
Ducks	..	..	..	288,413
Geese	..	..	..	59,851
Turkeys	..	..	..	190,077

Taking the above figures as a basis, it is estimated that the gross value of poultry and egg production for the year 1916 was £1,715,000.

The following table shows the numbers of poultry and poultry-owners as ascertained in each of the last four census years:—

POULTRY AND POULTRY-OWNERS: 1881, 1891, 1901, AND 1911.

Census.	Poultry-owners.	Fowls.	Ducks.	Geese.	Turkeys.
1881	97,152	2,332,529	181,698	92,654	153,078
1891	142,797	3,487,989	303,520	89,145	216,440
1901	132,419	3,619,938	257,204	76,853	209,823
1911	144,162	3,855,538	288,413	59,851	190,077

Relatively to population poultry-owners and poultry were fewer in 1911 than in the previous census year.

RABBITS, HARES, AND WILD-FOWL.

Active operations for the destruction of rabbits, &c., on Crown lands were first undertaken by the Government in 1880, and from that date to 30th June, 1916, sums amounting to £710,676 had been expended in connexion therewith, including subsidies to Shire Councils for the destruction of wild-animals. The following are the amounts spent since 1879 :—

EXPENDITURE ON DESTRUCTION OF RABBITS, ETC.

		£		£	
1879-80 to 1888-9	...	142,963	1907-8	...	17,585
1889-90 to 1898-9	...	208,638	1908-9	...	22,756
1899-1900	...	14,801	1909-10	...	23,005
1900-1...	...	15,817	1910-11	...	23,123
1901-2...	...	17,250	1911-12	...	29,524
1902-3...	...	16,489	1912-13	...	27,309
1903-4...	...	15,759	1913-14	...	29,596
1904-5...	...	16,603	1914-15	...	32,211
1905-6...	...	16,477	1915-16	...	24,257
1906-7...	...	16,513			

In addition to the expenditure of £710,676 referred to above, a loan of £150,000 for the purchase of wire-netting to be advanced to land-holders was allocated to shires in 1890, and one of £50,000 in 1896, both of which have been repaid. Further sums amounting to £45,850 in 1908-9, £10,734 in 1909-10, £43,648 in 1910-11, £21,116 in 1911-12, £54,061 in 1912-13, £62,428 in 1913-14, £19,731 in 1914-15, and £3,078 in 1915-16, were advanced from loans for the purchase of wire-netting for supply to municipalities and land-owners. A complete system, administered by an officer called the Chief Inspector under the Vermin Destruction Act, exists for effectually keeping the rabbits under control.

The quantity of rabbits, hares, and wild-fowl sold at the Melbourne Fish Market during each of the past ten years was as shown in the following statement :—

RABBITS, HARES, AND WILD-FOWL SOLD AT THE MELBOURNE FISH MARKET, 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.		Rabbits.	Hares.	Wild-fowl.
		pairs.	brace.	brace.
1907	...	298,024	260	58,210
1908	...	231,216	148	20,634
1909	...	235,548	163	42,240
1910	...	245,208	130	34,180
1911	...	320,292	222	24,420
1912	...	480,192	363	29,562
1913	...	605,724	93	23,598
1914	...	732,444	488	19,614
1915	...	508,324	51	6,934
1916-17	...	580,368	132	17,448

Frozen rabbits, &c., exported.

Large quantities of frozen rabbits and hares and of rabbit and hare skins have been exported to the United Kingdom and other oversea countries during recent years, the numbers and values for ten years being as follows :—

RABBITS AND HARES AND RABBIT AND HARE SKINS EXPORTED OVERSEA.

Year.	Frozen Rabbits and Hares.		Rabbit and Hare Skins.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	pairs.	£	lbs.	£
1907 ...	3,251,231	154,789	3,418,315	125,294
1908 ...	1,743,466	84,835	3,545,687	139,388
1909 ...	1,675,578	82,182	3,293,652	161,156
1910 ...	1,372,087	68,469	3,395,383	199,562
1911 ...	1,373,501	69,426	3,435,928	156,877
1912 ...	1,111,902	57,233	3,904,379	221,614
1913 ...	2,044,501	107,818	4,182,044	271,463
1914-15 ...	2,478,273	127,721	1,827,557	68,777
1915-16 ...	1,420,182	90,588	1,195,455	44,325
1916-17 ...	1,426,888	111,632	498,137	35,361

The export trade in rabbit and hare skins has steadily declined during the past three years, the quantity exported in 1916-17 being only about one-eighth of that in pre-war years.

FISHERIES.

Numbers of men and boats engaged in fishing.

The numbers of men and boats engaged in the fishing industry at the different fishing stations throughout the State are given in the following table for the year 1916-17 :—

VICTORIAN FISHERIES—MEN AND BOATS EMPLOYED, 1916-17.

Fishing Stations.	Number of Men.	Boats.		Value of Nets and other Plant.
		Number.	Value.	
Anderson's Inlet	5	4	£ 49	£ 65
Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove ..	8	5	795	32
Brighton	5	5	73	75
Corner Inlet, Welshpool, and Toora ..	43	31	1,825	2,031
Dromana	16	12	353	83
Frankston	7	9	143	95
Geelong	74	36	1,477	404
Gippsland Lakes	198	202	12,336	5,755
Kerang	7	7	24	100
Lorne	4	2	29	17
Mallacoota	14	8	3,073	335
Mentone	5	4	45	45

VICTORIAN FISHERIES—MEN AND BOATS EMPLOYED, 1916-17—
continued.

Fishing Stations.	Number of Men.	Boats.		Value of Nets and other Plant.
		Number.	Value.	
			£	£
Mordialloc	11	13	381	117
Mornington	26	27	1,055	439
Portarlington and St. Leonards	59	44	1,973	687
Portland	40	24	2,031	429
Port Albert	45	28	2,843	906
Port Fairy	54	40	4,031	440
Port Melbourne	64	42	1,915	640
Queenscliff	85	55	5,563	162
Sandringham	15	14	633	97
Sorrento, Portsea, and Rye	25	27	1,427	226
St. Kilda	12	6	79	147
Warrnambool	6	6	255	93
Western Port (Cowes, Hastings, Grantville, Flinders, San Remo, and Tooradin)	81	66	4,713	1,035
Williamstown	44	18	613	176
Total	953	735	47,734	14,631

Melbourne Fish Market. The quantities and values of fish sold in the Melbourne Fish Market during each of the years 1915 and 1916-17 were as shown hereunder:—

FISH SOLD IN THE MELBOURNE FISH MARKET,
1915 AND 1916-17.

		1915.		1916-17.	
		Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
			£		£
Fresh Fish (Victorian)	lbs.	9,009,860	94,603	9,005,795	100,564
Crayfish	doz.	31,974	14,388	27,847	16,708
Imported Fish (fresh or frozen)	lbs.	3,055,404	68,747	2,819,174	59,907
Oysters	bags	14,900	23,092	13,385	18,280
Total			200,820		195,459

In addition to the above, 4,299 cwt. of smoked fish, and 135 baskets of prawns were sold in this market in 1916-17.

Victorian
Fish sold.

The quantity and value of fish caught in Victorian waters and sold in the Melbourne and Ballarat markets and elsewhere in 1916-17 were as follows:—

VICTORIAN FISH SOLD IN 1916-17.

Markets.	Quantity.		Value.	
	Fish.	Crayfish.	Fish.	Crayfish.
	lbs.	doz.	£	£
Melbourne	9,005,795	12,513	100,564	7,507
Ballarat	693,520	1,832	5,843	485
Other	201,223	726	2,247	435
Total	9,900,538	15,071	108,654	8,427

Fish
Imported.

In connexion with this subject, the quantities and values of the different classes of fish imported are of interest. The available figures for 1909 and 1916-17 are appended:—

FISH IMPORTED, 1909 AND 1916-17.

	1909.—Interstate.		1909.—Oversea.		1916-17.—Oversea.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Fish—		£		£		£
Fresh or Frozen lbs.	1,772,999	22,720	758,545	11,076	1,089,741	23,170
Smoked	127,016	662	99,793	3,322	25,559	1,702
Fresh Oysters cwt.	16,941	8,529	7,935	4,145	2,955	2,058
Potted, &c. ..	..	41	..	4,559	..	7,363
Preserved in tins, &c. lbs.	117,177	3,266	4,823,366	116,931	5,153,593	190,476
N.E.I. cwt.	214	356	5,815	9,434	3,983	12,896
Total .. ..	..	35,574	..	149,467	..	237,665

The most important item in this table is fish preserved in tins and other air-tight vessels, of which 3,465,222 lbs. came from the United Kingdom, the United States, and Canada in 1916-17.

Imports by
United
Kingdom
of staple
articles
produced
in Victoria.

In Victoria the natural conditions are eminently suitable for agricultural and pastoral pursuits, and there is room for considerable expansion in these avenues of production. There is little need to fear over-production, as the United Kingdom offers an almost unlimited market for many articles which could be supplied from this State. This is readily seen

from the figures in the subjoined table, which show the average annual values of certain articles imported into the United Kingdom from Australia, other British Possessions, and Foreign Countries for the pre-war period 1907 to 1913, and for the years ended 31st December, 1915 and 1916—years representing war conditions :—

AVERAGE ANNUAL IMPORTS OF CERTAIN ARTICLES INTO UNITED KINGDOM FROM AUSTRALIA, OTHER BRITISH POSSESSIONS, AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES, 1907-13, 1915, AND 1916.

Articles.	Period.	Annual Value of Imports into United Kingdom from—			
		Australia.	Other British Possessions.	Foreign Countries.	All Countries.
		£	£	£	£
Butter	1907-13	3,131,811	1,762,922	18,884,656	23,779,389
	1915	2,551,214	2,865,692	21,605,839	27,022,745
	1916	1,239,861	3,637,209	14,086,932	18,964,002
Cheese	1907-13	13,102	5,704,495	1,256,492	6,974,089
	1915	91,729	8,323,321	2,692,050	11,107,100
	1916	4	10,784,960	2,160,801	12,945,765
Wheat	1907-13	4,497,088	14,371,951	23,170,834	42,039,873
	1915	94,167	21,480,832	35,731,500	57,306,499
	1916	2,759,641	19,733,609	49,519,694	72,012,944
Wheatmeal and Flour ..	1907-13	216,477	1,512,672	4,384,282	6,113,431
	1915	1,300	2,740,910	5,568,643	8,310,853
	1916	457,604	3,680,343	4,430,457	8,568,409
Meat	1907-13	4,108,980	6,651,731	34,457,389	45,218,100
	1915	9,741,690	15,088,379	61,321,165	86,151,234
	1916	4,871,132	20,651,534	67,859,810	93,382,476
Fruit—Fresh, Dried and Preserved	1907-13	395,110	1,409,440	12,933,186	14,737,736
	1915	276,487	1,491,176	15,299,872	17,067,535
	1916	1,030,705	1,680,545	16,765,840	19,477,090
Wine	1907-13	94,987	29,076	3,843,344	4,004,808
	1915	120,636	43,668	2,752,972	2,917,276
	1916	94,987	45,110	3,371,725	3,511,822
Wool	1907-13	13,621,012	13,085,172	5,697,694	32,403,878
	1915	19,477,337	18,685,278	3,864,720	42,027,335
	1916	15,448,409	18,653,957	3,457,648	37,560,014
Skins, Furs, and Hides ..	1907-13	1,928,626	4,105,504	7,937,906	13,972,036
	1915	2,261,727	5,488,680	6,691,344	14,441,751
	1916	1,348,981	5,641,062	7,588,128	14,578,171
Tallow and Stearine ..	1907-13	1,352,280	725,532	1,464,682	3,542,494
	1915	1,333,612	846,678	931,175	3,111,465
	1916	457,739	933,183	911,662	2,302,584
Leather	1907-13	409,128	3,034,535	6,498,324	9,942,437
	1915	1,186,888	4,655,284	9,817,554	15,659,726
	1916	586,975	5,447,407	9,216,376	15,250,753
Total—Eleven Articles ..	1907-13	29,801,002	52,393,030	120,534,289	202,728,321
	1915	37,136,787	81,709,898	166,276,834	285,123,519
	1916	28,296,038	90,888,924	179,369,073	298,554,035

The value of the above-mentioned articles imported into the United Kingdom from Australia amounted to £28,296,038 in 1916 as compared with £37,136,787 in 1915, and £29,801,002 on the average of the years 1907 to 1913. Scarcity of shipping was responsible for the comparatively small value of Australian produce sent to the United Kingdom during 1916.

The figures relating to agriculture and live stock in Victoria and Great Britain in 1916 are for comparative purposes placed side by side in the table which follows :—

AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA AND GREAT BRITAIN, 1916.

					Victoria.	Great Britain.
Area	..	..	..	acres	56,245,760	56,208,959
Wheat	..	..	..	bushels	51,162,438	56,948,040
Oats	..	..	..	"	8,289,289	119,508,232
Barley	..	..	..	"	1,799,784	46,624,568
Peas	..	..	..	"	154,964	2,084,232
Potatoes	..	..	..	tons	187,992	3,035,535
Turnips and swedes	..	..	..	"	2,025*	18,882,259
Mangolds	..	..	..	"	10,307	7,381,918
Hay	..	..	..	"	1,232,721	9,872,440
Horses	..	..	..	No.	514,403	1,485,886†
Cattle	..	..	..	"	1,175,098	7,442,155
Sheep	..	..	..	"	12,576,587	25,006,987
Pigs	..	..	..	"	254,436	2,314,331

* Includes beet, carrots, and parsnips. † Year 1915.

MINING.

The supervision of mining and the inspection of mines are regulated by Act of Parliament. Authority for all mining operations, whether on Crown or private lands, must be obtained in the prescribed manner, and mining leases giving the right to enter on private land for mining purposes may be issued to another than the owner.

The taking out of a "miner's right" entitles the holder **Miners' Rights.** to prospect for gold on Crown lands. The right may be had on payment of a sum of 2s. 6d. per annum and remains in force for any number of years not exceeding fifteen. It confers the privilege to take possession for mining purposes of a defined parcel of Crown lands, which is called a "claim." The revenue in 1915-16 from miners' rights was £2,574.

Leases for the purpose of mining for gold are granted for **Mining Leases.** a term not exceeding fifteen years at a yearly rental of 2s. 6d. per acre. For mining leases of land to be worked by means of dredging or hydraulic sluicing the yearly rent is 5s. per acre. Other mineral and coal mining leases are also issued at varying rates. The revenue from these sources in 1915-16 was £7,210.

The area of Crown and private lands under occupation for mining purposes at 31st December, 1916, was 97,532 acres. The subjoined table shows the area being worked for different minerals :—

AREA UNDER OCCUPATION FOR MINING PURPOSES,
31ST DECEMBER, 1916 (CROWN LANDS AND PRIVATE
LAND).

Nature of Mineral, &c.	Area.
	Acres.
Gold	81,800
Coal (ordinary)	4,498
Coal (brown)	359
Antimony	68
Clay Slum	71
Copper	150
Copper and Silver	71
Gypsum	706
Infusorial Earth	59
Iron	1,373
Kaolin	144
Lime	63
Magnesite	114
Manganese	2,152
Marble	127
Molybdenite	177
Oil	124
Pigments and Clay	35
Pigments and Limestone	387
Pigments and Oil	133
Porphyry	12
Quicksilver	55
Silicate of Alumina	51
Silver, Bismuth, Wolfram, and Phosphates	48
Slate	32
Tin	3,252
Wolfram	225
Water-right Licences	1,246
Total	97,532

The mining industry has been well fostered by the Mining development. Government, not only in the way of financial assistance but also by means of geological surveys and boring. Apart from the annual expenditure of the Mining Department from consolidated revenue, of which a statement is appended, loan moneys amounting to £511,505 (including £240,483 expended on the State Coal Mine), and portions of surplus revenues of past years amounting to

£84,964, have been expended or advanced for developmental purposes since 1st July, 1904.

STATE EXPENDITURE ON MINING: 1911-12 to 1915-16.

	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Mining Department	25,980	25,272	26,921	26,922	26,550
State Coal Mine	189,049	170,884	201,578	211,415	202,953
Coal Mines Regulation—Sinking Fund and Depreciation Fund ...	6,046	40,918	36,653	55,204	41,468
Victorian coal—Allowance to Railway Department on carriage of Diamond drills for prospecting ...	10,018	11,503	9,006	9,063	7,621
Testing plants	16,938	15,756	14,576	16,945	9,901
Geological and underground surveys of mines	3,374	3,368	4,283	6,457	10,081
Mining Development—Advances to companies, &c., boring for gold, coal, &c. ...	6,354	6,357	7,009	5,422	2,579
Miscellaneous	6,850	12,608	14,877	26,010	31,460
	4,170	3,576	2,729	2,606	2,148
	268,779	290,242	317,632	360,044	334,761
Expenditure from Surplus Revenue.					
Mining Development—Advances to companies, &c., boring for gold, coal, &c. ...	737	831	635	1,195	793
Expenditure from Loan Moneys.					
State Coal Mine	48,369	446	69,992	20,492	...
Total	317,885	291,519	388,259	381,731	335,554

Yearly grants are also made to Schools of Mines, particulars of which will be found on page 516 of this work. Since 1st July, 1896, £511,505 has been apportioned from loan receipts and expended on mining development, details of which expenditure appear in the next statement:—

LOAN MONEY EXPENDED ON MINING DEVELOPMENT.

	£
Advances to companies—Development of mining ..	62,740
” ” Boring for gold and coal, &c. ..	62,532
Construction of roads and tracks for mining ..	57,579
Plant for testing metalliferous material ..	12,357
Construction of races and dams ..	8,260
Advances to miners for prospecting ..	27,839

LOAN MONEY EXPENDED ON MINING DEVELOPMENT—*continued.*

	£
Purchase of cyanide process patent rights	20,000
Equipping Schools of Mines with mining appliances	9,975
State Coal Mine	240,483
Miscellaneous	9,740
Total	511,505

The advances from loan moneys and revenue to mining companies to 30th June, 1916, for the development of mining totalled £186,865, of which sum £21,282 had up to that date been repaid, £31,311 realized, and £81,153 written off, leaving £53,114 outstanding. Interest received during 1915-16 amounted to £322 and interest outstanding on 30th June, 1916, to £1,737.

The mineral production of the State is summarized in the subjoined statement, which contains particulars of the recorded production of all metals and minerals up to the end of the year 1916.

TOTAL MINERAL PRODUCTION TO 31st DECEMBER, 1916.

Metals and Minerals.	Recorded prior to 1916.		Recorded during 1916.		Total Recorded to end of 1916.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Fine. ozs.	£	Fine. ozs.	£	Fine. ozs.	£
Gold	69,850,186	296,703,957	256,643	1,090,194	70,106,829	297,794,151
Silver	1,401,551*	211,159	8,746*	1,239	1,410,297*	212,398
Platinum	30,577	7,880	..	..	30,577	7,880
	311	1,671	..	..	311	1,671
	tons.		tons.		tons.	
Coal, black	6,466,604	3,273,693	417,183	216,292	6,883,787	3,489,985
" brown	81,748	23,080	2,915	583	84,663	28,663
Ore—copper	18,730	218,590	..	..	18,730	218,590
" tin	15,921	804,041	.. 122	12,955	16,043	816,996
" antimony	62,763	350,983	12,382	77,275	75,145	428,258
" silver-lead	793	5,760	..	..	793	5,760
" iron	5,434	12,540	..	..	5,434	12,540
" manganese	182	619	85	300	247	919
Wolfram	81	6,602	1	100	82	6,702
Diamonds .. .. .	..	128	..	..	..	128
Sapphires, &c. .. .. .	..	630	..	..	..	630
Gypsum	24,641	18,391	1,853	1,853	26,494	20,234
Magnesite	699	2,145	30	90	729	2,235
Kaolin	8,263	14,518	810	1,200	9,073	15,718
Diatomaceous earth	6,167	24,977	..	..	6,167	24,977
Pigment clays	106	156	..	..	106	156
Bluestone, freestone, granite, &c. † .. .. .	..	4,751,439	..	134,306	..	4,885,745
Limestone, &c. ‡ .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total .. .. .	..	306,437,949	..	1,536,387	..	307,974,336

* Extracted from gold at the Melbourne Mint. † From 1866 only. ‡ Record from 1900.

Gold was first found in Victoria in 1849 in the Pyrenees Ranges, but it was not until 1851 that the first discovery of any importance took place. In the latter part of that year the Clunes, Anderson's Creek, Ballarat, and Bendigo fields were successively discovered and over 200,000 ounces of gold were produced. Next year the gold rush took place, and it is estimated that, in 1852, 40,000 men were camped at Ballarat, 25,000 at Castlemaine and 40,000 at Bendigo. The production of gold in 1852 amounted to 2,286,535 ounces and in the ten years 1852-1861 it totalled over 25,000,000 ounces. The largest quantity produced in any one year was 3,053,744 ounces in 1856. The annual value of the output for the ten years 1852-1861 averaged over £10,000,000 sterling. The estimated value of gold produced from 1851 to 1916, as shown in the preceding statement, is £297,794,151. This sum is based on the average value of Victorian gold received at the Melbourne Mint, which in 1916 was £3 19s. 2d. per ounce.

The production of gold in Australasia dates from 1851. The following table shows the quantity recorded as having been raised in the respective States and New Zealand at different periods. Prior to 1898, Victoria was almost invariably the leading gold-producing State of the group, but since then Western Australia has occupied the first place:—

GOLD RAISED IN AUSTRALASIA, 1851 to 1916.

Period.	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	Northern Territory	New Zealand.
	gross ozs.	gross ozs.	gross ozs.	gross ozs.	gross ozs.	gross ozs.	gross ozs.	gross ozs.
1851-60	23,334,263	3,280,963	75,000	..	..	..	..	35,845
1861-70	16,276,566	3,542,912	250,000	..	..	3,504	..	5,507,004
1871-80	10,156,297	2,251,666	3,187,855	84,593	..	180,178	..	4,009,345
1881-90	7,103,448	1,164,452	3,925,620	209,275	46,967	397,983	*	2,265,616
1891-00	7,476,038	2,958,295	7,358,129	355,208	5,870,662	605,519	*	2,788,898
1851-00	64,346,612	13,198,288	14,796,604	649,076	5,917,629	1,187,184	*	14,606,208
	fine ozs.	fine ozs.	fine ozs.	fine ozs.	fine ozs.	fine ozs.	fine ozs.	fine ozs.
1901 ..	730,453	216,888	598,382	4,918	1,708,416	69,491	17,028	412,876
1902 ..	720,866	254,435	640,463	7,231	1,871,037	70,996	15,182	459,406
1903 ..	767,297	254,260	668,546	8,650	2,064,801	59,891	12,597	461,648
1904 ..	765,600	269,817	639,151	17,897	1,983,230	65,921	938	467,895
1905 ..	747,186	274,267	592,620	10,983	1,955,316	73,540	7,103	492,967
1906 ..	772,290	253,937	544,636	8,037	1,794,547	60,023	11,085	534,617
1907 ..	695,576	247,368	466,478	4,834	1,697,553	65,354	4,389	477,312
1908 ..	671,208	224,792	465,085	2,898	1,647,911	57,085	5,624	471,968
1909 ..	654,222	204,709	455,578	7,111	1,595,269	44,777	5,685	472,465
1910 ..	570,383	188,567	441,400	6,603	1,470,632	37,048	5,100	446,434
1911 ..	504,000	181,121	388,164	3,537	1,370,868	31,101	7,277	427,385
1912 ..	480,131	165,295	347,946	6,592	1,232,658	37,973	7,811	310,963
1913 ..	434,932	149,657	265,735	6,545	1,314,043	33,400	3,119	343,595
1914 ..	413,218	124,507	249,468	6,258	1,232,977	26,243	2,582	328,201
1915 ..	329,068	132,498	249,711	6,081	1,210,112	18,547	2,657	398,931
1916 ..	256,643	108,146	215,162	7,769	1,061,398	15,790	601	292,620

* Included with South Australia.

The total production of Australasia from 1851 to 1900 inclusive was 114½ million ounces (gross), of which more than one-half was produced in Victoria. During the sixteen years 1901-1916 the Australasian production amounted to 53 million ounces (fine), to which

Western Australia contributed $25\frac{1}{4}$ million ounces. The Victorian yield in the same period amounted to $9\frac{1}{2}$ million ounces. It has been on the down grade since 1906, the yield for 1916 being the lowest for the State since 1851.

World's
production
of gold
and silver
since 1860.

The total production of gold and silver in the world since 1860, as compiled by the Director of the Mint, Washington, U.S.A., from information furnished by foreign Governments, is as follows :—

WORLD'S PRODUCTION OF GOLD AND SILVER SINCE 1860.

Period.	Gold.		Silver.	
	Ounces— Fine.	Value.	Ounces— Fine.	Value— Commercial.
1860 to 1869	61,314,500	£ 260,450,800	378,311,600	£ 103,714,600
1870 to 1879	52,764,400	224,131,700	628,717,300	159,639,000
1880 to 1889	51,405,100	218,357,900	921,103,100	197,783,000
1890 to 1899	95,081,700	403,886,400	1,568,876,900	235,663,700
1900	12,315,100	52,312,000	173,591,400	22,115,800
1901	12,625,500	53,630,500	173,011,300	21,330,900
1902	14,354,700	60,975,600	162,763,500	17,726,200
1903	15,852,600	67,338,500	167,689,300	18,607,200
1904	16,804,400	71,381,300	164,195,300	19,569,200
1905	18,396,500	78,144,200	172,317,700	21,599,400
1906	19,471,100	82,708,900	165,054,500	22,957,200
1907	19,977,300	84,859,000	184,207,000	24,982,500
1908	21,422,200	90,923,000	203,131,400	22,327,200
1909	21,965,100	93,303,000	212,149,000	22,678,400
1910	22,022,200	93,545,500	221,715,700	24,602,300
1911	22,348,800	94,922,400	226,192,900	25,098,900
1912	22,551,800	95,784,700	224,310,700	28,333,300
1913	22,249,600	94,511,700	223,907,900	27,791,300
1914	21,240,416	90,224,650	160,626,019	18,256,542
1915	22,758,808	96,674,451	179,753,978	19,167,355

The yield of gold for the past two years in each mining district of the State, as estimated by the mining registrars, is shown in the following table. The quantities represented by the aggregate figures, which are given in gross ounces, fall short of the total output of 1915 by 2,454 ounces, but exceed that of 1916 by 6,606 ounces.

**DISTRICT YIELDS OF GOLD, ALLUVIAL AND QUARTZ,
1915 AND 1916.**

Mining District.	1915.			1916.		
	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Total.	Alluvial.	Quartz.	Total.
	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.	ozs.
Ararat and Stawell ...	26,786	6,006	32,792	26,061	3,326	29,387
Ballarat ...	10,010	33,436	43,446	5,660	21,808	27,468
Beechworth ...	39,150	22,261	61,411	34,785	22,453	57,238
Bendigo ...	3,583	118,966	122,549	5,001	86,780	91,781
Castlemaine ...	8,944	39,940	48,884	7,104	36,999	44,103
Gippsland ...	3,902	5,082	8,984	1,825	6,009	7,834
Maryborough ...	25,091	6,661	31,752	20,551	4,432	24,983
Total ...	117,466	232,352	349,818	100,987	181,807	282,794

The amount of dividends declared in each of the last five years by gold-mining companies operating in each mining district of the State was as follows:—

**DIVIDENDS PAID BY GOLD MINING COMPANIES IN EACH
MINING DISTRICT, 1912 TO 1916.**

Mining District.	Amount Distributed.				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
	£	£	£	£	£
Ararat and Stawell ...	2,637	40,550	36,675	30,950	27,500
Ballarat ...	6,850	19,767	19,167	5,000	4,200
Beechworth ...	38,627	27,324	35,447	44,910	30,165
Bendigo ...	113,189	133,744	126,548	61,911	8,875
Castlemaine ...	41,937	46,414	47,225	39,300	19,760
Gippsland ...	675	650	750	1,350	450
Maryborough ...	12,867	5,750	5,000	10,000	7,600
Total ...	216,782	274,199	270,812	193,421	98,550

By comparison with 1915 the amount of the dividends declared in 1916 shows a decrease of 49 per cent.

The average number of men employed in mining is estimated annually by the Mines Department. The figures for the last ten years are given below :—

NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED IN GOLD MINING, 1907 to 1916.

Year.	Alluvial Miners.	Quartz Miners.	Total.
1907	10,390	12,901	23,291
1908	8,673	12,180	20,853
1909	7,925	10,746	18,671
1910	6,638	9,915	16,553
1911	5,144	8,871	14,015
1912	4,156	7,700	11,856
1913	4,222	7,709	11,931
1914	3,637	6,761	10,398
1915	2,867	5,888	8,755
1916	2,587	3,815	6,402

The number of men employed in each mining district in 1916 was as follows :—Ararat and Stawell, 289; Ballarat, 498; Bendigo, 2,431; Beechworth, 1,339; Castlemaine, 589; Gippsland, 349; and Maryborough, 907.

The value of the mining plants employed in alluvial and quartz mining during each of the last five years was as shown hereunder :—

VALUE OF MACHINERY ON GOLD-FIELDS, 1912 to 1916.

Year.	Approximate Value of Machinery Employed in—		
	Alluvial Mining.	Quartz Mining.	Total.
	£	£	£
1912	552,856	1,208,798	1,761,654
1913	538,279	1,129,513	1,667,792
1914	448,742	1,051,689	1,500,431
1915	479,004	1,011,300	1,490,304
1916	498,729	974,378	1,473,107

Dredging and sluicing.

A feature of alluvial mining in Victoria for the past sixteen years has been the treatment in bulk of low-grade auriferous alluvial deposits and their overburden by bucket dredges and pump hydraulic sluicing plants on barges. In 1916 the number of bucket dredges at work was 34, and the number of pump hydraulic sluices 21, in addition to which 12 jet elevators and 6 gravitation plants were operating. Particulars relating to these dredging and sluicing plants for the past five years are as follows :—

DREDGING AND SLUICING.

Year.	Number of Plants.	Area Worked.	Quantity of Material Treated.	Gold Obtained.	Tin Obtained.
		acres.	cub. yds.	ozs.	tons.
1912	99	676	19,722,227	73,781	21
1913	97	565	16,796,585	65,433	32
1914	85	459	13,979,696	56,796	45
1915	73	366	11,788,247	50,152	87
1916	67	344	10,235,000	48,724	105

These plants employed 851 men in 1916. The yield of gold per cubic yard of material was 2·3 grains in 1916, which was ·3 of a grain more than in the previous year.

Cyanidation. The quantity of tailings treated at old lode and alluvial mines by the cyanide process and the yield of gold therefrom are shown in the subjoined table for the past five years :—

CYANIDATION.

Year.	Number of Plants.	Quantity of Tailings Treated.	Yield of Gold.	Value of Yield.
		tons.	ozs.	£
1912	209	881,306	55,470	200,277
1913	207	692,256	45,397	163,371
1914	194	607,260	39,920	144,969
1915	140	317,636	21,511	79,160
1916	105	203,016	14,635	49,332

Records show that the total amount of tailings which have been treated by the cyanide and other processes is 15,627,898 tons, and that the gold that has been won thereby amounts to 1,242,181 ounces, which is equal to an average yield of 1 dwt. 14 grs. per ton.

A Sludge Abatement Board, appointed by the Government, is intrusted with the duty of regulating the disposal of mining sludge, and preventing the silting of streams and injury to lands by battery sand and infertile *débris*.

Batteries for testing small quantities of ore for prospectors have been erected by the Government in various mining districts. The number of these plants and their operations in the last five years were as follows:—

GOVERNMENT BATTERIES.

Year.	Number of Batteries.	Quantity of Ore Treated.	Yield of Gold.	Net Cost of Batteries to Mines Department.
		tons.	ozs.	£
1912	25	2,887	2,491	2,418
1913	26	2,742	2,127	2,503
1914	27	2,128	1,321	3,009
1915	28	4,761	3,012	2,608
1916	30	4,511	2,450	*

* Not available.

Since 1897, the year in which the first battery was erected, 55,947 tons of ore have been crushed for 35,725 ounces.

Coal mining. Bituminous coal is found in three main areas in the southern portion of the State, viz., the Wannon, the Otway, and South Gippsland. The Wannon area is comparatively unprospected, owing to almost the whole of the land having been sold. In the Otway area bores have been sunk without disclosing seams of payable thickness. The South Gippsland area occupies about 2,000 square miles, and coal mining is being carried on at Wonthaggi, Kilcunda, Outtrim, Jumbunna, and Korumburra.

Brown coal. The brown coal beds of Victoria have an approximate area of 1,200 square miles, and are reputed to be the thickest known. At Morwell, 780 feet of coal were passed through in a bore 1,010 feet deep. It is estimated that the average thickness of the coal in the deposits at Morwell, Alberton, and Altona is 50 feet, and that the total deposits in the State amount to 30,000,000,000 tons. These deposits are practically untouched, as the output of brown coal in 1916 was only 2,915 tons, and the total output for all years has been only 84,663 tons.

The State coal-field. There is a State coal mine at Wonthaggi, on the Powlett River Coal-field, the development of which was undertaken in November, 1909. In June, 1911, the control of the mine was transferred to the Railways Commissioners. The area reserved for mining is about 17 square miles. Boring has proved that about 28,000,000 tons of coal existed in the central area of 5 square miles. The output of coal for the year ended 31st December, 1916, was 354,146 tons, valued at £173,840. The total output up to the end of 1916 was 3,085,130 tons, valued at £1,362,204. The average number of men employed at the mine throughout the year ended 30th June, 1916, was 1,034, and comprised 453 coal miners, 100 wheelers, 204 others below ground, and 277 surface men. The mine was worked 237 days during the year, and the earnings of the miners averaged 15s. 2·29d. per day after deducting the cost of explosives and lights.

Victorian Coal production and value. The quantity of coal, exclusive of brown coal, raised in Victoria up to the end of 1916 was 6,883,787 tons, valued at £3,489,985. The total production prior to 1892, and the annual production for the years 1892 to 1916, together with the value per ton at the pit's mouth, are given in the following table :—

COAL PRODUCTION AND VALUE PER TON.

Period.	Production.	Value per ton at pit's mouth.	Period.	Production.	Value per ton at pit's mouth.
	tons.	s. d.		tons.	s. d.
Prior to 1892	77,914	18 8	1904 ..	121,742	11 6
1892 ..	23,363	17 2	1905 ..	155,136	10 2
1893 ..	91,726	10 9	1906 ..	160,631	10 0
1894 ..	171,660	11 1	1907 ..	138,585	11 6
1895 ..	194,226	12 2	1908 ..	113,462	11 5
1896 ..	226,562	10 0	1909 ..	128,173	12 0
1897 ..	236,277	9 2	1910 ..	369,059	10 3
1898 ..	242,859	8 6	1911 ..	653,864	9 2
1899 ..	262,380	8 8	1912 ..	589,143	8 9
1900 ..	211,596	9 7	1913 ..	593,913	9 3
1901 ..	209,329	14 1	1914 ..	617,536	9 4
1902 ..	225,164	13 11	1915 ..	588,104	9 4
1903 ..	64,200	12 9	1916 ..	417,183	10 4

In addition to the above there were raised, up to the end of 1916, 84,663 tons of brown coal, valued at £28,663. The quantity produced in 1916 was 2,915 tons, valued at £583.

Coal produced in Australasia. The quantities of coal raised in Victoria, the other Australian States, and New Zealand from the date of the

earliest records are given below. There is no record of any coal mining having been done in South Australia.

COAL PRODUCED IN AUSTRALASIA.

Period.	Tons of Coal raised in—					
	Victoria.	New South Wales.	Queensland.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	New Zealand.
Prior to 1878	13,747	17,538,869	507,226	..	92,176	709,931
1878 to 1882 ..	1,987	8,503,937	305,692	..	54,110	1,408,893
1883 to 1887 ..	10,196	13,902,101	911,416	..	60,744	2,506,631
1888 to 1892 ..	107,454	17,738,842	1,444,669	..	208,060	3,179,846
1893 to 1897 ..	940,954	18,982,101	1,587,973	..	211,990	3,785,485
1898 to 1902 ..	1,154,348	26,721,213	2,440,078	434,716	235,221	5,566,597
1903 ..	69,861	6,354,846	507,801	133,000	49,069	1,420,193
1904 ..	121,742	6,019,809	512,015	138,550	61,109	1,537,838
1905 ..	155,186	6,632,138	529,326	127,364	51,993	1,585,756
1906 ..	160,631	7,626,362	606,772	149,755	52,896	1,729,536
1907 ..	138,634	8,657,924	683,272	142,372	58,891	1,831,009
1908 ..	113,962	9,147,025	696,332	175,248	61,067	1,860,975
1909 ..	128,673	7,019,879	756,577	214,302	61,162	1,911,247
1910 ..	369,709	8,173,508	871,166	262,166	82,445	2,197,362
1911 ..	659,998	8,691,604	891,568	249,899	57,067	2,066,073
1912 ..	593,155	9,885,815	902,166	295,079	53,560	2,177,615
1913 ..	596,896	10,414,165	1,037,944	313,828	55,043	1,888,005
1914 ..	620,251	10,390,322	1,053,990	319,210	60,794	2,275,593
1915 ..	590,968	9,449,008	1,024,273	286,666	64,536	2,208,624
1916 ..	420,098	8,127,161	907,727	301,526	55,575	2,257,135

The figures for Victoria include 84,663 tons of brown coal produced up to the end of 1916.

Coal and Lignite produced in different Countries.

The coal production of the world (exclusive of brown coal and lignite) in 1912, the latest year for which complete figures are available, was about 1,126 million tons, of which the United Kingdom produced nearly one-fourth, and the United States three-sevenths. The production of lignite during the same year was 119 million tons, of which 81 million tons were obtained in Germany, and 35 million tons in Austria and Hungary. The quantities of coal and lignite produced in different countries in the year mentioned are given in the appended table :—

COAL AND LIGNITE PRODUCED IN VARIOUS COUNTRIES.

Country.	Coal.	Lignite.	Coal and Lignite.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
United States	484,997,000	...	484,997,000
United Kingdom	264,670,000	...	264,670,000
Germany	174,875,000	80,935,000	255,810,000
France	40,560,000	748,000	41,308,000
Russia	26,423,000	...	26,423,000
Belgium	22,972,000	...	22,972,000
Japan	19,919,000	...	19,919,000
Austria	15,798,000	26,284,000	42,082,000
British India... ..	14,947,000	...	14,947,000
China	13,190,000	...	13,190,000
Canada	13,170,000	...	13,170,000
Australia	11,730,000	...	11,730,000
South African Union	7,366,000	...	7,366,000
Spain	3,664,000	252,000	3,916,000
Mexico	2,450,000	...	2,450,000
New Zealand	2,178,000	...	2,178,000
The Netherlands	1,725,000	...	1,725,000
Chili	1,334,000	...	1,334,000
Hungary	1,302,000	9,138,000	10,440,000
Turkey	723,000	...	723,000
Servia	32,000	273,000	305,000
Italy ... ..	...	663,000	663,000
Bulgaria ... ..	...	252,000	252,000
Roumania ... ..	...	242,000	242,000
Other Countries	1,888,000	...	1,888,000
Total	1,125,913,000	118,787,000	1,244,700,000

Minimum wage of miners.

The minimum wage, fixed by Wages Boards, for each of the principal occupations connected with coal and gold mining is given in the subjoined statement. The gold

mining rates apply to the whole of Victoria except the mining districts of Ararat, Gippsland and Beechworth :—

MINIMUM WAGE OF MINERS.

