

SOCIAL CONDITION.**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.**

The University of Melbourne.

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 recognised 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 other Universities. 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 £18,750 in 1919-20. Since 1853, the amount received from the Government has been £1,205,116—£222,922 for building and apparatus, £722,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vic. 34, and £259,694 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.

The system of junior and senior public and commercial **Examinations.** examinations was superseded in December, 1917, by examinations for Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates. Under the regulations the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous public examination are reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1920 :—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1920.

	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Examination—			
Intermediate	4,176	1,667	39·91
Leaving	2,047	955	46·65
Junior, Public	16	9	56·25
Senior, Public	11	5	45·45

Degrees. The number of degrees taken in 1920 was 387, all of which were direct, as against a total of 1,398 for the preceding five years, or an average of 280 per annum for that period. During those five years 1,389 persons obtained direct and 9 *ad eundem* degrees. Of the total number of 7,507 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 929 have been conferred on women, 923 of which were direct and 6 *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows :—446 Bachelor of Arts, 178 Master of Arts, 85 Bachelor of Medicine, 7 Doctor of Medicine, 83 Bachelor of Surgery, 13 Bachelor of Laws, 2 Master of Laws, 4 Doctor of Science, 62 Bachelor

of Science, 22 Master of Science, 18 Bachelor of Music, 8 Bachelor of Dental Science, and 1 Bachelor of Agricultural Science. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1920—the particulars for the years 1919 and 1920 being given separately :—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1919.			During 1919.			During 1920.			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 ..	1386	118	1504	74	..	74	97	..	97	1557	118	1675
Master of Arts ..	678	184	862	14	..	14	38	..	38	730	184	914
Doctor of Letters	7	1	8	1	..	1	1	..	1	9	1	10
Bachelor of Medicine	1339	15	1354	14	..	14	62	..	62	1415	15	1430
Doctor of Medicine	209	107	316	6	..	6	15	..	15	230	107	337
Bachelor of Surgery	1270	4	1274	14	..	14	62	..	62	1346	4	1350
Master of Surgery	29	..	29	1	..	1	3	..	3	33	..	33
Bachelor of Laws	486	12	498	17	..	17	29	..	29	532	12	544
Master of Laws ..	92	3	95	5	..	5	7	..	7	104	3	107
Doctor of Laws ..	16	23	39	..	..	..	5	..	5	21	23	44
Bachelor of Civil Engineering ..	208	2	210	7	..	7	10	..	10	225	2	227
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ..	42	1	43	3	..	3	2	..	2	47	1	48
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering	4	..	4	2	..	2	1	..	1	7	..	7
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering	7	..	7	2	..	2	2	..	2	11	..	11
Master of Engineering ..	82	..	82	1	..	1	1	..	1	84	..	84
Bachelor of Science	181	5	186	14	..	14	22	..	22	217	5	222
Master of Science	79	2	81	5	..	5	4	..	4	88	2	90
Doctor of Science	25	20	45	1	..	1	..	..	..	26	20	46
Bachelor of Music	25	2	27	..	..	..	3	..	3	28	2	30
Doctor of Music ..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2
Bachelor of Dental Science ..	147	..	147	11	..	11	18	..	18	176	..	176
Doctor of Dental Science ..	13	..	13	3	..	3	1	..	1	17	..	17
Bachelor of Veterinary Science ..	60	..	60	6	..	6	2	..	2	68	..	68
Master of Veterinary Science ..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	1
Doctor of Veterinary Science ..	7	..	7	1	..	1	..	..	..	8	..	8
Bachelor of Agricultural Science	23	..	23	1	..	1	2	..	2	26	..	26
Total ..	6415	501	6916	204	..	204	387	..	387	7006	501	7507

Students attending lectures, and under-graduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past ten years, the total in 1920 having been 2,530 as compared with 1,237 in 1910, thus showing an advance of 105 per cent. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 160 per cent. in the period mentioned. Details for the last five years are given in the following statement :—

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1916 to 1920.

Year.	Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.			Number of Students Attending Lectures.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1916 ..	264	100	364	852	445	1,297
1917 ..	237	136	373	842	490	1,332
1918 ..	297	133	430	910	538	1,448
1919 ..	495	141	636	1,415	572	1,987
1920 ..	591	155	746	1,910	620	2,530

Of the number attending lectures in 1920—2,530—625 were students in Arts and Education, 313 in Laws, 186 in Engineering, 782 in Medicine, 212 in Science, 164 in Music, 147 in Dentistry, 7 in Agriculture, 37 in Veterinary Science, and 47 in Architecture, and 10 were doing Science Research Work.

University finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year 1920 is given below :—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1920.

	General Account.	Other Accounts.	All Departments.
	£	£	£
Receipts—			
Government Grants ..	29,800	7,742	37,542
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	54,475	12,900	67,375
Other sources	2,503	9,804	12,307
Total	86,778	30,446	117,224
Expenditure	70,032	38,469	108,501

In addition, the University received £19,044 from private benefactors, to be held in trust for scholarships and other purposes.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

**The
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, Methodist, and Roman Catholic 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. 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 recognise the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

Information relating to the foundation and progress of Trinity, Ormond, and Queen's Colleges is given in the *Year-Book* for 1917-18 on pages 319 to 321.

**Trinity
College.**

This college, which was established by the Anglican Church, is open to students of all religious denominations, and the same remark applies to the Trinity College Hostel. The latter was established for the benefit of women students of Trinity College, and is an integral part of that college. 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.

The Warden of the college is J. C. V. Behan, M.A., LL.B. (Melb.), M.A., B.C.L. (Oxon.)—first Rhodes Scholar for the State of Victoria, formerly Stowell Civil Law Fellow and Dean of University 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.**

This college, which was established by the Presbyterian Church of Victoria, 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 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.

The *Year-Book* for 1919-20 contained a statement of the nature of the college buildings, and reference was made to recent additions and alterations.

The library of the late Mr. Robert Harper, of Melbourne, with two of Mr. Harper's handsome and beautifully carved oak bookcases, have been presented to the College Library by Mrs. Harper. Sir John MacFarland has presented his library of mathematical and physical books. Mrs. W. G. Sharpe has presented some beautifully bound volumes from the library of her late husband; and the scientific and classical prizes won by the late Dr. David Skinner of Beechworth have been presented by his widow and daughter.

The Master of the College is D. K. Picken, M.A. (Camb., Glasg., Melb.), formerly Professor of Pure and Applied Mathematics in Victoria University College, Wellington, N.Z. All inquiries as to admission, scholarships, etc., should be made to him.

Queen's College. This college was founded by the Methodist Church of Victoria and its lectures are open to non-resident as well as resident students. It is capable of accommodating about 80 students in residence. The buildings comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the Master, tutors, and students. The building is now being enlarged at a cost of some £35,000, and, when completed, will include a central tower, a memorial chapel to soldiers who were connected with the college, a new common room, a large library, and additional lecture rooms; as well as some 40 additional students' rooms. The Master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc., Litt.D.

