

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,  
MELBOURNE.

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OFFICIAL  
YEAR BOOK

OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA,  
CONTAINING AUTHORITATIVE STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD  
1901-1916

AND CORRECTED STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD 1788 TO 1900.

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No. 10.—1917.

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Prepared under Instructions from  
The Minister of State for Home and Territories,

BY

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COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.



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## PREFACE.

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By the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Commonwealth is empowered "to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth, with respect to," *inter alia*, "Census and Statistics." In the exercise of the power so conferred, a "Census and Statistics Act" was passed in 1905, and in the year following, the "Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics" was created. The first Official Year Book was published early in 1908. The publication here presented is the tenth authoritative Year Book issued under the Federal Constitution.

This Year Book furnishes corrected statistics for the whole period of Australian settlement, viz., from 1788 to 1916. Wherever space has permitted, detailed statistics have been furnished for each year since Federation, viz., from 1901 to 1916. In the few instances where this has proved impracticable, reference will be necessary to Year Books Nos. 1 to 9. The inclusion, as stated, of the total available information in the more important branches of statistics enables this publication to be used wherever it is desired to make a comparative survey of the evolution of this portion of the British Empire. Not only are the results given for the Commonwealth as a whole, but also for each State therein.

The general arrangement of the publication, which has received wide approval, corresponds with that of previous issues, and is shewn in the synopsis on pp. xiii. to xxix. immediately following.

In addition, however, to what may be called purely statistical matter, each issue contains special articles dealing at length with some particular subject or subjects of more or less permanent interest. These cannot of course be repeated year after year, but usually a brief condensation is given in subsequent issues. Though many articles in Year Books Nos. 1 to 9 have been reduced to synopses or deleted, sufficient indication is given to enable the subject to be traced in previous issues.

The present issue contains two specially-contributed articles, one of which deals with "Australian Eucalyptus Timbers," and the other with "The Chemical Products of Australian Eucalypts." At the present juncture, when accurate knowledge of the potentialities of the resources of the Commonwealth is of more than ordinary importance, both of these articles should prove of interest and value.

Reference may also be made here to the special compendium of State legislation regarding Friendly Societies appearing on pages 800 *et seq.* of this issue.

The subject matter throughout is dealt with, as far as possible, from the following points of view, viz.:—

(i.) The development of the individual States. (ii.) The progress of Australia as a whole from the earliest times. (iii.) The statistical comparison of Australia with other leading countries of the world.

The full text of the Commonwealth Constitution Act and Amendments appears on pages 17 to 37.

A feature of this publication is the use made of maps and diagrams. As a rule, facts can be properly appreciated only by the use of graphs, and the progress of events, the characteristics of growth and decline, can in general be grasped much more readily graphically than numerically. The diagram or "graph" is a direct picture in which the relative magnitudes are preserved and by which instantaneous comparisons of a wide range of facts are made possible at a glance. The statistical data, however, are also given *in extenso* numerically. Special mention may be made of the map of Australia inset on the back cover, and which has been reduced from the large scale map published under the authority of the Minister for Home and Territories from data supplied by the several States. Since the issue in Year Book No. 9, important alterations and additions have been made.\*

The development of Australia has been in many instances very remarkable, and this could be shewn only by tables and graphs dating back to its beginning in 1788. In most cases accurate data are not available for years much before 1860. In such cases, therefore, it seems sufficient at present to give continuous results from that year onwards.

The great mass of material embodied in each Year Book is always carefully examined, but it would be idle to hope that all error has been avoided. The Commonwealth Statistician desires to express appreciation of the opportunity afforded him of perfecting the matter of the Year Book, by those who have been kind enough to point out defects or make suggestions.

The corresponding years indicated in various sections of this book do not always necessarily refer to the same period, the year ending in some cases on 31st December, 30th June, or 31st March, etc. The precise period for which returns are given is indicated where necessary.

Recent information or returns which have come to hand since the various Sections were sent to press, may be found in the Appendix, p. 1156. It may be noted that the information given therein in regard to the Customs Tariff considerably modifies that appearing on p. 578 *et seq.*

The last two Year Books (Nos. 9 and 10) are somewhat later in appearance than preceding issues. This is due to a combination of circumstances: (a) the change in the trade year from the calendar to the financial year; (b) the adoption

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\* The work of revision was undertaken in the office of the Commonwealth Chief Surveyor, J. T. H. Goodwin, Esq.

by New South Wales of the financial year in place of the calendar year in the manufacturing returns; (c) lateness in receipt of various returns occasioned by special circumstances arising out of the war or otherwise unavoidable.

It is hoped eventually to secure "Production" returns from all the States for the financial year, and the enhanced value of the figures for comparative purposes would more than counterbalance the slightly later issue of the Year Book.

In conclusion, the Commonwealth Statistician desires to express his cordial thanks to the State Statisticians, to the responsible officers of the various Commonwealth and State Departments, and to others, who have kindly, and often at considerable trouble, supplied all desired information.

G. H. KNIBBS,

*Commonwealth Statistician.*

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,

*Melbourne, 9th November, 1917.*

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## CORRIGENDA.

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The words "Aged 15 to 45 years" are to be added to the caption of table on page 163.

In the second table on page 824, substitute £6 1s. 11d. for £5 17s. 0d. in the case of the year 1914, Victoria.

# INDEX TO SPECIAL ARTICLES, ETC., APPEARING IN PREVIOUS ISSUES.

These articles have appeared in former issues of the Commonwealth Year Book, but, owing to exigencies of space, they are not included in this publication.

NOTE.—The Roman figures indicate the number of the Year Book to which reference is made.

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# STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

## STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH, 1871-1916.

(Figures for 1916, where available, will also be found in the Appendix, and in some instances, have been incorporated in the succeeding sections.)