Occupation.	Minimum wage per week of 48 hours.	Occupation.	Minimum wage per week of 48 hours.
Coal Mining—	s.	Gold Mining—	s.
Miners	60	Miners (quartz), shaft or winze sinking—	
" in wet places	65	Machine labour	64
Shaft sinkers	66	Hand labour	62
" in wet shafts	66*	Other quartz miners—	
Wheelers	50	Machine labour	60
Timbermen and repairers	60	Hand labour	58
Blacksmiths	60	Miners (alluvial), shaft or winze sinking—	
Carpenters	60	Machine labour	69
Brushers	60	Hand labour	67
Bracemen	50	Other alluvial miners—	
Winch drivers	49	Machine labour	62
Screen hands	48	Hand labour	60
Labourers (underground)	49	Other underground workers	52
" (surface)	45	Retortmen	54
Engine-drivers	66	Bracemen	55
		Winch drivers	55
		Timber dressers	57
		Timbermen repairing shafts	65
		Carpenters	63
		Blacksmiths	64
		Batterymen	54
		Engine-drivers	66

* Per week of 36 hours.

The wages of miners in coal mines are contract rates. As stated on page 781, the earnings of the miners in the State coal mine averaged 15s. 2:29d. per day in the year 1915-16, after deducting the cost of explosives and lights.

The numbers of fatal and non-fatal accidents in gold and coal mines during the last ten years are shown below. Only those non-fatal accidents have been recorded which rendered the injured unfit for work for a period of at least fourteen days.

MINING ACCIDENTS.

Year.	Gold Mines.			Coal Mines.		
	Miners Employed.	Persons Killed.	Persons Injured.	Miners Employed.	Persons Killed.	Persons Injured.
1907	23,291	27	91	599	1	3
1908	20,853	19	87	542	1	7
1909	18,671	15	99	607	7	..
1910	16,553	12	66	1,532	3	22
1911	14,051	19	65	1,754	..	23
1912	11,856	16	76	1,486	2	19
1913	11,931	9	61	1,377	4	24
1914	10,398	15	45	1,405	2	21
1915	8,755	10	34	1,312	3	20
1916	6,402	6	19	1,282	..	18

As a result of gold mining accidents during the past ten years 148 persons were killed and 643 were injured and rendered unfit for work for a period of at least fourteen days. These numbers were equivalent to annual rates of 1.04 and 4.50 respectively per 1,000 employed. Coal mining accidents during the same period accounted for 23 deaths and 157 injuries resulting in disablement for at least fourteen days, these being equal to yearly rates of 1.93 and 13.20 respectively per 1,000 employees.

The record of boring operations conducted by the Mines Department during the past five years is as follows :—

GOVERNMENT BORING OPERATIONS.

Year.	Drills worked by—		Bores put down for—			Total Depth Bored.
	Steam.	Other Power.	Gold.	Coal.	Total.	
1912	6	7	8	94	102	feet. 37,738
1913	6	7	58	55	113	39,185
1914	3	7	84	21	105	29,038
1915	1	15	153	2	155	28,780
1916	1	11	119	8	127	19,627

Up to the end of 1916 the quantity of antimony ore produced in Victoria was 75,145 tons valued at £428,258.

Nearly the whole of it was obtained at Costerfield. The production for 1916 was 12,382 tons of ore, which yielded 3,259 tons of concentrates valued at £77,275. For the previous year the production was 11,113 tons of ore, which yielded 3,189 tons of concentrates of the value of £49,320.

Tin. The production of tin ore in the State up to the end of 1916 was 16,043 tons, valued at £816,996. In the year 1916 the quantity produced was 122 tons as against 96 tons in the preceding year, and 53 tons in 1914. Of the tin won during the past two years nearly the whole was obtained in the Beechworth district.

Gypsum. The quantity of gypsum produced in the State in 1916 was 1,853 tons, which was obtained at Boort. The output for the previous year was 690 tons, of which 582 tons were from Boort, 48 tons from Fairley, and 60 tons from Lake Boga. Up to the end of 1916 the quantity raised in Victoria was 26,494 tons, valued at £20,234.

Kaolin. The quantity of kaolin produced in 1916 was 810 tons, of which 610 tons came from Egerton, and 200 tons from Pyalong. The quantity raised in the previous year was 402 tons. Up to the end of last year the total output was 9,073 tons, valued at £15,718.

Quarries. The quantity and value of stone raised from Victorian quarries during the last five years are set forth in the following table:—

QUARRIES: 1912 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Quarries.	Quantity of Stone Operated on—				Approximate Total Value of Stone Raised.
		Bluestone.	Free-stone.	Granite.	Limestone.	
		c. yds.	c. yds.	c. yds.	c. yds.	£
1912 ...	88	837,088	8,351	1,687	58,755	161,843
1913 ...	89	841,803	2,861	1,485	60,566	167,567
1914 ...	93	914,310	2,886	953	57,733	183,376
1915 ...	102	1,157,280	1,384	1,392	49,121	209,539
1916-17 ...	103	628,155	22,796	1,365	43,998	125,106

In 1916-17 the number of persons employed in quarries was 1,207, and the wages paid amounted to £112,970. These figures include the employees and wages connected with stone-breaking and tar-paving works, most of which are carried on in conjunction with quarries and cannot be separated therefrom.

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

Industrial
progress.

The earliest year for which there are statistical records of the factories in the State is 1850, at which date the number of manufacturing establishments is shown to have been 68. Subsequently fair and regular progress was made in the industry until in 1900, the year before Federation, there were 3,097 factories working. The years immediately following Federation were marked by increased industrial activity, which has been well maintained in the last ten years, during which period nearly all existing lines of manufacture have shown a notable expansion, and many industries new to the State have been firmly established. Since 1904 the number of factories has increased by 29 per cent., the number of employees by 53 per cent., the amount of salaries and wages paid by 147 per cent., the value of output by 160 per cent., the value of machinery and plant by 74 per cent., and the engine power of factories by 235 per cent. The difference between the cost of materials used and the value of the output was equivalent to an added value of £196 3s. per person employed in 1916-17, as compared with £128 in 1904. This favorable economic result coincides with a larger proportion of establishments using mechanical power in 1916-17, when 77½ per cent. were so equipped, as against 60½ per cent. in 1904, and with the increased aggregate engine power of factories previously referred to. The increase in the added value relatively to employees, the larger proportion of factories using power, and the higher aggregate power of establishments as a whole connote increasing industrial efficiency. Concurrent with an increase in the output per person employed, there has been a decrease of 34 per cent. in the proportion of child labor in factories during the past ten years.

An interesting feature of manufacturing activities is the great increase in the strength of the largest sized factories. Since 1904 the number of factories employing over 100 hands has increased by 62 per cent., and the number of hands employed therein by 97 per cent., as against increases of 28 per cent. in the number of, and 31 per cent. in the hands engaged in, factories employing less than 100. The cost of treating raw materials in factories was higher in the period 1912 to 1916-17 than in the preceding five-year period. For every £100 worth of raw material dealt with the cost in salaries and wages was £35 19s. 6d. in 1912 to 1916-17, as against £34 6s. 5d. in 1907-11. The expenditure on fuel and light on a similar basis was £2 13s. 8d. in 1912 to 1916-17, and £2 15s. 5d. in 1907-11, being slightly less in the later than in the earlier period.

A gratifying feature disclosed by the figures relating to distinct industries is the steady progress maintained in almost every class

during recent years. This is most noticeable in industries associated with the manufacture of clothing and textile fabrics (including boots) and with the preparation of food, &c.

The appended table summarizes the position of the industries at various stages since 1871, but except for the period 1903 to 1916-17 the information for different years is not strictly comparable, for the reason that it has not been compiled upon the same basis throughout.

GROWTH IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Number of Persons employed.	Amount of Salaries and Wages paid.	Value of Plant, Machinery, Land and Buildings.	Value of Output.
			£	£	£
1871	1,740	19,468	*	4,725,125	*
1881	2,488	43,209	*	8,044,296	†13,370,836
1891	3,141	52,225	*	16,472,859	†22,390,251
1901	3,249	66,529	*	12,298,500	‡19,478,780
1904	4,208	76,287	4,794,365	13,668,185	23,126,180
1911	5,126	111,948	8,911,019	18,257,889	41,747,863
1912	5,263	116,108	10,102,244	19,457,795	45,410,773
1913	5,613	118,744	10,714,336	20,775,738	47,936,647
1914	5,650	118,399	11,099,940	21,975,646	49,439,985
1915	5,413	113,834	11,036,345	22,529,072	51,466,093
1916-17 ..	5,445	116,970	11,833,517	23,784,289	60,047,284

* Particulars not available. † 1880. ‡ 1890. § 1900.

The first Factories Act in Victoria was passed in 1873, and since that year many other Acts dealing with the subject have been placed upon the statute-book, the latest, No. 2558, having come into force at the beginning of 1915. All these Acts were consolidated by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1915 (No. 2650). The general provisions of factory legislation, including "Wages Boards," are fully dealt with in Part "Social Condition" of this work.

In the year 1902 the classification of industries for statistical purposes, as shown in the next table, was adopted by the Statisticians of Australia. A factory was defined as an establishment employing on the average four persons or more, or an establishment employing less than four persons where machinery is worked by other than manual power, whether the business carried on is that of making or repairing for the trade (wholesale or retail), or for export. The number of factories in each industry, the power used, the number of persons employed, the wages paid, the

Factories and Wages Board Legislation.

Production of different industries, 1916-17.

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1916-17.

Nature of Industry.	Number of Manufactories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—			
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid exclusive of Amounts drawn by Working Proprietors.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials Used.	Articles Produced or Work Done.
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.				
<i>Class I.—Treating Raw Material the product of Pastoral Pursuits, or Vegetable Products, not otherwise classed.</i>										
Boiling down	17	296	9	118	..	..	15,127	3,377	112,073	151,593
Bone milling	16	576	18	83	..	1	11,140	5,391	41,361	67,445
Tanning	45	2,475	51	1,771	1	11	241,934	18,089	1,926,154	2,464,798
Fellmongering	29	712	30	498	..	..	58,862	11,431	1,257,272	1,497,404
Chaffcutting and grain crushing ..	189	2,050	181	626	1	2	45,776	7,951	367,232	485,203
Other	8	69	4	130	..	..	16,448	432	31,322	56,003
Total	304	6,178	293	3,226	2	14	389,287	46,671	3,735,414	4,722,446
<i>Class II.—Oils and Fats, Animal and Vegetable.</i>										
Oil, grease, glue	9	139	4	96	..	11	13,165	3,684	145,378	212,152
Soap and candle	18	471	15	580	..	90	84,036	18,937	536,265	802,179
Total	27	610	19	676	..	101	97,201	22,621	681,643	1,014,331

values of materials used and of fuel and light used, also the value of articles produced or work done in 1916-17, were as follows:—

Production.

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1916-17—continued.

790

Victorian Year-Book, 1916-17.

Nature of Industry.	Number of Manufactories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—			
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid exclusive of Amounts drawn by Working Proprietors.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials Used.	Articles Produced or Work Done.
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.				
<i>Class III.—Processes relating to Stone, Clay, Glass, &c.</i>						£	£	£	£	
Brick, pottery, &c. ..	79	3,802	57	1,576	..	60	200,781	67,196	35,842	387,317
Cement, including cement pipes ..	7	992	1	258	..	4	37,714	19,953	37,258	154,856
Glass, including bottles ..	7	226	8	816	..	5	107,804	26,792	32,123	200,866
„ bevelling ..	18	59	13	161	..	2	20,567	606	35,426	70,240
Marble and stone dressing ..	37	182	45	249	..	6	34,581	889	38,777	100,380
Modelling ..	5	42	10	69	..	1	10,636	617	9,134	27,206
Other ..	17	186	15	163	..	..	18,613	8,359	7,003	43,890
Total ..	170	5,489	149	3,292	..	78	430,696	124,412	195,563	984,755
<i>Class IV.—Working in Wood.</i>										
Cooperage ..	8	200	5	101	..	..	16,904	712	15,901	36,004
Saw-milling (forest) ..	151	3,193	173	1,677	..	1	206,709	1,119	10,610	361,954
Saw-milling, moulding, &c. ..	217	6,222	210	3,536	1	57	464,448	15,862	1,007,464	1,686,319
Mantelpiece ..	9	66	11	144	..	4	18,385	322	29,764	54,147
Wood carving, turning ..	31	461	38	244	..	7	28,364	1,521	33,091	78,893
Other ..	8	93	6	92	..	29	12,758	617	24,873	46,753
Total ..	424	10,235	443	5,794	1	98	747,568	20,153	1,121,703	2,264,070

*Class V.—Metal Works, Machinery,
&c.*

Agricultural implement	63	1,362	68	1,810	..	22	250,450	18,666	359,342	743,196
Engineering, iron foundry, &c. ..	364	7,964	396	7,223	3	104	1,008,627	104,334	1,365,280	2,936,342
Railway workshop	17	1,534	..	4,174	..	6	615,960	25,087	665,650	1,409,770
Sheet-iron, tin, &c.	77	415	64	1,116	1	243	145,753	5,718	419,405	673,927
Brass, copper smithing	62	423	79	752	1	37	87,712	6,699	110,384	248,418
Wireworking	17	191	17	184	..	10	25,033	994	48,221	93,699
Metallurgical, &c., cyanide	30	283	29	174	..	1	22,027	6,671	82,431	135,048
Oven, range	19	128	25	161	..	..	19,369	1,195	30,173	64,570
Other	51	1,089	51	421	2	6	57,342	5,664	187,572	301,044
Total	700	13,389	729	16,015	7	429	2,232,273	175,028	3,268,458	6,606,014

*Class VI—Connected with Food and
Drink or the preparation thereof.*

Bacon curing	23	1,000	28	385	..	20	58,191	7,243	808,691	972,477
Butter, cheese, butterine	186	3,148	47	1,319	3	114	190,038	40,142	3,993,654	4,908,160
Meat freezing, preserving	15	5,460	3	913	..	23	116,978	28,433	796,639	980,371
Biscuit	7	386	5	841	..	560	119,628	12,122	499,301	735,158
Flourmilling	54	4,305	40	851	..	6	126,280	28,342	2,941,140	3,458,633
Jam, sauce, &c.	35	439	25	1,106	3	1,047	180,083	13,310	836,430	1,225,856
Oatmeal, starch, &c.	24	1,313	16	317	..	179	57,873	9,960	386,351	541,161
Sugar, confectionery, &c.	48	4,032	42	1,558	5	1,458	280,077	56,646	2,690,891	3,435,831
Aerated water, cordial, &c.	135	473	114	701	8	74	87,543	3,297	181,407	400,101
Malt	22	267	8	226	..	4	35,977	9,228	314,113	442,717
Brewing	19	3,382	9	854	..	3	168,041	33,711	505,579	1,118,288
Distilling	9	299	3	132	..	1	20,117	5,488	91,117	147,538
Condiments, coffee, cocoa, &c.	20	693	11	207	..	112	39,379	4,601	260,264	355,281
Tobacco, &c.	13	376	8	1,017	..	686	211,866	3,796	920,872	1,470,715
Other	25	1,210	16	206	2	18	30,387	8,200	31,634	112,748
Total	635	26,783	375	10,633	21	4,305	1,722,458	264,519	15,258,083	20,305,035

Production.

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1916-17—continued.

792

Victorian Year-Book, 1916-17.

Nature of Industry.	Number of Manufactories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—			
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid exclusive of Amounts drawn by Working Proprietors.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials Used.	Articles Produced or Work Done.
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.				
							£	£	£	£
<i>Class VII.—Clothing and Textile Fabrics, and Fibrous Material.</i>										
Woollen mill	10	3,215	9	917	..	1,123	181,358	24,205	535,409	1,006,635
Clothing, tailoring, &c. ..	448	496	410	1,705	35	7,754	667,228	13,881	1,422,740	2,448,673
Dressmaking and millinery ..	448	331	80	218	298	8,425	438,932	8,885	912,680	1,629,543
Underclothing, shirt	175	599	78	219	109	6,006	324,293	7,893	749,821	1,273,032
Hat, cap	40	468	41	616	4	1,048	156,639	7,522	283,683	539,335
Hoisery	45	359	28	133	30	1,443	101,069	2,665	432,180	643,450
Oilskin, waterproof clothing ..	4	16	2	44	1	159	19,796	981	40,415	77,398
Boot, shoe	201	1,674	248	4,800	7	3,439	843,772	15,074	2,171,812	3,460,404
Fur	23	16	18	66	10	198	19,265	461	49,825	85,259
Rope, twine, &c.	8	1,300	6	472	..	342	78,343	7,325	350,770	541,318
Sail, tent, &c.	17	33	10	111	..	120	21,262	342	99,556	139,425
Other	22	109	13	148	5	285	32,488	2,600	85,764	146,976
Total	1,441	8,616	943	9,449	499	30,342	2,884,445	91,834	7,134,655	11,991,448

<i>Class VIII.—Books, Paper, Printing, Engraving, &c.</i>											
2620-42	Printing	357	3,255	400	4,414	6	1,339	793,609	23,364	962,234	2,424,873
	Account-book, stationery, paper, &c.	23	438	25	541	2	582	98,706	3,102	199,849	384,884
	Fancy box	30	152	23	155	6	630	51,453	1,164	112,530	193,329
	Die sinking, engraving, &c.	19	66	20	199	1	7	25,397	741	25,244	77,936
	Other	16	1,648	13	414	..	53	55,094	17,741	107,814	246,473
	Total	445	5,559	481	5,723	15	2,611	1,024,259	46,112	1,407,671	3,327,495
	<i>Class IX.—Musical Instruments</i> ..	9	240	8	178	..	12	25,146	422	20,455	55,480
	<i>Class X.—Arms and Explosives</i> ..	12	746	2	688	..	907	176,106	10,710	497,503	761,241
	<i>Class XI.—Vehicles and Fittings, Saddlery, Harness, &c.</i>										
	Coachbuilding	294	691	348	1,914	..	19	217,286	8,820	243,301	575,791
	Bicycle, &c.	181	576	173	1,229	1	41	152,029	5,150	124,807	347,776
	Saddle, harness	45	54	53	498	..	147	77,135	679	161,045	279,990
	Other	13	47	10	133	..	9	16,727	320	30,665	57,816
	Total	533	1,368	584	3,774	1	216	463,177	14,969	559,818	1,261,373
	<i>Class XII.—Shipbuilding, Fitting, &c.</i>	11	1,341	8	453	..	3	67,235	2,842	54,720	151,950
	<i>Class XIII.—Furniture, Bedding, &c.</i>										
	Upholstery, bedding, &c.	44	276	27	308	1	190	50,094	1,764	135,983	222,267
	Cabinet, including billiard table ..	191	1,142	225	1,569	..	49	184,379	4,240	245,034	524,611
	Picture frame	22	33	21	140	1	31	16,626	575	34,626	63,947
	Other	11	148	8	186	..	10	22,108	1,541	50,098	82,506
	Total	268	1,599	281	2,203	2	280	273,207	8,120	465,741	893,331

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1916-17—continued.

794

Victorian Year-Book, 1916-17.

Nature of Industry.	Number of Manufactories.	Actual Horse-power of Engines used.	Average Number of Persons Employed.				Value of—			
			Males.		Females.		Wages paid exclusive of Amounts drawn by Working Proprietors.	Fuel and Light used.	Materials Used.	Articles Produced or Work Done.
			Working Proprietors.	Employees.	Working Proprietors.	Employees.				
<i>Class XIV.—Drugs, Chemicals, and By-products.</i>										
Blacking, blue, &c.	14	195	8	158	..	156	£ 31,285	£ 1,355	£ 186,436	£ 280,041
Chemicals, drugs, &c.	33	585	21	455	..	309	84,546	6,362	209,855	380,104
Fertilizers	6	1,494	..	631	..	6	92,689	13,003	493,536	749,437
Other	41	137	43	284	1	12	27,975	1,375	60,071	112,371
Total	94	2,411	72	1,528	3	483	236,495	22,095	949,898	1,521,953
<i>Class XV.—Surgical and Scientific Appliances</i>										
.. ..	28	37	25	102	..	8	11,383	516	11,179	33,872
<i>Class XVI.—Timepieces, Jewellery, and Platedware</i>										
.. ..	91	220	104	727	..	117	97,135	2,988	169,600	352,611

<i>Class XVII.—Heat, Light, and Energy.</i>												
Electric apparatus	29	230	27	216	..	8	24,264	800	36,092	77,818		
Electric light	74	42,144	3	1,101	..	40	178,430	129,743	2,009	673,769		
Gas, coke	47	1,985	2	2,045	..	46	365,777	4,406	383,675	1,181,096		
Other	8	1,154	1	196	..	479	50,991	5,315	147,337	276,163		
Total	158	45,513	33	3,558	..	573	619,462	140,264	569,113	2,208,846		
<i>Class XVIII.—Leatherware (except Saddlery and Harness)</i>												
.. ..	38	210	45	366	..	300	58,083	1,861	251,644	370,474		
<i>Class XIX.—Wares, not elsewhere included.</i>												
Umbrella	8	13	6	49	..	114	11,836	267	48,667	69,795		
Rubber goods	13	6,305	12	1,454	..	419	220,139	26,986	609,194	987,893		
Brush, broom	18	120	17	282	1	83	35,202	731	81,973	135,815		
Basket, wickerware	18	3	20	105	..	1	10,724	35	11,055	27,056		
Total	57	6,441	55	1,890	1	617	277,901	28,019	750,889	1,220,559		
Grand Total	5,445	136,985	4,649	70,275	552	41,494	11,833,517	1,024,156	37,103,750	60,047,284		

422

Increase in
value of out-
put of each
Industry
1911 to
1916-17.

Nearly every manufacturing industry in the State has shown a substantial increase in the value of output during the past five years. The output for the years 1911 and 1916-17 is shown in the following table, the industries being arranged in order of increase in value :—

OUTPUT OF INDUSTRIES, 1911 TO 1916 17.

Industry.	Value of Output.		Increase in Five Years.	
	1911.	1916-17.	Total.	Per cent.
Tanning and fellmongering ..	£ 1,843,189	£ 3,962,202	£ 2,119,013	115·0
Sugar, confectionery ..	1,530,491	3,435,831	1,855,340	117·4
Boot, shoe	1,878,308	3,460,404	1,582,096	84·2
Flour mills.. ..	2,456,533	3,458,633	1,002,100	40·8
Butter, cheese, and creameries	3,964,312	4,815,833	851,521	21·5
Dress, millinery, and hosiery ..	1,422,376	2,272,993	850,617	59·8
Engineering, iron foundries, &c.	2,194,805	2,936,342	741,537	33·8
Arms and explosives ..	135,068	761,241	626,173	463·6
Printing	1,874,922	2,424,873	549,951	29·3
Clothing, tailoring, &c. ..	1,904,037	2,448,673	544,636	28·6
Woollen mill	473,686	1,006,635	532,949	112·5
Jam, sauce, &c.	725,311	1,225,856	500,545	69·0
Bacon-curing	549,748	972,477	422,729	76·9
Electric light	270,498	673,769	403,271	149·1
Underclothing, shirt ..	880,109	1,273,032	392,923	44·6
Oil, grease, glue, soap and candle	635,718	1,014,331	378,613	59·6
Rubber goods	612,830	987,893	375,063	61·2
Gas, coke	810,414	1,181,096	370,682	45·7
Chemicals, &c.	808,201	1,129,541	321,340	39·8
Tobacco, cigars, snuff ..	1,155,047	1,470,715	315,668	27·3
Sheet-iron, tin, &c. ..	370,460	673,927	303,467	81·9
Rope, twine, &c.	260,875	541,318	280,443	107·5
Biscuit	467,114	735,158	268,044	57·4
Brewing	912,829	1,118,288	205,459	22·5
Coach, cycle, motor ..	720,222	923,567	203,345	28·2
Oatmeal, starch, &c. ..	340,408	541,161	200,753	59·0
Malt	288,324	442,717	154,393	53·5
Account book, stationery, &c.	249,132	384,884	135,752	54·5
Saddle, harness	148,321	279,990	131,669	88·8
Blacking, blue, &c. ..	157,347	280,041	122,694	78·0
Hat, cap	420,963	539,335	118,372	28·1
Ship, boat-building, dock, slip	39,661	151,950	112,289	283·1
Cement, including cement pipes	49,516	154,856	105,340	212·7
Leatherware, except saddlery ..	266,801	370,474	103,673	38·9
Distilling	48,082	147,538	99,456	206·8
Sail, tent, &c.	54,789	139,425	84,636	154·5
Brass, copper	173,142	248,418	75,276	43·5
Fancy-box, &c.	119,935	193,329	73,394	61·2
Condiments, coffee, cocoa, &c.	292,490	355,281	62,791	21·5
Glass, including bottles ..	138,421	200,866	62,445	45·1
Others	10,053,428	10,712,391	658,963	6·6
	41,747,863	60,047,284	18,299,421	43·8

INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIES.

The salient features in connexion with the chief industries are set forth in the succeeding pages.

The development of the tanning and fellmongering industry during the past ten years is shown by the particulars contained in the next two tables:—

TANNERIES, ETC.: 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Horse-power of Engines.	Value of Machinery and Plant in Use.	Number of Persons Employed	Number of Working Proprietors.	Amount of Wages Paid.
			£			£
1907	90	1,223	124,064	1,893	100	140,436
1908	92	1,379	133,376	2,001	98	160,091
1909	93	1,941	142,429	1,999	96	163,853
1910	89	1,990	141,702	1,956	99	175,364
1911	88	2,005	165,964	2,123	97	198,692
1912	90	2,161	176,947	1,996	103	205,050
1913	84	2,398	196,848	1,824	86	194,948
1914	79	2,434	190,460	1,875	82	210,007
1915	82	2,610	193,350	2,165	97	268,884
1916-17	74	3,187	214,896	2,362	82	300,796

The quantity of bark used in connexion with tanning operations in 1916-17 was 12,340 tons. The output of tanneries for each of the last ten years was as follows:—

OUTPUT OF TANNERIES, ETC.: 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number Tanned of—			Sheep Skins Stripped.	Wool Washed (weight after washing).	Value of Articles produced or Work done.
	Hides.	Calf Skins.	Sheep and other Skins.			
				No.	lbs.	£
1907	492,572	188,007	548,765	851,516	7,230,675	1,512,009
1908	498,947	127,798	1,027,460	1,253,875	7,803,992	1,441,651
1909	495,964	175,563	1,020,656	1,090,967	8,089,643	1,636,197
1910	496,200	186,993	1,007,343	1,241,693	8,242,456	1,739,850
1911	523,989	190,257	817,866	1,301,298	9,356,529	1,843,189
1912	536,343	194,441	891,971	1,085,196	8,132,610	1,891,816
1913	538,117	181,643	863,580	1,123,302	7,424,263	1,961,653
1914	554,242	210,894	936,975	1,639,161	7,816,250	2,132,935
1915	765,088	166,197	1,150,449	1,463,775	12,224,184	3,201,455
1916-17	722,649	230,380	1,027,847	1,538,178	13,843,439	3,962,202

The figures for 1909 and subsequent years do not include skins and wool dealt with in small tanneries. The work done in such tanneries in 1908 was the tanning of 1,540 hides, 1,620 calf skins, and 4,916 sheep and other skins. The value of the leather imported into Victoria from overseas countries during the year ended 30th June, 1917, was £365,825.

Soap and candle works. Particulars in regard to the soap and candle works in the State for the past ten years are given below:—

SOAP AND CANDLE WORKS—1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Value of Machinery and Plant in Use.	Number of Employees.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Products.		Value of Output.
					Soap.*	Candles.	
		£		£	cwt.	cwt.	£
1907 ..	15	106,326	499	43,429	153,478	47,688	404,251
1908 ..	17	109,768	523	43,463	162,757	37,705	402,306
1909 ..	17	111,252	550	56,382	176,162	45,460	485,954
1910 ..	16	113,418	528	51,518	187,433	44,768	516,508
1911 ..	16	113,664	528	53,474	189,048	41,557	572,000
1912 ..	17	117,034	593	61,398	215,629	40,157	562,013
1913 ..	18	117,692	561	60,703	223,598	39,099	610,881
1914 ..	17	120,215	604	65,155	243,558	37,564	641,104
1915 ..	17	121,946	627	71,282	267,426	41,031	721,845
1916-17	18	128,100	670	84,036	214,526	38,746	802,179

* Not including soap made in small soap works not classified as factories, viz., 10,527 cwt. in 1907, 7,125 cwt. in 1908, 5,458 cwt. in 1909, 5,479 cwt. in 1910, 6,216 cwt. in 1911, 4,732 cwt. in 1912, 3,564 cwt. in 1913, 3,489 cwt. in 1914, 1,664 cwt. in 1915, and 927 cwt. in 1916-17.

The quantity of tallow used in 1916-17 in the manufacture of soap and candles was 146,455 cwt. in factories, and 398 cwt. in minor works.

The imports from oversea countries in 1916-17 included 252,863 lbs. of soap valued at £17,859, and 34,232 lbs. of candles valued at £1,507.

Particulars relating to brickyards and potteries for the ten years 1907 to 1916-17 are shown in the following statement. The value of the land, plant, buildings, &c., used in connexion with such works in 1916-17 was £492,425.

BRICKS, POTTERY, PIPES, AND TILES: 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Number of Employees.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Number of Bricks Made.*	Value of—	
					Pipes and Tiles.	Pottery.
			£		£	£
1907 ..	117	1,714	155,768	123,281,100	66,390	29,070
1908 ..	119	1,711	165,246	124,985,500	72,024	33,029
1909 ..	108	1,588	164,192	129,302,800	77,305	32,624
1910 ..	122	1,730	178,868	145,809,500	83,397	31,897
1911 ..	120	1,856	197,282	153,944,800	97,478	35,522
1912 ..	119	2,047	236,526	180,724,200	123,944	44,788
1913 ..	106	1,974	233,157	175,644,900	132,709	32,839
1914 ..	109	2,117	260,877	188,238,420	124,826	47,948
1915 ..	89	1,839	230,969	142,601,380	134,623	52,732
1916-17	79	1,636	200,781	108,444,400	147,840	57,266

*In addition there are bricks made in small brickyards not tabulated as factories.

The estimated value of bricks made in 1916-17 was £182,211, being a decrease of £65,290 as compared with the value of those made in the preceding year.

Forest saw-mills.

Particulars in regard to the forest saw-mills in the State for the ten years 1907 to 1916-17 are given in the table which follows :—

FOREST SAW-MILLS : 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Mills.	Value of Machinery and Plant in Use.	Number of Employees	Amount of Wages Paid.	Victorian Timber Sawn.	
					Quantity.	Value.
		£		£	Super. ft.	£
1907 ..	119	99,723	1,548	113,258	55,873,500	181,590
1908 ..	120	98,804	1,486	126,409	54,602,200	177,460
1909 ..	133	115,121	1,635	131,108	56,039,200	189,130
1910 ..	139	125,528	1,767	158,733	70,947,200	248,320
1911 ..	142	148,136	1,892	170,579	70,931,500	265,990
1912 ..	150	170,437	1,814	183,169	73,374,900	265,980
1913 ..	167	262,964	2,118	211,454	81,769,800	290,280
1914 ..	167	273,086	2,127	232,305	84,374,300	316,400
1915 ..	138	233,343	1,564	169,027	62,588,760	234,710
1916-17..	151	235,140	1,678	206,709	70,038,400	297,663

In addition to forest saw-mills there were 273 other factories working in wood. The particulars for 1916-17 relating to these are given on page 790.

It is estimated that the approximate value of the production of firewood for consumption in the year is £521,770. In addition, there are supplies of railway sleepers, piles, posts and rails, shingles, and timber for mines obtained from the forests, but it has been found impossible to procure reliable information as to their value.

During the past decade there has been a very marked expansion in engineering works and iron foundries. Since 1904 the number of factories has increased by 57 per cent., the number of persons employed therein by 67 per cent., the amount of wages paid by 158 per cent., the value of machinery and plant by 84 per cent., the value of materials used by 202 per cent., and the value of the output by 169

Firewood, &c.

Engineering, iron foundry, &c.

per cent. The chief particulars of the industry for the years 1907 to 1916-17 are given in the next table:—

ENGINEERING, IRON FOUNDRY, ETC., 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Horse-power of Engines.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Number of Persons Employed	Amount of Wages Paid.	Value of—		
						Materials Used.	Fuel and Light Used.	Output.
			£		£	£	£	£
1907 ..	262	2,990	486,649	5,847	531,398	667,867	55,541	1,515,440
1908 ..	278	3,130	491,208	5,928	549,868	650,990	58,629	1,535,907
1909 ..	293	3,238	481,562	5,810	547,192	644,273	58,648	1,561,011
1910 ..	290	3,583	496,232	6,366	615,704	757,270	66,693	1,805,199
1911 ..	304	4,746	553,685	7,372	762,824	913,476	77,674	2,194,805
1912 ..	326	5,857	635,481	8,649	988,802	1,154,377	83,841	2,640,453
1913 ..	345	6,670	715,909	8,745	1,029,136	1,206,001	90,005	2,824,892
1914 ..	354	7,899	762,392	8,601	1,038,622	1,298,255	94,284	2,961,187
1915 ..	364	7,999	784,447	8,552	1,056,075	1,349,270	106,483	3,029,713
1916-17	364	7,964	809,940	7,726	1,006,627	1,365,280	104,334	2,936,342

The above figures are exclusive of railway workshops, which in 1916-17 numbered 17, and gave employment to 4,180 hands, who were paid £615,960; the value of the materials dealt with was £665,650, and the value of the output was £1,409,770, of which 77 per cent. was from the Newport Workshops.

Agricultural Implement works.

The subjoined statement contains the leading particulars relating to agricultural implement works for the last ten years:—

AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKS, 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	No. of Factories.	No. of Employees.	Wages Paid.	Approximate Value of—		
				Fuel, &c. Used.	Materials Used.	Output.
			£	£	£	£
1907	55	1,553	147,675	9,554	188,173	452,841
1908	52	1,381	134,884	9,253	177,488	437,023
1909	52	1,831	181,391	12,697	242,922	611,293
1910	50	2,193	231,919	21,537	300,718	742,326
1911	59	2,651	297,824	19,299	345,665	831,474
1912	67	2,590	309,789	19,388	329,397	799,217
1913	66	2,166	268,880	16,915	324,063	710,832
1914	65	1,895	242,158	16,866	278,283	638,827
1915	64	1,678	206,764	15,337	213,257	526,756
1916-17	63	1,832	250,450	18,666	359,342	743,196

The industry attained its greatest development in 1911, when the employees numbered 2,651, and the value of output was £831,474. From that year to 1915 there was a decrease both in the number of employees and in the value of the output. In 1916-17 the position showed some improvement, but even in that year the number of employees was 31 per cent. and the value of the output 11 per cent. less than in 1911.

The wages averaged for each employee £89 19s. 5d. in 1904 and £136 14s. 2d. in 1916-17. The stripper-harvester, which is a Victorian invention, is one of the principal implements manufactured.

In the following table particulars of bacon and ham curing establishments are given for the ten years 1907 to 1916-17. The value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings in connexion with these establishments was £57,350 in 1907 and £154,215 in 1916-17.

BACON CURING: 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Establishments.	Number of Employees.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Pigs Slaughtered for Curing.	Weight of Bacon and Hams Cured.	Value of Output.
			£	No.	lbs.	£
1907 ..	27	316	27,472	145,513	13,609,144	447,585
1908 ..	26	310	27,862	129,677	11,518,404	446,199
1909 ..	26	310	28,454	123,067	11,245,195	443,277
1910 ..	25	307	30,035	142,429	13,455,397	483,469
1911 ..	26	349	39,041	177,029	15,190,449	549,748
1912 ..	29	399	45,794	179,717	16,044,228	634,366
1913 ..	28	423	49,305	179,710	16,345,955	726,906
1914 ..	26	442	57,965	181,756	16,298,474	772,318
1915 ..	25	362	49,672	129,259	11,451,031	767,778
1916-17 ..	23	405	58,191	167,003	15,376,600	972,477

This table does not include pigs slaughtered for curing, nor bacon and hams cured in small curing works; the pigs so slaughtered numbered 2,771 in 1907, 2,263 in 1908, 2,691 in 1909, 1,637 in 1910, 695 in 1911, 671 in 1912, 666 in 1913, 974 in 1914, 439 in 1915, and 379 in 1916-17; the quantity (in pounds) of bacon and hams cured was 244,837 in 1907, 194,328 in 1908, 294,088 in 1909, 142,524 in 1910, 70,440 in 1911, 50,500 in 1912, 51,620 in 1913, 87,258 in 1914, 45,030 in 1915, and 31,300 in 1916-17.

In addition, the following quantities of bacon and hams were returned as having been cured on farms:—3,691,739 lbs. in 1907,

2,698,669 lbs. in 1908, 2,375,290 lbs. in 1909, 2,983,440 lbs. in 1910, 4,356,323 lbs. in 1911, 3,999,478 lbs. in 1912, 2,943,303 lbs. in 1913, 2,476,023 lbs. in 1914, 2,208,943 lbs. in 1915, and 2,738,428 lbs. in 1916-17. The total quantity of bacon and hams cured in 1916-17 was thus 18,146,328 lbs.—an increase of 4,441,324 lbs. as compared with 1915.

The number of butter, cheese, and kindred factories was 182 in 1916-17. Of these factories, 141 made butter, 6 butter and cheese, 2 butter and cheese and casein, 1 butter and concentrated and powdered milk, 1 concentrated milk, 1 condensed milk, 1 concentrated and condensed milk, 1 powdered milk, 1 casein, 1 butter, cheese, concentrated, and condensed milk, while 26 made cheese only. There were 32 creameries attached to the factories. The number of factories and the value of machinery, plant, land, and buildings, the number of employees and the amount of their wages, and the total value of the output for the ten years 1907 to 1916-17 were as follows:—

BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES: 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Value of Machinery, Plant, Land, and Buildings.	Number of Employees.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Value of Output.
		£		£	£
1907	223	560,035	1,384	119,684	2,831,670
1908	215	528,700	1,235	108,152	2,327,328
1909	211	515,966	1,134	109,412	2,391,893
1910	203	513,292	1,209	121,128	2,980,669
1911	199	626,331	1,489	147,897	3,964,312
1912	197	635,358	1,374	152,922	3,636,174
1913	197	649,931	1,311	159,529	3,562,057
1914	197	643,677	1,290	161,740	3,228,640
1915	190	644,960	1,145	139,543	2,715,784
1916-17 ..	182	647,128	1,398	185,024	4,815,833

The reduction in the value of the output in 1915, as compared with that in each of the preceding five years, was due to a severe drought which occurred in 1914. Further particulars relating to butter and cheese factories will be found under the heading of Dairying on page 756.

Meat freezing and preserving works numbered fifteen in 1916-17, and gave employment to 936 hands and three working proprietors, the wages of the hands amounting to £116,978. The approximate value of machinery, plant, land and buildings in the same year was £697,657. The output for each of the last ten years is given in the following table:—

MEAT FREEZING AND PRESERVING, 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Frozen.			
	Cattle.	Sheep.	Rabbits.	Poultry.
	Qrs.	No.	No.	No.
1907	10,760	866,498	6,413,560	56,275
1908	16,508	773,396	4,057,896	22,826
1909	17,360	941,309	2,832,924	22,440
1910	36,464	1,573,516	2,660,604	60,312
1911	40,184	1,578,133	2,312,928	35,388
1912	29,752	1,409,243	2,101,704	28,824
1913	126,568	2,107,180	4,674,588	25,284
1914	212,520	1,710,152	3,778,164	30,504
1915 ... ..	...	47,546	3,584,388	8,652
1916-17	28,492	418,418	2,846,904	4,900

Year.	Preserved.			
	Beef.	Mutton.	Rabbits.	Other Meats, &c.
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1907	11,944	2,478	64	2,229
1908	7,557	2,309	1,730	1,391
1909	8,382	2,349	540	1,267
1910	13,589	8,876	1,389	2,534
1911	28,654	14,890	3,422	2,679
1912	37,984	22,387	...	3,056
1913	49,445	8,793	63	3,321
1914	49,103	7,316	2,368	5,936
1915	38,835	2,092	422	3,448
1916-17	15,591	4,484	5,245	2,693

NOTE.—In addition to the above, there were treated at freezing works 8,047 calves, 2,196 pigs, and 55,196 hares in 1907; 11,662 calves, 2,296 pigs, and 29,796 hares in 1908; 3,059 calves, 225 pigs, and 8,724 hares in 1909; 3,898 calves, 1,557 pigs, and 29,532 hares in 1910; 7,308 calves, 1,669 pigs, and 58,008 hares in 1911; 3,355 calves, 3,120 pigs, and 43,224 hares in 1912; 5,080 calves, and 39,420 hares in 1913; 11,708 calves, 1,713 pigs, and 57,576 hares in 1914; 2,072 hares in 1915; and 1,120 calves, 156 pigs, and 6,872 hares in 1916-17.