Newman College. Newman College is built in the section of the University Reserve granted by the Government of Victoria to the Roman Catholic Church in the Act of Incorporation of 2nd October, 1882. The foundation-stone was laid by the late Archbishop of Melbourne (the Most Reverend Thomas Joseph Carr, D.D.), on 11th June, 1916. It was founded by the generosity of the Roman Catholic people of the State of Victoria, and cost nearly £70,000. The Archbishop Carr Memorial Chapel, to be erected at a cost of £20,000, will be a striking addition to the College. A separate study and a bedroom are provided for each student. There is also provision of hot and cold shower and plunge baths, a large covered-in swimming bath, a gymnasium, and billiard and recreation rooms. The library consists of more than 10,000 volumes. Lectures, demonstrations, and private tuition are given in the College with the special object of assisting students in their University work. Women students as well as men extern students are admitted to all college lectures. Students of the college enjoy the advantage of residence, instruction in the doctrine and discipline of the Roman Catholic Church, and tuition supplementary to University lectures.

All applications for information, &c., should be made to the Rector. The present Rector is the Very Rev. Albert Power, S.J., M.A. He is assisted by the Rev. Dominic Kelly, S.J., M.A., the Rev. Wilfrid Ryan, S.J., B.A., F.G.S., and a staff of competent lecturers and tutors.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University extension.

Tutorial Classes have been organized by a Joint Committee consisting of representatives from the Extension Board and the Workers' Educational Association respectively. The Government grants a sum annually (now £2,250) for the development of Tutorial Class work. In addition to these classes, which are in operation in the city and suburbs, the University Extension Board has this year (1921) inaugurated a system of advice by correspondence for the benefit of country students. This advice will be confined to social and cultural subjects, and is not intended for those seeking to qualify for degrees. Its purpose is rather to cultivate knowledge of such subjects as will elevate the mind and fit the student the better to discharge the more social functions of his daily life and citizenship. The Government grant in this connexion is £1,500.

Professor Meredith Atkinson is Director of Tutorial Classes and Chairman of the University Extension Board. The Secretary to the Board is Mr. S. D. Thompson, Education Department, 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. This Act has since been amended by Act No. 2993, passed on 31st December, 1918, and by Act No. 3059, passed on 14th September, 1920, both of which deal mainly with salaries of teachers.

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 at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two 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 infants' 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, and 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

**Compulsory
Clauses.**

may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days. Attendance 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.

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301 Boards of Advice were abolished and a School Committee of not more than seven persons for each school was substituted. The members of School Committees are nominated by the parents of children attending the school 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 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.

Free subjects. The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—English (literature, reading, recitation, spelling, writing, composition, grammar), mathematics (arithmetic, algebra, geometry), nature knowledge (geography, science, nature-study), hygiene, history and civics, manual work (drawing, needlework, woodwork, and other occupations such as modelling in clay or plasticine, or brush drawing, or weaving with some material other than paper, for example, raffia), singing, physical training, and, where practicable, agriculture for boys, cookery and domestic economy for girls, gymnastics, and swimming. Pupils buy their own books and material.

New Features. The course of study (issued February, 1920) 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, 1921, 70 woodwork centres in operation, having an attendance of approximately 10,000 boys; and 61 cookery centres, with an attendance of 5,733 girls, also two laundry centres, with 284 girls in attendance.

Five Schools of Domestic Arts, attended by about 1,000 girls, have been established. In these schools girls over twelve years of age are given during the last two years of their school life a training in the subjects of a comprehensive domestic arts course. At the same time their general education is continued. In addition to the instruction given in the woodwork centres woodwork is being taught to about 600 boys in 53 country schools by the head teachers 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. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, assists teachers in obtaining the best seeds, seedlings, ornamental trees, and flowering shrubs. It has a nursery of its own at Oakleigh, maintained partly by members' subscriptions (2s. 6d. yearly), partly by a Government grant. Most of the State schools are affiliated with the Society, which sent out last year at reduced rates to its members 21,000 packets of seeds, 550,000 seedlings, 10,000 rooted roses, 5,000 dahlias, 4,500 chrysanthemums, and 125,000 mixed trees and shrubs.

Special days.

In addition to Arbor Day (to which reference has been made), other special days—Anzac Day, Discovery Day, Empire Day, and Bird Day—call for mention. The landing of the Australians and New Zealanders on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25th April, 1915, has been commemorated in the schools each year since, on Anzac Day, by the holding of a special service, consisting of hymns and addresses together with the saluting of the flag. The schools of Victoria held a celebration of Empire Day in 1905, being among the first of the oversea Dominions to recognise the day, and have since enthusiastically kept it in remembrance year by year. The first sighting of Australia by Captain Cook in April, 1770, is commemorated on Discovery Day. 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. Over 61,000 of the older school children have joined the "Gould League of Bird Lovers," which was established for the protection of bird life.

Patriotic Fund.

During the Great War the teachers and children in the State schools, with the aid of departmental officers, school committees, and parents, were instrumental in raising a sum of £440,000 for the Department's War Relief Fund. Particulars are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 333 and 334. The fund was closed in 1920.

League of Young Gardeners.

A widespread movement is being fostered for the carrying out of "home projects," as has been done in the United States of America. The idea is to link school, home, and farm in one common interest. The growing of sugar-beet, the culture of the potato, the selection of wheat, and the rearing of poultry and stock have engaged the united attention of children, teachers, and parents in various Victorian school districts.

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. Two of these went abroad during the war period, and were engaged on war service. The medical officers 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.

Dental Clinic.

A dental clinic has been established and is under the charge of four dental officers. Great service is being rendered by this clinic.

Teachers' remuneration and classification.

Under the provisions of Act No. 3059, assented to on 14th September, 1920, male teachers are divided into five and female teachers into four classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries for males, excluding junior teachers, range from £156 to £600, and those for females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, range from £120 to £420. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are three classes of junior teachers, with salaries ranging for males from £60 to £84 and for females from £50 to £70. Sewing mistresses receive £60 yearly.

State schools, teachers, and scholars, 1872 to 1919.

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 eight years ended 1916-17; the reference is to 31st December and the years ended on that date respectively for returns for years prior to 1901-2 and for the years 1917, 1918, and 1919:—

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1919.

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
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
1916-17	2,202	6,275	254,033	161,034	221,202
1917 (31st Dec.) ...	2,236	6,455	†214,048	†161,574	†186,523
1918 ,,	2,272	6,570	240,664	164,350	208,861
1919 ,,	2,280	*6,518	235,292	160,345	207,633

* In addition to these teachers, 386 were temporarily employed on 30th June, 1919.

† These are the figures for the *six months* ended 31st December, 1917; hence the apparent falling off in "number enrolled" as compared with the number for the preceding year. Had the figures been compiled to June, 1918, probably the new number would have been greater, not less than that of the previous year. An increase in the same ratio as the increase in average attendance would fix the number at 255,280.

Children's attendance at school, 1872 and 1919.

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 77 out of every 100 school days.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number and percentage of children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year ended 31st December, 1919 :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1919.

Ages.	Net Enrolment of Children Attending.—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	12,768	6.1	...	...	12,768	6.1
6 to 14 ,, ...	180,747	87.1	6	6.2	180,753	87.1
14 years and upwards ...	14,021	6.8	91	93.8	14,112	6.8
Total ...	207,536	100.0	97	100.0	207,633	100.0

Children of school age receiving instruction.

The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on 31st December, 1919,* was 225,457, and of these 222,881 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 2,576. 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 will be apparent that the number of children whose education is being wholly neglected is very small.