Heading.	Years.						
	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1916.
<b>Population</b>	Males 928,918	1,247,059	1,736,617	2,004,836	2,377,920	2,551,431	2,401,064
	Females 771,970	1,059,677	1,504,368	1,820,677	2,190,787	2,389,521	2,474,261
	Total 1,700,888	2,306,736	3,240,985	3,824,913	4,568,707	4,940,952	4,875,325
<b>Births</b> ...	No. 63,625	80,004	110,187	102,945	122,193	137,983	131,426
	Rate 38.00	35.26	34.47	27.16	27.21	28.05	26.78
<b>Deaths</b> ...	No. 22,175	33,327	47,430	46,330	47,869	51,720	54,197
	Rate 13.24	14.69	14.84	12.22	10.66	10.51	11.04
<b>Marriages</b>	No. 11,623	17,244	23,862	27,753	39,482	43,311	40,289
	Rate 6.94	7.60	7.47	7.32	8.79	8.80	8.21
<b>Agriculture</b>							
<b>Wheat</b> ...	Area, acs. 1,279,778	3,002,064	3,335,528	5,115,965	7,427,834	9,651,081	11,234,581
	Yld., bush 11,917,741	21,443,862	25,675,265	38,561,619	71,636,347	24,892,402	150,651,597
	Av. " 9.31	7.14	7.70	7.54	9.64	2.58	13.41
	Area, acs. 225,492	194,816	246,123	461,430	616,857	774,734	
<b>Oats</b> ...	Yld., bush 4,251,630	4,795,897	5,726,256	9,789,854	9,561,771	4,341,104	
	Av. " 18.85	24.62	23.27	21.22	15.50	5.60	
	Area, acs. 48,164	75,864	68,068	74,511	116,466	153,656	
<b>Barley</b> ...	Yld., bush 726,158	1,353,380	1,178,560	1,519,819	2,056,836	1,328,910	
	Av. " 15.08	17.84	17.31	20.40	17.68	8.65	
	Area, acs. 142,078	165,777	284,428	294,849	340,065	339,781	
<b>Maize</b> ...	Yld., bush 4,576,635	5,726,266	9,261,922	7,034,786	8,939,585	8,455,511	
	Av. " 32.21	34.54	32.56	23.86	26.29	24.89	
	Area, acs. 303,274	768,388	942,166	1,688,402	2,518,288	2,628,613	
<b>Hay</b> ...	Yld., tons 375,871	767,194	1,067,255	2,024,608	2,867,973	1,733,944	
	Av. " 1.24	1.00	1.13	1.20	1.14	0.66	
	Area, acs. 67,911	76,265	112,884	109,685	130,463	151,845	
<b>Potatoes</b> <sup>1</sup>	Yld., tons 212,896	243,216	380,477	322,524	301,469	372,889	
	Av. " 3.13	3.19	3.37	2.94	2.81	2.46	
	Area, acs. 11,576	19,708	45,444	86,950	101,010	172,616	
<b>Sugar</b> <sup>4</sup>	Yld., tons 176,632	349,627	737,573	1,367,802	1,682,250	2,104,239	
<b>Cane</b> ...	Av. " 15.25	17.74	16.23	15.73	16.65	18.45	
<b>Vineyards</b>	Area, acs. 16,253	14,570	48,882	63,677	60,602	60,985	
	Wine, gal 2,104,000	1,488,000	3,535,000	5,816,087	4,975,147	2,875,326	
<b>Total value all agricultural production</b> £	8,941,000	15,519,000	16,480,000	23,835,000	38,774,000	36,052,000	
<b>Pastoral, dairying, etc.</b>							
<b>Live Stock</b>	(Sheep, No. 40,072,955)	65,092,719	106,421,068	72,040,211	93,003,521	78,600,334	74,186,122
	(Cattle " 4,277,228)	8,010,991	11,112,112	8,491,428	11,828,954	11,051,573	10,054,446
	(Horses " 701,530)	1,088,029	1,584,737	1,620,422	2,279,027	2,521,272	
	(Pigs " 586,017)	703,188	845,888	931,309	1,110,721	862,447	928,158
<b>Wool prod., lb. greasy</b>	179,000,000	332,759,000	631,587,000	543,131,661	726,408,625	642,734,725	
<b>Butter product n, lbs.</b>	"	"	47,433,564	101,671,066	211,573,745	193,970,412	
<b>Cheese</b> " " " " " " " "	"	"	19,146,929	11,575,692	15,866,712	21,240,411	
<b>Bacon and ham</b> " " " " " " " "	"	"	"	34,020,629	53,264,652	52,574,902	
<b>Total estimated value of pastoral and dairying production</b> ... £	20,736,000	29,538,000	39,256,000	36,890,000	69,832,000	81,827,000	
<b>Mineral production</b> —							
<b>Gold</b> ...	£ 7,239,106	5,194,330	5,281,861	14,005,732	10,551,624	8,729,947	7,074,673
<b>Silver and lead</b> ...	£ 29,488	31,139	3,717,825	2,367,687	3,021,284	3,818,076	3,530,078
<b>Copper</b> ...	£ 824,111	673,786	362,745	2,238,590	2,564,278	2,349,881	4,625,363
<b>Tin</b> ...	£ 18,597	1,145,603	560,750	432,576	1,209,973	758,431	900,806
<b>Zinc</b> ...	£ ...	...	2,622	4,057	1,415,169	1,021,090	
<b>Coal</b> ...	£ 325,747	636,746	1,908,028	2,609,770	3,929,673	4,619,689	4,118,201
<b>Total value all mineral production</b> ... £	8,484,728	7,813,523	12,093,837	22,043,104	23,480,211	22,264,589	23,567,302
<b>Forestry production</b> —							
<b>Quantity of local timber sawn or hewn sup. ft.</b>	"	"	"	452,131,252	591,645,786	673,366,710	
<b>Manufactories</b> —							
<b>No. of factories</b> ...	...	...	...	...	14,455	15,427	
<b>Hands employed</b> ...	...	...	...	...	311,760	331,579	
<b>Wages paid</b> ... £	...	...	...	...	27,528,371	34,090,428	
<b>Total value of output</b> ...	...	...	...	...	133,022,090	166,405,923	
<b>Value added in process of manufac.</b> £	...	...	...	...	54,017,714	66,627,039	

<sup>1</sup> Partly estimated 1871 and 1881. <sup>2</sup> Owing to variation in classification and lack of information effective comparison is impossible. <sup>3</sup> Information not available. <sup>4</sup> Area of productive cane. <sup>5</sup> Season ended 30th June, year following.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR THE COMMONWEALTH—(continued).