The following statement shows the imports from and exports to oversea countries of frozen and preserved meats, other than bacon and ham, during the year ended 30th June, 1917 :—

MEATS IMPORTED AND EXPORTED OVERSEA, 1916-17.

	Imports.		Exports.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Meats, Frozen—		£		£
Mutton ... ..	...	...	2,940,770 lbs.	64,568
Lamb ... ..	...	...	12,999,314 ,,	329,476
Beef ... ..	...	...	4,895,505 ,,	121,329
Pork	7,270 lbs.	400	15,642 ,,	618
Rabbits and Hares ... ..	...	...	1,426,888 prs.	111,632
Poultry	50 lbs.	3	993 ,,	977
Game	159 ,,	13	9,232 lbs.	263
Other ... ..	...	...	97,067 ,,	1,631
Meats—Fresh and Smoked	136 lbs.	3	...	...
Potted and concentrated	...	13,320	...	3,651
Preserved in tins	144,795 lbs.	9,119	1,601,411 lbs.	61,937
Not elsewhere included	21 cwt.	75	21 cwt.	73
Total value ... ..	...	22,933	...	696,155

Flour mills. The value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings used in connexion with flour mills was estimated at £501,873 in 1907, and at £498,470 in 1916-17. Particulars of the industry for the ten years 1907 to 1916-17 are as follows :—

FLOUR MILLS: 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Mills.	Number of Employees.	Amount of Wages Paid.	Wheat Ground into Flour.	Flour Made.	Value of Total Output.
			£	bushels.	tons.	£
1907 ..	68	788	85,544	11,731,183	235,185	2,370,957
1908 ..	63	728	78,906	9,564,068	192,687	2,275,024
1909 ..	59	688	79,547	10,644,123	215,547	2,639,519
1910 ..	62	734	84,863	11,218,870	225,282	2,486,741
1911 ..	61	784	93,503	12,266,013	247,434	2,456,533
1912 ..	61	790	95,266	11,185,138	225,376	2,565,014
1913 ..	61	790	102,882	12,459,988	252,763	2,633,604
1914 ..	57	836	109,910	12,173,943	246,136	2,726,878
1915 ..	51	608	70,982	6,574,753	134,401	2,739,730
1916-17 ..	54	857	126,280	12,483,990	263,095	3,458,633

In addition to the flour made, the wheat ground in 1916-17 produced 5,763,240 bushels of bran and 5,063,820 bushels of pollard. Other

grain operated on amounted to 123,885 bushels in 1907, 123,879 bushels in 1908, 45,487 bushels in 1909, 35,507 bushels in 1910, 84,707 bushels in 1911, 98,243 bushels in 1912, 39,826 bushels in 1913, 38,992 bushels in 1914, 43,618 bushels in 1915, and 44,150 bushels in 1916-17.

Exports of bread-stuffs. During the year 1916-17, 3,325,716 lbs. of biscuits valued at £79,129, and 101,991 tons of flour valued at £1,213,751 were exported from Victoria to countries beyond Australia.

Jam, pickles, and sauce works. In 1916-17 there were 35 establishments in which the manufacture of jams, pickles, and sauces was carried on, and the number of persons employed therein was 2,181, of whom 28 were working proprietors. The wages paid to the employees amounted to £180,083, and the value of machinery, plant, land and buildings was £211,598. The fruit and sugar used and the output for each of the last ten years were as shown below:—

JAM, PICKLE, AND SAUCE WORKS, 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Fruit Used.	Sugar Used.	Jams and Jellies Made.	Fruit Preserved.	Fruit Pulped.	Sauce Made.	Pickles Made.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	pints.	pints.
1907 ...	218,276	105,518	190,211	33,819	95,885	3,257,471	1,253,280
1908 ...	191,282	133,283	226,481	31,336	18,783	3,014,835	1,187,136
1909 ...	265,353	143,427	268,927	40,746	49,797	3,607,968	1,324,392
1910 ...	311,168	159,439	303,733	49,797	38,017	4,173,936	1,264,728
1911 ...	315,362	156,376	286,543	53,562	52,427	4,348,500	1,617,156
1912 ...	307,458	154,381	258,470	63,133	56,488	5,886,336	1,482,252
1913 ...	400,048	179,243	265,727	102,608	100,690	6,458,748	1,752,396
1914 ...	341,189	175,538	271,755	81,425	75,299	5,648,280	1,840,920
1915 ...	300,861	193,243	305,445	52,939	40,993	5,827,176	1,285,476
1916-17 ...	372,424	257,481	347,152	60,419	132,182	6,433,032	1,803,408

These works also candied fruit peel amounting to 3,283 cwt. in 1908, 4,802 cwt. in 1909, 3,902 cwt. in 1910, 3,549 cwt. in 1911, 2,763 cwt. in 1912, 5,519 cwt. in 1913, 6,892 cwt. in 1914, 4,628 cwt. in 1915, and 3,360 cwt. in 1916-17. The value of the output in 1916-17 was £1,225,856.

Beet sugar industry.

In 1896 Parliament passed an Act making available £100,000, of which £62,000 was expended in promoting the establishment of the beet sugar industry on the basis of £2 for every £1 of private capital subscribed. A company was formed, and a substantial building, equipped with a modern plant, was erected at Maffra, in Gippsland. The industry, after various vicissitudes, was compelled to cease operations after two manufacturing campaigns, and the building and plant, which fell into the hands of the Government under the terms of its mortgage, remained idle for twelve years.

In 1910 a definite campaign to revive the industry was commenced, numerous experimental beet plots were established throughout Gippsland in order to familiarize land-holders with beet-growing, lectures were given explanatory of the Government proposals and different phases of the industry, a system of field labour was organized, and manufacturing operations were recommenced.

With the view of putting the industry on a sound footing the Government purchased large areas at Boisdale and Kilmany Park. These estates, which are in railway communication with Maffra, were cut up into small holdings under the Closer Settlement Board, and allotted to settlers, subject to the proviso that each must grow a certain area of beet. The compulsory beet-growing conditions were removed in 1914, and the supply of beet became dependent on voluntary growers.

The following particulars summarize the results of the last seven seasons :—

Season.	Area Harvested.	Sugar Beet Harvested.	Sugar Produced.
	acres.	tons.	tons.
1910-11	458	5,969	482
1911-12	752	4,000	519
1912-13	900	6,207	648
1913-14	1,000	7,431	920
1914-15	990	8,843	1,181
1915-16	461	4,928	560
1916-17	1,320	15,159	1,948

The price of beet was advanced to 27s. 6d. per ton for the 1916-17 season and a larger area than usual was planted. Some of the crops were severely damaged by floods, but 1,320 acres were harvested and generally brought good returns to the growers. A fine grade of white sugar was manufactured, and, after meeting all expenses and charges the factory showed a substantial profit for the season.

Breweries. Particulars regarding breweries for the ten years 1907 to 1916-17 are set forth in the next table. Machinery and plant were valued at £249,579 in 1907 and at £452,988 in 1916-17, whilst land and buildings were valued at £529,047 in 1907 and at £471,170 in 1916-17. The wages paid in 1916-17 amounted to £168,041.

BREWERIES: 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Breweries.	Number of Employees.	Materials Used—			Beer Made.	Value of Output.
			Sugar.	Malt.	Hops.		
			cwt.	bushels.	lbs.	gallons.	£
1907 ...	37	1,005	136,004	542,806	665,236	16,900,336	810,321
1908 ...	35	1,107	109,347	556,040	684,879	17,582,833	832,459
1909 ...	32	996	103,146	503,761	632,339	16,552,594	771,779
1910 ...	31	1,016	112,240	540,390	663,394	18,605,737	836,485
1911 ...	33	1,009	111,314	548,341	649,892	19,077,420	912,829
1912 ...	29	984	119,667	566,779	659,323	20,247,337	980,927
1913 ...	26	966	123,073	586,375	653,803	20,925,354	1,024,708
1914 ...	25	1,036	133,707	678,526	738,953	23,865,467	1,196,306
1915 ...	22	893	111,363	600,333	661,299	20,339,924	1,061,186
1916-17 ...	19	857	105,238	616,630	710,470	20,111,704	1,118,288

Distilleries. The number of distilleries working in 1916-17 was 9, and the persons employed numbered 136, of whom 3 were working proprietors. The estimated value of the machinery, plant, land, and buildings was £186,365. The materials used in manufacture and the quantity of spirits distilled in each of the last ten years were as follows:—

DISTILLERIES: 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Materials Used.				Spirits Distilled.
	Wine.	Malt.	Other Grain.	Sugar and Molasses.	
	Gal.	Bush.	Bush.	lbs.	Proof gal.
1907 ...	413,242	141,876	...	49,280	375,183
1908 ...	591,248	53,761	...	...	220,690
1909 ...	379,979	117,197	...	...	314,370
1910 ...	605,204	25,345	3,560	649,152	223,560
1911 ...	370,119	61,981	752	1,293,152	298,237
1912 ...	580,976	...	...	791,056	152,645
1913 ...	944,277	54,544	...	1,057,280	335,251
1914 ...	1,248,957	39,043	118	1,649,760	409,815
1915 ...	984,817	34,896	118	1,592,640	386,152
1916-17 ...	1,452,048	176,472	170	1,093,120	658,357

Spirits made by vine-growers for fortifying wine are not included in the foregoing table. The following quantities were distilled in vineyards for that purpose during the last ten years:—53,517 gallons in 1907, 50,954 gallons in 1908, 30,976 gallons in 1909, 13,427 gallons in 1910, 29,745 gallons in 1911, 23,874 gallons in 1912, 13,357 gallons in 1913, 12,256 gallons in 1914, 9,955 gallons in 1915, and 9,937 gallons in 1916-17.

Tobacco factories. The number of tobacco, cigar and cigarette factories licensed in 1916-17 was twenty-eight, of which fifteen were too small to be classified as ordinary factories and were consequently not included in the statistical tabulation. In the year mentioned the remaining thirteen employed 1,703 hands, who were paid £211,866 in wages, also eight working proprietors; and the machinery, plant, land, and buildings used were valued at £290,930. The subjoined table shows the quantity of tobacco leaf used by, and the output of the full number of licensed establishments for the last ten years:—

TOBACCO FACTORIES: 1907 to 1916-17.

Year	Unmanufactured Leaf Operated on.		Quantity Manufactured of—			
	Australian	Imported.	Tobacco.	Snuff.	Cigars.	Cigarettes.
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	No.	No.
1907...	332,271	4,479,073	4,782,061	993	17,740,782	146,699,600
1908...	269,354	5,566,522	5,331,117	605	19,741,355	178,776,650
1909 ..	202,723	4,759,856	5,162,959	610	19,368,491	141,105,750
1910 ..	195,279	5,225,078	5,510,099	577	21,310,111	135,108,700
1911...	180,501	4,972,275	5,521,175	603	22,424,806	116,435,800
1912...	165,156	5,137,331	5,641,647	702	23,333,951	97,400,400
1913 ..	254,561	5,113,935	5,605,566	500	25,019,435	103,332,600
1914...	340,296	4,708,548	5,140,695	746	23,533,572	140,100,500
1915...	515,969	4,414,921	5,022,910	565	22,676,586	138,111,000
1916-17	656,320	5,254,110	6,089,929	446	26,268,733	123,430,200

Woollen mills. There were ten woollen mills working in 1916-17, and the number of persons employed therein was 2,049, of whom nine were working proprietors. The wages paid to employees amounted to £181,358, and the approximate value of the machinery, plant, land, and buildings to £422,120. The value of the raw materials used in mills during the year was £535,409, and that of

the goods manufactured in the same period, £1,006,635. The quantities of wool and cotton used and of goods manufactured in each of the last ten years were as follows :—

WOOLLEN MILLS : 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Quantity of Scoured Wool Used.	Quantity of Cotton Used.	Goods Manufactured—				Value of Output.
			Tweed and Cloth.	Flannel.	Blankets.	Shawls and Rugs.	
	lbs.	lbs.	yards.	yards.	No. of Pairs.	No.	£
1907 ..	3,311,097	914,003	867,789	4,088,383	199,743	12,089	368,784
1908 ..	3,210,925	965,042	922,176	4,396,862	228,621	15,222	388,218
1909 ..	3,093,383	880,934	949,674	4,713,571	225,148	15,189	403,106
1910 ..	3,136,442	955,894	890,281	4,640,401	191,651	18,185	426,336
1911 ..	3,409,105	897,804	901,348	4,691,255	240,961	13,718	473,686
1912 ..	3,265,390	1,061,201	1,013,444	4,604,654	265,637	14,476	473,880
1913 ..	3,489,150	1,068,214	1,017,776	4,965,527	287,814	19,443	513,252
1914 ..	3,607,690	1,075,666	1,036,079	5,546,841	258,859	22,455	577,434
1915 ..	6,521,130	702,653	1,331,137	5,136,258	347,988	6,418	931,774
1916-17	5,114,320	599,288	1,238,363	5,250,093	259,080	3,661	1,006,635

During the period 1907 to 1916-17 the value of output of woollen mills increased by 173 per cent. The quantity of tweed and cloth manufactured increased by 43 per cent., of flannel by 28 per cent., and of blankets by 30 per cent.

Boot factories. The development which has taken place in the boot industry in recent years is exhibited by the following tables :—

BOOT FACTORIES : 1907 to 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Factories.	Persons Employed.	Value of Land, Buildings, and Machinery.	Wages Paid.
			£	£
1907 ...	139	6,303	292,474	368,503
1908 ...	139	6,348	284,982	371,081
1909 ...	136	6,894	294,167	415,011
1910 ...	144	6,832	324,529	455,997
1911 ...	154	7,001	363,540	542,707
1912 ...	151	6,774	378,501	570,025
1913 ...	162	6,951	426,573	578,503
1914 ...	172	6,924	455,158	603,318
1915 ...	174	6,847	483,683	626,886
1916-17 ...	201	8,494	529,950	843,772

OUTPUT OF BOOT FACTORIES: 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Goods Manufactured—		Value of Materials Used.	Value of Output.
	Boots and Shoes.	Slippers.*		
	No. of pairs.	No. of pairs.	£	£
1907	4,290,122	182,039	808,879	1,322,893
1908	4,164,410	193,949	780,760	1,307,329
1909	4,649,130	231,791	884,329	1,487,789
1910	4,847,368	191,204	963,110	1,620,179
1911	5,198,030	164,313	1,103,653	1,878,308
1912	4,966,768	220,616	1,132,045	1,951,998
1913	5,013,143	254,844	1,230,725	2,094,866
1914	4,913,593	272,866	1,281,352	2,160,500
1915	5,257,415	191,044	1,502,285	2,436,673
1916-17	6,210,866	212,582	2,171,812	3,460,404

* Includes canvas shoes and house-boots.

During the period 1907 to 1916-17 the wages paid increased by 129 per cent., the value of materials used by 168 per cent., and the value of output by 162 per cent., while the quantity of boots and shoes manufactured increased by only about 45 per cent.

The value of the output of establishments connected with the manufacture of dress, *i.e.*, clothing, tailoring, dressmaking, millinery, underclothing, hats and caps, &c., but exclusive of boots and shoes, was £6,765,326 in 1916-17, as compared with £2,952,393 in 1907. During the period 1907 to 1916-17 the persons employed increased by 22 per cent., the wages paid by 93 per cent., the value of materials used by 144 per cent., and the value of the output by 129 per cent. Particulars of the industry for each of the last ten years are as follow:—

DRESS (EXCLUSIVE OF BOOT) FACTORIES.

Year.	Number of Factories	Number of Persons employed.			Amount of Wages paid.	Value of Materials used.	Value of Output.
		Males.	Females.	Total.			
					£	£	£
1907 ..	1,040	3,032	21,132	24,164	903,320	1,603,583	2,952,393
1908 ..	1,064	3,191	22,124	25,315	965,425	1,693,450	3,112,211
1909 ..	1,125	3,387	23,174	26,561	1,057,278	2,033,925	3,743,940
1910 ..	1,160	3,620	24,069	27,689	1,181,534	2,259,826	4,174,402
1911 ..	1,213	3,921	26,114	30,035	1,384,678	2,557,287	4,756,604
1912 ..	1,205	4,067	26,255	30,322	1,532,559	2,760,001	5,184,535
1913 ..	1,296	4,221	25,955	30,176	1,579,957	2,868,302	5,430,240
1914 ..	1,298	4,019	25,660	29,679	1,591,133	3,001,379	5,568,744
1915 ..	1,198	3,833	24,126	27,959	1,554,921	3,295,009	5,901,238
1916-17 ..	1,196	3,744	25,739	29,483	1,747,478	3,919,333	6,765,326

Electric light and power works.

Particulars relating to the electric light and power works of the State are shown in the next table:—

ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER WORKS: 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Stations.	Horse-power of Machinery.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Persons Employed.	Wages Paid.	Electricity Supplied.	Value of Output.
			£		£	British Units.	£
1907 ..	11	9,948	496,314	398	44,489	12,542,614	177,044
1908 ..	12	11,702	541,489	441	50,442	14,310,482	191,317
1909 ..	13	13,293	577,403	442	54,621	16,471,368	207,959
1910 ..	16	13,962	645,333	523	62,266	18,832,467	231,604
1911 ..	20	15,819	733,769	590	75,722	23,011,340	270,498
1912 ..	24	20,005	912,712	666	89,435	27,579,734	309,156
1913 ..	51	26,213	1,165,020	860	114,874	35,637,971	400,192
1914 ..	58	28,485	1,418,511	924	131,854	44,890,249	473,918
1915 ..	63	33,127	1,569,553	957	135,045	53,209,990	536,251
1916-17	74	42,144	1,787,477	1,144	178,430	71,622,490	673,769

The electricity supplied in 1916-17 represents an increase of 471 per cent. on that supplied in 1907.

Gasworks. The approximate value of the machinery and plant, land and buildings connected with gasworks in Victoria was £1,710,306 in 1907, and £1,726,300 in 1916-17. The gas made in the latter year was 125 per cent. in excess of that made in 1907. Particulars in regard to these works are given below.

GASWORKS: 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Number of Works.*	Persons Employed.	Wages Paid.	Coal Used.	Gas Made.	Coke Produced.	Value of Output.
			£	Tons.	Cubic Feet.	Tons.	£
1907 ..	48	1,272	157,525	189,190	1,975,892,500	112,050	574,002
1908 ..	47	1,298	168,077	206,408	2,144,834,000	126,530	618,501
1909 ..	47	1,390	181,965	217,473	2,292,988,400	131,695	676,528
1910 ..	47	1,421	199,308	235,532	2,478,528,100	139,423	733,910
1911 ..	47	1,601	230,623	261,848	2,813,159,700	155,488	810,414
1912 ..	47	1,835	275,755	284,070	3,108,555,700	171,750	875,134
1913 ..	47	1,973	302,354	294,541	3,480,180,200	176,310	935,910
1914 ..	47	2,117	332,971	300,152	3,806,380,100	195,178	979,229
1915 ..	47	2,175	347,434	307,902	4,107,577,600	204,957	1,035,941
1916-17 ..	47	2,093	365,777	317,450	4,449,230,000	200,673	1,181,096

* Including one establishment manufacturing coke only.

Oil was used as well as coal in the manufacture of gas, the number of gallons consumed each year being 163,215 in 1907, 187,237 in 1908, 196,176 in 1909, 228,034 in 1910, 274,353 in 1911, 306,405 in 1912, 348,385 in 1913, 332,586 in 1914, 328,230 in 1915, and 345,272 in 1916-17.

The facilities afforded in the metropolitan area have had the effect of bringing within that area the more important of the manufactories. The distribution of factories by classes as between the metropolis and the remainder of the State for the years 1903, 1907, 1911, and 1916-17 is exhibited in the following statement :—

NUMBER AND LOCATION OF FACTORIES.

Class of Industry.	Number of Factories.							
	Metropolis.				Remainder of State.			
	1903.	1907.	1911.	1916-17.	1903.	1907.	1911.	1916-17.
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. ..	97	76	84	81	227	247	253	223
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c.	12	12	12	16	12	9	11	11
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. ..	79	86	96	89	112	117	119	81
Working in wood ..	107	125	168	194	161	165	207	230
Metal works, machinery, &c. ..	304	363	440	497	241	256	234	203
Connected with food and drink, &c. ..	160	182	197	217	461	474	454	418
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. ..	827	938	1,128	1,139	281	282	288	302
Books, paper, printing, &c. ..	193	223	255	290	104	118	165	155
Musical instruments, &c. ..	2	3	5	9	..	..	..	..
Arms and explosives	2	2	6	8	3	3	3	4
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. ..	164	192	219	251	170	185	191	282
Ship and boat building and repairing ..	6	10	11	10	2	2	1	1
Furniture, upholstery, and bedding ..	169	176	222	239	18	18	20	29
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products ..	45	42	50	61	17	22	31	33
Surgical and other scientific appliances	9	11	16	27	..	..	1	1
Jewellery, time-pieces, and platedware ..	47	50	74	87	5	7	6	4
Heat, light, and power	25	24	29	52	43	46	54	106
Leatherware, n.e.i. ..	20	23	32	38	1	1	..	..
Minor wares, n.e.i. ..	25	40	44	55	..	..	..	2
Totals ..	2,293	2,578	3,088	3,360	1,858	1,952	2,038	2,085

Since 1903 the number of factories has increased by 1,294, the greatest numerical increase in the classes being that of the clothing and textile factories, of which there were 333 more in 1916-17 than in 1903.

Employment in Factories. The employment afforded in each class of industry is set forth in the next statement:—

AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

Class of Industry.	1903.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916-17.
Treating raw materials, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. ..	2,976	3,246	3,310	3,345	3,535
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. ..	528	656	711	740	796
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. ..	3,076	4,137	4,283	3,822	3,519
Working in wood ..	3,713	7,653	7,472	6,345	6,336
Metal works, machinery, &c. ..	10,350	20,138	19,694	19,217	17,180
Connected with food and drink, &c. ..	10,602	15,153	15,308	13,778	15,334
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. ...	26,301	40,140	39,446	38,041	41,233
Books, paper, printing, &c. ..	6,525	9,118	9,153	8,881	8,830
Musical instruments, &c. ..	25	181	170	145	198
Arms and explosives ..	342	856	970	1,324	1,597
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. ...	2,973	5,230	5,086	4,589	4,575
Ship and boat building and repairing ..	98	433	593	1,085	464
Furniture, bedding, and upholstery ..	1,978	3,240	2,986	2,689	2,766
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products ..	987	1,931	1,834	1,860	2,086
Surgical and other scientific appliances ..	35	102	114	115	135
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated ware ..	594	951	925	825	948
Heat, light, and power ..	988	3,419	3,769	4,012	4,164
Leatherware, n.e.i. ..	283	568	566	604	711
Minor wares, n.e.i. ..	855	1,592	2,009	2,417	2,563
Total ..	73,229	118,744	118,399	113,834	116,970

The total increase in the number of hands employed during the period covered by the above table is 43,741, and represents an advance of about 60 per cent. The greatest development has taken place in clothing factories, metal works, and industries connected with food, drink, &c., which show increases of 14,932, 6,830, and 4,732 respectively in the number of persons employed in 1916-17 as compared with the number in 1903.

Size of Factories. An examination of the figures relating to different factories in 1903 and 1916-17 reveals the great increase in the number of hands employed which has taken place in factories of the largest size. During the past thirteen years the number of factories employing over 100 hands has increased by 62 per cent., and the number of hands engaged therein by 110 per cent., whilst the factories employing less than 100 and their employees have increased by only 30 and 35 per cent. respectively. Particulars of

factories of different sizes in 1903 and 1916-17 are given in the next two tables:—

FACTORIES ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF HANDS EMPLOYED.

Size of Factory.	Number of Factories.		Average Number of Hands employed.	
	1903.	1916-17.	1903.	1916-17.
Under 4 hands	587	1,165	1,714	2,632
4 " " "	487	595	1,948	2,380
5 to 10 , " "	1,631	1,744	11,293	12,033
11 to 20 " " "	722	867	10,509	12,616
21 to 50 " " "	471	647	14,520	20,427
51 to 100 " " "	135	236	9,109	16,219
Over 100 " " "	118	191	24,136	50,663
Total " " "	4,151	5,445	73,229	116,970

PROPORTION OF FACTORIES OF DIFFERENT SIZES.

Size of Factory.	Percentage to Total.			
	Factories		Hands.	
	1903.	1916-17.	1903.	1916-17.
Under 4 hands	14·14	21·40	2·34	2·25
4 " " "	11·73	10·93	2·66	2·03
5 to 10 " " "	39·29	32·03	15·42	10·29
11 to 20 " " "	17·40	15·92	14·35	10·79
21 to 50 " " "	11·35	11·88	19·83	17·46
51 to 100 " " "	3·25	4·33	12·44	13·87
Over 100 " " "	2·84	3·51	32·96	43·31
Total " " "	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Occupations
in Factories.

In the following table the persons employed in factories are grouped according to their occupational status:—

OCCUPATIONS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

Occupations.	1908.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916-17.
Working proprietors ..	4,190	5,649	5,707	5,366	5,201
Managers, overseers ..	2,520	3,314	3,283	3,347	3,619
Clerks, accountants ..	2,213	3,927	3,981	4,062	4,345
Engine-drivers, firemen ..	1,441	1,821	1,835	1,685	1,758
Workers in factory or works	57,721	98,112	97,923	94,338	96,706
Outworkers ..	955	1,910	1,737	1,473	1,814
Carters, messengers ..	2,778	2,925	2,835	2,657	2,725
Others	1,411	1,086	1,098	906	802
Total	73,229	118,744	118,399	113,834	116,970

Outworkers. The term "outworker" used in the above table relates to factory workers working in their own homes, but does not include individuals working for themselves. The employment of outworkers is regulated by a special provision of the Factories and Shops Act. They are required to register their names and addresses with the Chief Inspector of Factories, and factory proprietors are forbidden to give work to those who are not registered.

Sex Distribution in Factories. The average numbers of males and females employed in factories, and their proportions to the male and female populations for the years 1904 to 1916-17 were as follows:—

EMPLOYMENT OF MALES AND FEMALES IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	Number.	Average per 10,000 of Male Population.	Number.	Average per 10,000 of Female Population.	Number.	Average per 10,000 of Total Population.
1904 ..	50,554	833	25,733	422	76,287	627
1905 ..	52,925	868	27,310	445	80,235	656
1906 ..	56,339	914	28,890	465	85,229	689
1907 ..	59,691	957	31,212	496	90,903	726
1908 ..	60,873	965	32,935	518	93,808	741
1909 ..	62,822	984	34,533	537	97,355	760
1910 ..	66,309	1,023	35,867	550	102,176	786
1911 ..	73,573	1,118	38,375	579	111,948	848
1912 ..	77,565	1,145	38,543	567	116,108	856
1913 ..	80,054	1,151	38,690	554	118,744	852
1914 ..	79,772	1,119	38,627	543	118,399	832
1915 ..	75,971	1,097	37,863	522	113,834	798
1916-17 ..	74,924	1,123	42,046	574	116,970	836

Males formed 66·3 per cent. in 1904 and 64·1 per cent. in 1916-17 of the total persons employed. The increase during the period 1904 to 1916-17 in the number of males employed was 24,370, or 48·2 per cent., and in the number of females employed 16,313, or 63·4 per cent.

Of the total females in factories 73·4 per cent. are engaged in the textile and clothing industries, and 10·3 per cent. in the preparation of food and drink. The extent of female employment in certain industries is shown in the next table.

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES, 1916-17.

Industry.	Number employed.		Females per 100 Males.
	Males.	Females.	
Biscuit	846	560	66·19
Jam, pickle, and sauce	1,131	1,050	92·84
Confectionery	1,109	1,428	128·76
Tobacco, &c.	1,025	686	66·93
Woollen mills	926	1,123	121·27
Clothing, tailoring, &c.	2,115	7,789	368·27
Dressmaking, millinery	298	8,723	2,927·18
Underclothing	297	6,115	2,058·92
Hats, caps, &c.	657	1,052	160·12
Hosiery	161	1,473	914·91
Waterproof clothing	46	160	347·83
Boots and shoes	5,048	3,446	68·26
Printing, &c.	4,814	1,345	27·94
Bookbinding, stationery, &c.	566	584	103·18
Fancy-box, &c.	178	636	357·30
Rope, twine	478	342	71·55
Sail, Tent	121	120	99·17
Ammunition	487	843	173·10
Match	169	478	282·84
Fancy leather	296	270	91·22
Rubber Goods	1,466	419	28·58
All other factories	52,690	3,404	6·46
Total	74,924	42,046	56·12

Child labour in Factories. A very favorable feature of factory statistics in the past few years has been the small proportion of children, especially girls, engaged in factories. Of the male and female employees, boys and girls under 16 represented only 4.10 and 5.47 per cent. respectively in 1916-17, as against 6.05 and 11.47 per cent. in 1904. The number of children employed in factories and their proportion to the total employees are given in the subjoined table for the years 1907 to 1916-17 :—

CHILDREN EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Boys under 16.	Girls under 16.	Total Children.	Proportion per cent. of—		
				Boys to Male Employees.	Girls to Female Employees.	Children to Total Employees.
1907	3,253	3,095	6,348	5.45	9.92	6.98
1908	3,049	3,065	6,114	5.01	9.31	6.52
1909	2,817	2,496	5,313	4.48	7.23	5.46
1910	2,753	2,174	4,927	4.15	6.06	4.82
1911	2,623	1,937	4,560	3.57	5.05	4.07
1912	2,652	1,740	4,392	3.42	4.51	3.78
1913	2,743	1,840	4,583	3.43	4.76	3.86
1914	2,898	1,816	4,714	3.63	4.70	3.98
1915	3,355	2,197	5,552	4.42	5.80	4.88
1916-17 ..	3,072	2,301	5,373	4.10	5.47	4.59

Machinery in Factories. In the following table are shown the number of factories using mechanical power, the total horse-power of the engines used, and the value of the machinery and plant for the ten years, 1907 to 1916-17 :—

MACHINERY IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Number of Factories equipped with Machinery.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Horse-power of Engines.
		£	
1907	2,835	6,771,458	52,703
1908	2,923	6,957,606	58,945
1909	3,069	7,140,304	63,761
1910	3,239	7,601,085	69,373
1911	3,474	8,336,373	79,515
1912	3,653	9,095,134	89,290
1913	3,990	10,022,429	105,224
1914	4,106	10,727,526	110,055
1915	4,089	11,068,949	117,815
1916-17 ..	4,226	11,732,062	136,985

The nature of the power used and the capacity of the machinery in the factories of the State are set out in the next table.

POWER USED IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Number of factories using—					
	Steam.	Gas.	Electricity.	Oil.	Water, Wind, and Horses.	Manual Labour.
1907	1,270	727	558	162	118	1,695
1909	1,192	779	802	186	110	1,686
1910	1,169	794	954	215	107	1,634
1911	1,147	811	1,164	255	97	1,652
1912	1,134	821	1,327	269	102	1,610
1913	1,114	883	1,579	335	79	1,623
1914	1,040	858	1,782	348	78	1,544
1915	961	824	1,915	330	59	1,324
1916-17 ..	931	800	2,142	311	42	1,219

Year.	Actual Horse-power of Engines.				
	Steam.	Gas.	Electricity.	Oil.	Total.
1907	42,945	4,516	4,182	1,060	52,703
1909	47,403	8,446	6,746	1,166	63,761
1910	49,013	9,415	9,629	1,316	69,373
1911	54,282	11,862	11,764	1,607	79,515
1912	59,262	13,745	14,503	1,778	89,290
1913	67,262	16,759	18,732	2,471	105,224
1914	67,649	17,432	22,584	2,390	110,055
1915	71,223	17,935	26,385	2,272	117,815
1916-17 ..	81,611	18,651	34,348	2,375	136,985

Although steam is the principal motive power, and was used to supply nearly 60 per cent. of the total mechanical power employed in factories in 1916-17, a remarkable development is shown in the use of electricity, which in 1907 was used by 558, and in 1916-17, by 2,142 factories, the actual horse-power rising from 4,182 to 34,348 in the same interval.

The total amount and the average amount of salaries and wages paid to male and female employees in factories are shown in the following table:—

SALARIES AND WAGES PAID IN FACTORIES.

Year.	Salaries paid to Managers and Clerks.		Wages paid to Factory Workers.		Average Salary of Managers and Clerks.		Average Wage of Factory Workers.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	£	£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1910 ..	634,826	43,224	5,639,095	1,283,787	127 3 11	38 4 4	98 18 6	37 13 0
1911 ..	706,957	68,458	6,560,778	1,484,826	148 19 3	55 11 4	103 1 2	40 13 6
1912 ..	917,125	85,793	7,471,488	1,627,838	165 9 1	70 1 10	111 0 8	44 6 6
1913 ..	1,097,574	109,381	7,828,240	1,679,141	183 12 0	86 12 1	113 6 10	45 12 11
1914 ..	1,187,114	125,610	8,065,222	1,721,994	198 9 7	97 18 1	117 6 10	46 18 6
1915 ..	1,232,981	133,362	7,928,871	1,741,131	205 10 7	94 11 8	121 13 9	48 10 0
1916-17	1,364,269	171,675	8,226,582	2,070,991	220 3 0	97 3 1	128 7 8	52 2 7

Owing to the lack of data, a comparison of the wages of males and females is not possible prior to 1910, but from that date the particulars shown in the above table reveal a steady and continued increase in the average earnings of males and females, both as regards the salaries of managers, overseers, and clerks, and the wages of factory workers generally.

The amount of wages paid during the year 1916-17, £11,833,517, represents an average payment for all employees of £105 17s. 6d., which is an increase of £4 2s. 6d. on the average wage for 1915, of £7 7s. 6d. on that for 1914, of £11 2s. 6d. on that for 1913, of £14 13s. 6d. on that for 1912, of £22 7s. 6d. on that for 1911, of £27 13s. 6d. on that for 1910, and of £32 6s. 6d. on that for 1909. Concurrent with this increase there was a slight change in the relative proportions of male and female workers during the eight years, the percentages of male to total employees being 67 in 1915, 66 in 1911, 1912, 1913 and 1914, 64 in 1908, 1910, and 1916-17, and 63 in 1909. The above average wage for 1916-17 (£105 17s. 6d.) is below the average according to the determinations of Wages Boards. This is mainly accounted for by the fact that the former sum is based on the actual payments to workers, while the latter represents the average of the sums to which they would be entitled if they worked throughout the whole year. There is, of necessity, a difference between the two averages, as all hands are not continuously employed, nor are all factories working throughout the whole year.

Cost and value
of production
in factories.

The cost of production and the value of the output in each class of manufacturing industry during the year 1916-17 are given in the subjoined statement:—

FACTORY COSTS AND OUTPUT, 1916-17.

Class of Industry.	Cost of—			Value of Output.
	Raw Materials Used.	Fuel, Light, and Power Used.	Salaries and Wages Paid.	
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. ..	£ 3,735,414	£ 46,671	£ 389,287	£ 4,722,446
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. ..	681,643	22,621	97,201	1,014,331
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c.	195,563	124,412	430,696	984,755
Working in wood	1,121,703	20,153	747,568	2,264,070
Metal works, machinery, &c. ..	3,268,458	175,028	2,232,273	6,606,014
Connected with food and drink, &c.	15,258,083	264,519	1,722,458	20,305,035
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c.	7,134,655	91,834	2,884,445	11,991,448
Books, paper, printing, &c. ..	1,407,671	46,112	1,024,259	3,327,495
Musical instruments, &c. ..	20,455	422	25,146	55,480
Arms and explosives. . . .	497,503	10,710	176,106	761,241
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c.	559,818	14,969	463,177	1,261,373
Ship and boat building and repairing	54,720	2,842	67,235	151,950
Furniture, upholstery, and bedding	465,741	8,120	273,207	893,331
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products	949,898	22,095	236,495	1,521,953
Surgical and other scientific instruments	11,179	516	11,383	33,872
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware	169,600	2,988	97,135	352,611
Heat, light, and power	569,113	140,234	619,462	2,208,846
Leatherware, n.e.i.	251,644	1,861	58,033	370,474
Minor wares, n.e.i.	750,889	28,019	277,901	1,220,559
Total	37,103,750	1,024,156	11,833,517	60,047,284

The difference between the sum of the first three columns and the last column represents the amount available for miscellaneous expenses, interest, and profit. The proportions which this margin and the chief items of the cost of production bear to the total value of production in each class of industry are shown in the following table:—

PROPORTIONATE VALUE OF COSTS, ETC., TO PRODUCTION
IN FACTORIES, 1916-17.

Class of Industry.	Percentage of Costs, &c., on Total Value of Production.			
	Materials.	Fuel, Light, &c.	Wages.	All other Expenditure, Interest, and Profit.
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c.	79·10	1·00	8·24	11·66
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c.	67·20	2·23	9·58	20·99
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c.	19·86	12·63	43·74	23·77
Working in wood	49·54	·89	33·02	16·55
Metal works, machinery, &c.	43·48	2·65	33·79	14·08
Connected with food and drink, &c.	75·14	1·30	8·48	15·08
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c.	59·50	·76	24·05	15·69
Books, paper, printing, &c.	42·30	1·38	30·78	25·54
Musical instruments, &c.	36·87	·76	45·32	17·05
Arms and explosives	65·35	1·41	23·13	10·11
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c.	44·38	1·19	36·72	17·71
Ship and boat building and repairing	36·01	1·87	44·25	17·87
Furniture, upholstery, and bedding	52·13	·91	30·58	16·38
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products	62·41	1·45	15·54	20·60
Surgical and other scientific instruments	33·00	1·52	33·60	31·88
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware	48·10	·85	27·55	23·50
Heat, light, and power	25·76	6·35	28·04	39·85
Leatherware, n.e.i.	67·92	·50	15·68	15·90
Minor wares, n.e.i.	61·52	2·29	22·77	13·42
Total	61·79	1·75	19·71	16·75

There are considerable variations in the proportions which the cost of materials and the expenditure on wages bear to the total output in the different classes of industries. These are, of course, due to the difference in the treatment required to present the raw material in its manufactured form. Thus in brickworks, &c., the cost of wages represents 44 per cent. and that of raw materials 20 per cent. of the value of the finished article, whilst in the industries connected with food and drink the expenditure on wages amounts to less than 9 per cent. and that on raw materials to over 75 per cent. of the value of the output.

In the next table the cost of production, the value of the output of factories, and the balance available for profit and miscellaneous expenses are compared for the years 1907 to 1916-17:—

COST OF PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF OUTPUT OF FACTORIES, 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Cost of Production.				Total Value of Output.
	Materials.	Fuel, Light, and Power.	Salaries and Wages.	All other Expenditure, Interest, and Profit.	
	£	£	£	£	£
1907	18,632,439	498,454	5,982,677	5,286,375	30,399,945
1908	18,662,070	538,571	6,380,296	5,206,823	30,787,760
1909	19,706,530	566,763	6,807,851	5,817,086	32,898,235
1910	21,941,255	639,135	7,600,932	6,479,532	36,660,854
1911	25,029,525	637,497	8,911,019	7,169,822	41,747,863
1912	27,002,302	683,376	10,102,244	7,622,851	45,410,773
1913	28,465,699	739,835	10,714,336	8,016,777	47,936,647
1914	28,986,694	804,325	11,099,940	8,549,026	49,439,985
1915	30,728,743	834,966	11,036,345	8,866,039	51,466,093
1916-17 ..	37,103,750	1,024,156	11,833,517	10,086,861	60,047,284

These figures are reduced in the appended statement to their proportionate value of the total output.