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)

* The latest statistics published by the Education Department of Victoria, (*vide* "Report of the Minister of Public Instruction for the year 1919-20") are for the period ended 31st December, 1919.

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 1919.

The appended statement shows the number of registered schools, of instructors in same, and of individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, and in a number of subsequent years, including the latest year for which particulars are available:—

REGISTERED SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE,
1872 TO 1919.

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
1909-10	641	2,067	49,964
1914-15	509	1,879	52,638
1915-16	495	1,909	57,400
1916-17	495	1,970	56,193
1917-18	499	2,002	58,366
1918 (31st December)	493	1,903	56,996
1919	486	1,991	56,684

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 1919 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, also 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.

There are three full courses of training at the Teachers' College. The first of these is for Kindergarten or Infant Teachers, the second for Primary Teachers, and the third for Secondary Teachers. In the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 338 to 340, particulars are given of the nature of the work carried on at the College, the qualifications which must be possessed by students desiring admission thereto, the fees payable, &c.

DISTRICT 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 the University. A further important function of these institutions is to give the necessary preliminary education to boys and girls intending to take up teaching. 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 six years in the case of pupils who enter from the sixth grade of the elementary school after obtaining the qualifying certificate, or for four or five years in the case of those who enter from the eighth grade after completing the course of the elementary school. 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. Ten of the District High Schools are specially equipped for the teaching of agriculture in addition to providing other

courses of secondary education. There are district high schools at Ararat, Bairnsdale, Ballarat,* Benalla, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Coburg, Colac,* Dandenong, Echuca, Essendon, Geelong, Hamilton, Horsham, Kerang, Kyneton, Leongatha,* Mansfield,* Maryborough, Melbourne (two), Mildura,* Sale,* Shepparton,* St. Arnaud, Stawell, University (Carlton), Wangaratta,* Warragul,* Warrnambool,* and Williamstown. The schools the names of which are asterisked are equipped with farms.

During the term ended 31st December, 1919, there were in attendance at these schools 6,177 pupils, of whom 3,165 were boys and 3,012 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 teachers the institution now known as the **University High School.** School was opened in a State building in 1910, and the 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. In its management of the school the Department is aided by an advisory committee from the Faculty of Arts of the University.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Higher Elementary Schools and Classes. There are now thirty-seven higher elementary schools—at Beechworth, Boort, Bright, Camperdown, Casterton, Charlton, Chiltern, Clunes, Corryong, Daylesford, Dean, Dimboola, Donald, Euroa, Foster, Hampton, Inglewood, Korumburra, Kyabram, Lilydale, Nathalia, Nhill, Orbost, Portarlington, Portland, Rainbow, Rochester, Rushworth, Rutherglen, Sea Lake, Seymour, Swan Hill, Traralgon, Warracknabeal, Werribee, Yarram, and Yarrawonga. During the term ended 31st December, 1919, there were in attendance at twenty-eight of these schools 2,047 pupils, of whom 985 were boys and 1,062 were girls. The remaining nine schools have been established recently. Education in the higher elementary schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

There are also ten schools, eight in the metropolitan area and two in urban centres—known as "Central" schools—in which a preparatory course of secondary education is provided. These were attended by 1,392 pupils in 1919.

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 which will help to prepare them for their several careers in life. These schools 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 as under :—

No. and Kind.	Age Requirement of Candidate.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
100 Junior	Under 14½ years	4 years ..	Free tuition at a district high school and £4 for school requisites, or £12 for tuition and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or up to £5 for transit
40 Senior..	Under 18½ years	4-6 years	£40 towards expense of any course at the University
50 Junior Technical	Under 14 years	2 years ..	Free tuition at a junior technical school, or, in the industrial course at an approved district high or higher elementary school, and £4 for school requisites, also, in certain cases, up to £26 for maintenance or up to £5 for transit
55 Senior Technical at a Technical School	.. ..	3-5 years	Free tuition for full length of approved courses at approved technical schools; also £30 for day students or £10 for night students
4 Senior Technical at the Melbourne University	.. ..	2-3 years	£40 towards expense of a course in architecture, engineering, or science at the University
60 Teaching	14-17 years ..	3 years	As for "Junior"
20 Nominated courses	.. ..	4-6 years	Free tuition in agriculture, mining or veterinary science at the University; also, in certain cases, an allowance up to £26 for maintenance

In addition, free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum or for transit up to £5 per annum may be granted in the case of pupils of State junior technical and secondary schools who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances. Free tuition at State technical and secondary schools may also be granted in

the case of children of sailors or soldiers who lost their lives or became physically incapacitated while on active service in the Australian Imperial Force.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

Signing with marks. The number of marriages celebrated in 1920 was 14,898, and there were only 17 men and 10 women who showed their want of elementary education by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing. This indicates a very high elementary standard of education in this State, which in this respect occupies the highest position in Australasia.

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 brought 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 31st December, 1919, was 26.

The former lack of organized method in preparing pupils for courses in technical schools largely neutralized the efforts of the instructors in these institutions. In order to overcome this difficulty, junior or preparatory technical schools have been established in connexion with all the higher technical schools. These schools offer a course of two or three 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, and, as far as possible, to provide for the training of the expert technologist. 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, the Swinburne Technical College, and the Ballarat and Bendigo Schools of Mines, have an extensive curriculum embracing the most important industrial subjects. Of the smaller schools, some in country districts have courses in 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 schools for women's industries are the College of Domestic Economy and the girls' junior technical departments in the Swinburne, Ballarat, and Prahran Schools.

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 five years ended 1919-20. The expenditure in each of the three years 1917-18 to 1919-20 was greater than that for any year prior to 1917-18 —

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1915-16 TO 1919-20.

Name.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.	1918-19.	1919-20.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	1,276	1,179	1,796	2,757	2,561
Ballarat	8,393	8,383	10,800	11,668	11,923
Beechworth	864	723	1,480	778	797
Bendigo	5,033	5,396	6,814	7,442	7,317
Brighton .. .. .	..	..	757	23	833
Brunswick	9,850	5,216	4,043	4,116	5,603
Castlemaine	1,758	2,100	5,305	3,239	3,249
College of Domestic Economy ..	904	795	973	1,389	1,655
Collingwood	5,571	4,353	4,993	6,017	6,291
Daylesford	850	1,028	950	1,122	1,549
Echuca	475	600	1,136	2,755	1,697
Footscray	8,288	4,906	8,342	4,500	6,438
Geelong (Gordon Tech. Col.) ..	3,898	8,291	5,585	6,109	5,116
Glenferrie (Swinburne Tech. Col.)	8,443	11,338	16,579	16,160	10,216
Horsham	425	475	475	600	700
Kyneton	225	..	..	..	..
Maryborough	1,190	1,386	1,415	1,736	2,964
Melbourne (Working Men's Col.)	14,578	18,324	21,909	21,514	19,258
Melbourne Junior Tech. School	6,573	6,780	7,589	7,743	8,226
Nhill	199	..	..	..	..
Prahran	4,926	3,914	4,444	4,492	5,272
Sale	400	410	475	831	1,690
South Melbourne	5	5	11,033	1,898	5,053
Stawell (with Ararat Branch) ..	1,205	1,211	1,759	1,724	2,010
Sunshine	1,664	1,818	1,689	1,819	1,940
Warrnambool	1,892	2,860	4,464	2,861	2,646
Wonthaggi .. .. .	..	..	..	629	932
Other votes for technical schools	..	..	..	7,783	9,860
Miscellaneous	1,315	1,514	1,592	1,761	1,698
Total	90,200	93,005	126,397	123,466	127,494

Particulars relating to the Australian College of Dentistry and the Melbourne College of Pharmacy are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 to 519.