Heading.	Years.						
	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1914.	1916.
Shipping—							
Oversea vessels { No. ent. & cleared } ton.	2,748 1,312,643	3,284 2,549,364	3,778 4,726,307	4,028 6,541,991	4,174 9,984,801	3,926 10,380,386	2,966 7,694,442
Commerce—							
Imports oversea £	17,017,000	29,067,000	37,711,000	43,434,000	66,967,488	73,945,664	76,179,639
.. per head £	10/3/3	12/16/2	11/16/0	11/3/11	14/18/3	15/0/8	15/12/6
Exports oversea £	21,725,000	27,528,000	36,043,000	49,696,000	79,482,258	67,360,588	97,894,140
.. per head £	12/19/6	12/2/8	11/5/6	13/2/3	17/14/1	13/13/10	20/1/7
Total oversea trade £	38,742,000	56,595,000	73,754,000	92,130,000	146,449,746	141,306,252	174,073,779
.. per head £	23/2/9	24/18/10	23/1/6	24/6/1	32/13/4	28/14/6	35/14/1
Customs and excise duties ... .. £	...	4,809,326	7,440,869	8,656,530	13,515,005	15,072,689	16,118,920
.. per head, £	...	2/2/5	2/6/7	2/5/8	3/0/3	3/1/4	3/6/0
Principal Oversea Exports— <sup>1</sup>							
Wool { lbs. (greasy)	176,635,820	328,369,169	619,259,753	518,018,134	720,364,903	470,933,213	452,596,450
Wheat { bushels	9,459,629	13,173,026	19,940,029	15,237,454	26,071,193	18,375,303	28,953,338
Flour { tons	799,924	5,364,653	9,794,791	20,260,058	55,147,840	52,878,122	55,278,872
Butter { lbs.	193,732	1,189,762	1,938,864	2,774,643	9,641,608	9,986,514	13,374,511
Skins and hides... £	12,958	49,549	33,363	96,814	175,891	174,217	290,633
Tallow ... .. £	170,415	519,635	328,423	589,604	1,391,529	1,495,567	3,463,323
Meats ... .. £	1,812,688	1,298,758	4,239,494	34,607,397	101,722,136	56,162,547	75,361,869
Timber (undressed) £	45,813	39,383	206,868	1,451,168	4,637,362	2,655,374	5,338,848
Gold ... .. £	100,123	316,878	873,695	1,250,938	3,227,236	4,146,003	2,273,648
Silver and lead ... £	914,278	644,149	571,069	677,745	1,935,836	1,897,466	1,252,266
Copper ... .. £	566,780	362,965	460,894	2,611,244	4,303,159	9,088,617	8,861,157
Coal... .. £	42,586	118,117	38,448	731,301	1,023,960	...	289,738
Govt. Railways—							
Lght. of line open, mls	970	3,832	9,541	12,577	16,079	18,327	20,738
Capital cost ... £	19,269,786	42,741,350	99,764,090	123,587,000	152,194,603	179,968,432	205,187,000
Gross revenue ... £	1,102,650	3,910,122	8,654,085	11,038,000	17,847,843	21,982,480	22,229,174
Working expenses £	608,332	2,141,735	5,630,182	7,149,000	11,054,383	15,060,789	16,249,387
Per cent. of work'g expenses on earnings%	55.17	54.77	65.06	64.76	61.94	68.51	73.10
Postal—							
Letters and postcards dealt with ... No.	24,382,000	67,640,000	157,297,000	220,853,000	453,885,410	524,482,965	...
.. per head ...	14.54	29.61	49.07	58.26	101.08	106.62	...
Newspapers dealt with ... No.	3,336,000	38,063,000	85,280,000	102,727,000	139,603,510	136,669,530	...
.. per head ...	7.95	16.66	26.61	27.10	31.09	27.78	...
Cheque-paying Banks—							
Note circulation £	2,456,487	3,978,711	4,417,269	3,406,175	2,876,428	2,287,308	244,840
Coin & bullion held £	6,168,869	9,108,243	16,712,923	19,737,572	30,024,225	35,137,225	22,854,827
Advances ... .. £	26,039,573	57,732,824	129,741,583	89,167,499	116,769,133	121,292,671	...
Deposits ... .. £	21,856,959	53,849,455	98,345,338	90,965,530	147,103,081	163,586,484	209,292,659
Savings Banks—							
Number of depositors	100,713	250,070	614,741	964,553	1,600,112	2,199,108	2,418,297
Total deposits ... £	3,193,285	7,854,480	15,536,592	30,892,645	59,393,682	86,670,737	96,284,078
Aver. per depositor £	31/14/2	31/8/2	25/5/6	32/0/4	37/2/4	39/8/3	39/16/5
.. head of population ... £	1/18/9	3/10/5	4/18/7	8/3/0	13/8/5	17/11/3	19/12/10
State Schools—							
Number of schools	2,502	4,494	6,231	7,012	8,060	8,732	...
Teachers ... .. No.	4,641	9,028	12,564	14,500	16,971	20,728	...
Enrolment ... ..	236,710	432,320	561,153	638,478	638,850	713,232	...
Aver. attendance ..	137,767	255,143	350,773	450,246	463,799	544,230	...

<sup>1</sup> Australian produce, except gold, which includes re-exports.

<sup>2</sup> Decrease due to issue of Australian notes. <sup>3</sup> Information not available.

# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

## CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF CHIEF EVENTS SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTE.—The Government was centralised in Sydney, New South Wales, up to 1825, when Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) was made a separate colony. In the Table, the names now borne by the States serve to indicate the localities.