PROPORTIONATE COST OF OUTLAY TO OUTPUT OF FACTORIES, 1907 TO 1916-17.

Year.	Proportion of Outlay to Output.				Total.
	Materials.	Fuel, Light, and Power.	Salaries and Wages.	Other Expenses, Interest, and Profit.	
	%	%	%	%	%
1907	61·3	1·6	19·7	17·4	100·0
1908	60·6	1·8	20·7	16·9	100·0
1909	59·9	1·7	20·7	17·7	100·0
1910	59·9	1·7	20·7	17·7	100·0
1911	60·0	1·5	21·3	17·2	100·0
1912	59·5	1·5	22·2	16·8	100·0
1913	59·4	1·5	22·4	16·7	100·0
1914	58·6	1·6	22·5	17·3	100·0
1915	59·7	1·6	21·5	17·2	100·0
1916-17 ..	61·8	1·7	19·7	16·8	100·0

The ratio of salaries and wages to the value of the output of factories was 21·5 per cent. on the average of the past five years as against 20·7 per cent. for the period 1907-11. The cost of materials was 59·9

per cent. of the value of output in the period 1912 to 1916-17 as compared with 60·3 per cent. in 1907-11. The proportionate outlay on fuel, light, and power has remained fairly uniform during the past ten years. The balance available for miscellaneous expenses, rent, interest, and manufacturers' profit was £16 19s. 3d. in every £100 of the total output value in the period 1912 to 1916-17 as against £17 7s. 4d. in the preceding five-year period.

In the following statement the amount of capital invested in machinery, plant, land, and buildings used in connexion with the various classes of manufacturing industries is shown for the year 1916-17 :—

VALUE OF MACHINERY AND PLANT AND LAND AND BUILDINGS CONNECTED WITH FACTORIES, 1916-17.

Class of Industry.	Value of Machinery and Plant.	Value of Land and Buildings.
	£	£
Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c.	338,195	410,759
Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c.	146,780	126,035
Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c.	436,269	459,545
Working in wood	539,895	413,650
Metal works, machinery, &c.	1,634,972	1,590,177
Connected with food and drink, &c.	2,463,738	2,936,768
Clothing and textile fabrics, &c.	952,991	2,073,475
Books, paper, printing, &c.	1,023,278	1,006,125
Musical instruments, &c.	7,310	29,290
Arms and explosives	163,623	159,320
Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c.	134,650	552,155
Ship and boat building and repairing	88,905	234,360
Furniture, upholstery, and bedding	82,840	342,050
Drugs, chemicals, and by-products	303,748	374,168
Surgical and other scientific instruments	5,803	25,235
Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware	39,565	127,575
Heat, light, and power	3,163,925	936,950
Leatherware, n.e.i.	16,115	62,720
Minor wares, n.e.i.	198,457	191,870
Total	11,732,062	12,052,227

The capital invested in plant, buildings, &c., used in connexion with three classes of industries—heat, light and power; food and drink; and metal works and machinery—amounted to £12,726,530, or slightly more than one-half of the total for all manufacturing industries.

The total value of machinery and plant and that of land and buildings used in connexion with factories are shown in the next table for a series of years:—

VALUE OF MACHINERY AND PLANT AND LAND AND BUILDINGS CONNECTED WITH FACTORIES, 1903 to 1916-17.

Year.				Value of Machinery and Plant.	Value of Premises.
				£	£
1903	..	..	..	5,010,896	7,967,945
1905	..	..	..	6,187,919	7,771,238
1907	..	..	..	6,771,458	8,376,642
1909	..	..	..	7,140,304	8,642,344
1910	..	..	..	7,601,085	9,012,263
1911	..	..	..	8,336,373	9,921,516
1912	..	..	..	9,095,134	10,362,661
1913	..	..	..	10,022,429	10,753,309
1914	..	..	..	10,727,526	11,248,120
1915	..	..	..	11,068,949	11,460,123
1916-17	..	..	..	11,732,062	12,052,227

It will be seen from these figures that the value of machinery and plant more than doubled between 1903 and 1916-17, whilst that of the land and buildings showed an increase of £4,084,282, or 51 per cent., in the same interval.

In the appended table the number of accidents in factories is given for the past fourteen years. These particulars relate to establishments which came within the scope of the Factories Acts in force in the years specified, and not to those classified for statistical purposes in the preceding tables.

ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES.

Year.		Number of Employees.	Number of Accidents.	Percentage of Acci- dents to Number of Employees
1903	..	57,767	175	·303
1904	..	60,977	189	·310
1905	..	63,270	170	·269
1906	..	67,545	205	·303
1907	..	71,968	275	·382
1908	..	76,210	294	·385
1909	..	79,348	287	·361
1910	..	83,053	331	·398
1911	..	88,694	337	·379
1912	..	104,746	389	·371
1913	..	110,487	407	·368
1914	..	110,660	391	·353
1915	..	91,888	464	·505
1916	..	92,320	503	·544

The number of factories and of the persons employed therein in the Australian States are shown in the following table. The figures for Western Australia relate to the year 1915, those for New South Wales to the year ended 30th June, 1916, those for Victoria and South Australia to the year ended 30th June, 1917, and those for the other States to the year 1916 :—

FACTORIES AND FACTORY EMPLOYEES IN AUSTRALIAN STATES.

State.	Number of Factories.	Average Number of Persons Employed.			Number of Working Proprietors.	Number of Employees—	
		Males.	Females.	Total.		Under 16 Years of Age.	Over 16 Years of Age.
Victoria ..	5,445	74,924	42,046	116,970	5,201	5,373	106,396
New South Wales	5,210	87,724	28,677	116,401	3,959	5,183	111,218
Queensland ..	1,782	32,365	7,783	40,148	1,479	1,956	38,192
South Australia	1,286	20,798	5,212	26,010	1,172	1,330	24,680
Western Australia	780	12,290	2,341	14,631	561	725	13,345
Tasmania ..	568	7,046	1,316	8,362	396	319	8,043

The next table shows the expenditure on materials, wages, fuel, &c., and the value of the output in factories in Western Australia in 1915, in New South Wales in the year ended 30th June, 1916, in Victoria and South Australia in the year ended 30th June, 1917, and in the other States in 1916 :—

FACTORY COSTS AND VALUE OF PRODUCTION IN AUSTRALIAN STATES.

State.	Amount of Wages Paid to—			Value of Materials Used.	Value of Fuel, Light, and Power Used.	Value of Output.
	Males.	Females.	Total.			
Victoria ..	£ 9,590,851	£ 2,242,666	£ 11,833,517	£ 37,103,750	£ 1,024,156	£ 60,047,284
New South Wales	11,888,028	1,525,817	13,413,845	44,227,079	1,528,220	70,989,864
Queensland ..	3,823,488	357,766	4,181,254	16,127,926	310,454	25,541,024
South Australia	2,852,334	241,760	3,094,094	11,331,814	558,524	17,392,352
Western Australia	1,667,477	123,799	1,791,276	2,634,700	187,121	5,712,793
Tasmania ..	772,789	62,678	835,467	2,342,623	116,704	4,576,530

The foregoing tables do not include particulars relating to work of various kinds done by the Penal Department at Pentridge. At this establishment the manufacture of clothing, brushware, boots, mats, blankets, flannel, underclothing, bread, &c., and printing are carried on. The estimated value of the output for 1916-17 was £14,810, and that of the materials used £8,400. The articles produced are used principally in Government Departments.

The value of all articles produced or manufactured in Victoria has been compiled from actual returns or estimates in the office of the Government Statist, and the results are set forth in the following table:—

VALUE OF VICTORIAN PRODUCTION: 1912 to 1916-17.

Produce.	Value in—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916-17.
<i>Cultivation.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Wheat	4,343,202	5,352,141	1,391,647	10,972,820	10,232,488
Oats	953,750	777,903	397,078	942,607	828,929
Barley, malting ...	259,217	151,771	105,602	171,966	158,735
„ other	73,213	85,033	56,297	122,631	140,746
Maize	119,305	121,234	234,597	191,645	163,638
Other Cereals ...	48,458	46,059	46,676	52,900	49,592
Grass and Clover	5,802	5,177	495	6,022	4,446
Seed					
Potatoes	678,448	573,227	800,269	1,017,563	550,086
Onions	176,142	138,257	167,098	105,244	118,423
Other Root Crops ...	26,691	25,469	17,379	16,505	9,892
Hay	4,010,979	2,565,740	4,181,827	4,098,664	2,033,990
Straw	105,407	101,614	152,640	104,495	78,302
Green Forage* ...	211,150	247,408	418,962	181,278	149,001
Tobacco	1,587	3,266	2,254	1,840	840
Grapes, not made into wine, raisins, &c.	31,486	25,639	30,826	31,715	23,454
Raisins, ordinary ...	41,934	49,375	28,544	66,410	41,832
„ sultanas	171,884	126,651	152,633	295,469	185,616
Currants	60,421	71,413	37,085	123,473	91,355
Wine	120,611	116,822	63,087	138,036	146,549
Hops	9,062	6,279	5,900	3,990	4,875
Other Crops	56,015	63,937	64,388	58,293	64,821
Fruit grown for Sale in Orchards and Gardens	656,363	769,647	498,151	769,611	602,534
Fruit in Private Orchards and Gardens	8,180	8,250	7,820	7,476	7,680
Market Gardens ...	260,350	269,425	323,375	284,475	268,650
Total	12,429,657	11,701,737	9,184,630	19,765,128	15,956,524

* Exclusive of area under sown grasses.

VALUE OF VICTORIAN PRODUCTION, 1912 TO 1916-17—continued.

Produce.	Value in—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916-17.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Dairying and Pastoral.</i>					
Milk consumed in natural state	1,419,900	1,274,590	1,413,980	1,895,160	1,646,520
Butter made ...	3,478,640	3,341,920	2,998,820	2,528,360	4,224,420
Cheese made ...	125,480	126,670	117,210	129,110	223,040
Cream made (not for butter)	22,940	23,800	25,960	13,760	26,840
Condensed, Concentrated, and Powdered Milk	362,480	396,436	381,640	386,456	777,810
Horses ...	328,020	454,820	...	...	262,020
Cattle ...	1,165,430	2,277,170	1,766,473	226,480	4,774,610
Pigs ...	389,350	678,355	735,065	472,050	825,450
Sheep (without wool)	709,660	1,572,420	1,134,678	784,575	3,928,860
Wool ...	3,751,083	4,032,954	3,410,913	4,066,003	5,927,814
Total ...	11,752,983	14,179,135	11,984,739	10,501,954	22,617,384
<i>Mining.</i>					
Gold ...	2,039,464	1,847,475	1,755,236	1,397,793	1,090,194
Coal ...	259,321	274,940	289,099	275,343	216,875
Stone from Quarries (including limestone)	161,843	167,567	183,376	209,539	125,106
Other Metals and Minerals	39,067	54,762	51,298	64,022	104,212
Total ...	2,499,695	2,344,744	2,279,009	1,946,697	1,536,387
<i>Forest Produce.</i>					
Timber (Forest Saw-mills only)	265,980	290,280	316,400	234,700	297,660
Firewood (estimated)	457,890	494,580	505,350	506,260	521,770
Bark for Tanning	82,380	78,950	91,200	140,400	117,230
Total ...	806,250	863,810	912,950	881,360	936,660
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>					
Honey and Beeswax	39,425	26,077	9,704	18,774	30,504
Poultry production (estimated)	1,659,100	1,706,700	1,743,860	1,747,000	1,714,770
Rabbits and Hares	261,534	349,671	176,104	114,800	110,770
Fish ...	89,648	100,489	104,007	109,429	121,634
Total ...	2,049,707	2,182,937	2,033,675	1,990,003	1,977,678
Total Value of Primary Products	29,538,292	31,272,363	26,395,003	35,085,142	43,024,633
Manufacturing — Added Value*	17,752,167	18,714,999	19,633,098	20,053,552	21,678,039
Grand Total ...	47,290,459	49,987,362	46,028,101	55,138,694	64,702,672

* Exclusive of value of output of butter and cheese factories, and forest saw-mills (as regards Victorian timber) included above.

In comparison with previous years increases were shown in 1916-17 under dairying and pastoral and manufactures. In the former case this was due to a considerably augmented production, while in the case of manufactures the annual normal increase occurred.

The total value of primary production in 1916-17 was £43,024,633, or £7,939,491 more, and that of manufactures was £21,678,039, or £1,624,487 more than in the preceding year.

The values of different kinds of production per head of the total population in each of the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRODUCTION PER HEAD OF POPULATION :
1912 to 1916-17.

Produce.	Value of Produce per head in—				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916-17.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cultivation	9 3 7	8 8 0	6 9 1	13 17 2	11 8 0
Dairying and Pastoral	8 13 7	10 3 7	8 8 5	7 7 3	16 3 2
Mining	1 16 11	1 13 8	1 12 0	1 7 5	1 1 11
Forest	0 11 11	0 12 5	0 12 10	0 12 5	0 13 5
Miscellaneous	1 10 3	1 11 4	1 8 7	1 7 10	1 8 3
Total Primary Produce	21 16 3	22 9 0	18 10 11	24 12 1	30 14 9
Manufactures	13 2 1	13 8 8	13 15 9	14 1 3	15 9 9
Grand Total	34 18 4	35 17 8	32 6 8	38 13 4	46 4 6

The figures show the steadily increasing importance of the manufacturing industries. Relatively to population, the amount added in the process of manufacture to the value of the raw materials used was, in 1916-17, 13 per cent. higher than in 1912, and 91 per cent. higher than in 1905.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR VICTORIA, 1836 TO 1916.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS.

Year.	Population on 31st December.			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immigrants (by Sea).	Emigrants (by Sea).
	Persons.	Males.	Females.					
1836	224	186	38	1	3	..	..	..
1837	1,264	984	280	7	1	1	740	..
1838	3,511	3,080	431	28	20	15	1,260	..
1839	5,822	4,104	1,718	142	67	57	3,221	..
1840	10,291	7,254	3,037	358	198	177	4,080	..
1841	20,416	14,391	6,025	618	319	406	6,908	939
1842	23,799	15,691	8,108	1,025	413	514	4,136	1,964
1843	24,103	15,892	8,211	1,317	313	364	1,264	2,000
1844	26,734	17,626	9,108	1,336	240	328	2,648	1,423
1845	31,280	20,624	10,656	1,521	327	316	4,335	1,519
1846	38,334	23,531	14,803	1,596	328	301	3,676	1,775
1847	42,936	26,004	16,932	1,661	361	337	4,568	1,540
1848	51,390	30,697	20,693	1,789	405	351	8,235	1,660
1849	66,220	39,556	26,664	1,913	593	593	14,618	1,992
1850	76,162	45,495	30,667	2,673	780	969	10,760	3,304
1851	97,489	58,235	39,254	3,049	1,165	1,023	15,433	3,706
1852	163,321	110,825	57,496	3,756	2,105	1,958	94,664	31,038
1853	222,436	146,456	75,980	3,025*	3,213*	2,703	92,312	42,443
1854	312,307	205,629	106,678	7,542	6,261	3,765	83,410	34,975
1855	364,324	234,450	129,874	11,941	6,603	3,847	66,571	26,395
1856	397,560	255,827	141,733	14,420	5,728	4,116	41,594	21,187
1857	463,135	297,547	165,588	17,384	7,449	4,524	74,255	20,471
1858	504,519	323,576	180,943	19,929	9,015	4,552	56,168	25,882
1859	530,262	335,708	194,554	22,092	9,469	4,769	32,735	19,615
1860	537,847	328,251	209,596	22,863	12,061	4,351	29,037	21,699
1861	541,800	321,724	220,076	23,461	10,522	4,434	26,912	35,898
1862	554,358	324,107	230,251	24,391	10,080	4,525	37,836	38,203
1863	571,559	327,249	244,310	23,906	9,502	4,227	38,983	34,800
1864	601,343	343,296	258,047	25,680	8,887	4,554	36,156	21,779
1865	621,095	350,871	270,224	25,915	10,461	4,497	30,976	25,292
1866	636,982	357,012	279,970	25,010	12,286	4,253	32,178	27,629
1867	651,571	362,273	289,298	25,608	11,733	4,490	27,242	25,142
1868	674,614	373,232	301,382	27,243	10,067	4,692	32,805	25,562
1869	699,790	385,561	314,229	26,040	10,630	4,735	33,570	22,418
1870	726,599	398,755	327,844	27,151	10,420	4,732	32,554	21,087

* The births and deaths given for 1853 are all of which there is any record; but it is known that the figures are considerably short of the truth, and it is supposed that in each case the real number was not less than 5,000. The deficiency has arisen chiefly from the fact that the system of registering births and deaths was entirely changed during the year 1853, and the new system was not at first properly understood. It is known that, in consequence of this, and also owing to the unsettled state of the gold-field population, many children born were neither registered nor baptized, and many persons who died were buried without registration or funeral service.

POPULATION AND VITAL STATISTICS—continued.

Year.	Population on 31st December.			Births.	Deaths.	Marriages.	Immi- grants (by Sea).	Emi- grants (by Sea).
	Persons.	Males.	Females.					
1871	747,412	407,884	339,528	27,382	9,918	4,693	28,333	19,951
1872	758,984	410,278	348,706	27,361	10,831	4,791	27,047	25,295
1873	772,039	414,917	357,122	28,100	11,501	4,974	29,460	26,294
1874	783,274	418,534	364,740	26,800	12,222	4,925	30,732	27,365
1875	791,399	421,023	370,376	26,720	15,287	4,985	32,744	29,342
1876	801,717	424,838	376,879	26,769	13,561	4,949	35,797	31,977
1877	815,494	430,616	384,878	26,010	12,776	5,103	41,196	33,943
1878	827,439	435,691	391,748	26,581	12,702	5,092	42,268	37,492
1879	840,620	441,434	399,186	26,839	12,120	4,986	44,384	39,212
1880	860,067	451,456	408,611	26,148	11,652	5,286	56,955	45,294
1881	879,886	462,159	417,727	27,145	12,302	5,896	59,066	51,744
1882	899,562	472,110	427,452	26,747	13,634	6,309	59,404	48,524
1883	920,694	483,912	436,782	27,541	13,006	6,771	66,592	55,562
1884	944,564	496,998	447,566	28,850	13,505	7,218	72,202	58,061
1885	969,202	511,010	458,192	29,975	14,364	7,395	76,976	61,994
1886	1,000,510	528,919	471,591	30,824	14,952	7,737	93,404	68,102
1887	1,032,993	546,918	486,075	33,043	16,005	7,768	90,147	68,121
1888	1,076,966	570,480	506,486	34,503	16,287	8,946	102,032	60,229
1889	1,103,727	582,547	521,180	36,359	19,392	9,194	84,582	68,418
1890	1,133,266	596,064	537,202	37,578	18,012	9,187	79,777	63,820
1891	1,157,678	606,035	551,643	38,505	18,631	8,780	62,448	53,172
1892	1,168,600	608,700	559,900	37,831	15,851	7,723	62,951	69,214
1893	1,176,160	609,620	566,540	36,552	16,508	7,004	74,047	80,460
1894	1,182,290	609,595	572,695	34,258	15,430	7,029	84,261	90,110
1895	1,185,950	608,240	577,710	33,706	15,636	7,181	81,199	88,886
1896	1,180,280	599,890	580,390	32,178	15,714	7,625	84,872	99,419
1897	1,182,710	600,120	582,590	31,310	15,126	7,568	90,847	97,301
1898	1,183,060	598,950	584,110	30,172	18,695	7,620	94,436	98,225
1899	1,189,470	600,480	588,990	31,008	16,578	8,140	85,384	86,947
1900	1,197,206	602,487	594,719	30,779	15,215	8,308	82,157	83,684
1901	1,212,613	610,005	602,608	31,008	15,904	8,406	93,107	90,126
1902	1,215,840	609,246	606,594	30,461	16,177	8,477	87,557	97,933
1903	1,215,202	607,092	608,110	29,569	15,595	7,605	52,756	66,159
1904	1,218,608	607,285	611,323	29,763	14,393	8,210	55,049	65,831
1905	1,228,985	612,488	616,497	30,107	14,676	8,774	62,798	65,404
1906	1,244,474	620,125	624,349	30,844	15,237	8,930	69,282	67,348
1907	1,260,468	627,631	632,837	31,369	14,542	9,575	75,784	73,045
1908	1,271,097	633,104	637,993	31,101	15,767	9,334	76,863	78,614
1909	1,291,019	643,642	647,377	31,549	14,436	9,431	78,744	73,768
1910	1,308,111	652,285	655,826	31,437	14,736	10,240	82,594	77,951
1911	1,339,102	668,759	670,343	33,044	15,217	11,088	106,349	93,246
1912	1,380,561	689,825	690,736	35,817	16,595	11,738	124,527	99,933
1913	1,412,119	706,948	705,171	35,978	15,475	11,324	114,586	101,718
1914	1,430,667	712,594	718,073	36,225	16,503	11,830	109,149	99,043*
1915	1,419,016	693,490	725,526	35,010	15,823	12,832	85,977*	82,189*
1916	1,399,779	666,931	732,848	34,239	16,489	11,341	80,458*	76,687*

* Exclusive of members of the Australian Expeditionary Forces.

STATE FINANCE.

Year.	General Revenue.	General Expenditure.	Loan Expenditure by Government.	Government Expenditure on—			
				Railways.	Roads and Bridges.	Country Water Works.	Other Public Works.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1836	..	2,165	..	..	..	..	..
1837	6,071	5,872	..	..	..	..	..
1838	40,020	16,874	..	..	..	..	..
1839	74,698	35,849	..	..	..	..	..
1840	255,984	70,129	..	..	..	..	..
1841	152,826	201,363	..	..	..	..	..
1842	87,296	124,631	..	..	..	..	..
1843	73,565	57,165	..	..	..	..	..
1844	69,913	63,048	..	..	..	..	..
1845	98,539	43,241	..	..	..	..	..
1846	96,347	51,095	..	..	..	..	..
1847	138,293	73,460	..	..	..	..	..
1848	144,761	140,260	..	..	..	..	..
1849	229,388	140,259	..	..	..	..	..
1850	259,433	196,440	..	..	..	..	..
1851	392,455	410,864	..	..	11,113	..	17,462
1852	1,634,448	978,922	..	..	35,249	..	122,099
1853	3,235,546	3,216,609	..	..	522,693	..	356,268
1854	3,087,986	4,185,708	403,900	..	517,082	..	482,401
1855	2,728,656	2,612,807	117,500	..	576,588	..	210,062
1856	2,972,496	2,668,834	339,485	..	506,679	..	368,511
1857	3,328,303	2,968,658	507,201	..	736,050	..	476,136
1858	2,973,383	3,092,720	561,545	..	645,239	..	466,047
1859	3,261,104	3,393,946	1,479,618	4,832,369	601,187	..	537,252
1860	3,082,461	3,315,307	2,207,976	..	621,554	..	419,905
1861	2,952,101	3,092,021	942,171	2,798,692	518,329	..	283,341
1862	3,269,079	3,039,497	1,246,764	..	407,758	..	284,906
1863	2,774,686	2,882,937	857,381	762,303	171,271	..	257,388
1864	2,955,338	2,928,903	530,416	415,484	89,376	..	281,377
1865	3,076,885	2,983,777	190,043	184,262	113,244	1,103	231,919
1866	3,079,160	3,222,025	162,740	135,712	96,898	72,156	277,062
1867	3,216,317	3,241,818	391,166	247,970	47,374	313,103	241,449
1868	3,230,754	3,189,321	487,962	103,076	110,548	144,216	182,476
1869	3,383,984	3,226,165	215,023	104,612	90,735	152,775	267,603
1870	3,261,883	3,428,382	236,643	192,420	36,832	93,553	191,573
1871	1,691,266	1,754,251	263,371	242,508*	35,328*	97,176*	97,088*
1872	3,734,422	3,659,534	655,641	566,831	42,192	17,945	264,761
1873	3,644,135	3,604,953	885,388	853,179	38,126	227,427	186,464
1874	4,106,790	4,177,338	723,974	816,616	102,922	212,378	390,955
1875	4,236,423	4,318,121	897,123	984,624	99,451	95,672	350,159

NOTE.—In addition to the amounts included under the heading "Loan Expenditure by Government," a sum of £16,775 was expended from 1859 to 1865 on Melbourne Water Supply, which cannot be allocated to the separate years.

* Prior to 1871 the expenditure is for the year ended 31st December. The figures for 1871, except in the case of Country Waterworks, relate to the first six months only. Subsequent figures relate to the year ended 30th June, except as regards the Railway expenditure for 1876, which is for the eighteen months ended 31st December, and that for each of the years 1877 to 1884, which is for the twelve months ended 31st December; also as regards Country Waterworks expenditure, which for all the years prior to 1885 is for the year ended 31st December. The figures do not in any case include amounts expended by municipal governments.

STATE FINANCE—continued.

Year.	General Revenue.	General Expenditure.	Loan Expenditure by Government.	Government Expenditure on—			
				Railways.	Roads and Bridges.	Country Water Works.	Other Public Works.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1876	4,325,156	4,572,844	1,093,959	1,481,800*	66,690	142,483	348,596
1877	4,723,877	4,358,096	576,166	1,019,201	16,759	171,551	258,638
1878	4,504,413	4,634,349	801,731	935,666	11,888	37,947	313,039
1879	4,621,520	4,833,379	1,337,052	1,061,694	36,884	12,327	356,547
1880	4,621,282	4,875,029	1,477,002	1,988,916†	24,945	84,413	383,751
1881	5,186,011	5,108,642	819,575	782,134	31,631	40,267	317,352
1882	5,592,362	5,145,764	1,064,516	1,387,711	53,017	120,244	265,836
1883	5,611,253	5,651,885	2,656,810	2,117,336	62,376	204,325	422,754
1884	5,934,687	5,715,293	1,600,233	1,399,148	55,879	192,059	454,121
1885	6,290,361	6,140,356	1,134,574	1,302,538	40,878	139,982	400,579
1886	6,481,021	6,513,540	1,730,980	1,719,063	41,061	144,875	505,445
1887	6,733,826	6,561,251	2,068,282	2,117,945	40,430	225,638	565,086
1888	7,607,598	7,287,151	2,328,400	2,389,797	53,214	220,140	430,072
1889	8,675,990	7,919,902	3,675,955	3,384,977	80,202	289,226	356,571
1890	8,519,159	9,645,737	4,134,106	3,613,782	99,372	420,457	564,418
1891	8,343,588	9,128,699	2,341,651	2,399,921	26,934	525,799	644,280
1892	7,729,572	8,482,917	1,324,553	1,156,020	38,576	365,463	382,279
1893	6,959,229	7,989,757	812,057	705,022	28,498	271,427	212,601
1894	6,716,814	7,310,246	405,528	607,172	22,204	126,190	172,795
1895	6,712,152	6,760,439	223,974	504,842	11,578	51,651	101,956
1896	6,458,682	6,540,182	219,106	551,793	12,965	54,754	104,950
1897	6,630,217	6,568,932	182,850	602,543	21,538	28,311	111,760
1898	6,898,240	6,692,444	334,011	681,740	20,266	40,702	120,679
1899	7,389,444	7,107,206	712,093	934,939	32,691	102,566	172,936
1900	7,453,355	7,285,636	1,005,889	1,101,098	52,051	151,035	226,744
1901	7,712,099	7,672,780	932,265	1,005,073	72,890	134,064	286,228
1902	6,997,792	7,398,832	910,833	970,318	75,855	93,471	307,260
1903	6,954,619	6,759,960	756,404	888,962	69,200	111,643	182,612
1904	7,319,949	7,399,608	447,244	787,223	42,114	151,126	111,418
1905	7,628,655	7,456,655	373,191	633,490	30,393	176,790	171,084
1906	7,921,668	7,371,668	932,966	735,518	56,145	125,426	206,315
1907	8,459,203	7,792,312	595,658	758,880	43,119	232,124	305,483
1908	3,478,710	8,026,476	783,538	1,057,577	72,246	349,402	338,901
1909	8,409,543	8,402,036	1,098,360	1,183,888	99,572	394,262	419,816
1910	8,760,305	8,742,293	1,209,505	1,300,477	102,309	369,368	338,121
1911	9,372,637	9,362,291	2,657,271	1,783,491	67,001	399,510	387,224
1912	10,181,840	10,171,386	2,974,149	2,609,739	58,917	365,186	460,750
1913	10,508,945	10,479,741	2,693,844	2,689,672	73,374	385,192	431,949
1914	10,958,037	10,944,718	3,276,994	3,003,739	56,649	344,651	477,849
1915	10,529,017	11,706,968	4,451,830	3,821,955	47,898	437,825	654,702
1916	11,470,875	11,683,363	4,028,099	3,292,646	25,651	472,709	413,402

* See note (*) on preceding page.

† Including purchase money of the late Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company's lines.

NOTE.—The figures of General Revenue and Expenditure are for the twelve months ended 31st December of each year until 1871, when the financial year was changed so as to terminate on the 30th June. The figures for 1871 are, therefore, for the six months ended 30th June, and the figures for subsequent years are for the twelve months ended 30th June. See also note on preceding page relating to Railways and Country Waterworks.

STATE AND MUNICIPAL FINANCE.

Year.	Public Debt at end of Financial Year.	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			Shires and Road Districts.		
		No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.	No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.
	£		£	£		£	£
1851	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1852	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1853	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1854	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1855	480,000	..	..	..	..	..	..
1856	648,100	..	..	..	..	..	..
1857	828,700	19	16,520,160	219,960	16	2,890,550	58,113
1858	808,100	29	17,460,927	314,316	24	4,971,742	98,780
1859	2,089,500	37	17,741,024	318,624	30	6,336,075	118,620
1860	5,118,100	41	19,512,925	324,728	42	8,242,199	122,470
1861	6,345,060	48	19,721,780	284,178	60	9,916,311	146,129
1862	7,992,740	53	20,013,801	262,179	84	10,045,091	226,833
1863	8,237,520	58	20,075,272	257,642	98	12,487,403	200,522
1864	8,443,970	61	20,234,734	336,666	99	13,500,916	349,340
1865	8,622,245	62	20,476,266	308,620	98	16,364,788	370,811
1866	8,844,855	62	20,241,073	341,429	98	19,079,270	403,024
1867	9,480,800	62	20,394,918	335,606	99	21,535,297	339,621
1868	9,417,800	62	21,503,942	500,324	101	22,628,604	371,368
1869	10,385,900	63	21,630,909	423,984	108	24,429,873	534,123
1870	11,924,800	65	22,607,630	386,676	108	25,322,054	528,881
1871	11,994,800	63	23,268,410	406,101	108	26,897,668	522,033
1872	11,984,800	60	23,929,035	391,936	110	29,105,169	541,817
1873	12,445,722	60	25,391,990	410,508	110	31,415,663	529,426
1874	13,990,553	60	27,324,605	449,574	110	34,897,034	535,440
1875	13,995,093	59	28,123,803	462,323	108	39,803,055	638,962
1876	17,011,382	59	29,638,515	446,256	110	46,143,622	595,146
1877	17,018,913	59	29,332,030	459,108	111	48,282,719	535,496
1878	17,022,065	59	31,887,816	453,665	114	52,545,666	455,593
1879	20,050,753	57	31,352,880	447,712	115	51,891,236	605,776
1880	22,060,749	57	31,199,483	416,765	117	52,647,936	405,187
1881	22,426,502	57	32,308,794	457,462	117	55,333,665	557,498
1882	22,103,202	58	34,559,353	458,781	119	57,233,194	652,469
1883	24,308,175	60	37,355,371	486,329	119	58,255,588	600,173
1884	27,526,667	60	41,261,664	535,919	120	62,534,168	593,249
1885	28,628,588	60	47,344,600	557,184	123	66,938,970	595,745
1886	30,114,203	59	53,905,592	615,612	125	71,973,156	615,125
1887	33,127,382	59	60,947,527	662,890	126	76,938,174	628,368
1888	34,627,382	59	76,951,240	752,906	128	90,433,970	674,040
1889	37,367,027	59	85,211,558	861,420	130	102,346,953	754,069
1890	41,443,216	59	86,226,966	925,638	133	108,086,680	925,673

STATE AND MUNICIPAL FINANCE—continued.

Year.	Public Debt at end of Financial Year.	Cities, Towns, and Boroughs.			Shires and Road Districts.		
		No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.	No.	Total Value of Rateable Property.	Revenue.
	£		£	£		£	£
1891	43,638,897	60	91,276,090	963,257	137	112,075,270	916,604
1892	46,774,125	59	88,138,720	882,795	139	109,228,220	884,157
1893	46,064,004*	59	79,606,270	797,302	142	109,855,080	643,932
1894	46,804,382	58	70,423,015	743,745	145	104,561,836	692,783
1895	46,828,517	58	65,700,580	676,026	149	101,497,200	516,697
1896	46,854,311	58	65,626,300	674,110	150	102,801,400	481,938
1897	46,929,321	58	68,255,714	658,374	150	102,998,270	472,127
1898	47,058,088	58	66,983,137	637,155	150	101,473,386	464,410
1899	48,354,277	58	67,113,600	654,858	150	102,798,300	538,905
1900	48,774,885	58	67,302,423	657,775	150	106,839,331	531,102
1901	49,546,275	60	77,289,493	736,240	148	107,812,600	544,994
1902	50,408,957	60	92,099,451	809,325	148	111,803,468	491,209
1903	51,097,900	60	93,376,880	779,950	148	115,766,850	499,112
1904	51,519,962	60	94,583,732	789,596	148	116,336,442	520,794
1905	51,513,767	60	99,354,665	824,392	146	117,260,959	520,829
1906	52,904,800	60	100,801,295	847,104	146	121,797,646	541,188
1907	52,954,989	60	103,666,178	903,120	146	129,059,488	601,311
1908	53,180,487	60	106,149,960	961,530	146	136,538,811	663,739
1909	54,567,197	60	108,863,963	973,191	146	143,142,655	698,625
1910	55,501,725	60	114,113,507	1,015,028	146	150,970,220	754,586
1911	57,933,764	61	119,400,893	1,056,575	146	155,677,624	761,853
1912	60,712,216	61	127,743,501	1,149,044	147	160,128,933	796,472
1913	62,776,724	61	137,649,219	1,259,569	147	164,268,467	840,080
1914	66,130,726	61	147,205,224	1,320,545	147	167,405,523	854,483
1915	72,183,927	52	149,235,137	1,378,006	141	169,724,979	827,466
1916	75,504,562	51	154,105,571	1,407,021	139	172,309,539	847,206

* Exclusive of Treasury Bonds in aid of Revenue, and of £2,389,123 available in 1893 for redemption of loans about to fall due.

BANKING.

Year.	Ordinary Banks.					Savings Banks.*		
	No. of Banks.	Paid-up Capital.	Assets.	Liabilities.	Deposits.	No. of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Balances.
		£	£	£	£			
1851	..	..	..	..	..	4	1,426	52,697
1852	..	..	..	..	..	4	2,576	150,161
1853	..	..	..	..	..	4	2,549	142,655
1854	6	3,367,560	10,536,528	7,494,090	5,068,792	4	2,761	180,020
1855	7	4,739,765	9,653,825	7,435,094	4,869,245	4	2,502	173,090
1856	8	5,068,373	11,944,545	9,435,986	5,967,330	6	3,620	245,923
1857	8	5,421,243	11,862,412	8,729,935	6,103,249	7	5,682	374,868
1858	9	5,692,594	11,851,358	8,211,651	5,908,116	7	7,232	432,250
1859	9	6,074,539	12,746,286	8,867,298	6,611,122	7	8,854	468,779
1860	9	6,134,657	12,693,727	9,238,731	7,225,728	9	10,135	484,501
1861	9	6,429,025	12,857,879	8,859,374	6,992,610	10	12,001	582,796
1862	9	6,623,460	13,369,102	9,927,079	8,119,594	10	13,309	634,884
1863	9	6,827,085	13,202,317	8,887,093	7,346,767	11	14,920	701,425
1864	9	7,618,960	13,433,410	9,485,163	8,018,452	11	17,201	769,681
1865	9	8,007,500	14,755,518	9,948,064	8,415,395	42	20,074	734,568
1866	10	8,092,555	14,885,355	9,746,575	8,288,771	61	23,759	700,720
1867	10	8,136,325	15,777,891	10,890,291	9,459,964	77	28,376	709,514
1868	10	8,320,624	16,252,007	11,679,164	10,216,240	84	32,506	805,830
1869	10	8,347,500	17,665,861	11,956,575	10,350,335	110	37,494	978,619
1870	10	8,305,224	16,866,405	12,357,571	10,899,026	123	41,738	1,047,147
1871	10	8,276,250	17,222,093	12,862,650	11,358,916	134	45,819	1,117,761
1872	10	8,276,250	18,125,092	13,935,047	12,297,927	141	52,749	1,405,738
1873	10	8,366,250	19,943,959	14,092,995	12,280,551	151	58,547	1,498,618
1874	11	8,503,033	20,456,852	14,105,460	12,438,586	157	64,014	1,617,301
1875	12	8,572,120	22,279,482	15,483,172	13,734,968	162	65,837	1,469,849
1876	12	8,630,745	23,918,123	16,527,277	14,850,148	170	69,027	1,507,235
1877	13	8,756,894	26,258,439	18,183,119	16,503,528	177	78,245	1,575,305
1878	13	9,188,653	26,096,185	17,715,867	16,106,581	184	76,697	1,510,273
1879	11	9,026,250	25,339,843	17,818,225	16,426,165	196	82,941	1,520,296
1880	11	9,126,250	23,284,822	19,488,512	17,972,703	202	92,115	1,661,409
1881	11	9,143,122	27,173,809	22,902,017	21,151,910	212	107,282	2,569,438
1882	12	9,432,250	31,248,586	25,496,305	23,625,093	222	122,584	3,121,246
1883	12	9,597,750	31,742,507	25,856,709	24,059,169	230	136,089	2,818,122
1884	11	8,663,184	36,018,866	30,186,336	28,417,044	243	152,344	2,981,083
1885	11	8,901,250	39,174,126	32,517,645	30,593,564	269	170,014	3,337,018
1886	11	9,568,418	41,170,989	33,085,989	31,239,472	279	189,359	3,589,916
1887	12	10,109,742	46,733,325	37,192,949	35,215,547	296	206,596	3,696,699
1888	13	10,461,850	53,111,387	39,749,590	37,570,838	316	237,433	4,669,541
1889	16	13,389,662	57,625,653	40,810,770	38,768,936	330	261,067	5,021,522
1890	16	13,281,790	60,937,955	42,224,084	40,292,065	360	281,509	5,262,105

* Post Office Savings Banks were first opened in 1865; hence the increase in the number of banks from that year. The returns for the Post Office Savings Banks are for the years ended 31st December; those for the Trustee Savings Banks are for the years ended 30th June. They were merged into one institution on 1st October, 1897.

BANKING—continued.