THE 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.

Working Men's College, Melbourne.

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.	
		£	s.
Preliminary Year for Diploma Courses	... ..	3	0 per term
Diploma Courses—Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining Engineering—			
First year	... ..	3	10 "
Second year	... ..	4	0 "
Third year	... ..	4	10 "
Diploma Course—Metallurgy—			
First year	... ..	3	10 "
Second year	... ..	4	0 "
Third year	... ..	4	10 "
Diploma Courses—Applied Chemistry—			
First year	... ..	3	10 "
Second year	... ..	4	0 "
Third year (Inorganic Diploma)	... ..	4	10 "
Fourth year (Organic Diploma)	... ..	4	10 "
Woolsorting	... ..	5	0 "
Art Course, Full	... ..	1	10 "
" " Half-Day	... ..	1	0 "

Evening Classes.

Arithmetic	} Various amounts ranging from 5s. upwards per term.
Algebra	... ..
Geometry	... ..
Trigonometry	... ..
Differential and Integral Calculus	... ..
Practical Geometry	... ..
Dressmaking	... ..
Millinery	... ..
Applied Mechanics	... ..
Applied Electricity	... ..
Architecture	... ..
Building Construction	... ..
Surveying	... ..
Hydraulics	... ..
Chemistry	... ..
Assaying	... ..
Metallurgy	... ..
Engineering Drawing	... ..
Science, Trade, Commercial, Mining, and numerous other Subjects	... ..
Evening Art and Applied Art Courses (Drawing, Design, Modelling, &c.)	10s. per term.
Preliminary Year for Courses for Experts' Certificates	15s. per term.
Evening Courses for Experts' Certificates	From 18s. 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 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 1920, amounted to £22,713.

Over 170 classes are held in the following departments:—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering and Science, 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 Applied Art School classes are held in the following subjects:—Drawing, Design, Modelling, Architecture, Building Construction, Geometrical Drawing, Practical Plane and Solid Geometry, Perspective, Blackboard Drawing, Still Life Painting, Anatomy, Figure Drawing, Figure Composition, Book Illustration, Lettering, Illuminating, Stencilling, Leather Embossing, Decorative Metalwork, Silver-smithing, Jewellery, Engraving, Die Sinking, Lead Glazing, Stained Glass, Plaster Casting, Signwriting, Ticket Writing, Lithography, Process Engraving, Weaving, Dressmaking, Millinery, and Plain and Decorative Needlework.

In the evening school the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers, geologists, electrical engineers, civil engineers

(municipal and hydraulic), mechanical and marine engineers, land surveyors, mechanical draughtsmen, public analysts, architects, carpenters, printers, signwriters and house decorators, plumbers, coach builders, and motor car body makers. The following figures give an indication of the comparative amount of work done at the College during the years 1916 to 1920 :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1916 TO 1920.

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,312	2,483	2,566*	2,640*	2,634*
Males over 21	424	390	503	488	449
" under 21—Apprentices	878	754	730	772	778
" " Others	708	937	991	1,049	1,095
Females	302	402	342	331	312
Fees received during the year ..	7,167	7,985	7,928	8,033†	16,300†
Average fee per student	61s. Od.	64s. 8d.	62s. Od.	60s. 10d.	124s. Od.
Number of classes	168	172	175	173	173
" instructors	89	95	103	102	97
Salaries paid instructors	15,206	16,411	16,864	17,666	20,027

* In addition, over 400 students were receiving vocational training for the Repatriation Department during 1918 and 1919, and 370 in 1920.

† This does not include fees for correspondence courses which amounted to £2,120 in 1919, and £4,461 in 1920. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

Public Library of Victoria. The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £326,946. 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 £1,613,164 at the end of 1920. 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 4,874 volumes were purchased, 2,925 volumes presented, 400 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 48,747 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1920. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 274,856 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. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 141,836 volumes during 1920, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 9,464. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of the year mentioned was 38,101, of which 1,025 were added during the year.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the end of 1920 contained 19,717 works of art, viz., 613 oil paintings, 4,722 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 14,382 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 during the year by 7 male and 16 female students, and the school of drawing by 49 male and 48 female students. 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 1920 it contained more than 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 1920 the expenditure on specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £300.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

Patent Office Library. There is a free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, which contains over 10,000 volumes, including the Patents Acts, official Gazettes and patents specifications of the principal countries of the world. 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 1919–1920 having been £2,000. Of these libraries 455 furnished returns in 1920, which show that they possessed 895,563 volumes, and received

£72,580 in revenue, that the total expenditure was £59,917—£9,990 on books, &c., and £49,927 on maintenance—and that 2,596,324 visits were paid to the 396 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition Buildings, Aquarium, and Museum. The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened for the purpose of an exhibition, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure, temporary annexes, &c., was £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 that occasion a further sum of £262,954 was expended. At the close of the exhibition there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904.

The receipts for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1920, amounted to £7,797, consisting of rents, £2,556, aquarium receipts, £2,369, and other receipts, £2,872. The expenditure totalled £5,994, viz.:—£1,875, expenses of the aquarium; and £4,119 for general maintenance, improvements to buildings, insurance and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust at 30th June, 1920, amounted to £2,909.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic Garden. The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established over 70 years ago, is situated on the south side of the Yarra, at a distance of about one mile from the city. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, etc. Associated with the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Domain, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The Botanic Gardens and the Domain are administered by the Lands Department, the Government House Grounds temporarily by the Federal Government, Alexandra Park by a Committee representing the Board of Land and Works and the Melbourne City Council, and Queen Victoria Gardens solely by the Melbourne City Council. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres, and, in addition to the divisions mentioned above, includes the grounds and buildings of the Observatory and the National Herbarium.

Records of the commencement and the progress of the Gardens until 1908 are to be found in the *Descriptive Guide to the Botanic Gardens*, published by the Government Printer in that year, and obtainable at a price of 1s.

The Gardens are open to the public daily from 7 a.m. in summer and 7.30 a.m. in winter, and are closed at sunset.

The present Director is Mr. J. Cronin, who was appointed to the office in 1910.

ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL AND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.

**Royal
Zoological
and Accli-
matisation
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 tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by electric train to Royal Park Station. 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, such as the hippopotamus, giraffe, Indian elephant, &c., are exhibited there, 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.

A brief statement of the history of this society and of the work carried on by it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17; pages 528 and 529. The membership subscription is 10s. per annum. Two shows are held each year, one in the autumn and one in spring. The members' monthly meeting is held on the second Thursday of each month.

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 sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. Stanley E. R. Church, at 243 Collins-street, Melbourne, 'Phone Central 6097.

**Other
societies.**

There are about 40 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

**Public
reserves.**

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes having been 6,202½ acres in 1920. A list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 529 to 533.

A further statement showing the number and area of reserves in 17 of the largest towns outside Melbourne was given on page 533 of the same volume.