- Year.
- 1788 N.S.W.—Arrival of "First Fleet" at Botany Bay. Land in vicinity being found unsuitable for settlement, the expedition moved to Sydney Cove (now Port Jackson). Formal possession of Port Jackson taken by Captain Phillip on 26th January. Formal proclamation of colony on 7th February. Population, 1024. Branch settlement established at Norfolk Island. French navigator La Pérouse visits Botany Bay. First cultivation of wheat and barley. First grape vines planted.
- 1789 N.S.W.—First wheat harvest at Parramatta, near Sydney. Discovery of Hawkesbury River. Outbreak of small-pox amongst aborigines.
- 1790 N.S.W.—"Second Fleet" reached Port Jackson. Landing of the New South Wales Corps. Severe suffering through lack of provisions. First Circumnavigation of Australia by Lieut. Ball.
- 1791 N.S.W.—1st Exploration Map of Australia published. Arrival of "Third Fleet." Territorial seal brought by King.
- 1792 N.S.W.—Visit of *Philadelphia*, first foreign trading vessel. Population, 4203.
- 1793 N.S.W.—First free immigrants arrived in the *Bellona*. First Australian church opened at Sydney. Tas.—D'Entrecasteaux discovered the Derwent River.
- 1794 N.S.W.—Establishment of settlement at Hawkesbury River.
- 1795 N.S.W.—Erection of the first printing press at Sydney. Descendants of strayed cattle discovered at Cowpastures, Nepean River.
- 1796 N.S.W.—First Australian Theatre opened at Sydney. Coal discovered by fishermen at Newcastle.
- 1797 N.S.W.—Introduction of merino sheep from Cape of Good Hope.
- 1798 Tas.—Tasmania proved an island by voyage of Bass and Flinders.
- 1800 N.S.W.—First export of coal. First Custom House in Australia established at Sydney. Flinders' Charts published. First issue of copper coin. Population, 5995.
- 1801 N.S.W.—First colonial manufacture of blankets and linen.
- 1802 Vic.—Discovery of Port Phillip by Lieut. Murray. S.A.—Discovery of Spencer's and St. Vincent Gulfs by Flinders. Q'land.—Discovery of Port Curtis and Port Bowen by Flinders.
- 1803 N.S.W.—First Australian wool taken to England by Capt. Macarthur. Issue of "The Sydney Gazette," first Australian newspaper. Vic.—Attempted colonisation of Port Phillip by Collins. Discovery of Yarra by Grimes. Tas.—First settlement formed at Risdon by Lieut. Bowen.
- 1804 N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Castle Hill. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Port Phillip. Tas.—Foundation of settlement at Hobart by Collins, and at Yorktown by Colonel Paterson.
- 1805 N.S.W.—First extensive sheep farm established at Camden by Capt. Macarthur. Portion of settlers from Norfolk Island transferred to Tasmania.
- 1806 N.S.W.—Shortage of provisions. Floods. Tas.—Settlement at Launceston.
- 1807 N.S.W.—Final shipment of convicts from Norfolk Island. First shipment of merchantable wool (245 lbs.) to England.
- 1808 N.S.W.—Deposition of Governor Bligh.
- 1810 N.S.W.—First post-office established at Sydney. First Race Meeting in Australia at Hyde Park, Sydney. Population, 11,590. Tas.—First Tasmanian newspaper printed.
- 1813 N.S.W.—Passage across Blue Mountains discovered by Wentworth, Lawson, and Blaxland. Macquarie River discovered by Evans.
- 1814 N.S.W.—Australia, previously known as "New Holland," received present name on recommendation of Flinders. Creation of Civil Courts. Appointment of Mr. Kendall as Resident Magistrate in New Zealand.

- 1815 N.S.W.—Town of Bathurst founded by Governor Macquarie. First steam engine in Australia erected at Sydney. Lachlan River discovered by Evans. Tas.—Arrival of first immigrant ship with free settlers. First export of wheat to Sydney. Port Davey and Macquarie Harbour discovered by Captain Kelly.
- 1816 N.S.W.—Botanic Garden formed at Sydney.
- 1817 N.S.W.—Oxley's first exploration inland. Discovery of Lakes George and Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains by Meehan and Hume. First bank in Australia opened at Sydney. Tas.—Great prosperity in wool and whaling industries.
- 1818 N.S.W.—Cessation of free immigration. Oxley discovers Liverpool Plains, and the Peel, Hastings, and Manning Rivers. Port Essington discovered by Captain King.
- 1819 N.S.W.—Opening of first Australian Savings Bank at Sydney.
- 1820 N.S.W.—Foundation of Campbelltown. Clyde River discovered by Lieut. Johnson. Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep.
- 1821 N.S.W.—Foundation of Philosophical (now Royal) Society. Population, 35,610. Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour. First Circuit Court held at Hobart.
- 1822 N.S.W.—Formation of Agricultural Society of N.S.W.
- 1823 N.S.W.—First Australian Constitution. Discovery of gold at Fish River by Assistant-Surveyor McBrien. Arrival in Sydney of Dr. John Dunmore Lang. Qld.—Oxley discovers Brisbane River.
- 1824 N.S.W.—Becomes a Crown Colony. Executive Council formed. Establishment of Supreme Court at Sydney, and introduction of trial by jury. First Australian Enactment (Currency Bill) passed by the Parliament at Sydney. Proclamation of freedom of the press. First land regulations. First manufacture of sugar. Hume and Hovell's overland expedition to the south. Vic.—Hume and Hovell, journeying overland from Sydney, arrive at Corio Bay. Qld.—Penal settlement founded at Moreton Bay (Brisbane). Fort Dundas Settlement formed at Melville Island, N. Terr.
- 1825 Tas.—Proclamation of Independence of Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) and appointment of a nominated Legislative Council for the new colony.
- 1826 N.S.W.—Illawarra founded by Captain Bishop. Vic.—Settlement at Corinella, Western Port, formed by Captain Wright. W.A.—Military Settlement founded at King George's Sound, Albany, by Major Lockyer.
- 1827 N.S.W.—Colony becomes self-supporting. Feverish speculation in land and stock. Qld.—Darling Downs and the Condamine River discovered by Allan Cunningham. Fort Wellington established at Raffles Bay, N. Terr. Tas.—Copper ore discovered at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1828 N.S.W.—Second Constitution. First Census. Sturt's expedition down Darling River. Cotton first grown in Sydney Botanical Gardens. Gas first used at Sydney. Richmond and Clarence Rivers discovered by Captain Rous. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Western Port. Qld.—Cunningham discovers a route from Brisbane to the Darling Downs, and explores Brisbane River to its source. Tas.—First land sales.
- 1829 N.S.W.—Sturt's expedition down Murrumbidgee River. New South Wales Act proclaimed. All English law, so far as circumstances of the Colony allowed, came into force. W.A.—Foundation of settlement at Swan River, under command of Lieut.-Governor Stirling. Perth also founded.
- 1830 N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Bathurst. Sturt, voyaging down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, arrives at Lake Alexandrina. Qld.—Murder of Captain Logan by convicts at Brisbane. Tas.—Trouble with natives. Black line organised to force aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula, but failed. Between 1830 and 1835, however, George Robinson, by friendly suasion, succeeded in gathering the small remnant of aborigines (203) into settlement at Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Crown lands first disposed of by public competition. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. Arrival at Sydney of first steamer, *Sophia Jane*, from England. S.S. *Surprise*, first steamship in Australia, launched at Sydney. First coal shipped from Australian Agricultural Company's workings at Newcastle, N.S.W. First assisted immigration to N.S.W. S.A.—Adelaide District discovered by Captain Barker. Murder of Barker by aborigines at Lake Alexandrina. Wakefield's first colonisation committee. W.A.—Appointment of Executive and Legislative Council. First newspaper—"Fremantle Observer." Lord Ripon's land regulations in N.S.W., W.A., and Tas.
- 1832 N.S.W.—Savings Bank of N.S.W. established.