Year.	Ordinary Banks.					Savings Banks.*		
	No. of Banks.	Paid up Capital.	Assets.	Liabilities.	Deposits.	No. of Savings Banks.	Number of Depositors.	Amount of Balances.
		£	£	£	£			£
1891	17	13,563,255	63,720,546	42,244,217	40,416,067	388	300,781	5,715,687
1892	13	11,556,250	63,169,942	41,541,161	40,028,170	388	313,493	5,983,648
1893	12	14,979,558	56,644,511	33,639,619	32,027,354	399	323,274	6,707,891
1894	12	16,440,266	55,277,834	34,727,373	33,284,271	402	329,965	6,977,878
1895	11	16,719,078	49,518,627	33,127,299	31,785,925	396	338,480	7,316,129
1896	11	17,119,625	49,130,925	32,681,831	31,217,091	396	345,474	7,519,324
1897	11	15,238,763	45,560,432	31,650,631	30,209,638	398	353,963	7,781,048
1898	11	15,396,755	42,032,701	29,412,293	28,027,140	379	338,149	8,096,874
1899	11	14,589,656	40,522,115	31,274,374	30,050,429	374	356,074	8,517,006
1900	11	13,746,458	41,755,928	31,895,571	30,638,285	371	375,070	9,110,793
1901	11	13,827,886	41,460,634	31,856,497	30,618,062	374	393,026	9,662,006
1902	11	12,760,316	39,795,793	32,225,630	30,960,224	375	410,126	10,131,604
1903	11	12,392,320	39,291,125	31,553,334	30,429,303	378	418,511	10,341,857
1904	11	12,412,175	38,127,592	32,753,343	31,674,797	381	432,867	10,582,808
1905	11	12,961,695	40,511,335	36,422,844	35,123,896	382	447,382	10,896,741
1906	11	12,965,593	40,949,484	38,877,692	37,623,820	382	466,752	11,764,179
1907	11	13,441,231	43,732,080	39,616,692	38,247,289	385	491,318	12,792,590
1908	11	13,610,852	43,412,999	37,809,064	36,634,993	389	511,581	13,428,876
1909	11	13,615,937	43,950,648	40,899,719	39,660,726	401	532,425	14,101,710
1910	11	13,933,729	47,341,431	44,746,441	43,188,975	416	560,515	15,417,887
1911	12	14,529,658	49,343,205	48,158,503	47,485,600	423	595,424	17,274,423
1912	12	14,529,735	49,543,884	47,836,052	47,258,048	422	641,736	19,662,465
1913	16	23,677,252	50,335,420	49,255,216	48,686,121	433	674,542	21,508,125
1914	16	25,074,076	51,996,067	51,819,656	50,896,536	445	705,029	23,258,775
1915	16	25,112,160	59,449,407	55,813,235	54,040,102	451	721,936	24,874,811
1916	17	26,519,044	63,435,125	60,195,632	59,202,831	461	746,597	26,143,908

* Post Office Savings Banks were first opened in 1865; hence the increase in the number of banks from that year. The returns for the Post Office Savings Banks are for the years ended 31st December; those for the Trustee Savings Banks are for the years ended 30th June. They were merged into one institution on 1st October, 1897.

CROWN LANDS AND COMMERCE.

Year.	Crown Land Sales.		Imports.	Exports.	Total Exports of Victorian Produce.	Exports Oversea of—	
	Area Sold.	Amount Realized.	Total Value.	Total Value.		Butter.	
						Quantity.	Value.
	acres.	£	£	£	£	lbs.	£
1836	..	..	..	..	*	..	..
1837	88	7,116	115,379	12,178	*	..	..
1838	38,694	33,977	73,230	27,998	*	..	..
1839	38,280	70,236	204,722	77,684	*	..	..
1840	83,561	219,300	435,367	128,860	*	..	..
1841	49,311	49,311	364,399	200,305	*	..	..
1842	16,698	21,085	277,427	198,783	*	..	..
1843	7,338	8,296	188,036	254,482	*	..	..
1844	181	985	151,062	256,847	*	..	..
1845	3,685	8,718	248,293	463,597	*	..	..
1846	4,601	19,194	315,561	425,201	*	..	..
1847	27,337	69,122	437,696	668,511	*	..	..
1848	17,345	31,716	373,676	675,359	*	..	..
1849	27,610	70,146	479,831	755,326	*	..	..
1850	40,042	97,970	744,925	1,041,796	*	..	..
1851	93,707	201,840	1,056,437	1,422,909	*	..	..
1852	231,297	671,033	4,069,742	7,451,549	*	..	..
1853	283,928	1,548,441	15,842,637	11,061,544	*	..	100
1854	405,679	1,357,965	17,659,051	11,775,204	*	..	..
1855	438,972	763,554	12,007,939	13,493,338	*	..	..
1856	437,562	749,318	14,962,269	15,489,760	*	3,386	150
1857	500,383	1,067,450	17,256,209	15,079,512	*	572,770	16,240
1858	255,724	638,650	15,108,249	13,989,209	12,237,086	39,297	1,130
1859	459,082	814,164	15,622,891	13,867,859	11,282,319	896	25
1860	492,248	663,238	15,093,730	12,962,704	11,061,076	705,040	27,974
1861	514,745	623,588	13,532,452	13,828,606	10,596,368	560,224	15,502
1862	844,969	910,862	13,487,787	13,039,422	9,800,655	375,760	14,625
1863	295,180	450,646	14,118,727	13,566,296	9,597,400	978,208	44,125
1864	260,169	522,602	14,974,815	13,898,384	10,211,564	484,288	20,037
1865	139,776	295,456	13,257,537	13,150,748	10,048,236	128,537	8,532
1866	221,582	380,240	14,771,711	12,889,546	9,433,473	124,026	7,624
1867	129,333	214,077	11,674,080	12,724,427	9,972,333	160,492	6,456
1868	275,649	359,703	13,320,662	15,593,990	11,697,893	*	*
1869	725,110	794,543	13,908,990	13,464,354	9,539,816	37,860	1,442
1870	337,507	463,821	12,455,758	12,470,014	9,103,323	137,475	4,704
1871	378,516	528,119	12,341,995	14,557,820	11,151,622	606,563	17,052
1872	752,161	859,142	13,691,322	13,871,195	10,758,658	259,853	6,919
1873	529,309	621,472	16,533,856	15,302,454	11,876,707	109,551	3,230
1874	531,538	579,051	16,953,985	15,441,109	11,352,515	117,079	4,272
1875	418,561	630,054	16,685,874	14,766,974	10,571,806	49,377	1,876
1876	476,038	584,913	15,705,354	14,196,487	10,155,916	4,120	236
1877	323,082	375,494	16,362,304	15,157,687	11,269,086	32,227	1,370
1878	307,457	375,535	16,161,880	14,925,707	10,676,499	212,812	6,909
1879	283,191	384,432	15,035,538	12,454,170	8,069,857	158,425	6,091
1880	409,738	471,824	14,556,894	15,954,559	11,220,467	1,096,401	29,996

* Information not available.

CROWN LANDS AND COMMERCE—continued.

Year.	Crown Land Sales.		Imports.	Exports.	Total Exports of Victorian Produce.	Exports Oversea of—	
	Area Sold.	Amount Realized.	Total Value.	Total Value.		Butter.	
						Quantity.	Value.
acres.	£	£	£	£	lbs.	£	
1881	458,636	574,382	16,718,521	16,252,103	12,480,567	751,060	21,953
1882	441,433	598,079	18,748,081	16,193,579	12,570,788	98,656	4,837
1883	472,378	564,504	17,743,846	16,398,863	13,292,294	114,375	4,709
1884	469,408	585,099	19,201,633	16,050,465	13,155,484	58,801	2,483
1885	423,994	519,422	18,044,604	15,551,758	12,452,245	14,771	896
1886	353,467	445,441	18,530,575	11,795,321	9,054,687	19,374	957
1887	363,905	442,095	19,022,151	11,351,145	8,502,979	281,908	7,859
1888	438,968	644,112	23,972,134	13,853,763	10,356,633	39,410	1,244
1889	257,702	330,054	24,402,760	12,734,734	9,776,670	509,144	16,920
1890	249,373	322,946	22,954,015	13,266,222	10,291,821	1,297,777	47,972
1891	234,264	316,593	21,711,608	16,006,743	13,026,426	3,800,153	187,363
1892	245,101	303,077	17,174,545	14,214,546	11,410,808	6,459,825	322,766
1893	321,061	354,840	13,283,814	13,308,551	10,293,926	13,207,374	537,984
1894	334,397	360,027	12,470,599	14,026,546	11,553,617	22,334,698	842,244
1895	340,628	356,383	12,472,344	14,547,732	11,615,493	21,714,226	816,173
1896	274,482	287,406	14,554,837	14,198,518	11,054,824	17,593,510	668,898
1897	289,480	304,350	15,454,482	16,739,670	12,829,394	17,211,256	654,478
1898	305,543	318,474	16,768,904	15,872,246	11,778,883	15,823,852	607,642
1899	694,391	727,493	17,952,894	18,567,780	14,038,600	30,531,554	1,164,835
1900	494,694	526,650	18,301,811	17,422,552	13,918,556	32,087,739	1,243,260
1901	406,138	438,363	18,927,340	18,646,097	14,134,028	24,696,147	1,018,309
1902	523,477	555,538	18,270,245	18,210,523	13,823,939	7,735,007	376,880
1903	507,927	542,011	17,859,171	19,707,068	14,940,024	21,706,070	859,116
1904	534,010	613,511	20,096,442	24,404,917	17,369,609	34,554,599	1,313,948
1905	907,213	934,386	22,337,886	22,758,828	14,276,961	30,968,120	1,277,602
1906	339,897	375,296	25,234,402	28,917,992	19,881,233	37,690,062	1,635,273
1907	180,189	208,619	28,198,257	28,735,004	19,485,444	34,696,538	1,544,836
1908	136,854	176,335	27,197,696	27,196,201	19,708,845	21,964,293	1,037,628
1909	150,783	188,017	28,150,198	29,896,275	20,777,888	25,699,362	1,100,459
1910	127,890	171,904	*	*	*	39,698,122	1,780,044
1911	121,062	136,277	*	*	*	51,304,010	2,361,587
1912	128,069	165,854	*	*	*	31,451,378	1,545,771
1913	152,989	164,065	*	*	*	34,542,925	1,681,987
1914	129,235	145,003	*	*	*	†9,373,252	†475,898
1915	117,161	113,167	*	*	*	†11,417,311	†719,653
1916	89,177	80,238	*	*	*	‡30,706,719	‡2,189,025

* Information not available owing to the Federal Government having abandoned the collecting and recording of Inter-State imports and exports from 13th September, 1910.

† To 30th June. ‡ For year ended 30th June.

NOTE.—In addition to the quantity of land sold and the amount realized within the year, the figures under the head "Crown Land Sales" represent during each of the years after 1868 the total extent of, and the amount paid on, lands purchased under deferred payments of which the payments were completed within the year, although such payments had extended over a series of years. The extent selected, of which the purchase had not been completed, is not included in the area sold. This amounted, at the end of 1916, to 7,751,415 acres. The figures for 1894 include 12,221 acres disposed of to Messrs. Chaffey Bros. In previous years for £1 per acre, which area and amount were not previously taken into account. The figures for 1895 include 11,584 acres granted without purchase to Messrs. Chaffey Brothers; but, except for this, lands granted without purchase, which amounted, up to the end of 1916, to 126,817 acres (including 50,000 granted to Messrs. Chaffey Bros.), are excluded.

COMMERCE.

Year.	Value of Victorian Produce Exported Overseas.	Value of Oversea Imports.	Value of Oversea Exports.	Value of Total Oversea Trade.
	†	†	†	†
	£	£	£	£
1859	*	12,873,360	12,558,129	25,431,489
1860	*	12,736,535	11,390,445	24,126,980
1861	*	10,991,377	12,209,794	23,201,171
1862	*	11,045,405	11,478,460	22,523,865
1863	*	12,397,570	11,982,625	24,380,195
1864	*	11,691,012	11,061,413	22,752,425
1865	*	10,094,666	11,195,283	21,289,949
1866	*	11,411,529	10,921,617	22,333,146
1867	*	9,091,771	11,109,266	20,201,037
1868	*	10,905,514	13,826,687	24,732,201
1869	*	11,661,895	12,337,944	23,999,839
1870	*	10,608,267	11,236,300	21,844,567
1871	*	9,201,942	12,843,451	22,045,393
1872	*	10,375,896	12,137,798	22,513,694
1873	*	12,717,414	13,688,241	26,405,655
1874	*	12,445,203	13,481,047	25,926,250
1875	*	11,858,513	12,192,652	24,051,165
1876	*	10,924,055	11,223,653	22,147,708
1877	*	11,747,201	11,812,808	23,560,009
1878	8,918,756	11,365,537	11,114,578	22,480,115
1879	6,628,028	10,006,199	9,184,147	19,190,346
1880	9,221,013	9,034,538	12,151,798	21,186,336
1881	10,324,485	11,481,567	12,318,128	23,799,695
1882	9,982,574	13,574,227	11,715,800	25,290,027
1883	10,043,035	12,756,520	11,391,537	24,148,057
1884	9,863,925	13,534,467	10,915,810	24,450,277
1885	9,315,067	12,844,267	10,289,923	23,134,190
1886	6,954,550	13,021,310	7,967,873	20,989,183
1887	6,260,207	12,401,189	7,147,370	19,548,559
1888	8,171,884	16,198,318	9,861,965	26,060,283
1889	8,013,270	16,745,506	9,068,892	25,814,398
1890	8,430,059	15,161,356	9,553,031	24,714,387
1891	10,501,562	13,802,598	11,403,922	25,206,520
1892	9,325,696	10,653,329	10,562,341	21,215,670
1893	8,285,045	7,909,006	10,022,076	17,931,082
1894	9,811,300	7,090,712	10,974,063	18,064,775
1895	8,883,838	7,009,822	10,423,576	17,433,398

* Information not available.

† The figures in these columns refer only to Imports from and Exports to countries beyond Australia.

COMMERCE—continued.

Year.	Value of Victorian Produce Exported Overseas.	Value of Oversea Imports.	Value of Oversea Exports.	Value of Total Overseas Trade.
	†	†	†	†
	£	£	£	£
1896 ..	7,756,712	8,739,060	9,120,854	17,859,914
1897 ..	9,942,973	9,033,693	11,997,540	21,031,233
1898 ..	7,071,094	9,509,952	9,602,146	19,012,098
1899 ..	10,941,184	9,902,375	13,729,595	23,631,970
1900 ..	10,485,209	11,937,644	12,165,364	24,103,008
1901 ..	10,484,890	12,686,880	13,075,259	25,762,139
1902 ..	7,703,089	12,857,725	10,369,335	23,227,060
1903 ..	8,846,091	12,339,615	11,185,012	23,524,627
1904 ..	11,890,614	12,743,375	16,172,694	28,916,069
1905 ..	8,375,614	12,957,855	14,028,641	26,986,496
1906 ..	12,312,791	14,855,163	18,110,020	32,965,183
1907 ..	11,686,261	17,101,022	17,112,298	34,213,320
1908 ..	11,499,876	16,433,382	15,165,031	31,598,413
1909 ..	12,616,884	16,531,981	17,842,876	34,374,857
1910 ..	12,811,196	20,002,606	18,188,236	38,190,842
1911 ..	*	21,850,963	18,915,716	40,766,679
1912 ..	*	25,081,074	19,113,121	44,194,195
1913 ..	*	24,367,073	17,835,395	42,222,468
1914 (to 30th June)	*	12,715,887	9,000,100	21,715,987
1914-15 ..	*	20,997,294	12,335,779	33,333,073
1915-16 ..	*	26,782,893	14,744,135	41,527,028
1916-17 ..	*	25,465,464	19,029,502	44,494,966

* Information not available.

† The figures in these columns refer only to Imports from and Exports to countries beyond Australia.

COMMERCE—continued.

Year.	Exports (Oversea) of—					
	Wool.		Tallow.		Wheat.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	lbs.	£	cwt.	£	bushels.	£
1836	..	..	..	..	..	..
1837	..	..	..	..	..	..
1838	..	..	..	..	..	..
1839	..	..	..	..	..	..
1840	..	..	..	..	..	..
1841	..	..	..	..	..	..
1842	..	..	..	..	..	..
1843	..	..	..	..	..	..
1844	..	..	..	..	..	..
1845	..	..	..	..	..	..
1846	..	..	..	..	..	..
1847	..	..	..	..	..	..
1848	..	..	..	..	..	..
1849	..	..	..	..	..	..
1850	17,780,000	815,892	87,763	130,397	85	21
1851	*	*	*	*	*	*
1852	19,410,000	1,031,685	37,243	56,190	..	..
1853	20,593,000	1,620,030	6,462	10,239	132	65
1854	22,206,000	1,572,955	10,900	21,747	..	..
1855	22,584,000	1,389,107	12,317	28,101	..	..
1856	21,764,090	1,493,255	17,100	34,883	50	26
1857	17,061,207	1,326,728	42,815	61,755	279	91
1858	21,512,112	1,677,950	18,466	40,184	527	192
1859	21,427,836	1,743,402	1,603	3,430	1,702	692
1860	24,216,847	2,021,396	6,029	15,687	328	165
1861	23,846,536	2,089,454	35,652	74,025	12,895	3,715
1862	25,193,778	2,347,256	35,040	65,191	114,036	31,491
1863	25,579,596	2,049,474	34,774	28,664	3,167	922
1864	39,463,204	3,244,298	33,408	58,091	1,089	676
1865	44,049,533	3,303,525	11,728	14,380	256	127
1866	42,224,950	3,188,176	2,621	5,975	859	402
1867	51,135,989	3,816,667	18,126	33,909	127,896	30,146
1868	*	*	*	*	*	*
1869	54,256,581	3,355,204	126,250	234,971	105	32
1870	51,830,526	3,199,309	197,420	358,092	5,294	1,458
1871	76,070,663	4,687,271	270,794	467,639	22,352	5,850
1872	58,050,390	4,636,405	200,941	351,301	84,417	23,162
1873	74,573,097	5,723,337	135,080	229,854	22,153	6,797
1874	88,560,320	6,368,475	119,344	196,618	1,704	518
1875	84,492,492	6,068,671	121,005	197,359	..	..

* Information not available.

COMMERCE—continued.

Year.	Exports (Oversea) of—						
	Frozen Meats.	Wool.		Tallow.		Wheat.	
	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
£	lbs.	£	cwt.	£	bushels.	£	
1876	..	106,125,503	6,406,133	98,389	168,362	30	11
1877	..	98,157,084	5,658,001	52,544	88,123	24,219	8,673
1878	..	100,905,105	5,772,497	62,336	98,360	131,554	38,309
1879	..	94,619,879	5,236,240	103,770	148,911	495,297	120,928
1880	..	111,509,915	6,372,306	134,022	191,531	2,378,097	539,421
1881	..	100,822,535	5,327,971	175,940	246,544	2,981,852	666,129
1882	..	106,478,094	5,829,690	122,380	189,052	2,180,410	594,853
1883	..	108,289,348	5,981,149	132,640	230,887	1,079,945	291,326
1884	..	118,878,172	6,308,567	151,200	255,366	6,499,237	1,361,594
1885	..	105,286,578	4,987,047	117,640	150,596	1,838,633	361,648
1886	..	107,342,816	4,975,046	113,360	117,024	426,833	90,901
1887	..	114,513,950	5,037,021	83,980	80,789	1,673,565	332,936
1888	..	117,068,238	5,101,698	155,020	154,948	2,197,718	427,073
1889	..	134,701,877	5,886,149	149,140	148,793	46,267	10,271
1890	..	131,041,074	5,862,011	162,140	156,535	505,025	95,930
1891	..	162,601,864	7,070,661	155,660	160,414	4,040,770	781,523
1892	12,403	163,955,532	6,561,529	163,240	163,242	1,950,206	428,527
1893	74,732	149,504,691	5,066,636	219,800	227,715	3,542,031	553,878
1894	127,511	152,935,879	4,703,055	273,540	281,304	4,571,962	543,403
1895	209,179	160,996,936	5,059,804	243,360	243,215	2,656,833	301,601
1896	212,363	145,308,008	4,929,171	196,900	175,491	31	13
1897	174,024	122,320,906	3,967,098	179,280	160,299	..	..
1898	173,572	130,195,404	3,988,548	96,220	92,374	909,915	170,792
1899	359,759	119,659,672	5,614,118	143,240	137,198	7,873,918	1,088,001
1900	432,120	100,743,853	4,164,656	153,340	171,327	6,246,645	874,323
1901	406,913	131,037,619	4,333,526	87,780	98,599	10,356,095	1,418,232
1902	351,797	99,836,900	3,450,825	52,560	77,735	3,365,635	533,578
1903	342,133	83,341,449	3,147,829	37,798	46,499	459,741	72,303
1904	355,000	120,465,337	5,347,607	87,337	93,177	17,282,169	2,740,134
1905	518,543	122,411,706	5,314,316	122,757	137,656	12,422,755	2,089,223
1906	632,548	138,654,818	6,026,940	158,690	204,776	14,017,255	2,255,331
1907	660,486	164,348,150	7,237,716	137,660	205,758	10,663,603	1,761,236
1908	516,340	135,366,732	6,009,568	104,206	133,644	2,815,015	586,796
1909	503,027	162,578,874	7,004,623	160,927	214,080	13,657,928	2,798,269
1910	888,001	164,213,073	7,190,789	248,735	378,924	15,319,971	3,091,079
1911	941,406	159,955,473	6,255,599	334,937	480,256	20,351,479	3,592,534
1912	889,297	166,859,531	6,990,918	229,638	324,497	9,183,280	1,836,387
1913	1,565,061	143,391,292	6,282,291	258,969	371,316	11,220,525	2,053,454
1914*	710,018	44,626,388	1,979,174	156,470	227,759	17,579,763	3,260,551
1914-15	1,779,952	115,324,566	5,237,304	143,695	192,400	786,432	160,642
1915-16	140,973	100,526,942	6,203,565	24,831	45,214	9,974,218	2,767,099
1916-17	630,494	84,127,550	6,149,212	106,260	246,091	18,089,912	4,177,726

* To 30th June.

COMMERCE AND SHIPPING.

Year.	Exports (Oversea) of—			Shipping.			
	Flour.		Hides and Skins.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
	tons.	£	£				
1836	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1837	..	..	..	140	12,754	140	13,424
1838	..	..	..	137	11,717	136	11,679
1839	..	..	..	..	..	189	20,352
1840	..	..	..	262	43,416	232	34,334
1841	..	..	..	272	52,500	228	34,156
1842	..	..	..	237	43,760	225	34,265
1843	..	..	..	288	43,605	230	27,602
1844	..	..	..	229	29,966	247	34,596
1845	..	..	..	273	31,337	291	31,114
1846	..	..	..	349	40,569	340	35,717
1847	..	..	..	423	47,885	425	48,634
1848	..	..	..	469	67,618	446	55,094
1849	..	..	..	484	97,003	460	82,909
1850	..	..	1,245	555	108,030	508	87,087
1851	..*	..*	..	712	129,426	658	111,005
1852	..	..	4,490	1,657	408,216	1,475	350,296
1853	289	6,350	4,289	2,594	721,473	2,268	664,867
1854	3,000	59,614	25,507	2,596	794,604	2,607	798,837
1855	..	..	35,597	1,907	551,726	1,995	581,557
1856	13	340	63,880	1,920	538,609	1,959	538,362
1857	52	1,780	188,170	2,190	694,564	2,207	684,526
1858	301	4,620	104,577	2,034	648,103	2,015	641,254
1859	367	6,989	157,006	2,026	634,131	2,056	661,518
1860	995	17,713	141,194	1,814	581,642	1,841	599,137
1861	3,566	53,428	93,156	1,778	549,195	1,820	540,807
1862	4,567	57,657	127,978	1,715	556,188	1,766	581,892
1863	3,994	52,292	103,731	1,739	624,061	1,782	618,052
1864	2,618	62,280	98,503	1,816	620,200	1,896	641,614
1865	1,377	30,280	79,312	1,743	580,973	1,823	599,351
1866	2,240	36,299	49,983	1,828	629,561	1,902	650,476
1867	4,759	61,002	29,565	1,631	574,222	1,720	597,219
1868	..*	..*	..*	1,816	630,979	1,929	663,246
1869	1,551	20,787	48,636	1,965	684,576	1,970	693,188
1870	1,077	13,423	23,141	1,759	630,474	1,834	645,571
1871	1,512	22,849	34,452	1,763	626,258	1,854	651,824
1872	843	11,289	44,453	1,733	623,326	1,839	647,753
1873	3,284	42,902	45,760	1,818	710,782	1,854	716,839
1874	2,113	27,587	48,860	1,742	722,336	1,769	735,506
1875	189	2,042	40,505	1,846	794,459	1,871	782,223

* Information not available.

. COMMERCE AND SHIPPING—continued.

Year.	Exports (Oversea) of—			Shipping.			
	Flour.		Hides and Skins.	Inwards.		Outwards.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Vessels.	Tons.	Vessels.	Tons.
1876	tons.	£	£				
1876	172	2,307	54,429	1,773	773,087	1,832	807,407
1877	3,092	43,414	32,771	1,893	898,778	1,921	891,253
1878	2,588	30,290	18,577	1,784	894,725	1,825	901,633
1879	2,950	31,663	45,968	1,706	899,085	1,718	914,219
1880	11,742	113,404	86,127	1,648	1,006,478	1,688	1,028,721
1881	8,959	90,363	105,351	1,788	1,155,746	1,775	1,131,917
1882	9,258	104,190	129,881	1,767	1,288,021	1,754	1,279,641
1883	3,141	35,746	115,880	1,695	1,399,465	1,738	1,427,757
1884	7,877	67,580	134,042	1,718	1,523,702	1,733	1,539,413
1885	6,315	50,204	88,675	1,860	1,582,647	1,832	1,582,867
1886	1,264	12,572	99,449	2,046	1,804,395	2,073	1,846,141
1887	1,722	16,440	101,909	2,057	1,864,211	2,044	1,881,043
1888	4,319	39,078	178,539	2,295	2,118,521	2,230	2,069,329
1889	800	9,322	210,212	2,322	2,206,715	2,364	2,267,315
1890	7,323	68,036	163,258	2,076	2,119,171	2,078	2,128,895
1891	9,073	83,087	209,909	2,102	2,269,708	2,127	2,307,407
1892	2,759	26,467	295,401	1,890	2,164,425	1,890	2,169,865
1893	3,469	26,927	377,832	1,657	1,969,956	1,666	1,985,500
1894	4,948	28,761	248,227	1,838	2,124,311	1,817	2,093,470
1895	4,374	27,207	279,510	1,706	2,141,400	1,689	2,133,775
1896	119	1,305	287,861	1,693	2,247,741	1,716	2,264,274
1897	57	794	316,179	1,705	2,404,859	1,712	2,399,868
1898	3,228	29,066	348,554	1,773	2,434,600	1,782	2,441,469
1899	6,629	51,679	442,667	1,787	2,624,507	1,782	2,638,867
1900	21,672	132,398	271,691	1,928	2,901,619	1,935	2,912,696
1901	23,639	144,007	330,355	2,175	3,357,008	2,123	3,288,942
1902	8,839	68,086	479,735	2,187	3,352,738	2,174	3,355,989
1903	255	2,439	607,244	2,061	3,389,881	2,066	3,422,565
1904	41,491	310,574	480,523	2,267	3,897,251	2,262	3,873,616
1905	72,567	539,041	729,282	2,170	3,962,493	2,112	3,835,369
1906	69,792	508,656	928,767	2,163	4,037,349	2,160	4,041,400
1907	70,508	534,467	1,009,181	2,219	4,203,614	2,216	4,192,360
1908	53,458	461,534	835,225	2,293	4,488,768	2,290	4,472,302
1909	71,494	642,508	1,088,384	2,174	4,606,973	2,157	4,514,298
1910	68,766	609,960	1,296,516	2,308	4,952,273	2,312	4,954,773
1911	79,684	629,227	1,089,451	2,335	5,148,184	2,347	5,156,952
1912	68,782	600,267	1,329,400	2,399	5,426,146	2,385	5,410,801
1913	84,689	710,416	1,688,409	2,481	5,950,035	2,469	5,902,277
1914*	48,113	398,442	552,211	1,281	3,150,689	1,297	3,208,400
1914-15	21,058	191,214	885,075	2,324	5,290,063	2,329	5,308,817
1915-16	55,600	653,490	534,440	2,392	4,935,129	2,385	4,972,245
1916-17	101,991	1,213,751	548,736	1,962	4,042,819	1,967	4,050,095

* To 30th June.

POST OFFICE, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

Year.	Postage.			Electric Telegraphs.			Tele- phones.
	Number of Post Offices.	Number of Letters.	Number of Newspapers.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams.	Number of Subscribers.
1836	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1837	1	1,050	1,355	..	..	..	..
1838	1	7,424	2,795	..	..	..	..
1839	1	16,418	22,800	..	..	..	..
1840	2	32,163	70,240	..	..	..	..
1841	3	56,704	120,227	..	..	..	..
1842	3	97,490	147,160	..	..	..	..
1843	8	129,476	155,497	..	..	..	..
1844	13	117,072	134,124	..	..	..	..
1845	14	127,168	150,602	..	..	..	..
1846	14	139,402	204,620	..	..	..	..
1847	16	177,821	249,651	..	..	..	..
1848	27	209,798	310,004	..	..	..	..
1849	36	261,556	322,768	..	..	..	..
1850	40	381,651	381,158	..	..	..	..
1851	44	504,425	456,741	..	..	..	..
1852	46	972,176	709,837	..	..	..	..
1853	62	2,038,999	1,618,789	..	..	..	..
1854	95	2,674,384	2,394,941	..	..	..	..
1855	89	2,990,992	2,349,656	..	..	..	..
1856	125	3,220,614	2,906,141	..	..	..	..
1857	152	3,899,981	2,981,970	..	..	..	..
1858	232	5,025,820	4,264,691	..	..	..	..
1859	263	6,649,288	5,051,402	..	..	..	..
1860	311	8,116,302	5,683,023	33	..	166,803	..
1861	369	6,109,929	4,277,179	47	..	184,688	..
1862	408	6,276,623	4,909,219	57	..	211,685	..
1863	437	6,636,291	4,930,646	66	2,586	234,520	..
1864	475	6,790,244	5,671,545	70	2,626	256,380	..
1865	525	7,485,808	6,037,529	79	3,111	279,741	..
1866	555	8,631,133	5,438,388	78	3,111	277,788	..
1867	583	9,567,990	4,907,819	83	3,171	235,648	..
1868	633	9,749,716	4,974,102	86	3,171	254,288	..
1869	651	10,582,711	5,251,327	91	3,368	276,742	..
1870	677	11,133,283	5,287,482	95	3,371	454,598*	..
1871	706	11,716,166	5,172,970	96	3,472	537,398	..
1872	733	12,941,095	5,490,772	117	3,634	639,960	..
1873	764	14,475,085	6,080,007	135	3,928	718,167	..
1874	802	15,738,888	6,866,918	148	4,293	701,080	..
1875	855	17,134,101	7,552,912	164	4,510	732,869	..

* The increase in the number of telegrams in 1870 was consequent on a reduction in the rates.

POST OFFICE, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES—continued.

Year.	Postage.			Electric Telegraphs.			Tele- phones.
	Number of Post Offices.	Number of Letters.	Number of Newspapers.	Number of Stations.	Number of Miles of Wire.	Number of Telegrams.	Number of Sub- scribers.
1876	886	18,963,503*	9,010,147	181	4,745	801,946	..
1877	948	20,910,958	9,809,064	206	5,200	919,985	..
1878	1,007	22,324,931	10,697,331	233	5,404	1,003,654	..
1879	1,069	23,215,648	10,075,407	257	5,736	1,010,116	..
1880	1,100	24,195,149	10,640,540	284	6,019	1,160,912	..
1881	1,158	26,308,347	11,440,732	302	6,626	1,281,749	..
1882	1,218	28,877,977	12,383,928	337	6,922	1,418,769	..
1883	1,295	30,962,167	13,982,222	365	7,271	1,474,972	..
1884	1,342	33,403,884	15,143,067	401	8,850	1,181,433†	..
1885	1,384	36,061,880	16,277,108	411	9,617	1,624,666‡	..
1886	1,429	38,392,414	17,482,490	420	10,111	2,023,858	..
1887	1,492	41,287,972	18,869,055	515	10,175	2,260,480	1,121 §
1888	1,544	47,700,776	21,702,876	601	10,360	2,743,938	1,637
1889	1,592	48,097,268	20,662,732	656	12,880	2,885,919	1,988
1890	1,671	62,526,448	22,729,005	748	13,499	3,114,783	2,307
1891	1,729	||	||	787	13,989	3,065,351	2,439
1892	1,766	||	||	780	14,038	2,725,860	2,414
1893	1,733	||	||	777	14,220	2,478,151	2,308
1894	1,719	||	||	793	14,420	2,366,365	2,398
1895	1,560	||	||	772	14,409	2,036,449	2,609
1896	1,551	||	||	791	14,389	1,872,615	2,754
1897	1,572	||	||	778	14,374	1,821,634	3,088
1898	1,581	||	||	782	14,536	1,806,184	3,630
1899	1,593	||	||	830	14,922	1,889,488	4,407
1900	1,615	74,291,204	25,466,342	824	15,198	1,993,009	5,136
1901	1,637	83,273,826	27,104,344	843	15,356	2,057,680	6,049
1902	1,645	97,657,473	28,191,214	875	15,611	2,094,757	6,847
1903	1,646	99,502,211	31,647,278	878	15,883	2,233,698	7,610
1904	1,652	103,215,210	32,446,066	881	16,240	2,201,310	8,429
1905	1,655	111,180,179	29,908,196	969	16,082	2,256,482	9,259
1906	1,659	116,459,106	29,936,787	1,055	14,950	2,488,719	10,424
1907	1,656	122,508,040	27,969,631	1,115	15,326	2,567,289	12,935
1908	1,633	128,985,872	33,187,382	1,212	15,516	2,580,118	14,868
1909	1,642	133,601,053	32,294,427	1,258	16,386	2,556,600	16,673
1910	1,657	143,483,191	||	1,374	16,405	2,757,737	20,236
1911	1,720	159,092,001	36,125,728	1,455	17,403	2,894,664	22,859
1912	1,730	175,588,805	37,826,929	1,538	18,649	2,969,237	26,562
1913	1,749	206,748,316	40,950,516	1,648	19,403	2,971,041	30,640
1914	1,816	188,440,698	40,737,663	1,748	26,146	3,267,195	34,071
1915-16	1,787	191,427,078	40,246,088	1,796	28,906	3,335,026	36,372
1916-17	1,782	201,093,447	43,175,024	1,711	29,446	3,428,871	38,025

* Post cards were first issued in April, 1876. They are included with letters in this column.

† For the first time telegrams on Railway service were not included.

‡ The increase in the number of telegrams in 1885 was consequent on a reduction in the rates.

§ Telephone system taken over by the Post Office on 22nd September, 1887. Previously worked as a private undertaking.

|| Information not available.

STATE RAILWAYS, ETC.

Year.	Railways.					Churches, Chapels, and Buildings used for Public Worship.
	Miles Opened.	Capital Cost.	Total Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Train Miles Travelled.	
		£	£	£		
1851	..	..	..	..	..	39
1852	..	..	..	..	..	49
1853	..	..	..	..	..	128
1854	..	..	..	..	..	187
1855	..	..	..	..	..	349
1856	..	..	..	..	..	473
1857	..	..	..	..	..	587
1858	..	..	..	..	..	645
1859	..	..	..	..	..	642
1860	*	*	211,557	*	*	874
1861	*	*	291,382	*	*	989
1862	214	*	435,740	*	936,404	1,137
1863	214	*	579,920	*	1,198,524	1,352
1864	272	*	646,589	*	1,587,842	1,531
1865	271	*	717,161	*	1,477,323	1,695
1866	271	*	724,186	*	1,543,762	1,766
1867	271	*	678,179	*	1,488,737	1,874
1868	271	10,116,785	712,766	*	1,538,964	1,870
1869	271	10,164,618	758,470	*	1,563,274	1,967
1870	274	10,327,403	699,273	*	1,495,719	2,134
1871	276†		401,389†	*	917,960†	2,210
1872	329	11,108,950	771,638	*	1,571,682	2,295
1873	377	11,671,870	857,745	407,814	1,766,717	2,284
1874	457	12,557,618	1,016,925	466,516	2,109,227	2,455
1875	603	14,106,068	1,091,937	571,478	2,502,838	2,519
1876	719†	15,063,430	1,730,034†	843,508†	4,015,197†	2,602
1877	950	16,608,734	1,319,638	685,696	3,271,007	2,715
1878	1,052	17,544,482	1,391,701	729,043	3,633,190	2,815
1879	1,125	17,793,000	1,383,650	742,617	4,002,624	2,890
1880	1,199	18,041,295	1,492,917	814,075	4,380,802	3,307
1881	1,247	18,603,830	1,665,209	913,572	4,633,267	3,439
1882	1,355	19,797,975	1,781,078	1,098,599	5,069,339	3,518
1883	1,562	21,602,922	1,898,311	1,273,922	5,701,513	3,698
1884	1,663	22,070,300	2,196,149	1,335,800	6,947,876	3,735
1885	1,676	22,851,141	2,181,932	1,277,425	6,849,818	4,131

* Information not available.

† These are the returns of the Government and private railways combined, the latter of which were purchased by the State in July, 1878. The returns of the former are, prior to 1871, for the year ended 31st December; in 1871 for the six months ended 30th June; in the years 1872-5 for the twelve months ended 30th June; in 1876 for the eighteen months ended 31st December; in the years 1877-84 for the twelve months ended 31st December, and subsequently for the twelve months ended 30th June. The returns of private railways are for the year ended 31st December up to the time they were purchased by the Government.

STATE RAILWAYS, ETC.—continued.

Year.	Railways.					Churches, Chapels, and Buildings used for Public Worship.
	Miles Opened.	Capital Cost.	Total Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Train Miles Travelled.	
		£	£	£		
1886	1,743	23,903,893	2,329,126	1,310,538	7,256,703	4,098
1887	1,880	25,297,524	2,453,078	1,427,116	7,991,378	4,223
1888	2,018	27,468,258	2,756,049	1,753,019	9,082,312	4,295
1889	2,199	29,125,280	3,110,140	1,945,837	10,680,743	4,592
1890	2,471	32,588,375	3,131,866	2,132,158	11,773,152	4,583
1891	2,764	35,518,871	3,298,567	2,310,645	12,249,747	4,733
1892	2,904	37,048,300	3,095,122	2,138,139	11,807,677	4,591
1893	2,959	37,451,487	2,925,948	1,850,291	10,775,134	4,760
1894	3,004	37,660,304	2,726,159	1,635,419	10,145,307	4,828
1895	3,104	37,909,626	2,581,591	1,543,393	9,567,453	4,809
1896	3,106	38,102,855	2,401,392	1,546,475	8,989,391	4,893
1897	3,113	38,325,517	2,615,935	1,563,805	9,228,687	4,872
1898	3,113	38,593,205	2,608,896	1,646,054	9,239,657	5,022
1899	3,122	38,974,410	2,873,729	1,797,726	9,714,298	4,893
1900	3,186	39,496,247	3,025,162	1,902,540	10,107,549	5,037
1901	3,229	39,845,667	3,337,797	2,075,239	11,066,016	5,093
1902	3,266	40,570,204	3,367,843	2,166,119	11,284,944	*
1903	3,401	40,965,849	3,046,858	2,032,087	10,286,272	4,543
1904	3,429	41,216,026	3,438,141	2,022,493	9,172,644	4,564
1905	3,442	41,259,387	3,582,266	2,222,279	9,023,365	4,465
1906	3,446	41,404,947	3,789,068	2,217,343	9,392,069	4,605
1907	3,447	41,547,223	4,022,231	2,370,695	10,339,691	4,787
1908	3,447	41,919,376	3,883,742	2,450,318	10,718,415	4,746
1909	3,463	42,392,007	4,189,065	2,523,929	11,628,792	4,857
1910	3,544	43,091,478	4,455,748	2,827,735	12,045,866	4,748
1911	3,576	44,021,212	4,909,062	3,109,323	13,319,572	4,887
1912	3,675	45,603,114	5,233,979	3,455,086	14,203,681	4,946
1913	3,700	47,076,911	5,222,271	3,605,001	14,648,489	4,993
1914	3,888	49,311,907	5,581,474	3,886,348	15,570,098	5,173
1915	3,928	51,620,187	5,183,687	4,258,316	15,880,677	5,134
1916	4,153	54,560,106	5,730,743	4,141,588	14,424,357	5,059
1917	4,176	55,808,163	5,980,638	4,305,958	14,594,775	..

* Information not available.

EDUCATION.