At the end of 1920 there were in the State 3,115 regular churches and chapels, and 1,605 other buildings where religious services were held—a total of 4,720 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,095 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars in regard to the different denominations :—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1920.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ...	387	709	540	1,249
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ...	275	549	257	806
Free Presbyterian ...	3	9	1	10
Methodist ...	274	324	401	1,225
Independent or Congregational ...	80	86	28	114
Baptist ...	80	112	63	175
Lutheran ...	23	50	11	61
Salvation Army ...	538	138	27	165
Church of Christ ...	75	85	19	104
Church for Deaf Mutes ...	1	1	...	1
Other Protestant ...	15	24	25	49
Roman Catholic Church ...	333	516	227	743
New Church (or Swedenborgian) ...	1	2	...	2
Catholic Apostolic Church ...	2	1	...	1
Greek Orthodox Church ...	1	1	...	1
Jews ...	5	5	2	7
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints ...	2	3	4	7
Total ...	2,095	3,115	1,605	4,720

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,950, and the teachers 22,247; the number of scholars on the rolls was 221,123—100,135 males and 120,988 females.

Religions of the people.

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1911. The particulars obtained at the census of 1921 have not yet been classified and made available for publication :—

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	35·14
Protestant so stated	13,376	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	4,390	7,799	·61
Unitarian	314	198	512	·04
Church of Christ	7,356	9,155	16,511	1·29
Seventh Day Adventists	551	892	1,443	·11
Other Protestant Churches	3,811	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 Catholic	385	88	473	·04
Jews	3,214	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 six census years 1861 to 1911 :—

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	1·23
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."

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

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 should 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 subject to 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 with rates of contribution which afterwards proved to be, in almost every instance, inadequate. 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 barrister of not less than seven years' standing 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 three-pence 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 fifteen societies having a membership of over 500 each, eleven have assets whose ratio to liabilities exceeds, or closely approximates to, 20s. in the £1, and of all the societies only one has a lower ratio than 18s. 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)—gave power to societies to reinsure with the Government or with an approved life assurance company their liabilities to members who were engaged on naval or military service in connexion

with the war. The number of societies which took advantage of the scheme was twelve, and the number of their enlisted members was about 15,120. The sum paid by them in sickness and mortality benefits on account of those members under the contracts which were reinsured was about £232,000, and of this sum £46,500 was reimbursed to the societies by the Government in accordance with the arrangement made with it.

The amounts of the sickness and mortality benefits paid by all societies on account of members who took part in the war was about £286,000. In addition, they paid the contributions of enlisted members during their absence from Australia. The amount of these contributions was about £152,000.

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 is 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, investment in which is optional and on which interest is payable at 4 per cent. The amount invested in the stock at the end of 1920 was £347,319. 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 their society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

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

**Benefits of
friendly
societies.**

funeral expenses on the death of a member or his wife. The usual sickness benefits are 20s. per week during the first six months of 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 death of member on payment of medical fees.

The funds of the societies are divided into two or more portions. Of these the most important are 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 8d. to 10d. per week. The total sum payable by each member thus ranges from about 1s. 2d. to 1s. 10d. per week. There are in addition small initiation fees, and, in some instances, registration fees for second wives.

**Progress of
friendly
societies.**

The total membership of Victorian friendly societies increased from 142,275 in 1910 to 143,021 at the close of 1920 — an increase during the ten years of only 746

members.

There was a slight decline in the membership between the ends of the years 1914 and 1917 due to deaths of members while on active service and to the absence from Victoria of many young men who might otherwise have joined the societies. A marked decrease in the membership of nearly all societies occurred in 1918 and 1919—the decrease in the earlier year being 7,004 in male and 1,619 in female members, and in the later year 3,918 in male and 1,360 in female members. In 1920 there was a further decline of 757 male and 502 female members, making a total loss for the three years of 11,679 males and 3,481 females. This numerical decrease was principally due to a dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies which led to the resignation of nearly all the medical officers as from 1st February, 1918. A settlement of the dispute has now been arrived at between the Association, and nearly all the larger societies.

The funds increased during the ten-year period, 1910-20, from £2,122,602 to £3,173,678, there being an addition of £1,051,076. They are well invested, the return from the sick and funeral fund for the year 1920 averaging slightly over $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. There is a number of female societies, the particulars for which are included above. At the end of 1920 these had a membership of 9,694 and funds amounting to £72,772.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the years 1916-1920 :—

Year.	Membership.	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
		£	£	£
1916	157,889	672,650	536,259	2,912,178
1917	158,181	653,055	547,730	3,017,503
1918	149,558	658,435	602,855	3,073,083
1919	144,280	664,526	680,943	3,056,666
1920	143,023	681,232	564,220	3,173,678

The statement which follows contains further information in regard to the societies for the five years, 1916 to 1920 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1916 TO 1920.

(Including Female Societies.)

	1916.	1917.	1918.	1919.	1920.
Number of societies ..	46	46	46	49	55
Number of Branches ..	1,522	1,516	1,496	1,489	1,475
Average number of members ..	157,819	158,035	153,870	146,919	143,651
Number of members sick ..	28,189	26,468	28,326	46,612	29,063
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed ..	261,077	275,388	306,054	406,817	294,818
Deaths of members ..	1,909	2,479	2,525	2,211	1,381
Deaths of registered wives ..	502	478	473	751	471
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund ..	361,380	357,525	352,973	367,878	358,726
Income of incidental fund ..	282,955	264,710	275,022	265,672	289,367
Other Income ..	28,315	30,820	30,440	30,976	33,139
Total Income ..	672,650	653,055	658,435	664,526	681,232
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund ..	246,712	251,250	308,804	375,733	250,589
Expenditure of incidental fund ..	265,508	268,647	265,954	276,442	282,592
Other Expenditure ..	24,039	27,833	28,097	28,768	31,039
Total Expenditure ..	536,259	547,730	602,855	680,943	564,220
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund ..	2,734,274	2,840,549	2,884,718	2,876,863	2,985,000
Amount to credit of incidental fund ..	108,767	104,830	113,898	103,128	109,903
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund ..	2,650,796	2,762,036	2,808,057	2,783,425	2,889,409
Amount invested—incidental fund ..	98,299	93,519	105,329	103,128	109,871
Amount invested—other funds ..	64,786	67,916	71,047	71,268	76,679
Total invested ..	2,813,881	2,923,471	2,984,433	2,957,821	3,075,960
„ funds ..	2,912,178	3,017,503	3,073,083	3,056,666	3,173,678

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.

Secessions and expenses. Societies lost through secessions 8.2 per cent. of their members in 1920, 8.5 per cent. in 1919 and 7.5 per cent. in 1918, as compared with 6.0 per cent. in 1917. The higher secession rates in the last three years were due mainly to the dispute between the British Medical Association and the societies, which is referred to in a previous paragraph. They were due, in part, to a number of members who had been on active service and whose contributions had been paid for them while absent from Australia having failed to resume payment of contributions on their return. As a rule, most of the secessions are those of new members who allow their membership to lapse before they have time to appreciate its value. Expenses of management absorbed nearly 19 per cent. of the contributions to all funds during 1920. This ratio is considerably below the usual rate in industrial assurance business. When it is remembered that the benefits and contributions are usually payable fortnightly and that this entails a great deal of administrative work, it will be seen 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 1903-7. 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.