- 1833 N.S.W.—First School of Arts established at Sydney.
- 1834 N.S.W.—First settlement at Twofold Bay. Vic.—Settlement formed at Portland Bay by Henty Bros. Qld.—Leichhardt reached Gulf of Carpentaria. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. Imperial Act Colonisation of S.A. W.A.—Severe reprisals against natives at Pinjarrah.
- 1835 N.S.W.—Establishment of depôt at Fort Bourke on the Darling River, by Mitchell. Vic.—John Batman's arrival at Port Phillip; makes treaty with the natives for 600,000 acres of land; claim afterwards disallowed by Imperial Government. John Pascoe Fawkner founds Melbourne on site previously selected by Batman.
- 1836 N.S.W.—Fall of snow in Sydney. Mitchell's overland journey from Sydney to Cape Northumberland, Vic., and discovery of "Australia Felix." "Squatting" formally recognised. Vic.—Proclamation of Port Phillip district as open for settlement. Captain Lonsdale first Resident Magistrate. S.A.—Founding of settlement at Adelaide under Governor Hindmarsh.
- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Heavy snowfall near Sydney. Vic.—Melbourne planned and named by Governor Bourke. First Victorian post-office established in Melbourne. First sale of Crown lands in Melbourne. First overlanders from Sydney arrived at Port Phillip. S.A.—Adelaide planned by Captain Light. First newspaper published at Adelaide. First sale of Crown lands in Adelaide.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Drought and failure of crops. Frenzied speculation. Vic.—First Victorian paper published at Melbourne. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Brisbane. S.A.—"Overlanding" of cattle from Sydney to Adelaide along the Murray route by Hawden and Bonney. Settlement at Port Essington, Northern Territory, formed by Captain Bremer. W.A.—Glenelg River discovered by Captain Grey.
- 1839 N.S.W.—Finding of gold at Vale of Clwydd by Count Strzelecki. Vic.—Appointment of Mr. C. J. LaTrobe as Superintendent Port Phillip district. S.A.—Lake Torrens discovered by Eyre. Port Darwin, Northern Territory, discovered by Captain Stokes. W.A.—Murchison River discovered by Captain Grey.
- 1840 N.S.W.—Abolition of transportation to New South Wales. Land regulations—proceeds of sales to be applied to payment for public works and expenditure on immigration. Foundation of viticultural industry. Monetary crisis. Vic.—Determination of northern boundary. Colonists desire separation from New South Wales. Qld.—Breaking up of penal settlements and throwing open of Moreton Bay district to free settlers. S.A.—Incorporation of Adelaide. Eyre begins his overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound. Tas.—Visit of the *Erebus* and *Terror* to Hobart. Dr. Hooker investigates the island flora.
- 1841 N.S.W.—Gold found near Hartley by Rev. W. B. Clarke. Separation of New Zealand. W.A.—Completion of Eyre's overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound. Tas.—Renewal of transportation.
- 1842 N.S.W.—Incorporation of Sydney. Vic.—Incorporation of Melbourne. S.A.—Discovery of copper at Kapunda.
- 1843 N.S.W.—First Representative Constitution. First manufacture of tweed. Financial crisis. Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation. Tas.—Agitation against further introduction of convicts.
- 1844 S.A.—Sturt's last expedition inland. Qld.—Leichhardt's expedition from Condamine River to Port Essington, Northern Territory. Arrived following year.
- 1845 N.S.W.—Mitchell's explorations on the Barcoo. Qld.—Explorations by Mitchell and Kennedy. S.A.—Discovery of the Burra copper deposits. Sturt discovered Cooper's Creek. W.A.—First steam vessel (*H.M.S. Driver*) visited Fremantle.
- 1846 N.S.W.—Mr. Gladstone proposed to revive transportation. Initiation of meat preserving. Qld.—Foundation of settlement at Port Curtis. S.A.—Proclamation of North Australia. W.A.—Organisation of first mining company. Foundation of New Norcia Mission.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Crown Land Leases Act. Opening of iron smelting works near Berrima. Overland mail established between Sydney and Adelaide. Vic.—Melbourne created a City by Royal Letters Patent. Qld.—Explorations by Leichhardt, Burnett and Kennedy. W.A.—Issue of regulations for leasing Crown lands. First export of guano.