Year.	Number of Schools.			Number of Scholars on Roll.			Melbourne University.	
	State.	Private.	Total.	State.	Private.	Total.	Number Matriculated.	Number of Direct Graduates.
1851	*	*	129	*	*	7,060	..	..
1852	98	17	115	7,369	472	7,841	..	..
1853	152	54	206	11,270	1,763	13,033	..	..
1854	259	132	391	17,378	2,729	20,107	..	..
1855	*	*	438	*	*	24,478	16	..
1856	*	*	455	*	*	26,323	7	3
1857	540	135	675	*	*	36,671	9	--
1858	595	145	740	38,887	3,545	42,432	2	9
1859	605	167	772	42,361	3,904	46,265	15	2
1860	665	221	886	46,687	4,981	51,668	10	6
1861	671	211	882	51,345	5,128	56,473	14	5
1862	673	316	989	57,151	8,390	65,541	23	12
1863	648	371	1,019	58,519	11,100	69,619	28	8
1864	647	300	947	56,982	9,163	66,145	31	12
1865	694	386	1,080	62,215	11,384	73,599	27	8
1866	730	476	1,206	66,037	15,192	81,229	35	11
1867	780	605	1,385	71,795	19,541	91,336	34	10
1868	802	628	1,430	77,245	20,639	97,884	47	13
1869	839	883	1,722	121,764	30,080	151,844	53	17
1870	908	959	1,867	123,385	30,968	154,353	82	10
1871	988	1,062	2,050	131,145	34,131	165,276	93	19
1872	1,048	888	1,936	135,962	24,781	160,743	88	14
1873	1,078	653	1,731	207,826	18,428	226,254	98	21
1874	1,111	610	1,721	216,144	22,448	238,592	118	24
1875	1,320	565	1,885	220,533	27,481	248,014	93	29
1876	1,498	645	2,143	231,560	28,847	260,407	73	28
1877	1,626	530	2,156	234,519	28,422	262,941	103	26
1878	1,664	585	2,249	231,169	35,873	267,042	114	24
1879	1,713	568	2,281	227,775	34,824	262,599	112	56
1880	1,810	643	2,453	229,723	28,134	257,857	151	49
1881	1,757	645	2,402	231,423	34,062	265,485	172	55
1882	1,762	655	2,417	222,945	34,443	257,388	135	73
1883	1,777	670	2,447	222,428	35,773	258,201	128	64
1884	1,803	655	2,458	222,054	35,115	257,169	173	80
1885	1,826	665	2,491	224,685	34,787	259,472	154	77
1886	1,870	691	2,561	230,576	35,811	266,387	154	102
1887	1,911	749	2,660	230,882	37,823	268,705	178	115
1888	1,933	753	2,686	242,046	40,291	282,337	146	117
1889	2,062	782	2,844	250,429	40,181	290,610	192	129
1890	2,170	791	2,961	250,097	40,181	290,278	154	99

* Information not available.

EDUCATION—continued.

Year.	Number of Schools.			Number of Scholars on Rolls.			Melbourne University.	
	State.	Private.	Total.	State.	Private.	Total.	Number Maticu- lated.	Number of Direct Graduates.
1891	2,233	759	2,992	253,469	37,203	290,672	209	122
1892	2,140	745	2,885	249,786	36,344	286,130	220	127
1893	2,038	826	2,864	236,508	35,742	272,250	134	116
1894	1,956	867	2,823	231,321	38,062	269,383	145	105
1895	1,922	938	2,860	232,052	40,193	272,245	141	141
1896	1,886	930	2,816	235,617	42,044	277,661	129	122
1897	1,877	929	2,806	233,308	42,899	281,207	152	145
1898	1,877	945	2,822	233,357	43,926	282,283	117	147
1899	1,892	901	2,793	239,732	52,318	292,050	108	131
1900	1,948	884	2,832	243,667	48,483	292,150	101	124
1901	1,967	862	2,829	*	*	*	137	200
1902	2,041	872	2,913	257,355	43,182	300,537	124	122
1903	1,988	798	2,786	251,655	45,650	297,305	111	136
1904	1,928	787	2,715	241,145	45,077	286,222	131	152
1905	1,935	771	2,706	234,614	45,936	280,550	195	112
1906	1,953	757	2,710	229,179	52,193	281,372	197	166
1907	1,974	751	2,725	231,759	53,371	285,130	227	146
1908	2,017	696	2,713	233,893	54,036	287,929	202	167
1909	2,035	678	2,713	233,337	53,821	287,158	230	199
1910	2,036	641	2,677	235,042	54,740	289,782	287	201
1911	2,059	587	2,646	234,766	55,893	290,659	283	243
1912	2,093	548	2,641	238,111	56,035	294,146	315	184
1913	2,127	519	2,646	241,042	57,698	298,740	287	260
1914	2,175	512	2,687	246,447	58,886	305,333	364	305
1915	2,227	509	2,736	250,264	60,865	311,129	316	347
1916	2,225	495	2,720	257,726	64,830	322,556	364	302

* Information not available.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND MANUFACTORIES.

Year.	Friendly Societies.				Manufactories (exclusive of Quarries).		
	Number of Branches.	Average Number of Members.	Receipts.	Amount of Funds.	Number.	Number of Hands Employed.	Value of Output.
			£	£			£
1851	..	..	..	..	83	..	..
1852	..	..	..	..	90	..	..
1853	..	..	..	..	228	..	..
1854	..	..	..	..	192	..	..
1855	..	..	..	..	278	..	..
1856	..	..	..	..	290	..	..
1857	21	1,698	4,948	8,210	474	..	..
1858	29	2,272	7,107	13,405	507	..	..
1859	53	3,876	13,139	16,755	500	..	..
1860	61	5,028	20,084	26,421	566	5,467	..
1861	87	7,166	30,452	36,665	531	..	..
1862	124	9,995	28,446	54,038	703	..	..
1863	157	13,085	45,837	78,197	823	7,369	..
1864	186	13,906	48,655	84,803	704	7,046	..
1865	313	22,796	81,083	116,418	900	10,059	..
1866	362	24,752	86,797	135,480	983	11,488	..
1867	401	26,181	91,420	154,226	1,104	14,230	..
1868	441	28,596	102,854	163,949	1,316	16,612	..
1869	507	32,091	112,589	182,286	1,530	18,720	..
1870	592	34,224	117,295	186,384	1,579	17,630	..
1871	590	35,706	123,070	213,004	1,740	19,468	..
1872	683	42,401	142,015	240,593	1,770	21,493	..
1873	720	44,602	151,603	261,630	1,803	24,411	..
1874	710	42,664	138,034	266,073	2,104	27,959	..
1875	757	45,920	161,653	333,057	2,241	29,821	..
1876	761	45,957	163,593	351,284	2,302	31,478	..
1877	703	43,330	152,508	360,269	2,370	32,688	..
1878	756	45,552	163,192	398,624	2,343	33,278	..
1879	766	45,521	170,835	423,238	2,239	33,247	..
1880	748	45,876	171,987	450,719	2,468	38,178	13,370,836
1881	759	47,908	180,460	475,954	2,488	43,209	..
1882	762	51,045	194,835	505,001	2,612	45,698	..
1883	776	55,081	211,623	544,076	2,777	46,857	..
1884	788	58,859	228,509	589,211	2,856	49,393	..
1885	817	62,173	236,432	633,696	2,813	49,297	..
1886	856	66,805	261,144	686,858	2,770	45,773	..
1887	891	70,998	268,724	730,174	2,854	49,084	..
1888	930	75,586	282,622	776,329	2,975	54,488	..
1889	969	81,710	303,894	846,486	3,137	57,432	..
1890	1,003	86,450	322,747	909,504	3,104	56,369	22,390,251

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES AND MANUFACTORIES—*continued.*

Year.	Friendly Societies.				Manufactories (exclusive of Quarries).		
	Number of Branches.	Average Number of Members.	Receipts.	Amount of Funds.	Number.	Number of Hands Employed.	Value of Output.
			£	£			£
1891	1,048	89,269	340,173	961,933	3,141	52,225	..
1892	1,061	88,703	321,567	1,011,327	2,952	43,192	..
1893	1,064	84,504	307,009	1,048,744	2,677	39,473	..
1894	1,075	80,604	305,286	1,080,028	2,632	41,000	..
1895	1,069	79,258	313,370	1,117,318	2,804	46,095	..
1896	1,074	80,001	309,506	1,155,408	2,810	50,448	..
1897	1,090	82,629	313,202	1,190,533	2,760	52,701	..
1898	1,102	87,018	327,555	1,221,210	2,869	54,778	..
1899	1,124	92,044	350,423	1,258,699	3,027	60,070	..
1900	1,132	96,802	372,631	1,318,165	3,097	64,207	19,478,780
1901	1,176	101,045	378,040	1,370,604	3,249	66,529	..
1902	1,209	104,410	377,931	1,420,257	4,003	73,063	..
1903	1,236	105,784	389,679	1,481,730	4,151	73,229	..
1904	1,266	107,213	406,847	1,549,919	4,208	76,287	23,126,180
1905	1,306	110,063	413,381	1,626,555	4,264	80,235	25,200,648
1906	1,351	114,059	436,161	1,708,346	4,360	85,229	28,102,480
1907	1,376	120,002	452,323	1,793,186	4,530	90,903	30,399,945
1908	1,422	126,746	481,197	1,887,891	4,608	93,808	30,787,760
1909	1,441	133,194	523,871	2,012,417	4,755	97,355	32,898,235
1910	1,475	139,308	534,616	2,122,602	4,873	102,176	36,660,854
1911	1,498	145,439	559,585	2,246,396	5,126	111,948	41,747,863
1912	1,505	151,262	580,371	2,361,464	5,263	116,108	45,410,773
1913	1,501	155,601	606,785	2,490,957	5,613	118,744	47,936,647
1914	1,524	158,511	620,765	2,644,216	5,650	118,399	49,439,985
1915	1,533	158,746	634,649	2,775,787	5,413	113,834	51,466,093
1916	1,522	157,819	672,650	2,912,178	5,445	116,970	60,047,284

NOTE.—Until 1879 the figures given do not represent particulars of all the Friendly Societies in the State, but only of such as furnished returns. For that year and subsequent years the returns are complete.

LIVE STOCK, ETC.

Year.	Live Stock.				Crimes.—Number of Persons—			
	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Taken into Custody.	Committed for Trial.	Convicted after Commitment.	Executed.
1836	75	155	41,332	..	..	..	..	..
1837	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1838	524	13,272	310,946	..	..	..	..	..
1839	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1840	2,372	50,837	782,283	..	..	..	..	..
1841	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1842	4,065	100,792	1,404,333	..	..	..	..	6
1843	6,278	167,156	1,602,798	..	..	..	..	..
1844	7,076	187,873	1,860,912	..	..	..	..	..
1845	9,289	231,602	1,792,527	3,986	..	..	..	..
1846	11,400	290,439	2,996,992	5,501	..	..	..	..
1847	13,292	322,824	4,164,203	5,015	..	..	..	4
1848	16,495	386,688	5,130,277	5,659	..	..	..	1
1849	16,733	346,562	5,318,046	..	..	..	..	..
1850	21,219	378,806	6,032,783	9,260	..	..	111	..
1851	22,086	390,923	6,589,923	7,372	..	..	170	1
1852	34,021	431,380	6,551,506	8,996	..	..	471	2
1853	15,166	410,139	5,594,220	..	..	..	678	13
1854	27,038	481,640	5,332,007	9,278	..	..	631	7
1855	33,430	534,113	4,577,872	20,686	..	..	595	4
1856	47,832	646,613	4,641,548	52,227	..	..	480	1
1857	55,683	614,537	4,766,022	43,632	..	..	662	15
1858	68,323	699,330	5,578,413	37,756	..	..	740	9
1859	69,288	683,534	5,794,127	50,965	30,357	1,428	852	6
1860	76,536	722,332	5,780,896	61,259	29,030	1,329	796	3
1861	84,057	628,092	6,239,258	43,480	25,766	1,283	846	5
1862	86,067	576,601	6,764,851	52,991	23,464	1,144	769	1
1863	103,328	675,272	7,115,943	79,655	21,730	1,081	684	6
1864	117,182	640,625	8,406,234	113,530	22,601	1,031	567	4
1865	121,051	621,337	8,835,380	75,869	23,818	1,167	675	6
1866	121,381	598,968	8,833,139	74,708	23,305	1,040	639	3
1867	131,148	650,592	9,532,811	141,522	22,388	957	566	5
1868	143,934	693,682	9,756,819	136,206	22,883	901	526	3
1869	161,830	692,518	9,923,663	111,464	23,492	842	486	3
1870	167,220	721,096	10,761,887	130,946	22,527	908	573	5
1871	181,643	799,509	10,002,381	177,447	21,491	781	511	2
1872	185,796	812,289	10,575,219	193,722	22,453	688	430	2
1873	180,342	883,763	11,323,080	160,336	23,630	729	450	5
1874	180,254	958,658	11,221,036	137,941	22,516	694	436	..
1875	196,184	1,054,598	11,749,532	140,765	23,956	744	427	4

LIVE STOCK, ETC.—*continued.*

Year.	Live Stock.				Crime.—Number of Persons—			
	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Taken into Custody. †	Committed for Trial. ‡	Convicted after Commitment. ‡	Executed.
1876	194,768	1,128,265	11,278,893	175,578	23,971	680	384	3
1877	203,150	1,169,576	10,117,867	183,391	25,247	594	340	1
1878	210,105	1,184,843	9,379,276	177,373	24,319	658	458	..
1879	216,710	1,129,358	8,651,775	144,733	23,410	628	397	1
1880	275,516	1,286,267	10,360,285	241,936	22,843	680	398	1
1881	278,195	1,286,677	10,267,265	239,926	24,195	591	332	1
1882	280,874	1,287,088	10,174,246	237,917	25,294	616	402	..
1883	286,779	1,297,546	10,739,021	233,525	25,995	606	350	1
1884	293,846	1,287,945	10,637,412	234,347	26,414	695	407	3
1885	304,098	1,290,790	10,681,837	239,837	27,978	768	444	3
1886	308,553	1,303,265	10,700,403	240,957	30,866	756	492	1
1887	315,000	1,333,873	10,623,985	243,461	33,177	820	506	..
1888	323,115	1,370,660	10,818,575	245,818	36,165	873	557	1
1889	329,335	1,394,209	10,882,231	249,673	36,005	1,023	680	3
1890	436,469	1,782,881	12,692,843	282,457	37,339	1,129	662	..
1891	440,696	1,812,104	12,928,148	286,780	34,161	1,142	729	7
1892	439,596	1,824,704	12,965,306	290,339	32,049	1,142	759	1
1893	436,335	1,817,291	13,098,725	328,162	27,439	850	537	1
1894	431,547	1,833,900	13,180,943	337,588	23,631	656	435	5
1895	*	*	*	*	21,957	675	403	2
1896	*	*	*	*	21,547	675	424	1
1897	*	*	*	*	18,891	504	332	1
1898	*	*	12,300,000†	*	24,894	667	402	1
1899	*	*	*	*	22,087	566	367	..
1900	392,237	1,602,384	10,841,790	350,370	26,104	575	374	1
1901	*	*	*	*	27,855	624	393	..
1902	*	*	*	*	23,761	590	381	2
1903	*	*	*	*	21,918	572	371	..
1904	372,397	1,685,976	10,167,691	286,070	23,596	521	338	1
1905	385,513	1,737,690	11,455,115	273,682	23,194	599	382	..
1906	406,840	1,804,323	12,937,440	220,452	22,814	528	339	..
1907	424,648	1,842,807	14,146,734	211,002	22,679	517	368	..
1908	442,903	1,574,162	12,545,742	179,358	20,182	533	365	1
1909	424,829	1,549,640	12,937,983	217,921	19,309	534	352	..
1910	472,080	1,547,569	12,882,665	333,281	19,070	503	354	..
1911	507,813	1,647,127	13,857,804	348,069	19,398	522	334	..
1912	530,494	1,508,089	11,892,224	240,072	19,814	518	352	1
1913	562,331	1,528,553	12,113,682	221,277	21,554	568	352	..
1914	552,053	1,362,542	12,051,685	243,196	21,084	518	342	..
1915	493,779	1,043,604	10,545,632	192,002	20,276	561	391	..
1916	514,403	1,175,098	12,576,587	254,436	17,599	509	343	2

* Information not available.

† Estimated.

‡ The figures prior to 1893 represent the number of offences with which persons arrested were charged, those for 1893 and subsequent years distinct arrests.

MINERAL PRODUCTION.

Year.	Gold Raised.		Black Coal Produced.		Other Minerals.	Total.
	Estimated Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Value.
	ozs. gross.	£	tons.	£	£	£
1851	212,899	851,596				866,102
1852	2,286,535	9,146,140				9,160,646
1853	2,744,098	10,976,392				10,990,898
1854	2,218,483	8,873,932				8,888,438
1855	2,819,288	11,277,152				11,291,658
1856	3,053,744	12,214,976				12,229,482
1857	2,830,213	11,320,852	2,111	2,111	190,973	11,335,358
1858	2,596,231	10,384,924				10,399,430
1859	2,348,703	9,394,812				9,409,318
1860	2,224,069	8,896,276				8,900,782
1861	2,035,173	8,140,692				8,155,198
1862	1,730,201	6,920,804				6,935,310
1863	1,694,819	6,779,276				6,793,782
1864	1,622,447	6,489,788				6,504,294
1865	1,611,554	6,446,216	197	197	14,309	6,460,722
1866	1,546,948	6,187,792	..	..	23,233	6,211,025
1867	1,501,446	6,005,784	..	..	13,157	6,018,941
1868	1,684,918	6,739,672	..	..	24,366	6,764,038
1869	1,544,756	6,179,024	..	..	22,219	6,201,243
1870	1,304,304	5,217,216	100	100	24,421	5,241,737
1871	1,368,942	5,475,768	..	..	32,628	5,508,396
1872	1,331,377	5,325,508	10	10	36,513	5,362,031
1873	1,170,397	4,681,588	504	504	36,509	4,718,601
1874	1,097,643	4,390,572	2,909	2,909	31,090	4,424,571
1875	1,068,417	4,273,668	..	..	35,452	4,309,120
1876	963,760	3,855,040	1,095	1,095	29,736	3,885,871
1877	809,653	3,238,612	2,420	2,420	32,007	3,273,039
1878	758,040	3,032,160	..	..	63,914	3,096,074
1879	758,947	3,035,788	..	..	43,487	3,079,275
1880	829,121	3,316,484	..	..	30,936	3,347,420
1881	833,378	3,333,512	..	..	31,842	3,365,354
1882	864,610	3,458,440	..	..	21,518	3,479,958
1883	780,253	3,121,012	..	..	21,735	3,142,747
1884	778,618	3,114,472	3,280	3,280	18,681	3,136,433
1885	735,218	2,940,872	..	..	9,648	2,950,520
1886	665,196	2,660,784	86	107	11,019	2,671,910
1887	617,751	2,471,004	3,357	4,199	11,552	2,486,755
1888	625,026	2,500,104	8,573	7,029	7,871	2,515,004
1889	614,838	2,459,352	14,596	10,991	8,341	2,478,634
1890	588,560	2,354,240	14,601	13,899	16,311	2,384,450

MINERAL PRODUCTION—continued.

Year.	Gold Raised.		Black Coal Produced.		Other Minerals.	Total.
	Estimated Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.	Value.	Value.
	ozs. gross.	£	tons.	£	£	£
1891	576,399	2,305,596	22,834	19,731	14,726	2,340,053
1892	654,456	2,617,824	23,363	20,044	13,198	2,651,066
1893	671,126	2,684,504	91,726	49,167	11,228	2,744,899
1894	716,954	2,867,816	171,660	94,999	37,733*	3,000,548
1895	740,086	2,960,344	194,227	118,400	22,628	3,101,372
1896	805,087	3,220,348	226,562	113,012	27,363	3,360,723
1897	812,766	3,251,064	236,277	108,640	40,744	3,400,448
1898	837,257	3,349,028	242,860	103,099	39,510	3,491,637
1899	854,500	3,418,000	262,380	113,522	48,496	3,580,018
1900	807,407	3,229,628	211,596	101,599	49,017	3,380,244
1901	789,562	3,102,753	209,329	147,191	68,768	3,318,712
1902	777,738	3,062,028	225,164	155,850	77,425	3,295,303
1903	822,424	3,259,482	64,200	40,818	71,386	3,371,686
1904	821,017	3,252,045	121,741	70,208	97,883	3,420,136
1905	810,050	3,173,744	155,135	79,035	108,676	3,361,455
1906	834,775	3,280,478	160,631	80,283	94,095	3,454,856
1907	754,270	2,954,617	138,584	79,681	112,761	3,147,059
1908	721,220	2,849,838	113,462	64,653	116,554	3,031,045
1909	702,221	2,778,956	128,173	76,870	114,942	2,970,768
1910	609,998	2,422,745	369,059	188,977	139,434	2,751,156
1911	542,074	2,140,855	653,864	298,829	178,107	2,617,791
1912	516,255	2,039,464	589,143	258,455	201,796	2,499,715
1913	497,052	1,847,475	593,912	274,371	222,898	2,344,744
1914	443,347	1,755,236	617,536	288,535	235,238	2,279,009
1915	352,272	1,397,793	588,104	274,770	282,834	1,955,447
1916	276,188	1,090,194	417,183	216,292	229,901	1,536,387

* From the beginning of 1894 the produce of stone quarries has been included in the value of mineral production.

AGRICULTURE.

Year.	Total Area Cultivated.	Area under each Description of Tillage.					
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Malze.	Eye.	Peas and Beans.
		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1836	50	50	..	..	..	..	..
1837	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1838	149½	82½	22½	..	20	..	..
1839	2,069	1,302	252	161	140	22	..
1840	3,210	1,940	820	300	..	..	..
1841	4,881	1,702	1,285	353	82	5	..
1842	8,124½	2,432	2,410	761	68	..	..
1843	12,072½	4,674	2,560	1,063	77½	..	..
1844	16,529½	6,919½	3,082½	1,636½	106½	..	2
1845	25,133½	11,466½	4,817	749	76½	..	..
1846-7	31,578½	15,802	6,099	1,691½	121½	..	1
1847-8	36,289½	17,679½	7,173	2,161½	130½	..	1
1848-9	40,279½	19,387½	8,289	2,579	148	..	..
1849-50	45,975½	24,247	5,379½	2,303	228	..	..
1850-51	52,340½	28,510½	5,007½	2,101½	24½	..	..
1851-2	57,472	29,623½	6,426½	1,327½	11	4	..
1852-3	36,771½	16,823	2,947½	411½	1	..	..
1853-4	34,816½	7,553½	2,289	411	19½	13	..
1854-5	54,905	12,827	5,341	691	35½	18	5
1855-6	115,059½	42,686	17,800	1,548½	121½	..	84½
1856-7	179,875½	80,154½	25,024½	2,233½	326½	..	..
1857-8	237,288½	87,230	40,222½	5,409	445½	..	132½
1858-9	298,357½	78,234	77,526½	5,322	480	57½	264½
1859-60	352,863½	107,092½	90,167½	4,101½	738	149	395½
1860-61	407,740½	161,251½	86,337½	4,123½	1,650	111½	662
1861-2	427,241	196,922	91,061	3,419	1,714	66	696
1862-3	441,939	162,008½	108,195½	6,829½	1,249½	148½	1,261½
1863-4	475,321	149,392	152,326	7,795	1,711	207	975
1864-5	442,538	125,040	144,303	7,648	597	419	2,783
1865-6	481,236	178,628	102,817	6,887	326	551	4,253
1866-7	534,444	208,588	129,284	9,915	1,627	1,973	4,084
1867-8	567,100	216,989	125,345	15,982	579	1,376	3,658
1868-9	635,165	259,804	114,936	19,222	863	2,386	3,719
1869-70	730,279	288,514	144,791	28,115	1,080	4,275	3,989
1870-71	762,031	284,167	149,309	19,646	1,014	1,168	4,366
1871-2	793,918	334,609	175,944	16,772	1,709	663	8,832
1872-3	765,250	326,564	125,505	21,251	1,910	712	13,368
1873-4	773,352	349,976	110,991	25,333	1,959	722	14,229
1874-5	773,733	332,936	114,921	29,505	1,523	1,096	16,170
1875-6	833,653	321,401	124,100	31,568	2,346	1,292	18,854

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Total Area Cultivated.	Area under each Description of Tillage.					
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Peas and Beans.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1876-7	897,354	401,417	115,209	25,034	1,609	1,153	21,235
1877-8	1,102,205	564,564	105,234	19,116	1,215	1,075	17,286
1878-9	1,211,884	691,622	134,428	22,871	1,939	1,779	15,153
1879-80	1,386,798	707,188	167,615	43,182	2,447	1,236	21,462
1880-81	1,742,949	977,285	134,089	68,630	1,769	1,569	23,378
1881-2	1,582,998	926,729	146,995	48,652	1,783	972	25,937
1882-3	1,756,271	969,362	169,892	43,721	2,702	1,137	26,832
1883-4	1,934,020	1,104,392	188,161	46,832	2,570	1,260	30,443
1884-5	1,996,430	1,096,354	187,710	62,273	3,854	939	35,288
1885-6	2,077,947	1,020,082	215,994	74,112	4,530	654	35,460
1886-7	2,141,291	1,052,685	185,765	37,031	4,901	762	28,672
1887-8	2,418,358	1,232,943	199,036	40,983	6,031	1,069	26,692
1888-9	2,379,776	1,217,191	197,518	83,483	5,789	1,109	31,222
1889-90	2,477,646	1,178,735	236,496	90,724	8,447	1,089	22,784
1890-91	2,417,527	1,145,163	221,048	87,751	10,357	948	25,992
1891-2	2,512,593	1,332,683	190,157	45,021	8,230	561	31,053
1892-3	2,737,001	1,342,504	177,645	37,533	6,667	483	32,488
1893-4	2,794,703	1,469,359	218,904	49,105	6,485	520	42,352
1894-5	2,779,243	1,373,668	266,444	97,360	5,675	1,207	37,045
1895-6	2,704,263	1,412,736	255,503	78,438	7,186	947	32,766
1896-7	2,925,416	1,580,613	419,460	62,373	9,752	1,031	21,612
1897-8	3,144,574	1,657,450	294,183	37,205	10,847	1,859	11,959
1898-9	3,727,765	2,154,163	266,159	47,859	10,647	2,131	11,115
1899-00	3,668,556	2,165,693	271,280	79,573	11,037	1,050	12,243
1900-01	3,717,002	2,017,321	362,689	58,853	9,389	823	7,812
1901-2	3,647,459	1,754,417	329,150	32,423	10,020	828	8,297
1902-3	3,738,873	1,994,271	433,489	37,716	10,906	1,487	8,085
1903-4	4,021,590	1,968,599	433,638	47,760	11,810	2,021	8,960
1904-5	4,175,614	2,277,537	344,019	46,089	11,394	2,267	11,523
1905-6	4,269,877	2,070,517	312,052	40,938	11,785	1,959	12,253
1906-7	4,294,553	2,031,893	380,493	52,816	11,559	1,571	12,012
1907-8	4,126,823	1,847,121	398,749	63,074	10,844	1,441	13,613
1908-9	4,496,183	1,779,905	419,869	64,648	14,004	2,024	11,153
1909-10	4,834,285	2,097,162	384,226	58,603	19,112	2,399	9,824
1910-11	5,386,247	2,398,089	392,681	52,687	20,151	2,640	11,068
1911-12	5,109,849	2,164,066	302,238	53,541	18,223	1,098	11,535
1912-13	5,706,579	2,085,216	439,242	71,631	19,986	1,428	11,875
1913-14	6,129,893	2,565,861	442,060	83,351	17,962	1,779	11,774
1914-15	5,969,304	2,863,535	434,815	62,492	19,433	1,955	12,159
1915-16	7,069,608	3,679,971	353,932	61,400	22,258	3,137	8,221
1916-17	6,750,894	3,125,692	441,598	93,015	23,076	3,481	9,642

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce Raised.						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Peas and Beans.	Potatoes.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons
1836	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1837	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1838	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1839	12,600	..	..	..	..	..	..
1840	50,420	26,950	9,000	..	..	..	300
1841	47,840	37,325	9,385	1,200	..	..	3,734
1842	55,360	66,100	20,025	1,360	..	..	5,996
1843	104,040	70,789	25,156	..	..	..	6,933
1844	138,436	43,361	40,080	3,290	..	34	12,418
1845	234,734	71,368	39,289	1,980	..	..	11,138
1846-7	345,946	185,856	47,737	3,330	..	20	9,024
1847-8	349,730	207,385	29,115	3,630	..	20	7,255
1848-9	410,220	78,877	36,403	3,928	..	..	11,988
1849-50	525,190	129,602	53,913	235	..	..	5,929
1850-51	556,167	99,535	40,144	4	..	..	5,613
1851-2	733,321	132,311	34,331	586	5	..	5,988
1852-3	498,704	96,980	9,431	61	..	..	4,512
1853-4	154,202	50,787	10,269	60	200	..	2,752
1854-5	250,091	130,746	14,339	387	..	100	8,383
1855-6	1,148,011	614,614	45,151	3,142	..	2,377	59,797
1856-7	1,858,756	641,679	69,548	8,308	..	..	36,895
1857-8	1,808,439	1,249,800	156,459	6,558	..	2,797	51,116
1858-9	1,563,113	2,160,358	115,619	9,698	651	4,833	108,467
1859-60	2,296,157	2,553,637	98,433	7,375	2,692	5,590	48,967
1860-61	3,459,914	2,633,693	83,854	25,045	1,720	11,973	77,258
1861-2	3,607,727	2,136,430	68,118	20,788	1,245	11,050	59,364
1862-3	3,008,487	2,504,301	143,056	19,720	1,853	17,404	50,597
1863-4	1,338,762*	3,497,520	130,664	33,534	3,408	16,471	74,947
1864-5	1,899,378*	2,694,445	124,849	3,980	5,549	41,139	59,828
1865-6	3,514,227	2,279,468	153,490	4,767	8,555	60,068	83,196
1866-7	4,641,205	3,880,406	299,217	27,520	36,155	59,941	88,880
1867-8	3,411,663	2,333,472	324,706	11,345	19,241	51,591	117,787
1868-9	4,229,228	2,258,523	292,665	17,048	29,539	42,333	79,944
1869-70	5,697,056	3,761,408	691,248	22,141	65,822	67,624	127,645
1870-71	2,870,409	2,237,010	240,825	20,028	14,856	73,449	127,579
1871-2	4,500,795	3,299,889	335,506	30,833	8,496	173,217	125,841
1872-3	5,391,104	2,454,225	443,221	37,703	9,350	236,582	132,997
1873-4	4,752,289	1,741,451	502,601	40,347	7,979	199,041	109,822
1874-5	4,850,165	2,121,612	619,896	24,263	15,620	317,382	124,310
1875-6	4,978,914	2,719,795	700,665	37,177	19,356	450,948	124,377

* In 1863-4 and 1864-5 the yield of wheat was much affected by "rust."

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce Raised.						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Peas and Beans.	Potatoes.
	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	bushels.	tons.
1876-7	5,279,730	2,294,225	530,323	25,909	15,277	373,857	134,082
1877-8	7,018,257	2,040,486	378,706	22,050	9,852	241,007	115,419
1878-9	6,060,737*	2,366,026	417,157	40,754	20,816	248,436	98,958
1879-80	9,398,858	4,023,271	1,065,430	61,887	18,407	574,954	167,943
1880-81	9,727,369	2,362,425	1,068,830	49,299	13,978	403,321	129,262
1881-2	8,714,377	3,612,111	927,566	81,007	12,653	621,768	134,290
1882-3	8,751,454	4,446,027	758,477	131,620	23,244	689,507	129,605
1883-4	15,570,245	4,717,624	1,069,803	117,294	16,727	791,093	161,088
1884-5	10,433,146	4,392,695	1,082,430	176,388	15,505	846,859	161,119
1885-6	9,170,538	4,692,303	1,302,854	181,240	8,278	761,351	163,202
1886-7	12,100,036	4,256,079	827,852	231,447	11,286	583,269	170,661
1887-8	13,328,765	4,562,530	956,476	318,551	14,900	732,060	198,225
1889-9	8,647,709	2,803,800	1,131,427	267,155	10,744	361,724	131,149
1889-90	11,495,720	5,644,867	1,831,132	357,047	16,707	528,074	157,104
1890-91	12,751,295	4,919,325	1,571,599	574,083	17,583	739,310	204,155
1891-2	13,679,268	4,455,551	844,198	461,957	7,495	769,196	200,523
1892-3	14,814,645	4,574,816	774,207	373,183	8,092	981,411	142,623
1893-4	15,255,200	4,951,371	1,033,861	180,442	9,005	1,050,082	144,708
1894-5	11,445,878	5,633,286	1,596,463	294,555	18,378	716,193	196,706
1895-6	5,669,174	2,880,045	715,592	351,891	8,524	287,200	117,238
1896-7	7,091,029	6,816,951	815,605	566,027	14,392	148,956	146,555
1897-8	10,580,217	4,809,479	758,454	515,025	23,785	137,452	67,296
1898-9	19,581,304	5,523,419	1,112,567	587,064	31,196	206,165	161,142
1899-00	15,237,948	6,116,046	1,466,088	624,844	13,896	164,414	173,381
1900-01	17,847,321	9,582,332	1,215,478	604,180	11,989	146,357	123,126
1901-2	12,127,382	6,724,900	693,851	615,472	14,418	169,971	125,474
1902-3	2,569,364*	4,402,982	561,144	750,524	21,179	141,888	168,759
1903-4	28,525,579	13,434,952	1,262,923	904,239	29,586	213,735	167,736
1904-5	21,092,139	6,203,429	874,099	623,736	30,578	201,145	92,872
1905-6	23,417,670	7,232,425	1,062,139	641,216	28,893	265,206	115,352
1906-7	22,618,043	8,845,654	1,255,442	704,961	20,770	286,636	166,839
1907-8	12,100,780	5,201,408	1,059,295	508,761	21,966	213,818	135,110
1908-9	23,345,649	11,124,940	1,511,181	650,462	32,504	197,807	152,840
1909-10	28,780,100	7,913,423	1,023,384	1,158,031	26,070	145,742	152,970
1910-11	34,813,019	9,699,127	1,340,387	982,103	32,647	223,284	173,312
1911-12	20,891,877	4,585,326	1,024,584	792,660	9,981	181,113	119,092
1912-13	26,223,104	8,323,639	1,744,627	715,299	17,141	232,856	191,112
1913-14	32,936,245	8,890,321	1,812,890	800,529	19,029	206,846	176,602
1914-15	3,940,947*	1,608,419	600,599	1,018,419	13,415	114,493	189,225
1915-16	58,521,706	9,328,894	1,734,511	999,886	42,857	147,488	173,821
1916-17	51,162,438	8,289,289	1,799,784	1,172,330	42,953	151,964	187,992

* In 1878-9 the yield of wheat was much affected by "rust," and in 1902-3 and 1914-15 the almost total failure was due to drought.

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Area under each Description of Tillage.						
	Potatoes.	Mangel-wurzel.	Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips.	Onions.	Hay.	Green Forage.	Chicory.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1836	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1837	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1838	20	..	..	..	..	..	..
1839	192	..	..	..	..	..	..
1840	150	..	..	..	..	..	..
1841	932	..	..	..	450	..	..
1842	1,419	..	..	..	850	171	..
1843	2,069	..	..	..	1,622	..	..
1844	2,487	..	..	..	1,772½	509½	..
1845	2,041½	..	..	..	5,000	945	..
1846-7	2,140½	..	..	..	4,547	1,098	..
1847-8	2,638½	..	..	..	5,073½	1,330½	..
1848-9	2,577½	..	..	..	5,903	1,287	..
1849-50	2,151	..	..	..	11,180½	519½	..
1850-51	2,837½	..	..	..	13,567	130	..
1851-2	2,375½	..	..	..	16,822	708½	..
1852-3	1,978½	..	..	..	14,101½	401½	..
1853-4	1,636½	..	..	..	21,829½	891	..
1854-5	3,297½	..	..	..	31,514	958½	..
1855-6	11,017½	17½	377½	38½	40,188½	1,949	..
1856-7	16,281½	108½	576½	24½	51,987	862½	..
1857-8	20,697½	119	418½	..	75,536	1,634½	..
1858-9	30,026½	185½	507½	..	86,162½	6,807	..
1859-60	27,622	382½	516½	..	98,570½	4,486½	..
1860-61	24,841½	1,029	1,228½	..	90,920½	6,020½	..
1861-2	27,174	806	617	249	74,681	4,038	..
1862-3	24,820½	806½	787½	142½	101,639½	5,221½	..
1863-4	27,584	836	535	157	96,350	2,865	..
1864-5	31,172	849	566	120	85,146	3,136	..
1865-6	31,644	1,249	601	183	97,902	6,870	..
1866-7	32,403	1,924	966	340	92,472	5,703	..
1867-8	35,831	1,269	245	245	108,373	5,265	145
1868-9	36,204	1,321	240	240	112,282	9,703	99
1869-70	41,216	1,526	2,326	329	140,435	5,275	199
1870-71	39,026	957	1,886	287	163,181	6,868	220
1871-2	39,064	1,396	1,786	461	103,206	7,473	198
1872-3	38,517	1,739	2,522	417	121,375	11,448	60
1873-4	38,349	1,252	1,318	270	115,672	21,425	43
1874-5	35,183	1,281	962	347	119,031	16,286	109
1875-6	36,901	1,223	1,091	552	155,274	15,227	177

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Area under each Description of Tillage.						
	Potatoes.	Mangel-wurzel.	Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips.	Onions.	Hay.	Green Forage.	Chicory.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1876-7	40,450	1,285	795	720	147,408	28,803	225
1877-8	37,107	1,320	785	816	176,951	72,033	256
1878-9	36,527	888	712	1,069	172,799	4,033	155
1879-80	41,600	1,027	566	1,040	201,451	4,313	392
1880-81	45,951	1,284	808	1,056	249,656	9,617	230
1881-2	39,129	1,044	437	1,134	212,150	3,226	207
1882-3	34,267	1,087	558	1,341	309,382	5,793	283
1883-4	40,195	1,056	572	1,235	302,957	4,963	283
1884-5	38,763	1,413	664	1,750	339,725	5,796	219
1885-6	42,602	1,346	639	1,740	421,036	7,189	216
1886-7	49,974	1,257	910	1,996	445,150	7,895	204
1887-8	48,263	1,191	788	2,437	441,812	6,410	249
1888-9	43,074	897	648	1,768	411,332	7,549	148
1889-90	47,139	984	820	1,957	451,546	5,980	229
1890-91	53,818	892	708	2,238	413,062	10,091	258
1891-2	57,334	922	731	2,661	369,498	9,202	215
1892-3	40,594	1,138	764	1,973	512,648	16,605	43
1893-4	40,909	1,162	695	2,045	412,223	16,529	54
1894-5	56,383	1,236	722	3,178	492,578	16,791	120
1895-6	43,895	1,067	645	3,780	464,482	25,939	69
1896-7	43,532	823	656	3,735	416,667	23,043	120
1897-8	44,197	876	2,111	3,751	580,000	22,687	117
1898-9	41,252	1,008	2,122	4,472	565,345	19,805	159
1899-00	55,469	788	584	4,436	450,189	18,574	155
1900-01	38,477	636	507	2,815	502,105	18,975	184
1901-2	40,058	865	561	4,151	659,239	32,795	170
1902-3	49,706	1,392	747	5,565	580,884	31,145	340
1903-4	48,930	1,564	1,014	4,176	733,353	33,165	477
1904-5	46,912	1,441	823	2,862	452,459	29,902	287
1905-6	44,670	1,657	909	4,889	591,771	34,041	244
1906-7	55,372	1,360	713	4,705	621,139	36,502	191
1907-8	54,149	1,184	496	4,249	682,194	59,897	283
1908-9	47,903	1,370	709	5,340	956,371	63,066	453
1909-10	62,390	1,119	434	4,434	864,359	56,586	522
1910-11	62,904	1,254	874	6,161	832,669	71,826	467
1911-12	47,692	797	658	3,652	860,205	75,177	399
1912-13	47,575	1,121	627	4,977	1,203,728	84,460	506
1913-14	74,574	952	470	6,121	977,684	98,963	531
1914-15	65,495	893	563	8,937	895,755	139,654	595
1915-16	56,910	1,091	758	9,294	1,330,455	60,426	805
1916-17	73,618	860	524	6,324	897,186	49,667	658

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Area under each Description of Tillage.							Artificial Grass.*
	Grass and Clover Seeds.	Hops.	To-bacco.	Vines.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.	Land in Fallow.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	
1836 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1837 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1838 ..	..	..	4½	..	..	..	..	..
1839 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1840 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1841 ..	..	..	72	..	..	..	..	..
1842 ..	..	..	10	3½	..	..	..	..
1843 ..	..	..	3	4	..	..	..	..
1844 ..	..	..	2½	10½	..	..	..	..
1845 ..	..	..	½	37½	..	..	..	..
1846-7	..	..	..	78	..	..	..	..
1847-8	..	..	..	101½	..	..	..	..
1848-9	..	..	..	107½	..	..	..	..
1849-50	..	..	½	164½	..	..	..	..
1850-51	..	..	..	161½	..	..	..	..
1851-2	..	..	..	173½	..	..	..	..
1852-3	..	..	..	107½	..	..	..	..
1853-4	..	..	11½	162½	..	..	..	..
1854-5	..	..	37	180½	..	..	..	..
1855-6	..	..	23	207½	..	..	..	76
1856-7	..	..	76½	279½	..	1,939½	..	107
1857-8	..	..	71	401½	4	4,967½	..	440
1858-9	..	..	66½	547½	288½	5,883½	5,998½	602
1859-60	..	..	50	811	369	6,186½	11,224½	5,864
1860-61	..	..	91	1,138	579½	7,298½	20,457½	11,640
1861-2	..	..	220	1,464	333	6,946	16,835	12,654
1862-3	..	..	508½	2,006½	247½	7,724	18,341½	23,491
1863-4	..	..	623	3,076	389	8,282	22,218	32,477
1864-5	..	..	524	3,594	1,264	8,988	26,389	36,925
1865-6	..	..	397	4,078	1,705	10,103	33,042	48,960
1866-7	..	..	243	4,111	156	9,655	31,000	58,471
1867-8	454	9	229	4,340	147	12,603	33,452	64,107
1868-9	42	3	138	4,046	149	11,856	56,598	77,700
1869-70	146	78	144	4,950	87	13,432	49,372	97,255
1870-71	242	64	93	5,466	24	14,856	69,191	146,984
1871-2	308	61	299	5,523	397	15,633	79,584	143,302
1872-3	2,359	107	423	5,485	102	15,785	75,601	197,841
1873-4	2,717	131	583	5,222	111	16,060	66,989	191,644
1874-5	3,082	126	733	4,937	193	17,400	77,912	238,043
1875-6	2,234	145	782	5,081	511	17,761	97,133	293,178

* Not included in land under cultivation.