Sickness and mortality experience, 1914-20. The following statement shows the number of weeks' sickness experienced by male members of ordinary friendly societies, and the number per effective member, in respect of which claims for sick pay were received in 1914 (the last year unaffected by the war), 1917, 1918, 1919, and 1920; also the number of deaths of male members of such societies in those years and the number per 1,000 effective members:—

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.			Deaths.	
		Number.	Number per Effective Member.		Number.	Number per 1,000 Effective Members.
		Weeks.	Weeks.	Days.		
1914..	125,952	216,520	1	4	1,263	10.03
1917..	128,989	257,847	2	0	2,409	18.68
1918..	125,667	288,088	2	2	2,457	19.55
1919..	119,308	382,247	3	1	2,080	17.43
1920..	114,797	278,401	2	3	1,313	11.44

The large increase in the sickness rate of 1919 was due chiefly to members who had been on active service having deferred until their return to the Commonwealth their claims for sick pay for incapacity arising out of sickness experienced and wounds received during previous years. It was also due in part to the influenza epidemic of that year.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

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 fewer 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 recognise 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 and 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 Minister may now require the occupier of any factory, shop, or place to provide for the use of the employees a dining-room and a bath-room, and for the use of the female employees a rest-room. 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 1896 by Sir Alexander Peacock. 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, the Governor in Council may appoint a Special Board and define the scope of its operations. The Board consists of from six to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employees), who 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 three new Special Boards (the Flock Board, the Nickelware Board, and the Wholesale Soft Goods Board), were carried in both Houses of the Legislature during 1920.

On 31st December, 1920, there were 161 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 165,000 employees.

A Wages Board, having been constituted, meets (until the first Determination is made) as often as it chooses, usually once a week, at the Factories Office. An officer of the Department of Labour acts as secretary. The members of the Board are paid 10s. a sitting, with the addition of necessary out-of-pocket expenses. Members are paid for not more than seven meetings in the first twelve months after the constitution of the Board, and for not more than four meetings in any subsequent year. 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 Department of Labour 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 Department of Labour, 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 employer within two months from the date same became due, to sue in a civil court for the amount of wages owing to him.

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 forty-seven Determinations. Since 1st January, 1915, it 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. Mr. Justice S. McArthur 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 decision decides every reference to the Court. Since its re-constitution in 1915 it has dealt with twenty-nine cases. The determination of the Court may now be altered by the Wages Boards without the leave of the Court if twelve months has elapsed since the date of the last Determination of the Court.

Rise in earnings.

During the year 1920 Determinations made by 151 Boards appointed under the Act were in force. The following statement shows the average weekly wage paid to

employees in certain trades (1) before the first Determination was made, (2) in 1914, and (3) in 1920, the figures for the two last mentioned years being the amounts determined by Wages Boards:—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employees.		
	Before First Determination was made.	In 1914.	In 1920.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aerated Water	1 6 7	1 17 8	3 5 11
Agricultural Implements	1 19 5	2 10 1	3 18 9
Asphalters	2 2 10	2 13 8	3 19 0
Bedsteadmakers	1 12 2	2 9 6	3 14 1
Boot	1 3 2	2 1 7	2 17 2
Boot Dealers	1 6 11	2 0 11	2 7 3
Bread	1 12 6	3 2 7	4 19 4
Brewers	1 14 4	2 10 2	4 10 7
Brushmakers	1 3 1	2 4 9	3 9 2
Butchers	1 17 8	3 1 2	3 14 8
Candlemakers	1 4 8	2 4 2	3 13 1
Carpenters	2 7 6	3 3 10	5 2 7
Clothing	1 0 0	1 6 9	2 7 0
" Waterproof	1 2 3	1 17 4	2 10 8
Commercial Clerks	1 10 7	2 9 6	3 0 4
Coopers	1 15 7	3 6 3	5 4 2
Engravers	1 16 11	2 5 11	4 0 3
Farriers	1 15 2	2 4 5	4 4 2
Furniture Trade—			
(a) European (Cabinet making &c.)	1 9 1	2 5 10	3 11 7
(b) European (Mantelpieces) ..	1 13 6	2 9 7	4 0 10
Glassworkers	1 14 11	2 7 3	4 7 2
Grocers	1 7 4	2 6 8	2 18 11
Hairdressers	1 2 9	2 2 7	2 13 10
Ice	2 10 3	3 4 7	4 18 5
Jewellers	1 13 10	2 9 8	3 11 3
Lift Attendants	1 5 0	2 7 8	3 4 6
Malt	2 1 1	2 17 1	4 2 10
Marine Store	1 5 7	2 5 0	3 16 0
Men's Clothing	1 18 4	2 14 6	3 4 7
Millet Broom	1 7 11	2 2 9	3 8 0
Painters	2 0 9	2 14 11	4 4 8
Picture Frame	1 3 11	1 19 9	3 6 3
Plate Glass	1 7 6	2 5 11	4 0 1
Plumbers	1 12 8	2 14 4	4 5 7
Pottery	1 8 1	2 0 8	3 9 8
Saddlery	1 7 1	2 2 11	3 12 11
" Country	1 10 7	1 16 11	2 12 8
Slaters and Tilers	2 0 8	3 7 3	4 2 9
Starch	1 0 9	2 0 6	2 17 11
Stonecutters	1 15 11	3 2 0	4 10 7
Tanners	1 11 9	2 10 6	3 16 9
Watchmakers	1 14 2	2 19 2	3 14 3
Wicker	1 2 11	2 2 4	3 3 9
Woodworkers	1 13 2	2 11 9	4 4 10
" Country	2 9 0	2 14 11	4 6 8

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 Department of Labour 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.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1919 (No. 3048), passed at the close of the year 1919, made some important changes in the law, but it consists mainly of machinery clauses designed in the interests of the smooth working of the law.

Two short Amending Acts passed at the close of the year 1920 made important alterations in the law.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1920, No. 3093, altered the procedure regarding the appointment of Wages Boards. In the past these Boards could only be created whilst Parliament was in session. The Governor in Council now has the power to appoint a Wages Board whenever it is deemed expedient to do so, and to alter the scope of any existing Wages Board.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1920, No. 3112, introduced a new principle in the legislation. For many years the closing hour of shops has been fixed by law. This Act for the first time fixed a legal opening hour which affects butchers' shops in the Metropolitan District.

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, Wednesday and Thursday at 8 p.m., on Friday at 9 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m. Tobacconists' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at 8 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 9 p.m. on Friday; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it may be kept open until 8 p.m. on Friday and 9 p.m. on Saturday. Butchers' shops are required to close at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, at 6 p.m. on Friday, and at 12.30 p.m. on Saturday. They are required to be closed till 6 a.m. on Saturday and 7.30 a.m. on other week days. 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 9 p.m., and on Saturday 1 p.m.

The Fourth Schedule shops are :—

- Booksellers' and news agents' shops.
- Confectionery and pastry shops.
- Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.
- Eating-houses.
- Fish and oyster shops.
- Flower shops.
- Fruit and vegetable shops.

The hours for closing such shops are not fixed by the Act, but the Governor in Council is given power to make Regulations for their closing.