- 1848 N.S.W.—Attempts to revive transportation. Influx of Chinese. Vic.—Earl Grey returned as Melbourne member of the Legislative Council. Qld.—Leichhardt's last journey. Kennedy spared by the blacks at York Peninsula. Chinese brought in as shepherds. W.A.—Copper and lead discovered in the Champion Bay district by the Messrs. Gregory.
- 1849 N.S.W.—Indignation of colonists at arrival of convict ship *Hashemy*. Exodus of population to goldfields of California. Vic.—Outburst of indignation at arrival of *Randolph* with convicts. Qld.—Assignment of convicts per *Hashemy* to squatters on Darling Downs. W.A.—Commencement of transportation to Western Australia.
- 1850 N.S.W.—Final abolition of transportation. First sod of first Australian railway turned at Sydney. Vic.—Gold discovered at Clunes by Hon. W. Campbell. Representative government granted. S.A.—Representative government granted. W.A.—Pearl oysters found by Lieut. Helpman at Saturday Island Shoal. Tas.—Representative government granted. Discovery of coal at the Don and Mersey.
- 1851 N.S.W.—Payable gold discovered by Hargraves at Lewis Ponds and Summerhill Creeks. Telegraph first used. Vic.—Separation of Port Phillip—erected into independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold in various localities. "Black Thursday," Feb. 6th, a day of intense heat, when several persons died and a vast amount of damage to property was occasioned by fires. Qld.—Agitation for separation from New South Wales. S.A.—Financial depression. Tas.—Serious exodus of population to goldfields on mainland. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Destruction of Gundagai by flood—77 lives lost. Arrival of the *Chusan*, first P. and O. mail steamer from England. S.A.—First steamer ascends the Murray River to the junction with the Darling. Tas.—Meeting of first elective Council protests against transportation. Payable gold discovered at The Nook, near Fingal, and at Nine Mile Springs.
- 1853 Tas.—Abolition of transportation.
- 1854 N.S.W.—Russian war-scare and volunteer movement. Vic.—Opening of first Australian railway—Flinders Street to Port Melbourne. Riots on Ballarat goldfields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, Dec. 3rd.
- 1855 N.S.W.—Opening of railway—Sydney to Parramatta. Introduction of responsible Government. Vic.—Proclamation of Constitution. Qld.—Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt. Tas.—Responsible government.
- 1856 N.S.W.—First elective Parliament. Pitcairn Islanders placed on Norfolk Island, which was placed under jurisdiction of Governor of New South Wales. Vic.—First Parliament under responsible government. S.A.—Responsible government. Tas.—First Parliament under responsible government. W.A.—A. C. Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt.
- 1857 N.S.W.—Heavy floods. Wreck of the *Dunbar* (119 lives lost), and *Catherine Adamson* (21 lives lost), at Sydney Heads. Select Committee on Federation. Vic.—Manhood suffrage. S.A.—First Parliament under responsible government. Exploration by Babbage and Warburton. Passage of Torrens' Real Property Act.
- 1858 N.S.W.—Establishment of manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. Telegraphic communication between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. S.A.—Stuart's explorations. Qld.—The Canoona gold rush.
- 1859 Qld.—Proclamation of Queensland as separate colony. Tas.—First submarine cable, via Circular Head and King Island, to Cape Otway.
- 1860 N.S.W.—Disastrous floods on the Shoalhaven and at Araluen. Vic.—Burke and Wills left Melbourne on their journey across Continent. Qld.—First Parliament under responsible government. S.A.—Copper discoveries at Wallaroo and Moonta.
- 1861 N.S.W.—Anti-Chinese riots at Lambing Flat and Burrangong goldfields. Opening of first tramway in Sydney—cars drawn by horses. Robertson's Land Acts. Messrs. Parkes and Dalley proceed to London as emigration lecturers. Regulation of Chinese immigration. Vic.—Conference of Statisticians, Melbourne. Burke and Wills perish at Cooper's Creek, near Innamincka, S.A. W.A.—Exploration of F. Gregory in the North-west.
- 1862 N.S.W.—Raid by bushrangers on the Lachlan gold escort (£14,000 taken). Abolition of State aid to religion. Real Property Act. Vic.—C. Gavan Duffy's Land Act. Qld.—McKinlay's explorations. Heavy floods on Fitzroy River. S.A.—Stuart crosses the Continent from south to north. W.A.—Severe floods—damage to property, £30,000. First export of pearl-shell.

- 1863 N.S.W.—Bathurst and Canowindra “held up” by bushranger Gilbert. Vic.—Inter-colonial conference at Melbourne. S.A.—Taking over of the Northern Territory. W.A.—Initiation of settlement in the North-west district. Establishment of Post Office (now Government) Savings Bank.
- 1864 N.S.W.—Frequent outrages by bushrangers. Qld.—First railway begun. First sugar made from Queensland cane. Opening of first railway. W.A.—Messrs. Panton, Harding and Goldwyer murdered by natives. Tas.—First successful shipment of English salmon ova.
- 1865 N.S.W.—Destruction by fire of St. Mary’s Cathedral, Sydney.
- 1866 N.S.W.—Passage of Public Schools Act of (Sir) Henry Parkes. Vic.—Political deadlock. Qld.—Financial crisis. S.A.—Introduction of camels for exploration, etc.
- 1867 Vic.—Imposition of protective tariff. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Gympie.
- 1868 N.S.W.—Attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh at Clontarf, near Sydney. Qld.—Passage of Act to regulate island labour traffic. W.A.—Arrival of the *Hougomont*, last convict ship. Tas.—First sod of first railway (Launceston and Western) turned by Duke of Edinburgh.
- 1869 N.S.W.—Establishment of Eskbank Iron Company. Vic.—Reduction of property qualification for members and electors of Legislative Council. W.A.—Opening of first telegraph line, from Perth to Fremantle. Tas.—Opening of second cable.
- 1870 N.S.W.—Opening of Intercolonial Exhibition at Sydney in celebration of centenary of Cook’s landing in Australia. Withdrawal of Imperial troops. Vic.—Intercolonial Congress at Melbourne. S.A.—Commencement of transcontinental telegraph. W.A.—Meeting of first Legislative Council under Responsible Government.
- 1871 N.S.W.—Permanent military force raised. Vic.—Increase of protective duties. Qld.—Foundation of Queensland National Bank. W.A.—Passage of Elementary Education Act. Forrest’s explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Biscoff. Launceston-Western railway opened for traffic.
- 1872 N.S.W.—International Exhibition at Sydney. Death of W. C. Wentworth. Qld.—Discovery of tin at Stanthorpe, copper at Mt. Perry, coal at Wide Bay, gold at the Palmer. S.A.—Cable from Java to Port Darwin. Completion of transcontinental telegraph line. W.A.—Cyclonic storms—destruction of town of Roebourne. Tas.—Completion of direct telegraphic communication with England.
- 1873 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Conference at Sydney. First volunteer encampment. Inauguration of mail service with San Francisco. W.A.—Warburton crosses from transcontinental telegraph line to head of De Grey River.
- 1874 N.S.W.—Triennial Parliaments Act passed. Intercolonial Conference. Qld.—Dalrymple’s discoveries on north-eastern seaboard. S.A.—Adelaide University founded. W.A.—Explorations by E. Giles. John and Alexander Forrest arrived at Overland Telegraph from Murchison. Fiji Islands ceded to Great Britain.
- 1875 Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island. S.A.—Wreck of the *Gothenburg*—Judge Wearing and other well-known Adelaide citizens drowned. Education Act passed. Explorations by Giles, Gosse, and Warburton. Tas.—Conference of Statisticians, Hobart.
- 1876 N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney (La Perouse) to Wellington (Wakapuaka). Vic.—Members of Legislative Assembly increased to 86. W.A.—Violent gale at Exmouth Gulf, number of pearling vessels wrecked, 69 lives lost. Giles crosses colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aborigines.
- 1877 Vic.—Deadlock on question of payment to members. W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia. Tas.—Discovery of rich gold-bearing quartz reef at Beaconsfield.
- 1878 N.S.W.—Seamen’s strike. Vic.—Visit to England of Victorian delegation re alteration of Victorian Constitution. “Black Wednesday”—wholesale dismissal of civil servants. Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration.
- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Killara. International Exhibition at Garden Palace, Sydney. First steam tramway. First issue of silver coin from Mint. W.A.—Celebration of 50th anniversary of foundation of colony. A. Forrest’s explorations in the Kimberley district, and discovery of the Fitzroy pastoral country.
- 1880 N.S.W.—Public Instruction Act passed. Sydney streets partially wood-paved. Vic.—Opening of first Victorian International Exhibition at Melbourne. Federal Conference, at Melbourne and Sydney.

- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration. Women admitted as students at University. Vic.—Reduction of property qualification for members and electors of Legislative Council, number of members increased to 42. W.A.—Cyclone near Roebourne wrecks number of pearling vessels. On the Ashburton, 1000 sheep destroyed by cyclone.  
First simultaneous Australian Census, population 2,250,194. Visit to Australia of T.R.H. Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales.
- 1882 N.S.W.—Garden Palace destroyed by fire. W.A.—Nugget of gold found between Roebourne and Cossack.
- 1883 N.S.W.—Discovery of silver at Broken Hill. Completion of railway between New South Wales and Victoria. Qld.—Annexation of New Guinea—repudiated by Imperial authorities.  
Federal Conference held at Sydney. Federal Council created.
- 1884 N.S.W.—Land legislation restricting sales by auction. Vic.—Appointment of First Public Service Board. W.A.—Stockdale's explorations.  
Federation Bill passed in Victoria. Similar measure rejected in New South Wales. British protectorate declared over New Guinea.
- 1885 N.S.W.—Military contingent sent to the Soudan. Opening of the Broken Hill Proprietary Silver Mines. Qld.—Agitation for division of the colony. W.A.—Gold found by prospectors on the Margaret and Ord Rivers in the Kimberley district. Tas.—Silver-lead discovered at Mount Zeehan.
- 1886 N.S.W.—Industrial depression. Wreck of the *Ly-ee-Moon*, *Coringamite*, and *Helen Nicol*. S.A.—Celebration of jubilee of foundation of colony. W.A.—Proclamation of Kimberley goldfields. Tas.—Discovery of gold and copper at Mount Lyell.  
First session of Federal Council met at Hobart on the 26th January.
- 1887 N.S.W.—Disaster at Bulli coal mine (81 lives lost). Peat's Ferry (Hawkesbury River) railway accident. S.A.—International Exhibition at Adelaide. W.A.—Cyclone destroyed nearly the whole pearling fleet off the Ninety-Mile Beach—200 lives lost. Gold discovered at Yilgarn and Southern Cross.  
Australasian Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Destructive bush fires. Centennial celebrations. Restrictive legislation against Chinese. Imposition of poll-tax of £100. Strike of coal-miners at Newcastle. Vic.—Second Victorian International Exhibition held at Melbourne. Members of Legislative Council increased to 48, and of Assembly to 95. Qld.—Railway communication opened between Sydney and Brisbane. W.A.—Favenc's explorations.  
Centenary of first settlement in Australia. Conference of Australian Ministers at Sydney to consider question of Chinese immigration. First meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science held in Sydney. Imperial Defence Act passed.
- 1889 N.S.W.—Destructive floods, Hunter River. Qld.—Direct railway communication established between Brisbane and Adelaide. W.A.—Framing of new Constitution.
- 1890 N.S.W.—Strike at Broken Hill. Maritime and shearers' strikes. Payment of members of Parliament. Destructive bush fires. Qld.—Wreck of the *Quetta*—146 lives lost. Floods and hurricanes. Industrial depression. W.A.—Granting of responsible government. Tas.—Opening of University.  
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference. Pre-censal Conference of Statisticians at Hobart.
- 1891 N.S.W.—Election to Legislative Assembly of 35 Labour members. Arrival of Australian Auxiliary Squadron. Collapse of several building societies. Cessation of assisted immigration. Death of Sir John Robertson. W.A.—Discovery of gold on the Murchison.  
Federal Convention in Sydney, draft bill framed and adopted. Second simultaneous Australian census. Population, 3,174,392.
- 1892 N.S.W.—Broken Hill miners' strike. Run on Government Savings Bank. Opening of Women's College, Sydney University. Vic.—Suspension of Railway Commissioners. W.A.—Discovery of gold by Messrs. Bayley and Ford at Coolgardie.
- 1893 N.S.W.—Departure by the *Royal Tar* of colonists for "New Australia." Electoral Act—"One man one vote." Direct communication, Sydney to Vancouver, established. Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1894 N.S.W.—Shearers' strike. S.A.—Adult Suffrage Bill assented to. Industrial depression.

- 1895 N.S.W.—Crown Lands Act of 1895. Death of Governor Sir R. Duff. Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes.  
Conference of Premiers at Hobart *re* Federation.
- 1896 N.S.W.—Death of Sir Henry Parkes. Re-organisation of Public Service. People's Federal Convention at Bathurst. S.A.—Departure of Calvert expedition.
- 1897 S.A.—Floods and storms at Adelaide. Death of Sir Thomas Elder. Earthquake and hurricane in Northern Territory. Town of Palmerston destroyed.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.
- 1898 N.S.W.—First surplus of wheat for export.  
Draft Federal Constitution Bill submitted to electors in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, and Tasmania. Requisite statutory number of votes not obtained in New South Wales.
- 1899 N.S.W.—First contingent of Australian troops to assist the British army in South Africa.  
Conference of Premiers in Melbourne to consider amendments in Federal Constitution Bill. Referendum—Bill accepted by New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Tasmania.
- 1900 N.S.W.—Old-age Pensions instituted. W.A.—Agitation for separation by gold-fields. Strike of railway engine drivers and firemen.  
Contingents of naval troops from N.S.W., Vic. and S.A. to assist in China.  
Commonwealth Constitution Act receives Royal Assent, 9th July. Mr. (afterwards Sir) Edmund Barton forms first Federal Ministry.
- 1901 Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney, and swearing-in of Ministry. Opening of first Federal Parliament at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York, who visited each State of the Commonwealth. Simultaneous Australasian Census—population of the Commonwealth, 3,773,801.
- 1902 N.S.W.—Disastrous explosion at Mount Kembla Colliery—95 lives lost. Women's franchise. Jubilee of Sydney University. S.A.—Reduction of number of members of both Houses of Parliament. W.A.—Opening of pumping station at Northam in connection with Goldfields water supply.  
First Federal Tariff.
- 1903 Vic.—Railway Strike (Enginemmen). W.A.—Opening of Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie water supply.  
Inauguration of the Federal High Court. Conference of Statisticians in Melbourne.
- 1904 N.S.W.—Reduction of members of Legislative Assembly from 125 to 90.
- 1905 N.S.W.—Re-introduction of assisted immigration.
- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliff, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Consummation of Commonwealth interstate Free-trade by cessation of special Western Australian tariff. Conference of Statisticians of Australian States and New Zealand, under the presidency of the Commonwealth Statistician. Papua taken over by Commonwealth.
- 1907 N.S.W.—Strike of coal-miners in Newcastle district. Vic.—Opening of first Australian Exhibition of Women's Work in Melbourne. Bakers' strike, Melbourne. Opening of telephone, Sydney to Melbourne.  
Imperial Conference in London—Australia represented by the Hon. A. Deakin, Prime Minister. Introduction of new tariff in Federal Parliament. Preference to United Kingdom. Allowance to Federal members of Parliament increased from £400 to £600.
- 1908 N.S.W.—Tramway employees' strike, Sydney. Fire at Newcastle—damage to property £150,000. Vic.—Railway accident at Braybrook Junction (Sunshine)—44 killed, 412 injured; compensation paid, £126,000.  
Yass-Canberra chosen as site of Federal Capital. Interstate Premiers' Conference at Melbourne. Visit of American Fleet to Australia.
- 1909 N.S.W.—Miners' strikes at Broken Hill and Newcastle. Arrest of strike leaders at Newcastle. Qld.—Opening of Queensland University. S.A.—Foundering of *Clan Ranald* in St. Vincent's Gulf—40 drowned. W.A.—Cyclone at Broome.  
Imperial Defence Conference in London—Commonwealth sends three representatives. Death at Parliament House of Sir Frederick Holder, Speaker of the House of Representatives. Commonwealth orders two destroyers and one first-class cruiser for fleet unit. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Commonwealth military defence. Loss of the *Waratah* with 300 passengers and crew.