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Area under each Description of Tillage.							Artificial Grass.*
	Grass and Clover Seeds.	Hops.	To-bacco.	Vines.	Other Crops.	Gardens and Orchards.	Land in Fallow.	
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1876-7	1,993	225	1,479	4,765	749	18,641	84,159	333,751
1877-8	1,846	274	2,327	4,419	336	19,570	75,675	318,297
1878-9	2,824	203	1,936	4,434	443	20,400	97,669	397,394
1879-80	2,237	267	531	4,284	507	20,299	165,154	301,477
1880-81	2,817	428	1,990	4,980	984	22,288	194,140	254,994
1881-2	2,061	564	1,461	4,923	638	20,630	144,326	238,721
1882-3	2,290	1,034	1,313	5,732	518	19,725	159,302	284,645
1883-4	2,686	1,758	1,325	7,326	645	20,754	174,607	281,903
1884-5	2,329	1,737	1,402	9,042	960	23,015	183,197	327,063
1885-6	2,942	896	1,866	9,775	1,022	25,395	210,451	327,210
1886-7	4,667	730	2,031	10,310	970	27,593	277,788	276,291
1887-8	4,638	685	1,966	11,195	1,291	26,325	364,354	158,047
1888-9	1,541	761	1,685	12,886	1,056	27,533	332,586	184,966
1889-90	3,390	829	955	15,662	936	29,243	379,701	149,616
1890-91	2,587	789	618	20,686	1,095	33,864	385,572	235,241
1891-2	2,861	771	545	25,295	1,426	38,238	395,189	174,982
1892-3	2,264	806	477	28,052	647	39,926	493,744	233,114
1893-4	1,927	693	1,057	30,275	769	42,463	457,177	224,306
1894-5	2,198	668	1,412	30,307	1,757	44,235	346,259	201,056
1895-6	2,899	791	2,029	30,275	4,369	45,419	291,028	180,251
1896-7	2,906	945	1,264	27,934	1,597	45,734	261,619	172,582
1897-8	3,301	918	522	27,701	1,592	43,763	399,535	115,738
1898-9	2,220	847	78	27,568	3,052	50,521	517,242	150,157
1899-00	2,283	713	155	27,550	2,967	54,573	509,244	151,949
1900-01	2,235	401	109	30,634	2,671	57,496	602,870	207,896
1901-2	1,877	307	103	28,592	3,021	58,807	681,778	162,954
1902-3	1,568	213	171	28,374	2,094	58,415	492,305	565,635
1903-4	2,749	214	129	28,513	2,185	59,812	632,521	962,665
1904-5	2,249	251	106	28,016	2,993	60,655	853,829	953,543
1905-6	2,767	313	169	26,402	3,019	59,607	1,049,915	1,040,335
1906-7	1,859	323	133	25,855	3,163	61,927	990,967	1,095,642
1907-8	1,076	248	345	26,465	3,962	63,133	894,300	1,095,471
1908-9	1,741	189	413	24,430	3,955	64,225	1,034,422	1,029,711
1909-10	1,595	140	321	22,768	4,080	66,322	1,175,750	988,671
1910-11	1,295	121	329	23,412	5,291	68,153	1,434,177	991,195
1911-12	1,188	122	356	24,193	4,785	70,316	1,469,608	1,041,772
1912-13	2,429	131	138	24,579	6,084	73,623	1,627,223	1,085,346
1913-14	1,452	117	284	22,435	6,991	77,960	1,738,572	1,094,566
1914-15	149	115	196	21,801	6,980	87,237	1,346,545	1,202,130
1915-16	435	107	160	22,353	6,053	91,499	1,358,343	1,182,995
1916-17	1,769	87	73	23,264	6,968	93,833	1,899,559	1,292,817

* Not included in land under cultivation.

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce Raised.						
	Mangel- wurzel.	Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips.	Onions.	Hay.	Chicory.	Grass and Clover Seeds.	Hops.
	tons.	tons.	cwt.	tons.	tons.	bushels.	cwt.
1836 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1837 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1838 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1839 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1840 ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1841 ..	..	..	..	900	..	..	..
1842 ..	..	..	..	2,300	..	..	..
1843 ..	..	..	..	2,661	..	..	..
1844 ..	..	..	..	6,459	..	..	..
1845 ..	..	..	..	9,640	..	..	..
1846-7	..	..	..	9,303	..	..	..
1847-8	..	..	..	9,891	..	..	..
1848-9	..	..	..	10,625	..	..	..
1849-50	..	..	..	15,640	..	..	..
1850-51	..	..	..	20,971	..	..	..
1851-2	..	..	..	29,692	..	..	..
1852-3	..	..	..	21,287	..	..	..
1853-4	..	..	..	33,918	..	..	..
1854-5	..	..	..	53,627	..	..	..
1855-6	610	2,969	2,905	83,285	..	..	..
1856-7	2,165	5,381	1,685	81,151	..	..	..
1857-8	2,976	1,952	..	137,476	..	..	..
1858-9	2,157	2,009	2,690	113,543	..	..	..
1859-60	4,645	1,773	1,029	135,643	..	..	..
1860-61	13,446	6,405	26,189	144,211	..	..	..
1861-2	6,142	3,796	6,262	92,497	..	..	..
1862-3	8,086	5,769	6,548	110,680	..	..	..
1863-4	8,741	5,388	9,895	121,840	..	..	..
1864-5	5,782	2,865	8,083	97,731	..	..	..
1865-6	11,763	3,305	9,206	96,101	..	..	..
1866-7	17,473	6,815	31,266	161,243	..	..	..
1867-8	16,731	7,617	23,959	140,592	542	5,029	11
1868-9	10,295	6,672	12,084	122,800	493	615	1
1869-70	16,217	15,089	35,818	224,816	1,010	2,247	83
1870-71	10,521	10,363	32,900	183,708	1,349	2,652	318
1871-2	19,703	9,390	83,180	144,637	1,207	4,785	329
1872-3	23,475	18,226	66,940	159,964	281	30,502	543
1873-4	14,475	7,078	23,300	147,398	245	32,204	744
1874-5	17,899	5,788	55,880	157,261	531	35,998	899
1875-6	16,795	6,936	95,600	206,613	652	34,194	1,012

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce Raised.						
	Mangel- wurzel.	Beet, Carrots, Parsnips, and Turnips.	Onions.	Hay.	Chicory.	Grass and Clover Seeds.	Hops.
	tons.	tons.	cwt.	tons.	tons.	bushels.	cwt.
1876-7	15,386	5,199	71,580	180,560	980	29,229	1,153
1877-8	15,465	4,618	61,100	208,151	1,333	28,840	1,954
1878-9	8,275	2,621	72,000	209,028	653	34,432	1,168
1879-80	14,897	4,558	146,940	292,407	1,764	32,031	2,540
1880-81	12,640	4,335	99,580	300,581	960	26,320	2,744
1881-2	14,989	4,450	203,800	238,793	781	32,085	4,045
1882-3	16,656	4,182	165,600	327,385	1,209	28,740	9,243
1883-4	18,906	5,276	139,540	433,143	1,626	41,964	15,717
1884-5	21,935	5,472	236,320	371,046	1,309	35,559	14,053
1885-6	24,129	6,479	204,180	442,118	1,239	39,793	5,501
1886-7	19,142	7,178	232,500	483,049	1,472	61,490	5,023
1887-8	20,590	8,774	235,480	624,122	1,375	61,177	5,405
1888-9	13,974	6,810	88,600	308,117	811	17,444	5,519
1889-90	15,604	9,095	216,300	666,385	1,376	54,547	5,711
1890-91	14,676	8,556	279,220	567,779	1,859	36,415	7,931
1891-2	16,160	8,670	293,640	514,406	1,509	43,985	6,513
1892-3	18,727	8,729	235,860	740,049	223	30,430	7,573
1893-4	19,340	7,046	203,980	503,355	224	26,252	5,684
1894-5	19,005	7,339	347,540	621,547	868	22,466	4,603
1895-6	10,160	4,669	215,180	390,861	239	22,239	3,946
1896-7	11,388	5,347	225,120	449,056	508	32,433	6,183
1897-8	5,584	13,247	224,340	659,635	117	30,522	3,628
1898-9	9,701	14,926	346,160	723,299	201	23,078	6,849
1899-00	9,597	4,710	398,100	596,193	196	28,022	2,884
1900-01	7,670	4,514	255,320	677,757	233	35,084	2,741
1901-2	9,679	4,140	417,180	884,369	154	60,144	2,249
1902-3	17,174	5,600	549,340	601,272	248	15,836	1,572
1903-4	21,305	9,879	504,360	1,233,063	492	35,666	2,447
1904-5	13,894	6,149	259,380	514,316	198	27,300	1,449
1905-6	16,400	6,408	511,940	864,177	189	33,281	1,906
1906-7	16,139	5,644	560,000	881,276	114	17,495	2,787
1907-8	14,295	3,650	452,980	682,370	174	10,685	1,179
1908-9	15,048	4,541	487,680	1,415,746	450	18,161	1,094
1909-10	14,116	4,215	634,300	1,186,738	462	13,160	882
1910-11	17,654	7,481	749,680	1,292,410	432	16,262	937
1911-12	9,568	4,953	418,220	1,032,288	333	9,503	777
1912-13	14,615	5,628	572,820	1,572,933	500	23,206	1,387
1913-14	15,642	3,166	495,100	1,350,374	360	16,349	961
1914-15	8,921	2,249	630,560	568,956	380	1,100	903
1915-16	13,067	4,938	751,740	2,342,094	595	24,087	855
1916-17	10,307	2,025	563,260	1,232,721	515	13,174	975

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce Raised.			
	Tobacco.	Grapes not made into Wine.	Grapes made into Wine.	Wine made.
	owt.	owt.	owt.	gallons.
1836 .. ..	..	..	..	..
1837 .. ..	..	..	..	..
1838 .. ..	..	..	..	..
1839 .. ..	..	..	..	..
1840 .. ..	..	..	..	..
1841	1,440	..	..	..
1842	10	..	..	..
1843	10	..	..	..
1844	35	20	..	100
1845 .. ..	..	163	..	214
1846-7 .. ..	..	1,993	..	2,600
1847-8 .. ..	..	1,863	..	1,300
1848-9 .. ..	..	3,020	..	6,306
1849-50	6	..	..	5,220
1850-51 .. ..	..	..	..	4,621
1851-2 .. ..	..	..	..	6,447
1852-3 .. ..	..	..	..	4,500
1853-4	85	596	..	9,680
1854-5	60	1,665	..	3,000
1855-6	331	4,365	..	9,372
1856-7	651	6,353	..	10,936
1857-8	717	4,629	..	5,761
1858-9	873	3,579	..	7,740
1859-60	463	4,473	..	13,966
1860-61	1,257	7,979	..	12,129
1861-2	2,552	16,972	..	47,568
1862-3	4,324	16,345	..	91,893
1863-4	5,913	15,656	16,954	120,894
1864-5	3,450	13,027	16,160	110,042
1865-6	3,328	18,063	31,686	176,959
1866-7	2,915	17,264	43,395	284,118
1867-8	2,070	31,459	81,971	459,072
1868-9	1,747	25,574	65,553	448,547
1869-70	1,290	24,980	85,205	577,287
1870-71	467	26,296	98,642	629,219
1871-2	2,307	30,896	106,791	713,589
1872-3	1,837	19,338	85,623	527,592
1873-4	3,694	20,371	85,279	562,713
1874-5	6,839	19,999	90,988	577,493
1875-6	501*	21,211	123,650	755,000

* The tobacco crop of 1875-6 failed in most parts of the State.

AGRICULTURE—continued.

Year.	Produce Raised.			
	Tobacco.	Grapes not made into Wine.	Grapes made into Wine.	Wine made.
	cwt.	cwt.	cwt.	gallons.
1876-7	14,413	15,900	85,111	481,588
1877-8	15,827	13,807	73,722	457,535
1878-9	15,662	10,818	61,835	410,333
1879-80	1,297*	16,270	89,890	574,143
1880-81	17,333	24,817	79,045	484,028
1881-2	12,876	14,806	78,512	539,191
1882-3	5,673	15,543	74,874	516,763
1883-4	9,124	22,402	106,925	723,560
1884-5	7,893	19,758	120,468	760,752
1885-6	13,734	39,651	158,354	1,003,827
1886-7	12,008	33,334	155,443	986,041
1887-8	11,853	42,389	178,154	1,167,874
1888-9	13,355	48,712	179,036	1,209,442
1889-90	4,123	59,428	233,564	1,578,590
1890-91	326*	63,535	293,775	2,008,493
1891-2	2,579	60,313	232,955	1,554,130
1892-3	658*	83,272	260,730	1,694,745
1893-4	8,952	128,820	229,259	1,490,184
1894-5	7,155	144,728	293,842	1,900,972
1895-6	15,223	136,456	342,615	2,226,999
1896-7	7,890	166,859	434,194	2,822,263
1897-8	3,419	162,147	295,290	1,919,389
1898-9	190*	179,317	289,570	1,882,209
1899-00	1,365	155,340	143,580	933,282
1900-01	311*	235,268	396,644	2,578,187
1901-2	345*	192,427	304,842	1,981,475
1902-3	781	223,939	221,027	1,547,188
1903-4	848	290,515	364,450	2,551,150
1904-5	1,112	190,663	261,770	1,832,386
1905-6	1,405	232,984	265,606	1,726,444
1906-7	603	460,707	292,119	2,044,833
1907-8	2,764	340,718	195,086	1,365,600
1908-9	2,647	356,379	205,300	1,437,106
1909-10	2,704	402,122	146,706	991,941
1910-11	1,090	397,808	194,630	1,362,420
1911-12	3,686	542,761	140,489	983,423
1912-13	661	564,991	168,588	1,206,111
1913-14	2,037	675,388	161,105	1,121,491
1914-15	1,192	528,468	92,408	605,636
1915-16	596	898,991	185,775	1,380,367
1916-17	†	827,967	185,230	1,302,660

* The tobacco crops of 1879-80, 1890-91, 1892-3, 1898-9, 1900-1, and 1901-2 failed in most parts of the State.

† Not available.

DAIRY PRODUCTION.

Year.	Bacon and Hams Cured.		Cheese made.		Butter made.	
	lbs.		lbs.		lbs.	
1891	*	3,311,012	16,703,786	
1892	9,018,446	4,056,994	23,509,845	
1893	8,359,324	3,748,555	28,160,441	
1894	8,835,238	4,153,131	35,580,201	
1895	10,138,646	5,052,782	39,760,994	
1896	9,892,416	4,742,566	37,128,083	
1897	8,670,536	4,312,507	34,561,372	
1898	8,931,112	4,397,369	34,080,310	
1899	10,886,314	4,512,706	53,327,585	
1900	13,204,547	4,284,170	55,604,118	
1901	15,011,616	3,974,668	46,857,572	
1902	14,438,370	3,849,561	39,227,754	
1903	12,504,851	5,681,515	46,685,727	
1904	14,851,944	4,747,851	61,002,841	
1905	16,433,665	4,297,350	57,606,821	
1906	17,798,818	4,877,593	68,088,168	
1907	17,300,883	4,397,909	63,746,354	
1908	14,217,073	4,328,644	48,461,398	
1909	13,620,485	5,025,834	55,166,555	
1910	16,438,837	4,530,893	70,603,787	
1911	19,546,772	4,549,843	86,500,474	
1912	20,013,706	4,176,778	67,655,834	
1913	19,289,258	4,856,321	73,381,567	
1914	18,774,497	4,395,502	62,421,288	
1915	13,659,974	3,497,278	42,345,113	
1916	18,115,028	5,869,562	59,568,771	

* Not available.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION.

Year.	Value of Agricultural Production.						
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Hay.	Potatoes.	Onions.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1904	3,119,878	465,257	123,423	79,967	861,479	417,150	116,721
1905	3,366,290	678,040	182,828	88,167	1,641,936	597,426	133,638
1906	3,109,980	810,851	205,832	70,496	1,681,768	333,678	79,800
1907	2,443,906	791,162	241,507	87,973	3,023,128	383,145	108,155
1908	4,405,303	989,844	253,309	116,402	3,256,308	411,840	138,408
1909	5,501,605	777,547	165,181	119,725	2,432,840	517,775	98,325
1910	5,512,060	909,295	227,382	96,166	2,455,560	534,515	63,723
1911	3,547,266	663,916	261,443	147,357	3,200,109	614,540	177,744
1912	4,343,202	953,750	332,430	119,305	4,010,979	678,448	176,142
1913	5,352,141	777,903	236,804	121,234	2,565,740	573,227	138,257
1914	1,391,647	397,078	161,899	234,597	4,181,827	800,269	167,098
1915	10,972,820	942,607	294,597	191,645	4,098,664	1,017,563	105,244
1916	10,232,488	828,929	299,481	163,638	2,033,990	550,086	118,423

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION—continued.

Year.	Value of Agricultural Production—continued.						Total.
	Green Forage.	Raisins.	Currants.	Fruit (Including Grapes not made into Wine).	Market Gardens.	All Other.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1904	74,755	49,526	9,757	405,263	197,600	295,437	6,216,213
1905	85,103	89,346	11,952	406,495	183,325	263,875	7,728,421
1906	91,255	180,473	21,994	524,962	197,650	267,808	7,576,547
1907	149,742	110,248	19,296	458,453	225,550	333,189	8,375,454
1908	157,665	102,483	21,472	441,700	231,975	478,577	11,005,286
1909	141,465	130,558	49,334	489,738	255,350	417,890	11,097,333
1910	179,565	132,262	48,829	586,084	269,450	397,695	11,412,586
1911	187,943	195,560	88,899	639,104	258,275	311,535	10,293,691
1912	211,150	213,818	60,421	696,029	260,350	373,633	12,429,658
1913	247,408	176,026	71,413	803,536	269,425	368,623	11,701,737
1914	418,962	181,177	37,085	536,797	323,375	352,819	9,184,630
1915	181,278	361,879	123,473	808,802	284,475	382,081	19,765,128
1916	149,001	227,448	91,355	633,718	268,650	359,317	15,956,524

PASTORAL AND DAIRYING PRODUCTION.

Year.	Value of Pastoral and Dairying Production.								Total.
	Wool Produced.	Horses Produced.	Cattle Produced.	Sheep Produced.	Pigs Produced.	Milk Consumed in Natural State.*	Butter made.	Cheese made.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1904	3,543,810	198,456	1,740,767	1,429,970	380,616	696,972	2,414,695	89,022	10,494,308
1905	3,813,550	176,267	2,064,000	1,599,800	331,140	753,510	2,496,580	102,563	10,887,410
1906	3,869,000	335,538	2,480,226	1,913,202	325,381	1,317,317	2,978,860	116,860	12,886,384
1907	3,878,431	273,700	2,056,198	1,716,908	424,660	850,126	2,855,305	109,948	12,165,276
1908	3,556,168	15,274	298,606	597,880	380,650	845,004	2,388,743	126,252	8,208,577
1909	4,044,755	261,268	1,602,858	1,317,320	470,081	891,755	2,493,990	130,670	11,212,697
1910	4,318,100	388,556	1,860,888	1,298,740	541,785	1,020,360	3,109,510	105,340	12,643,279
1911	4,142,747	520,580	2,344,680	1,558,170	454,815	1,317,484	3,860,160	106,160	14,304,736
1912	3,751,083	328,020	1,165,430	709,660	389,350	1,805,320	3,478,640	125,480	11,752,088
1913	4,032,954	454,820	2,277,170	1,572,420	673,355	1,694,826	3,341,920	126,070	14,179,135
1914	3,410,913	..	1,766,473	1,134,673	735,065	1,321,580	2,998,320	117,210	11,984,739
1915	4,066,003	..	226,480	784,575	472,050	2,295,376	2,523,360	129,110	10,501,954
1916	5,927,814	262,020	4,774,610	3,928,860	825,450	2,451,170	4,224,420	223,040	22,617,384

* Including cream not made into butter, and concentrated milk.

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONS, LIFE ASSURANCE, ETC.

Year.	Old-age and Invalid Pensions.*			Life Assurance Policies.		Amount Received from the Commonwealth Government by the State of Victoria.†
	Old-age.	Invalid.	Amounts Expended.	Number.	Sums Assured.	
	No.	No.	£		£	
1894	..	..	..	131,210	23,095,900	..
1895	..	..	..	131,875	22,916,328	..
1896	..	..	..	132,684	22,757,175	..
1897	..	..	..	144,842	23,530,517	..
1898	..	..	..	147,150	23,533,082	..
1899	..	..	..	156,411	26,536,403	..
1900	..	..	..	172,713	26,315,862	..
1901	16,275	..	129,338	196,036	28,564,889	1,177,740
1902	14,570	..	292,432	210,922	29,878,162	1,920,974
1903	12,417	..	215,973	214,861	30,230,567	2,105,450
1904	11,609	..	205,150	224,212	30,980,343	2,002,804
1905	11,209	..	200,464	227,168	31,586,524	2,017,378
1906	10,990	..	189,127	235,091	32,246,807	2,097,119
1907	10,732	..	187,793	242,385	33,112,352	2,192,340
1908	11,288	..	233,573	254,717	34,057,847	2,449,243
1909	12,368	..	270,827	270,899	35,120,753	1,929,542
1910	20,218	..	470,656	292,055	36,495,251	1,922,278
1911	23,722	2,272	573,699	311,695	38,185,859	1,617,572
1912	24,449	3,162	672,593	331,846	40,132,346	1,667,657
1913	25,434	3,918	715,924	351,250	41,546,825	1,691,833
1914	27,150	4,844	795,449	368,481	43,305,375	1,733,280
1915	28,365	6,054	839,718	381,106	44,402,089	1,757,894
1916	28,446	6,869	908,159	401,591	46,145,573	1,743,467
1917	29,064	7,921	1,070,386	..	..	1,722,409

* Old-age pensions were first granted in Victoria on 18th January, 1901, and the Commonwealth Government took over the administration on 1st July, 1909. The figures relate to the financial year ended 30th June.

† Year ended 30th June.

APPENDIX.

Information received since the parts of the book which deal with the subjects mentioned were sent to press is given below :—

PART I.—CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE MINISTRY.

(FORMED 28TH NOVEMBER, 1917.)

- Premier, Chief Secretary, and Minister of Labour* : HON. J. BOWSER, M.L.A.
Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, and Minister of Railways : HON. A. WYNNE, M.L.A.
Treasurer : HON. W. M. McPHERSON, M.L.A.
Minister of Mines, Forests, and Health : HON. A. DOWNWARD, M.L.A.
Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey and Minister of Water Supply : HON. F. G. CLARKE, M.L.C.
Minister of Public Instruction : HON. M. BAIRD, M.L.A.
Commissioner of Public Works : HON. J. McWHAE, M.L.C.
Minister of Agriculture : HON. D. S. OMAN, M.L.A.
Honorary Ministers : HON. W. KENDELL, M.L.C., HON. H. F. RICHARDSON, M.L.C., HON. H. ANGUS, M.L.A., and HON. J. J. CARLISLE, M.L.A.
Secretary to the Cabinet : A. A. FARTHING, M.L.A.

STATE PARLIAMENT.

Elections for the State Legislative Assembly were held on 15th November, 1917, and the accompanying list contains the names of members of the new House:—

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

(Elected 15th November, 1917.)

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Abbotsford	G. C. Webber.
Albert Park	Hon. G. A. Elmslie.
Allandale	Hon. Sir A. J. Peacock,
Ballaarat East	Hon. R. McGregor.
Ballaarat West	Hon. M. Baird.
Barwon	D. McLennan,
Benalla	Hon. J. J. Carlisle.
Benambra	H. Beardmore.
Bendigo East	L. J. Clough.
Bendigo West	Hon. D. Smith.
Boroondara	E. W. Greenwood.
Borong	Hon. W. Hutchinson.
Brighton	O. R. Snowball.
Brunswick	J. R. Jewell.
Bulla	Hon. A. R. Robertson.
Carlton	R. H. Solly.
Castlemaine and Maldon	Hon. H. S. W. Lawson.
Collingwood	Hon. M. Hannah.
Dalhousie	A. F. Cameron.
Dandenong	F. Groves.
Daylesford	Hon. D. McLeod.
Dundas	W. Slater.
Eaglehawk	T. Tunnecliffe.
East Melbourne	A. A. Farthing.
Essendon	T. Ryan.
Evelyn	W. H. Everard.
Fitzroy	Hon. J. W. Billson.
Flemington	E. C. Warde.
Geelong	R. Purnell.
Gippsland East	Hon. J. Cameron.
Gippsland North	J. W. McLachlan.
Gippsland South	Hon. T. Livingston.
Gippsland West	Hon. J. E. Mackey.
Glenselg	H. J. M. Campbell.
Goulburn Valley	J. D. Mitchell.
Grenville	D. H. Gibson.
Gunbower	Hon. H. Angus.
Hampden	Hon. D. S. Oman.
Hawthorn	Hon. W. M. McPherson.
Jika Jika	J. Cain.
Kara Kara	J. J. Hall.
Korong	I. J. Weaver.
Lowan	J. Menzies.
Maryborough	Hon. A. R. Outtrim.
Melbourne	A. Rogers.
Mornington	Hon. A. Downward.
North Melbourne	Hon. G. M. Prendergast.
Ovens	Hon. A. A. Billson.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—*continued.*

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Polwarth	J. McDonald.
Port Fairy	H. S. Bailey.
Port Melbourne	J. L. Murphy.
Prahran	Hon. D. Mackinnon.
Richmond	E. J. Cotter.
Rodney	J. Allan.
St. Kilda	Hon. A. Wynne.
Stawell and Ararat	E. F. Toutcher.
Swan Hill	P. G. Stewart.
Toorak	N. Bayles.
Upper Goulburn	M. K. McKenzie.
Walhalla	S. Barnes.
Wangaratta	Hon. J. Bowser.
Waranga	J. Gordon.
Warrenheip	E. J. Hogan.
Warrnambool	J. D. Deany.
Williamstown	Hon. J. Lemmon.

PART III.—POPULATION.

VICTORIA.

RETURN OF ASSISTED AND NOMINATED IMMIGRANTS FOR THE FIRST ELEVEN MONTHS OF 1917.

Month.	Assisted or Selected.		Nominated.		Total.	
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
January .. ..	..	16	11	31	11	47
February	3	1	..	..	3	1
March	2	..	13	13	15	13
April	1	..	4	7	5	7
May .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
June .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
July .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
August .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..
September .. ..	..	..	1	3	1	3
October	1	..	3	16	4	16
November .. ..	..	..	5	10	5	10
Total	7	17	37	80	44	97

Total first eleven months, 1917	..	..	141
.. .. 1916	..	..	281
.. .. 1915	..	..	1,495
.. .. 1914	..	..	7,369
.. .. 1913	..	..	11,529

ESTIMATED POPULATION OF THE STATE OF VICTORIA, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1917.

Males .. ..	..	..	670,461
Females .. ..	..	..	738,071
Total .. ..	..	..	1,408,532

General Index.

	Page
Aborigines in Victoria	244
" Australian States and New Zealand	246
Accident Insurance Office, State	558
Accidental violence, death rate from	381
Accidents, fatal, among males at different ages	381
" occupations of men dying from	382
Accumulation, Part VI.	389
Acts of Parliament, Commonwealth, 1916'	116
" " State, 1916	90
Adelaide, population	238
Advertising and Intelligence Bureau	615
Ages at three Census years, 1891, 1901, and 1911	218
" of distinct persons arrested	467
" prisoners	485
" scholars in State schools	503
" persons at dependent and supporting	219
Agricultural and grazing lands unalienated	667, 668
" pastoral produce imported by the United Kingdom	769
" colleges	700
" Department	700
" education	700
" high schools	508, 703
" implement works	800
" labourers' allotments, closer settlement estates	677, 679
" produce, prices of	729
" production	714 <i>et seq.</i>
" research	700
" societies	706
" wages	743
Agriculture	714 <i>et seq.</i>
" and live stock, special article on	707 <i>et seq.</i>
" in Victoria and Great Britain	771
" State expenditure and revenue	705
Alfred Hospital, history, &c.	568
Alluvial workings, gold yield from	777
Amalgamation of municipalities	255
Amherst Consumption Sanatorium	578
Anæmia, chlorosis, leucæmia, death rate from	365
Annuity policies	424
Antimony	785
Appendicitis, death rate from	371
Aquarium at Exhibition Buildings	525
Area of British Dominions	240
" Greater Melbourne	230
" States	113
" the World	242
" Victoria	52
Arrested persons, charges against	462
" " sentences of	464
Arrests	454
" for drunkenness	457, 472

	Page
Arrests for various offences	454
" of distinct individuals	466
" males and females	464
Arrivals (see also Immigration)	213 <i>et seq.</i>
Artesian bores	698
Artificial grasses	730
Asiatics in Victoria	248
Assembly, Legislative (see Constitution, Parliament).	
" 1917, members	102
Assessment of properties in municipalities	257
Assisted immigration	216, 876
Assurance fund, Transfer of Land Act	674
" life	421
Asthma, emphysema, death rate from	355
Asylum for the blind (see also Charitable Institutions)	575
" deaf and dumb (see also Charitable Institutions)	576
Asylums, benevolent (see also Charitable Institutions)	576
" lunatic	599
" orphan	577
Auriferous lands unalienated	667, 671
Austin Hospital	570
Australia, coloured persons in	249
" consumption of spirits, wine, and beer	474
" drink bill	475
" High Court of	433
Australian born in Victoria	220
" College of Dentistry	516
" exploration, &c. (see Discovery, Settlement).	
" Health Society	586
" note issue	405
" produce, distribution of	635, 636
" States, banking business	403
" " births excess over deaths	236
" " capitals	113
" " Chinese and aborigines	246
" " crime and drunkenness	457
" " debts, funded	250
" " " and unfunded	201
" " divorces	448
" " drunkenness, convictions for	473
" " enrolment, net, of scholars	504
" " expenditure on police and gaols	489
" " Government and local taxation	205
" " insane persons, number, recoveries, and deaths	601
" " instruction, cost of	504
" " migration	236
" " natives of, in Victoria	228
" " offences	457
" " old persons in	237
" " police force, strength of	488
" " population, 1916	235
" " " 1851 to 1911	235
" " " strength of	237
" " prices of stocks	416
" " private wealth	391
" " " diffusion of	392
" " savings banks	411
" " sinking funds	197
Bachelors, average age at marriage	310

	Page
Bachelors, marriage rate of	307
Bacon and ham curing industry	801
Ballarat population	233
" revenue and expenditure	276
" riots	15
Ballot, introduction of	19
Bamawn Experimental Nursery	702
Bank clearances	405
" Commonwealth	399
Banking, analysis of returns	403
" deposits and advances	401
" in Australasia	403
" rates of discount	402
" " exchange	402
" " interest	403
" Victorian returns	400
Banks, savings	407
Barley, area under, and production of	725
" prices of	729
" production in Australasia	728
Bass's discoveries on Victorian coast	2
" eye sketch of Western Port	12
Batman in Port Phillip	8
Batteries, Government, crushings and gold yields	780
Bee farm site licences	673
" keepers, hives, and honey	765
Beef, frozen, imports and exports	804
" preserved	803
Beer brewed and materials used in breweries	807
" consumed, Australia and New Zealand	474
Beet, carrots, parsnips, turnips	730, 732
" sugar industry	806
Bendigo Miners' Association—the Watson fund	612
" population	233
" revenue and expenditure	277
Benevolent asylums (see also Charitable Institutions)	576
" societies	577
Berry dead-lock	24
Betting Tax Act 1916	92
Bills and contracts of sale	430
Birthplaces of parents of legitimate children	324
" persons marrying	314
" prisoners	485
" the people, 1911	227
Birth rate, 1870-1916	319
" " in Victoria, corrected, for ages of wives	321
" " " " " and proportion of wives	322
" " ordinary, misleading	319
" rates, factors in	320
" " in Australia and New Zealand	320
" " capital cities in Australasia	328
" " country towns	327
" " different countries	321
" " metropolitan municipalities	327
" " town and country	326
" " various cities	328
Births	318
" ages of mothers of first-born children	325
" " parents	325

	Page
Births and birth rates in capital cities in Australasia	328
" Chinese and half-caste Chinese	324
" excess over deaths	213
" " " " in States	236
" " " " per cent., different countries	388
" " " " " districts	387
" " " " " States and New Zealand	386
" illegitimate, in various countries	330
" " proportion to single women	330
" number, 1897-1916	318
" proportion of, to married women, Australasia and England	324
" " population, States and New Zealand	320
" registration of	302
" twin and triplet	329
Biscuits, exports of	805
Bladder and prostate, diseases of, deaths from	371
Blind Asylum (see also Charitable Institutions)	575
" persons, number of	602
Boards, military and naval	127, 131
Boot and shoe industry	809
Boots and shoes manufactured	810
Bores, artesian	696
" mining	785
Botanic Garden, Melbourne	525
Bowser Ministry	873
Breweries, output, materials used, &c.	807
Brickyards and bricks	798
Bright's disease of kidneys, deaths from	371
Brisbane population	238
British consols and Colonial stocks	419
" Dominions, area and population	240
Broadmeadows Foundling Hospital	579
Bronchitis, deaths from	367
Building societies	428
Bullocks, prices of	752
Burke and Wills expedition	27
Butter and cheese, exports of	756
" " factories, hands, output, &c.	802
" " made	755
" " " in factories	756
" " " on farms	755
" produced	51
Cable rates	647
Cadets	136, 137
Calculi, biliary, death rate from	356
" urinary system, death rate from	356
Cancer, death rate from	378
" " " in age groups	378
" " " various countries	380
" deaths from	378
" parts affected by	380
Candle and soap works	798
Candles, imports of	798
Capital, Federal	113
Capitals, Australasian, population 1861 to 1916	238
" of Australian States	113
Carrots, parsnips, turnips, beet	730, 732
Castlemaine population	233
Cattle, census returns, 1861 to 1911	745

	Page
Cattle, frozen	803
" in Australasia	763
" the world	764
" number, 1913 to 1917	751
" prices of	752
" slaughtered	753
Census of 1911	217
Centenarians in Victoria	224
Central Research Farm	702
Cerebro-spinal meningitis, deaths from	368
Charitable and reformatory institutions, inmates, and finances	561
" institutions, accommodation, &c.	563
" " cost of	565
" " " maintenance	566
" " distribution of Hospital Sunday collections	590
" " inmates and deaths	564
" " Neglected Children's Act, Part VIII.	606
" " receipts and expenditure	565
Charities, Hospital Saturday and Sunday donations	589
Charity Organization Society	583
Cheese and butter factories	802
" exports	756
" made	756, 756
" " in factories	756
" " on farms	755
Children boarded out by Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department	603
" employed in factories	817
" number of, receiving instruction	503
" proportion of, surviving fifth year	353
Children's Courts	455
" Hospital (see also Charitable Institutions)	573
Chinese	228, 244
" and half-caste Chinese births	324
" early immigration of	28
Chronological table	31
Churches, chapels, ministers, and Sunday schools	534
Cider making	739
Cigars and cigarettes made in tobacco factories	808
Cities, towns, and boroughs	257
Clearing-house transactions	405
Clergymen, registered	317
Climate and rainfall	53
Climatic elements	699
Closer settlement, acquisition and administration of estates	675
" " advances to settlers	677
" " agricultural labourers' allotments	677, 679
" " estates, purchased and acquired	679
" " extent of	681
" " farm allotments	676, 679
" " Fund	198
" " number of holdings	681
" " progress of, in irrigation districts	685
" " small improved holdings	681
" " wire-netting advances to settlers	678
" " workmen's home allotments	677, 679
Coal, boring for	785
" brown	780
" Miners' Accidents Relief Fund	612

	Page
Coal production and value in Victoria	781
" " of Australian States and New Zealand	781
" " principal countries	783
" State mine	781
Coin and bullion held by banks	400
" " issued from Mint	398
Coinage of gold, silver, &c., in principal countries	414
College, Dentistry	516
" Pharmacy	517
" Training for Teachers	506
" Working Men's	519
Collins's settlement in Port Phillip	5
Colony of Victoria, finding of	4
Coloured persons	248
Committals for trial	454, 456
Commonwealth (see also Parliament).	
" Acts passed, 1916	116
" balances paid to Victoria	170
" Bank	399
" Constitution	114
" debt	200, 201
" income tax	158
" Judiciary Acts 1903 to 1915	434
" Land Tax Act	160
" Ministries	120
" officers, principal	124
" revenue and expenditure in Victoria, 1911-1912 to 1915-16	170
" State and local revenue and expenditure	172
Companies, trading	431
Compensation, workers'	552
Compulsory training	133
Concentrated milk made in factories	756
Confinements, death rate	383
Conjugal condition, 1911	221
" " of persons marrying	314
Conscription referendum	84
Consolidated Inscribed Stock Redemption Fund	198
Constitution Act Amendment Act 1916	94
" passing of first	12
" and Government	79
" " Reform Act 1903	79
" changes in the	19
" Commonwealth	114
" of 1855	18
" State, changes in	19
" " voting by ballot provided for	19
Consuls, foreign	103
Consumption of drink	474
" sanatoria (see also Charitable Institutions)	577
Contracts of sale	430
Convalescent homes	578
Convulsions, death rate from	355
Cook's discovery of Victoria	1
Co-operative societies	432
Copper ore produced	774
Council, Executive	80
" Legislative	82
" " members, 1917	101
" of Defence	127