The following are the only cases where such Regulations have been made :—

—	Regulation Gazetted.	Sun.	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	F.	Saturday.
		P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)..	27th October, 1920	..	6	6	6	6	9	1
Fruit and Vegetable (May to September inclusive only) ..	16th October, 1918	..	7	7	7	7	..	..

Chemists' and tobacconists' shops have been excised from the Fourth Schedule, the former having to close at the same hours as ordinary shops and the latter now having their closing hours regulated.

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1915* the Minister can grant permission to keepers of certain shops known as "small shops," 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. (now altered to 9 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 and tobacconists outside the Metropolitan Districts 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 Friday and 10 p.m. on Saturday. If they choose Saturday they are required to close at 7 p.m. on Wednesday and 10 p.m. on Friday. 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 1920, 27,362 shops, employing 31,123 persons, were registered, as compared with 26,085 shops, employing 28,517 persons, in 1919.

There are in all 27 classes of shops registered in Victoria. The increase shown for the year 1920 over 1919, viz., 1,277 shops and 2,606 employees, is not confined to a few classes of shops, but is general. All kinds of shops have increased in number, but the principal growth is among:—

- (1) Tobacco-selling shops—182—caused in most cases by the abolition of "suspensions" and the closing of tobacco shops at 8 p.m. (Act No. 3048). Prior to this amendment of the law any class of shop could stock tobacco and sell it during the day provided it was put out of sight under lock and key when the hour fixed for the closing of tobacco shops arrived. The sale of tobacco must now stop at 8 p.m. or at such other hour as is mentioned above. It cannot be stocked and locked away, and, as a consequence, confectioners and other Fourth Schedule shopkeepers have opened separate shops for the sale of tobacco, in most cases adjoining or part of the building which contains their principal shop. They close their tobacco shop at 8 p.m., or at such other hour as is specified in the Act, and continue trading till a later hour in other goods;

- (2) Drapery shops, 144 ;
- (3) Grocers' shops, 116 ; and
- (4) Dairy produce and cooked meat shops, 92.

The cause of the three last-mentioned increases was, without doubt, the great prosperity of the community during the year 1920.

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 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 object 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 1920 the figures were 8,531 factories, with 116,846 employees.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Government Labour Exchange. 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 an exchange under the control of the Labour 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. The Exchange 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 Exchange for the year 1920 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

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.
1920—January	502	721
February	322	491
March	504	358
April	457	179
May	419	306
June	700	305
July	695	151
August	583	291
September	343	305
October	270	367
November	216	656
December	353	327

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

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1916	13,483	2,847	3,956
1917	10,448	2,127	3,885
1918	8,743	1,729	4,807
1919	11,792	1,400	6,656
1920,	11,798	1,357	4,457

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the

Exchange states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the Exchange 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. Also in connexion with the engagements effected in the course of a year allowance must 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 1920 the number of railway tickets advanced was 3,429, valued at £2,554, of which £2,250 has been refunded. During the past twenty years 40,853 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £31,011, of which £20,614 has been refunded.

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking. On that date the Commonwealth Government established the Department of Repatriation, with Senator the Hon. E. D. Millen as first Minister. Its objects are to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment for disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

Organization of Department. A description of this is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, page 369.

Main Work of Department. This may be summarized under the following headings :—

- (1) To provide suitable employment for those who are able to follow their pre-war occupation or one similar to it, and pay sustenance until such opportunities are presented.
- (2) To restore to the fullest degree of efficiency possible, by means of vocational training, those who, on account of war service, are unable to follow their pre-war occupations, and during the period of such training to assure trainees adequate sustenance.

- (3) To train, by means of vocational training to a journeyman status in suitable trades or callings, those who by reason of their enlistment whilst under the age of twenty years and subsequent service have lost through their war service what opportunities they may have had of becoming efficient tradesmen.
- (4) To assist University students, articled clerks, and apprentices to complete their studies or articles of indenture.
- (5) To provide educational facilities and maintenance allowances for children of deceased and totally and permanently incapacitated soldiers, so that they may ultimately engage in agricultural, industrial, commercial, or professional occupations.
- (6) To provide gratis all necessary medical treatment, surgical aids, and medicaments, and all hospital fees and transport expenses thereto and therefrom, with allowances for certain classes for the period of treatment. Where hospital treatment is not feasible treatment may be given in the home or wherever else may be approved. The sanction of the Deputy Commissioner must first be obtained.

**Activities of
Department.**

The activities of the Department are classified under five sections—Employment, Vocational Training, Land Settlement, Housing, and Assistance. Under Assistance a wide variety of benefits is extended, including the provision, renewal, and repair of surgical aids, medical treatment, establishment in small businesses, furniture loans and grants, educational grants, and equipment with tools of trade. In co-operation with the State Governments, a land settlement scheme has been devised, whereby the Federal Government loans the States money to provide the required holdings and to construct railways or other works necessary to their successful operation. Under this scheme the Commonwealth Government will also make available an average grant of £625 per settler. This will afford every soldier possessing the natural aptitude and fitness an opportunity of ultimately owning his own farm. With the exception of South Australia, all the States have agreed to extend the benefits of the Land Settlement scheme to munition and war workers, to whom the Commonwealth Government advance of £625 will be available.

For disabilities solely due to war service, discharged nurses, sailors, and soldiers are entitled to free medical treatment, renewal and repair of surgical aids, dressings, and necessary mixtures. To obviate travelling, 172 local medical officers have been appointed in Victoria, but expenses incurred for any medical or surgical purposes are undertaken by the Department, which likewise defrays any necessary

expenses in a hospital or other approved place. While undergoing treatment, and upon the certificate of a Departmental Medical Officer, a married soldier receives sustenance at the fixed rate of £2 17s. per week (inclusive of pensions), with 3s. 6d. per week added for each child. In a like situation, a soldier without dependants receives sustenance at the rate of £2 2s. per week unless provided for in an institution. By arrangement with the Pharmaceutical Society, upon the production of the Medical Officer's prescription to any pharmacist, such mixtures or dressings as may be required will be immediately supplied free to the soldier.

Sustenance Rates. The sustenance rate that may be granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations is—

- (a) To a soldier without dependants a weekly income, inclusive of pension, of £2 2s.
- (b) To a soldier with a wife a weekly income, inclusive of their combined pensions, of £2 17s.

An additional allowance of 3s. 6d. per week is made for each child up to four, the maximum sum payable being £3 9s. per week.

Most forms of assistance and benefits under existing regulations have definite time limits within which application must be made for same, ranging from six months (as in the case of unemployment sustenance) to five years (in the case of furniture advances) from the date of the soldier's or sailor's discharge from the Army or Navy.

General Pension Rates. The pension payable upon total incapacity ranges from £2 2s. to £3 per week to a member of the Forces, and from 18s. to £1 10s. per week to his wife, according to the rate of pay received by him. The pension payable on the death of a member of the Forces ranges from £1 3s. 6d. to £3 per week in the case of a widow, and from £1 to £3 per week in the case of a widowed mother. In cases of widows with dependent children, and widows without children whose circumstances justify an increase, where the pension is less than £2 2s. a week a sum not exceeding that amount may be granted. Special pensions, not exceeding £4 per week, may be granted to members of the Forces who have been blinded as the result of war service, or are suffering from tuberculosis, or who are totally and permanently incapacitated for life to such an extent as to be precluded from earning other than a negligible percentage of a living wage.