- 1910 Vic.—Railway accident at Richmond—9 killed, over 400 injured; compensation paid £129,000. S.A.—Strike of transport workers at Adelaide. W.A.—Cyclone at Broome—several pearling vessels wrecked, 3 whites and many coloured fishermen drowned. Strike of tramway employees at Perth. Wreck of the *Pericles* off Cape Leeuwin.
- Rt. Hon. Sir G. H. Reid takes up duty as High Commissioner for the Commonwealth of Australia in London. Referendum on financial relations between the Commonwealth and the States. Proclamation taking over Yass-Canberra (in New South Wales) as site for Federal Capital. Penny postage. Visit of Scottish Agricultural Commission. Dutch squadron visits Australia. Arrival of the *Yarra* and *Parramatta*, first vessels of Australian navy. Australian Notes Act empowers Federal Treasurer to issue notes of various denominations. Admiral Sir R. Henderson visits Australia to advise on naval defence. First issue of Commonwealth notes.
- 1911 First Federal Census—population of the Commonwealth, 4,455,005. Transfer of Northern Territory to Commonwealth by South Australia. Federal referenda relating to Monopolies and Industrial Legislation—proposals rejected. Introduction of compulsory military training. Launch of C'wealth destroyer *Warrego* at Sydney. Establishment of penny postage to all parts of British Empire.
- 1912 Opening of Commonwealth Bank. First payments of Maternity Bonus. Turning of first sod at Port Augusta of Trans-Australian Railway (Port Augusta and Kalgoorlie). Resignation of leadership of Liberal party by Mr. Alfred Deakin, and appointment of Mr. Joseph Cook in his stead. Appointment of Administrators to Northern Territory and Federal Territory. Opening of Western Australian University. Gift of £1,000,000 to charities by Mrs. Walter Hall, Sydney, N.S.W. Numerous industrial disturbances: Brisbane tramway employees' and general strike; strike of miners at the Wonthaggi State coal mines.
- 1913 Arrival of battle cruiser *Australia*, and cruisers *Melbourne* and *Sydney*. Foundation stone of Commonwealth Building in London laid by the King. Federal Capital named Canberra and foundation stone laid. Appointment of Interstate Commission. Visit of Empire Trade Commission. Visit of Members of Empire Parliamentary Association.
- 1914 Visit of General Sir Ian Hamilton to report on military defence scheme. Double dissolution of Federal Parliament. Visit of British Association for the Advancement of Science. Serious drought affecting almost the whole of the C'wealth. S.A.—Increase of numbers of members of both Houses of Parliament.
- European War. Australian Navy transferred to Imperial Navy. Captured vessels added to Australian fleet. Submarine AE1 lost at sea whilst in service in the vicinity of New Britain. German Pacific possessions seized by Australian expeditionary force (military and naval). Australian troops offered to, and accepted by, Imperial Government. By 31st December, 31,000 volunteers of all ranks had left Australia for service overseas. Portion of Australian army was also mobilised and kept under arms till the destruction of the German Pacific fleet. German Cruiser *Emden* destroyed at North Cocos Island by H.M.A.S. *Sydney*.
- 1915 Opening of Broken Hill Proprietary's Ironworks at Newcastle, N.S.W. Mr. W. M. Hughes, Prime Minister in place of Mr. A. Fisher. Mr. Fisher appointed High Commissioner for the Commonwealth in London in place of Sir G. H. Reid, whose term of appointment had expired. Taking of Referendum, for purpose of giving increased powers to the Commonwealth, was abandoned after a conference with the State Premiers. New Department created to control the Navy, with Mr. J. A. Jensen as Minister of the Navy. Formation of Australian Wheat Board to control the marketing of the 1915-16 wheat harvest.
- Australian troops landed at Dardanelles on April 25th. Maj.-Gen. Bridges died from wounds. Loss of Submarine AE2 in operations at the Dardanelles. Census taken of Wealth and Income, and of Males in Australia between ages of 17 and 60. Subscriptions to Commonwealth War Loan, £13,000,000. Australian troops withdrawn from Gallipoli on December 19th. At end of year about 250,000 troops had been despatched from Australia or were in training.
- 1916 Visit to England of Prime Minister, Hon. W. M. Hughes, P.C. Record wheat harvest (180,000,000 bushels). Special recruiting campaign instituted. Australian troops transferred to France. Up to June, 262,000 troops had left Australia or were in training. Acquisition of a line of steamships by the Commonwealth. Military Service Referendum. (Compulsory powers in regard to military service, for the term of the war, outside the Commonwealth.) Strike of coal miners at Newcastle.
- 1917 National Ministry formed. Commonwealth elections. General strike. Trans-continental railway completed. Up to October, 313,000 troops had left the Commonwealth or were in training. Military Service Referendum.