	Page
Counties, population of	217
Country Roads Act 1916	94
" " Board	112, 266
County Court judges	105
" Courts, litigation	440
Court, High, of Australia	433
Cows and cowkeepers	755
" milch, in Australasia	763
" prices of	752
Cream separators in use	744, 755
" sold by factories	756
Creameries	802
Crime (see also arrests, offences, and prisoners)	451
" decrease of	465
" in States and New Zealand	457
" United Kingdom	469
" " and Australasia compared	470
Criminal law, administration of	451
Criminals hanged	489
" in prison	483
Crops, minor	740
" other than principal	730
" principal, annual acreage	716
" " production	716
" " compared with population	718, 719
" " percentage in each district of total cultivation	718
" " " of total of each in districts	717
" " values of, 1907 to 1916	719
" " yields in Australasia	728
" value, 1912 to 1916	826
Cultivation, area under	715
" areas of principal crops	716
" experimental	700 <i>et seq.</i>
" on classified holdings	746, 748
" percentage of area under principal crops	718
" progress of	714
" value, 1912 to 1916	826
Currants and raisins	735
Customs and excise, revenue	170, 637
" " tariffs	617
Cyanidation—plant, &c.	779
Dairy cattle, prices of	752
" cows	751
Dairying	755
" industry, value in 1912 to 1916	827
Darling dead-lock	24
Daylight Saving Acts 1916	92, 118
Deaf and Dumb Asylum (see also Charitable Institutions)	576
" " persons, number of	602
Death rate, decrease in, of metropolis	340
" " of illegitimate infants	349
" " " " from certain causes	350
" " ordinary, unreliable	334
" rates among metropolitan and country residents	340
" " crude, and age distribution	334
" " from various causes	355
" " in age groups, Australian States	337
" " " Victoria	336
" " " " and England	338

	Page
Death rates in British and Foreign cities	344
" " capital cities in Australasia	343
" " child-bed according to age	383
" " country towns	341
" " districts of Greater Melbourne	338
" " States and New Zealand	332
" " town and country	340
" " various countries	333
Deaths	332
" and death rates in capital cities in Australasia	343
" at different ages, 1914-16	354
" excess of births over, in various countries	388
" in charitable institutions	342, 564
" child-bed	384
" Greater Melbourne	343
" hospitals, &c.	342
" " showing usual residence of deceased	341
" quarters	332
" index of mortality, Australian States and New Zealand	335
" of children under five years	351
" infants (see also infantile mortality)	344
" members of friendly societies	541
" proportion of children surviving their fifth year	353
" registration of	302
Debentures, Government, prices in Melbourne	420
Defence Boards of Administration, Commonwealth	127, 131
Defences	131
Dentistry, College of	516
Departures (see also emigration and immigration)	213 <i>et seq.</i>
Deposits and depositors in savings banks	407
" in banks	400, 401
Diabetes, death rate from	365
Diarrhoeal diseases, death rate from	370
Digestive diseases, death rate from	370
Diggers' licences on gold-fields	14
Diphtheria, cases of, and deaths from	363
" " in different areas	363
" " death rates from, at different ages	364
" " " in various countries	364
Discontent of early Victorian settlers	11
Discovery of Victoria	4
" gold	13
Dispensaries, free	579
Dissolution of Parliament, granting a	80
Distilleries, output and materials used	807
Dividends paid by gold mining companies	777
Divorce	445
" grounds of	447
" sex	447
Divorced persons, age at re-marriage	310
" " marriage rate of	315
" " re-marrying	315
Divorces in States and New Zealand	448
" various countries	450
Docks in Australasia	646
Dookie Agricultural College	702
Dredge mining and hydraulic sluicing	779
Dredging plants engaged in gold mining	779
Dress (exclusive of boot) factories	810

	Page
Dried fruits	739
Drill in State Schools	501
Drink bill, Australia and New Zealand	475
" consumption of, 1885 and 1909	476
" intoxicating, consumption of, in Australasia, British, and other countries	474
Drowning, accidental deaths from	588
" death rate from	382
Drunkenness, arrested or summoned for	472
" arrests of persons under 20 years of age	472
" distinct persons arrested more than once	468
" " " charged with other offences	468
" in States and New Zealand	473
" percentage of convictions, States and New Zealand	473
Dwellings inhabited and uninhabited	256
" population residing in	224
Education, (see also State schools)	491
" Act 1916	91
" agricultural	700
" cost of instruction in State schools, 1906-7 to 1915-16	168
" " State system, 1911-12 to 1915-16	167
" expenditure on, 1911-12 to 1915-16	166
" of distinct persons arrested	469
" prisoners	486
" State, expenditure on	51
" system, compulsory clauses	499
" " district high schools	508
" " free subjects	500
" " higher elementary schools	509
" " medical inspection	502
" " of the State	498
" " patriotic fund	501
" " school committees	500
" " standard of education	514
" " teachers	502
" technical	515
Eight hours day, initiation of	25
Election expenses, limitation of	84
" of members, first Victorian Council	13
Elections, State, percentage of votes, 1866 to 1914	89
" voting by post	83
" 1914, Legislative Assembly electors and votes	86
" 1916, Legislative Council electors and votes	85
Electors, State	86
Electric light and power works	811
Electricity, factories using machinery worked by	818
Emigration by rail	214
" sea	214
" Chinese	245
" coloured persons	247
" to South Africa	214
" various places	215
" Western Australia	213
" Victorians in other States	228
Endowment of municipalities	264
Engineering, iron foundry, &c.	799
Ensilage	733
Entertainments Tax Act 1916, Commonwealth	118
Epilepsy, death rate from	355

	Page
Federal Constitution	114
" High Court, inauguration of	36
" Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act	591
" referendum	84
Federation, steps leading up to	30
Fellmongeries	797
Female suffrage, State elections	86
Finance, Federal and State	148
" Part II.	143
Fire Brigades Boards	297
" " revenue and expenditure	172
Firewood	799
Fish, imports of, quantity and value	769
" sold in Melbourne market, quantity and value	768
" value of production	827
" Victorian, sold	769
Fisheries, number of men and boats	767
Flax, area and production	730, 733
Flocks of sheep, number of	760
" " sizes of	761
Flora	62
Flour, exports of	805
" mills, grain used, flour made, &c.	804
Footwear Regulation Act 1916	94
Forage, green	730, 733
Foreign consuls	103
Forest produce, value of	827
" saw mills.. .. .	799
Forestry	704
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home (see also Charitable Institutions)	579
Franchise, State	82
Freezing works	803
Freights, Victorian railways	659
Friendly societies	536
" " Acts 1916	93, 95
" " progress of	51
" " secessions and expenses	541
" " sickness and mortality experience	542
Frozen rabbits and hares exported	767
Fruit, area under	737
" dried	739
" gathered	737
" growers	737
" growing	735
" large and small	737
" preserved and pulped in manufactories	805
" sold, value of	738
" trees and plants	736
" " average produce	738
" used in manufactories	805
" value of production	826
Fuel, percentage of, to articles produced in factories	820, 822
Game, frozen, imports and exports	804
Gaols and prisoners	483
" expenditure on	488
" " States and New Zealand	489
" prisoners in, States and New Zealand	487
Gardens and orchards, area under	730, 735
" " parks, area in Greater Melbourne	529

	Page
Gardens and parks in country towns	533
" market	739
" Melbourne Botanic	525
Gas, factories using machinery worked by	818
" works	811
Geelong Harbor Trust	110
" population	233
" Waterworks and Sewerage Act 1916	92
General Sessions and Supreme Court, criminal cases	469
Geographical position, area, and climate	52
Geography, physical	54
" " coast line	59
" " mountains, rivers, and lakes	57
Geology	54
Gippsland, discovery of	7
Gold, alluvial and quartz	777
" boring for	785
" crushings and yields by Government batteries.. .. .	780
" discovery	13
" dredging and hydraulic sluicing	779
" miners	778
" mining dividends	777
" production	774, 775
" " of Australasia	775
" " the world	776
" " total recorded	774
" received at and issued from Mint	398
" yields, alluvial workings and quartz reefs	777
" " in mining districts	777
Gold-fields, value of machinery on	778
Government and Constitution	79
" Labour Bureau	550
" Statist's transactions and fees	439
" stocks, prices and returns to investors	414
Governors-General	119
Governor, the	79
Governors of Australasian States	119
" Victoria	96
Grant's original chart of discoveries on Victorian coast	3
Grass and clover seeds, area under and production of	730, 733
Grasses, artificial, area under	730
Grazing area leases, conditions relating to	669
" " " Crown lands occupied under	665
" " " lands remaining for disposal	667
" " licences, annual	673
Green forage, area under	730, 733
Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium	577
Grimes's survey of Port Phillip	4
Gypsum	786
Hamilton, population	233
Hands employed in factories	813 <i>et seq.</i>
Harbor Trust, Geelong, members, &c.	110
" " " revenue and expenditure	280
" " Melbourne, members, &c.	110
" " " revenue and expenditure	278
" " Trusts, revenue and expenditure	172
Hay, area under, and production	727
" prices of	729
" yield in Australasia	728

	Page
Health, Board of Public, members	111
" Society, Australian	586
Heart, diseases of, death rate from	370
Heatherton Consumption Sanatorium	578
" Sanatorium Act 1916	93
Hentys in Portland	8
Hernia, &c., death rate from	356
Hides tanned	797
High Court of Australia	433
Hills and mountains in Victoria	53
History of Victoria	1
Hobart, population	238
Holdings, classification of area, cultivation, and live stock	746 <i>et seq.</i>
" small improved, closer settlement estates	681
Homes, convalescent	578
" Salvation Army (see also Charitable Institutions)	581
Homestead associations	673
Homicide, death rate from	383
Homœopathic Hospital, history, &c.	569
Honey and beeswax, value of production	827
" hives, and beekeepers	765
Hops, area under, and production	730, 733
Horses, census returns, 1861-1911.. .. .	745
" in Australasia	763
" the world	764
" number, 1913 to 1917	751
" prices of	752
Horticultural societies	706
Horticulture, School of	701
Hospital, Alfred, history, &c.	568
" Austin, for Incurables	570
" Children's (see also Charitable Institutions)	573
" Eye and Ear	574
" Homœopathic	569
" Melbourne	567
" Queen Victoria Memorial	573
" Saturday and Sunday donations	589
" St. Vincent's	571
" Women's (see also Charitable Institutions)	572
Hospitals (see Charitable Institutions).	
" for the insane	599
" Foundling	579
" residents of different municipalities dying in	341
" &c., deaths in	342
Hotels, number of	432
House, first in Victoria	8
" of Representatives, names of members of	122
Humane Society, Royal	587
Hume and Hovell's explorations	6
Hydatids, death rate from	365
Hydraulic sluicing and dredge mining	779
Illegitimacy in town and country	331
Illegitimate birth rates in various countries	330
" births, proportion of, to single women in Victoria	330
" " " " " " various countries.. .. .	331
" children, legitimated	329
" infants, death rate of	349
" " " " " " from certain causes	349
Illiteracy	514

	Page
Immigration	213 <i>et seq.</i>
" Bureau	615
" by rail	214
" sea	214
" Chinese	245
" coloured persons	247
" excess over emigration	236
" from South Africa	214
" various places	215
" Western Australia	213
" Restriction Act, Commonwealth	249
" State assisted	216
Imports and exports, from and to oversea countries, 1916-17	620
" " principal countries, 1912 to 1916-17	621
" " oversea, values total and per head, 1907 to 1916-17	619
" " " " principal articles of trade, 1912 to 1916-17	625
" " values, total and per head, 1900 to 1909	619
" oversea, 1916-17, country of shipment and country of origin	634
" principal articles oversea, 1916-17	623
" Victorian	51
Imprisonment, sentences of	464
Income Tax Acts 1916, Commonwealth	118
" Federal	158
" State	149
" " assessments, 1915-16	150
" " " 1912 to 1915-16	151
" " revenue from	147
" " taxpayers' occupations	152
Increase of population, rate of	234
Indeterminate sentences	451
" Board	112
Index of mortality, Australian States and New Zealand	335
Industrial legislation, progress of	25
" Museum	523
" schools (see also Charitable Institutions)	603
Infant Life Protection Act	607
Infantile mortality	344
" " at different ages	347
" " decrease in Australasia	351
" " in different areas	345
" " metropolitan districts	345
" " States and New Zealand	350
" " various cities	346
" " " countries	351
" " of males and females	347
" paralysis	370
Infants, death rate of, from chief causes	348
" deaths of, in months	349
" illegitimate, death rates from certain causes	349
" legitimate, " " " "	349
" probable mortality of	347
Influenza and respiratory diseases, death rate from	368
" death rate from	366
Inquests	490
Insanity, lunatics in States and New Zealand	601
Insolvencies	443
Insolvents, occupations of	444
Instruction, public (see also Education and State schools)	491

	Page
Insurance, fire, marine, accident, guarantee, &c.	426
" life	421
Interchange, Part IX.	617
Interest on loans	164, 184
" " expenses in paying	194
" payable in London and Melbourne	194
" rates on outstanding loans	194
Inter-State Commission	124, 638
" trade of Australian States, 1900 and 1909	636
Intestate estates, order of distribution	437
Intoxicants consumed in Australia and New Zealand	474
Intoxicating Liquor (Temporary Restriction) Acts	91, 477
Introductory remarks, Part I.	1
Invalid and Old-age Pensions Acts 1916, Commonwealth	116, 118
" pensioners	594
Ironfoundry, engineering, &c.	799
Iron ore produced	774
Irrigation	683 <i>et seq.</i>
" and Water Supply Districts	682, 690
" area of crops watered	687
" capital expenditure on works	682
" construction works 1916-17	686
" farm, Wyuna	702
" in closer settlement areas	684
" settlement, Mildura	688
" State works	682
" storage capacity of reservoirs	682
" total area irrigated	687
" works—capital written off	683
Jam, pickle, and sauce works	805
Judges	104, 124
Judiciary Acts 1903 to 1915, Commonwealth	434
Junior public examination	492
" scholarships	510
Kaolin	786
Labour Bureau, Government	550
" Colony, Leongatha	584
" legislation	20
" party, rise of	27
Lakes in Victoria	54
Lamb, frozen for export	754
Lambs, prices of	752
" wool clip	757
Land	668
" area cultivated, and live stock on	746, 747
" " under cultivation	715
" boom	29
" classified holdings, cultivation, pasture, and live stock	746, 747
" cultivated holdings, area of	746, 748
" cultivation and pasture on classified holdings	746
" " " sheep carrying capacity of	749
" in fallow	715, 730, 740
" occupation in each district	750
" mortgages and releases	429
" occupied—areas, cultivation, live stock on holdings	746, 747
" " classified according to size of holding, 1910 and 1913	748
" " for agriculture and pasture	746
" " number and size of holdings	746 <i>et seq.</i>
" " under grazing area leases	665

	Page
Land occupied—use, areas, and proportions 1910-1913	749
" percentage of cultivation and pasture on classified holdings	749
" persons who may select	668
" revenue	147
" selecting, leasing, licensing	668 <i>et seq.</i>
" selection purchase leases	669
" settlement	665
" Tax Act 1916, State	94
" " Federal	160
" " State	159
" " " revenue from	147
" Transfer Act	674
" " " Assurance Fund	674
" " " under principal crops	716
" " " various annual licences	673
Landed property, capital, ground and rateable values	397
Lands, agricultural and grazing, unalienated	667, 668
" alienated	665
" annual grazing licences	673
" auriferous, unalienated	667, 671
" available for occupation	667
" classification of unalienated	667
" Crown, amounts realized by sale of	666
" " occupied	746, 748
" " pastoral occupation of	667
" " remaining for disposal	667
" " total area	665
" for sale by auction	672
" in process of alienation	666
" Mallee	671
" official register of private farms for sale	674
" pastoral, available for selection	667
" private and Crown, occupied	746, 748
" " purchased for closer settlement	675
" " total area	665
" reserved for various purposes	665
" special settlement areas	672
" swamp or reclaimed, unalienated	672
" unclassed	667, 672
Law as to marriages	301
" crime, &c., Part VII	433
Leading events	31
Leases, perpetual, selecting land under	671
Leasing Crown lands, conditions relating to	669, 670
Leather, imports of	797
" industry	797
Legal system in Victoria	436
Legislative Assembly	82
" " electors and voters	86
" " members, 1917	102, 874
" " Council	82
" " election, 1916	85
" " members, 1917	101
Legitimated, proportion of children, in Australian States and New Zealand	329
Liabilities of former years paid out of ordinary revenue	145
Libraries	522
" free, public	524
Library, Patent Office	523
" Public, of Victoria	522

	Page
Manufactories. (See Factories.)	
" increase of	51
" wages boards	543
Manufacturing industries, growth in	787
Manure used for fertilization	741
Map of Terre Napoléon	30
" showing routes of early explorers	6
Marine Board, members, &c.	112
" Inquiry, Court of, members	112
Market gardens, area and value of produce	739
" " value of production	826
Marriage, ages of bridegrooms and brides in combination	308
" average age at, in occupations	314
" " " of parties at	310
" decrees for dissolution of, in States and New Zealand	448
" rates	304
" " bachelors, widowers, spinsters, and widows	307
" " divorced persons	315
" " factors in	305
" " in age groups	306
" " Australasia	310
" " urban and rural districts	313
" " various countries	311
" usual residence of parties at	312
Marriageable persons in Victoria	223
Marriages	304
" 1897-1916	304
" by principal denominations	316
" civil, in various countries	317
" conjugal condition of parties	314
" during each quarter	314
" law as to	301
" of divorced persons	315
" minors, Australasia and United Kingdom	315
" proportion of bridegrooms and brides in age groups	309
" " to marriageable men and women	305
" " " " in Australasia	311
" " " " persons in town and country	313
" " population	305
" registration of	302
" signing register with marks	514
Married women, proportion of, in age groups under 45	321
Maryborough, population	233
Maternity allowance	597
Measles, death rate from	361
Meat freezing and preserving	803
Meats, frozen and preserved, imports and exports	804
Mechanics' institutes	524
Medical Act 1916	91
" inspection of school children	502
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works	281
" " " " " members, &c.	109
" " " " " revenue and expenditure	172
" " suburbs, population of	230, 232
" " " rate of increase of population	234
" Botanic Garden	525
" College of Pharmacy	517
" foundation of	9
" Greater, parks and gardens area	529

	Page
Melbourne Harbor Trust members, &c.	110
" Hospital	567
" port of	642 <i>et seq.</i>
" revenue and expenditure	274
" sewerage system	287
" tramway returns	662
" University	491
" " professors, &c.	107
Meningitis, cerebro-spinal, deaths from	368
" simple	368
" tubercular	368
Meteorological records	697 <i>et seq.</i>
Metropolitan sewage farm	290
Midwives Act 1916	96
Migration (see also Emigration, Immigration)	213 <i>et seq.</i>
Mildura Irrigation Settlement	688
Military administration, Board of	127
" college	135
" defence	131
" factories	136
" service, number of males available	226
" Service-Referendum Act 1916, Commonwealth	84, 117
Militia, number of	138
Milk, concentrated, made in factories	756
" consumed, value of	827
" received at butter and cheese factories	756
Mineral production	774
" " value of	774, 827
Miners, gold, number of	778
" minimum wage of	783
" rights	771
Mines, Schools of	516
Mining	771 <i>et seq.</i>
" Accident Relief Funds	611
" accidents	784
" allocation of loan expenditure	773
" area under occupation	772
" boring for gold, coal, &c.	785
" coal	780
" cyanidation plant, &c.	779
" development	772
" districts, gold yield, alluvial and quartz	777
" dredging and hydraulic sluicing	779
" expenditure in aid of	773
" gold	775
" " dividends	777
" " machinery, value of	778
" Government batteries, &c.	780
" " boring plant, &c.	785
" leases	771
" production, value of	774 <i>et seq.</i>
Ministers prior to responsible government	98
" responsible	81
Ministries since responsible government	99
Ministry, Commonwealth, <i>personnel</i> of	120
" formation of new	80
" State, <i>personnel</i> of	100
Minor crops	730, 740
Mint returns, Melbourne	398

	Page
Mitchell's explorations	6
Money, approximate stocks of principal countries	413
" orders	649
Mortality, experience, Friendly Societies	542
" index of	335
Mortgages and releases of land	429
" of personal chattels	430
" stock	430
Mothers, proportion of, in age groups	325
" " of first births in age groups	325
Motor cars and cycles registered	664
Mountains and hills, rivers and lakes in Victoria	53
Municipal and corporation debts in Australian States	201
" assets and liabilities	263
" councillors	252
" electors, franchise, &c.	252
" endowment	264
" " Act 1916	95
" loans	270
" Officers' Fidelity Guarantee Fund	277
" ratings	261
" revenue and expenditure	172, 262
" " increase in	256
" statistics, Part IV.	251
" taxation	204
Municipalities increase in value of rateable property	51
Murray River, discovery of	6
" Sturt's navigation of	6
Mutton and lamb, exports of	754
" preserved	803
National Gallery and Museum	523
Natural increase of population	385
" " in various countries	386
Naturalization, 1871 to 1916	249
Naval administration, Board of	131
" defence	139
Neglected children arrested	456
" " &c., schools	603
" " cost of maintenance	605
" " total number of	607
" Children's Act, Part VIII.	606
Nephritis, death rate from	356
New Zealand banking business	403
" Chinese and aborigines	246
" consumption of spirits, wine, and beer	474
" crime and drunkenness	458
" debt	200
" density of population, 1916	235
" divorces	449
" drink bill	476
" drunkenness, convictions for	473
" enrolment, net, of scholars	504
" expenditure on police and gaols	489
" insane persons	601
" instruction, cost of	504
" military pensions in	599
" miners' pensions	599
" old-age pensions in	598
" " persons in	237

	Page
New Zealand police force, strength of	488
" population, 1916	235
" " 1851 to 1911	235
" " strength of	237
" " towns	239
" prices of Government stocks	416
" savings banks	411
" war pensions	599
" widows' pensions in	599
Night shelter	582
Notes, Australian	405
" bank, in circulation	400
Nuts gathered	737
Oats, area and production	725
" prices of	729
" yield in Australasia	728
Observatory records	697 <i>et seq.</i>
Occupations, census periods 1901 and 1911	221
" deaths from accidents in	382
" of income taxpayers	152
" insolvents	444
Offences against person and property in States and New Zealand	457
" various, heard by magistrates	454
Officers, principal, of the Commonwealth	124
" " " State	104
Official and Parliamentary, Commonwealth	119
" " " State	96
Old age, deaths from	380
" pensions	591
" " Australia	594
" " expenditure on	595, 597
" " Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act	591
" " New Zealand	598
Old persons, proportion of, in Australasia	237
Onions, area and production	730, 732
Orchards and gardens, area and produce	730, 735
" orchardists	735
" inspection of	702
Ormond College	496
Orphan Asylums	577
Paralysis, infantile	370
Parks and gardens, area in greater Melbourne	529
" " in country towns	533
Parliament, Acts of Commonwealth	116
" Commonwealth, representation of States	115
" seventh Commonwealth, members of	121
" State, constitution of	81
" " Darling dead-lock	24
" " franchise, tenure, powers, &c.	81
" " granting a dissolution	80
" " members, 1917.. .. .	101
" " " qualification, franchise, &c.	82
" " plural voting abolished	20
" " voting by post	83
Parliaments and sessions, duration of, 1856 to 1917	90
Parsnips, turnips, beet, carrots	730, 732
Pastoral and dairying industries	744
" industries, value of production	827
" lands available for occupation	667

	Page
Pastoral occupation of Crown lands	667
" wages	743
Pasture, areas occupied for	746
Patent Office, library	523
Patents (Partial Suspension) Act 1916, Commonwealth	116
Peacock Ministry	100
Peas, area and production	730, 731
Pensions, gratuities, &c.	165
" invalid	593
" old-age	591
" South Africa Contingent	166
Pentridge, value of output	826
Persons arrested more than once	468
" employed in factories	813 <i>et. seq.</i>
" " upon farming, dairying, and pastoral holdings	742
Perth, population	238
Pharmacy, Melbourne College of	517
Phthisis, death rate from	373
" " in age groups	373
" " Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo	375
" " various countries	374
✓ deaths from, each age	372
" other phases of	377
" prevalence in different areas	376
" " Metropolitan municipalities	376
Physical geography and geology of Victoria	54
Pickles, made in manufactories	805
Pigs, census returns, 1861 to 1911	745
" in Australasia	763
" the world	764
" number, 1913 to 1917	751
" prices of	752
" slaughtered	753, 801
Pipes and tiles made, value of	798
Pleurisy, death rate from	355
Plural voting abolished	20
Pneumonia, &c., death rate from	355
Police courts, civil business	441
" expenditure on	488
" number in States and New Zealand	488
Poor Prisoners Defence Act 1916	91
Population, Australian born, in Victoria	220
" birthplaces of	227
" British Dominions	240
" cities of the world	243
" coloured persons	248
" conjugal condition	221
" counties	217
" density	225
" " in capital cities of Australasia	238
" " of the world	242
" effective strength, Australasia	237
" estimated for 1916	212
" excess per cent. of births over deaths, States and New Zealand	386
" increase, 1891 to 1916	213
" " 1861 to 1911	229
" " of males and females	229
" movement of, 1891 to 1916	213
" " in States	236

	Page
Population, natural increase in Australasia	385
" " " various countries	386
" New Zealand towns	239
" of Australasian capitals	238
" " towns	238
" chief towns in Victoria	233
" countries engaged in the war	242
" Greater Melbourne	230, 232
" States and New Zealand, 1916	235
" " increase since 1851	236
" the world	242
" Victoria	51, 211, 876
" Part III.	209
" proportion of sexes	229
" " Greater Melbourne to Victoria	231
" rate of increase, 1851 to 1916	234
" urban and rural	231
" Victorians in States and New Zealand	228
Portland settlement	8
Port Phillip settlement	3
Post voting by, in State elections	83
Postage, rates of	647
Postal business	51
" Department, revenue and expenditure	651
" notes	649
" returns	647
" " dead letters, &c.	649
" " detailed	648
Posts and telegraphs, revenue and expenditure	170
Potatoes, area and production	726
" prices of	729
" production of Australasia	728
Pottery made, value of	798
Poultry and poultry owners	765
" frozen	803
" " imports and exports	804
" value of production (estimated)	765, 827
Power employed in factories	818
Precious stones	774
Preferential voting	88
Prematurity, death rate of infants from	348
Prices of agricultural produce	729
" live stock in Melbourne	752
" wheat	729
Prison Association of Victoria	582
Prisoners and gaols	483
" age of	485
" average number	484
" birthplaces	485
" education of	486
" religions of	485
Probate returns	392
Production, Part X.	665
" total value of Victorian	826, 827
" values per head, Victorian	828
Properties rated, number of	257
Property, annual and capital values, 1880 to 1917	396
" " capital, and ground values, 1906-7 to 1916-17	397
" left by deceased persons	392

	Page
Property, rateable, definition of	253
" " value of	256
Prostate and bladder diseases of, death rate from	356
Protection, inauguration of	23
Public debt	51
" " (see also loans)	174
" " and interest, payable in London and Melbourne	194
" " due dates	185
" " growth of and interest	195
" " of Australasia	200
" " various countries	202
" " State and local, 1916	201
Quarries, stone output, &c.	786
Quartz reefs, gold yields	777
Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital (see also Charitable Institutions)	573
Queen's College	496
" Fund	614
Rabbit and hare skins exported oversea	767
Rabbits and game sold at Melbourne market	766
" hares, exports of frozen	767
" " value of production	827
" frozen	803
" " imports and exports	804
" preserved	803
" State expenditure on destruction of	766
Race-course licence and percentage fees	483
Railway accident fund	163
" Loan Application Act 1916	95
" revenue and expenditure, 1911-12 to 1915-16	162
Railways accidents and compensation	657
" " in principal countries, averages and ratios for 10 years	658
" Act 1916	96
" capital cost of lines and equipment	653
" fares	660
" goods rates	659
" interest charges and expenses	655
" length of lines and cost of construction	652
" mileage and traffic	653
" officers and employees	656
" open	51
" other than State-owned	658, 659
" receipts and expenditure	654
" " " per train mile	656
" rolling-stock	656
" under construction, &c.	652
Rainfall	53
" records and averages	697, 698
Raisins and currants made	735
Rateable property, increase in value of	51
Ratepayers, number of	256
Rates, municipal	254
Rating on unimproved values	265
Referendum (Military Service) Act 1916, Commonwealth	84, 117
Reformatory schools (see also Charitable Institutions)	603
Refuges for females (see also Charitable Institutions)	580
Registered schools	505
Registration of births, deaths, and marriages	302
" Births Deaths and Marriages Act 1916	92
" cadets	133

	Page
Registration of schools and teachers	505
Religions of prisoners	485
" the people	535
Religious teaching in State schools, effect on crime	466
Rental value of houses	225
Reserves, land	665
" public	529
Reservoirs	682
Respiratory diseases, death rate from, in age groups	367
" " and influenza, death rate from, in age groups	368
Responsible government	17
Revenue and expenditure account, State, 1915-16	144
" " Commonwealth, in Victoria	170
" " " and State combined	171
" " " State, and local	172
" " Fire Brigades Boards	300
" " Harbor Trust, Melbourne	278
" " " Geelong	280
" " Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works 281 to	283
" " Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo	274
" " State, 1915-16	145
" " " 1906-7 to 1915-16	144
" " appropriated towards paying off old liabilities	145
" " as evidence of progress	51
" " from licences	204, 207
" " railways	147, 162
" " heads of, State	147
" " State, connected with agriculture	705
Rifle clubs, members of	139
Rivers in Victoria	53
Royal Horticultural Society	528
" Humane Society	587
" Life Saving Society	588
" Victorian Institute for the Blind	575
Rutherglen Experimental Farm, &c.	702
Rye, area and production	730, 731
Salvation Army Rescue Homes (see also Charitable Institutions)	581
Sanatoria, consumption	577
Sauces made in manufactories	805
Savings Banks, 1875 to 1916	407
" " advances department	409
" " assets and liabilities	408
" " Commonwealth	410
" " deposits	51
" " in Australasia	411
" " various countries	412
" " investment of deposits	408
" " loans to farmers and others	410
" " penny	412
Sawmills, forest	799
Scarlet fever, death rate from	360
Scholars in registered schools	505
" State schools	502
Scholarships, State school	510
Schools, industrial and reformatory (see also Charitable Institutions)	603
" of art	516
" mines	516
" registered	505
" State, teachers and scholars	502

	Page
Schools, technical	515
Selection of land, conditions relating to	669
Senate, names of members	121
Senile decay, deaths from	380
Senior scholarships	510
Sentences of persons arrested	464
Separators, cream, in use	744, 755
Septic diseases (puerperal), death rate from	385
Settlement, closer	675 et seq.
" of Victoria	7
" " discovery of gold	13
Sewage farm	290
Sewerage system of Melbourne	287
Sheep, according to breed	763
" census returns, 1861 to 1911	745
" flocks of, in districts	760
" frozen	803
" in Australasia	763
" the world	764
" number, 1913 to 1917	751
" numbers and sizes of flocks on different sized holdings	762
" prices of	782
" sizes of flocks	761
" slaughtered	753
" wool clip	757
Shelter, night	582
Shipping in ballast	639
" inward and outward	639
" nationality of vessels, 1916-17	641
" " " 1912 to 1916-17	640
" port of Melbourne	643
" vessels on register	641
" " owned in Australasia	642
" Victorian	51
" with principal countries	640
Shires	258
Shops and factories, legislation	542
Sickness experience, Friendly Societies	542
Silver production of Victoria	774
" " world	776
Sinking funds	197
Skins tanned	797
Slaughtering	753
Sluicing, hydraulic, plants	779
Small improved holdings	681
" pox, death rate from	357
Soap and candle works	798
" imports	798
Social condition, Part VIII.	491
Societies, benevolent	577
" friendly	536
" horticultural	528
Society, Charity Organization	583
" for the Protection of Animals	589
" Victorian Discharged Prisoners' Aid	582
Soils, characteristics of Victorian	742
Soldiers sent from Australia to the war	131
South Africa migration	214
Spinal diseases, death rate from	370

	Page
Spinsters, average age at marriage..	310
" marriage rate of ..	307
Spirits, beer, and wine consumed ..	474
" " expenditure on ..	475
" " distilled ..	807
St. John Ambulance Association ..	582
" " Brigade ..	582
St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital ..	579
St. Vincent's Hospital ..	571
State Accident Insurance Office ..	558
" Advertising and Intelligence Bureau ..	615
" coal field ..	781
" education system ..	498
" expenditure, heads of ..	163
" finance ..	143
" officers, principal ..	104
" revenue, heads of ..	147
" Savings Bank Act 1916 ..	91
" schools, teachers, and scholars ..	502
" taxation ..	147, 204
" War Council Act 1916 ..	96
Statistical summary, 1836 to 1916 ..	829 <i>et seq.</i>
" " for Victoria ..	51
Stawell, population ..	233
Still births, number of ..	318
Stock. (See Live Stock).	
" mortgages ..	429
Stocks, Australasian, investors' interest ..	417
" " mean prices ..	416
" British and Colonial ..	419
" Victorian, prices in London ..	414
" " " Melbourne ..	420
Stomach, diseases of, death rate from ..	356
Stone quarries, output, &c. ..	786
Stone quarries, output, &c. ..	806
Sugar-beet industry ..	383
Suicide, death rate from ..	454
Summonses, for various offences ..	165
Superannuation allowances paid ..	465
Superior Courts, sentences by ..	469
Supreme Court and General Sessions, criminal cases ..	440
" civil business ..	104
" judges ..	524
" library ..	238
Sydney, population ..	355
Syphilis, death rate from ..	797
Tanneries, &c., output, &c. ..	204
Taxation, Commonwealth, State, and local ..	205
" in Australia ..	149
" income tax ..	159
" land tax ..	206
" new ..	205
" per head of population, Commonwealth, State, and local ..	506
Teachers' College ..	502
" in State schools ..	502
" remuneration and classification ..	511
Technical scholarships ..	516
" schools, expenditure on ..	650
Telegrams ..	51
Telegraph lines ..	51

	Pag.
Telegraphs	650
Telephones	650
Temperature	53, 699
Tenements connected with the sewerage system	288
Terre Napoléon, French map of	30
Tiles and pipes made, value of	798
Timber sawn in forest saw-mills	799
Tin-ore, total production	774, 786
Tobacco, area and production	730, 734
" Australian, used in factories	808
" experimental work at Wyuna	700
" factories, output, &c.	808
Towns, Australasian, population	238
Trade between Australian States, 1900 and 1909	636
" Commissioners	104
" during the war, regulation of	618
" port of Melbourne	643
" returns, alteration of the statistical year	618
" " tabulation of	618
" total values, 1900 to 1909	619
" with Belgium	629
" " France	630
" " Germany	631
" " India and Ceylon	628
" " Japan	632
" " New Zealand	627
" " principal countries	620, 621
" " United Kingdom	626
" " States	633
Trading companies registered	431
" with the Enemy Act 1916, Commonwealth	117
Training college for teachers	506
" ship <i>John Murray</i>	610
Tram cars licensed in Melbourne	664
Tramways, country	663
" other metropolitan	663
" Tramway Board	661
" Victorian	660
Travelling scholarships	512
Trinity College	495
Trust funds	168
Tubercular diseases, death rate from, Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo	375
" " deaths of recent arrivals in Victoria from	378
" " (excluding phthisis), death rate from	377
Tuberculosis, pulmonary (see phthisis).	
Turnips, beet, carrots, parsnips	730, 732
Twin and triplet births	329
Typhoid fever, cases of and deaths from in Metropolis	358
" " " " " Victoria	357
" " " " " in different areas	359
" " " " " death rate from at different ages	359
" " " " " in various countries	360
Unauthorized Documents Act 1916	91
United Kingdom, crime in	469
" " imports of agricultural and pastoral produce	769, 770
University Act 1916	91
" affiliated colleges	495
" degrees conferred	493
" endowment	491

	Page
University examinations, public	492
" extension	497
" fees	491
" finance	494
" of Melbourne	491
" professors, lecturers, &c.	107
" undergraduates and students attending lectures	494
Urinary diseases, death rate from	371
Vaccinations per 100 births	356
Value of Victorian production, detailed	826, 827
Vehicles licensed in Melbourne	664
Venereal Diseases Act 1916	93
Victoria, discovery and settlement of	1
" population of, 1836 to 1916	211
" position, area, and climate	52
" statistical summary of	51, 829
Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund	612
" Deaf and Dumb Institution	576
" Loan Act 1916	95
" loans redemption fund	199
" Mining Accident Relief Fund	611
Vignerons, number of	735
Village communities	673
" settlements	673
Vines area and production	730, 735
Vital Statistics, Part V.	301
Volunteers, number of	138
Voters at State elections	85, 89
Voting by post	83
" plural, abolished	20
Wages, agricultural and pastoral	743
" boards	788
" " Factories Acts	543
" minimum of miners	783
" paid in factories	819
" percentage of, to articles produced in factories	821, 822
War Loan Acts 1916, Commonwealth	117
" pensions	598
" population of countries engaged in	242
Warrnambool, population	233
Water, consumption of, in Melbourne	287
" supply and irrigation	681 <i>et seq.</i>
" " Loans Application Acts 1916	95
" " scheme, Naval Base and Mornington Peninsula	687
Waterworks, capital debit	689, 690
" controlled by trusts and corporations	682, 683
" municipal, capital indebtedness and interest outstanding	695
" purposes of supply	682
" receipts and expenditure, State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	691
" summary of State advances and expenditure	683
" " storage capacity and capital expenditure	682
" trusts, capital indebtedness and interest outstanding	692
" " receipts and expenditure	694
" vested in State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	688
Watson Fund—the Bendigo Miners' Association	612
Wattle Day	591
Wealth, diffusion of, in Australian States	392

	Page
Wealth of the people	389
" private, Australian States	391
" " United Kingdom	391
Wellington, population	238
Western Australia, migration to	213
" Port, Bass's eye-sketch of	12
" " Settlement	5
Wharfs, plant, &c., of Melbourne Harbor Trust	642 <i>et seq.</i>
Wheat and flour, stocks on hand	723
" area and production	720 <i>et seq.</i>
" average yields in wheat-growing counties	722
" ground in flour mills	804
" growing counties, area and production	721
" Marketing Act 1916	93
" " scheme	723
" prices of	729
" production of the world	725
" returns 1860 to 1917	720
" stocks	723
" weights, standard and actual	722
" yield Australian States and New Zealand	728
Whooping cough, death rate from	361
Widowers, age at re-marriage	310
" marriage rate of	307
Widows, age at re-marriage	310
" marriage rate of	307
" pensions in New Zealand	599
Wild fowl sold at Melbourne market	766
Wine consumption in Australia	474
" quantity made	735
Wire netting advances	678, 766
Women voters	86
Women's Hospital (see also Charitable Institutions)	572
Woodworking factories	790
Wool, home consumption and exportable balance	758
" liens registered	429
" prices of	759
" production	51, 757
" used in manufactories	758, 808
" value of production	757, 827
" washing	797
" weight of a fleece	758
Woollen mills, output, &c.	808
Workers' Compensation Act 1915	552
" dwellings	265
Working Men's College	519
Workmen's home allotments, closer settlement estates	677
World, population and area	242
" " principal cities	243
Writs received by the sheriff	442
Wyuna Irrigation Farm	702
Yarra River, discovery of	4
Yass-Canberra, Federal Capital Site	114
Zoological Gardens	528
Zoology	68