Summary of Work of Department. The following is a summary of the work of the Department in Victoria from its inauguration, 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1921 :—

Employment—

Number of applications received	..	..	71,161
Number of positions filled	..	..	40,950

Assistance other than vocational training and employment—

Number of applications received	..	..	150,389
Number of applications approved	..	..	136,601

Assistance granted—

Gifts	..	..	..	..	£2,390,319
Loans	..	..	..	..	418,041
General	..	..	..	..	496,537

Total £3,304,897

Housing Scheme,

Under the provisions of a Housing Scheme, administered by the War Service Homes Commission, a nurse, a returned soldier, a munition or war worker, a soldier's widow or his dependants are entitled to a maximum advance of £800 for the purpose of acquiring a dwelling. The period of repayment will vary according to the material of the house. Principal and interest are repayable as rent, the rate of interest included in the repayment being 5 per cent. per annum.

Workers' Compensation Act.

The principal provisions of this Act are outlined in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 552 to 558.

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

A State Accident Insurance Office was established shortly after the passing of the Workers' Compensation 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 1920-21 the premiums paid and outstanding, less reinsurance premiums and refunds, amounted to £39,363, as compared with £32,473 in the previous year. The number of claims settled and in course of settlement was 2,312, and a sum of £21,283 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 £5,580 would be required to provide for the outstanding liability in respect of the unsettled claims.

As a result of the operations of the office to the 30th June, 1921, there was at that date a credit balance of £31,202, of which £28,500 represented a general reserve fund and £2,702 was set aside as a special provision for bonuses.

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 1920-21.

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 ..	26,249	13,977	14,750	†7,506
1917-18 ..	27,426	14,250	19,000	3,824
1918-19 ..	28,650	17,567	23,000	6,986
1919-20 ..	32,473	21,412	26,000	†10,080
1920-21 ..	39,363	26,863	28,500	2,702

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

† Bonus distributed amongst policy holders.

In spite of the various reductions in rates made by the Department, in accordance with the experience gained, the net premium income for the year 1920-21 is the largest amount secured since the office was established.

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 30th June, 1921, was 54. 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 £303,500.

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.

Up to the present (November, 1921) one scheme of compensation has been certified by a Judge of County Courts in accordance with Section 13 of the Act.

The Revenue Account and Profit and Loss Account for the year ended 30th June, 1921, and the balance-sheet as at the end of that year are appended :—

Schemes of Compensation.

Accounts.

STATE ACCIDENT INSURANCE OFFICE.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1921.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Claims	93	2	11	25,409	13	9
Less claims recovered						
Provision for unadjusted claims as at 30th June, 1920	4,033	1	10	4,126	4	9
				21,283	9	0
Provision for unearned premiums				16,535	8	0
Provision for unadjusted claims				5,580	0	0
Net Revenue, carried down				10,507	12	8
Total				£53,906	9	8

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Premiums for year	41,140	10	1	39,362	15	3
Less reinsurances and rebates	1,777	14	10	14,543	14	5
Provision for unearned premiums, 30th June, 1920						
Total				£53,906	9	8

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1921.

	£	s.	d.
Administration Expenses, Act 2750	200	0	0
Agents' Expenses and Commission	1,811	10	8
Expenses of Management, including Salaries	4,571	13	0
Net Profit	5,201	14	0
Total	£11,784	17	8

	£	s.	d.
Net Revenue, brought down	10,507	12	8
Interest on funds at Treasury	1,277	5	0
Total	£11,784	17	8

BALANCE-SHEET AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1921.

<i>Liabilities.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Unearned Premiums				16,535	8	0
Outstanding Claims				5,580	0	0
Sundry Accounts unpaid—						
On Account Agents	192	5	0			
Others	28	17	8	221	2	8
Bonus Distribution Account 1920 (amounts unclaimed)				1,163	14	8
General Reserve				26,000	0	0
Balance of Profit appropriated—						
General Reserve	2,500	0	0			
Bonus Reserve	2,701	14	0	5,201	14	0
Total				£54,701	19	4

<i>Assets.</i>	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount of Funds at Treasury				26,967	18	9
Premiums due				122	17	10
Treasury Interest Accrued				316	3	1
Stamps on Hand				131	5	0
General Reserve Fund				28,000	0	0
Bonus Distribution Fund, 1920—						
Balance at Bank	1,138	14	8			
Cash on hand	25	0	0	1,163	14	8
Total				£54,701	19	4

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered relief to persons in necessitous circumstances or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1920, was 218. The total receipts of all the organizations were £2,730,029, of which £2,091,673 was contributed by the Government and £638,356 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure was £2,640,613. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year in charitable and reformatory institutions was 15,693, and there were no less than 159,094 distinct cases of out-door relief. With regard to the out-door 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 out-door relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.— INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1919-20.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (Including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals	52	2,236.6	53,948	60,101	293,762	353,863	291,649
Women's Hospital	1	173.8	3,714	2,825	37,560	40,185	25,625
Children's Hospital	1	161.5	14,191	2,800	38,124	40,924	39,625
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	33.3	3,002	318	6,708	7,021	4,472
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	65.0	..	5,447	594	6,041	6,041
Heatherton Sanatorium	1	90.8	..	3,349	3,776	7,125	7,125
Convalescent Homes	2	33.3	..	282	2,681	2,963	2,368
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions	4	308.5	11,053	3,218	25,637	28,855	23,117
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving House	10	5,841.0	..	294,459	30,790	325,249	325,249
Foundling Hospitals	2	308.5	..	3,613	7,253	10,866	9,954
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	327.0	..	19,763	21,671	41,434	42,425
Total	76	9,579.3	85,908	395,975	468,551	864,526	777,650

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—INMATES,
RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1919-20—continued.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.				£	£	£	£
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	1,916·0	456	22,495	36,185	58,680	58,275
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	64·0	10	..	6,050	6,050	3,125
Freemasons' Homes ..	1	16·0	..	..	2,743	2,743	1,454
Benevolent Societies ..	74	..	14,966	12,953	26,270	39,223	38,255
Orphan Asylums ..	10	1,776·4	..	5,268	35,558	40,826	45,212
Total ..	94	3,772·4	15,432	40,716	106,806	147,522	146,321
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools ..	12	555·5	12,189	238,844	11,677	250,521	250,521
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	35·0	..	1,762	1,968	3,730	3,730
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	26·4	..	466	1,772	2,238	2,195
Female Refuges ..	10	694·5	..	2,172	32,632	34,804	34,509
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	4	151·0	..	495	6,757	7,252	6,926
Prison Association of Victoria	1	..	450	446	334	780	911
Gaols and Penal Establishments	15	756·0	..	61,947	..	61,947	61,947
Total ..	44	2,218·4	12,639	306,132	55,140	361,272	360,739
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners ..	..	..	39,842	1,348,100	..	1,348,100	1,348,100
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	1	122·8	..	650	4,766	5,416	4,225
Charity Organization Society	1	..	373	..	2,361	2,361	2,681
Free Dispensaries ..	2	..	4,900	100	732	832	897
Total ..	4	122·8	45,115	1,348,850	7,859	1,356,709	1,355,903
Grand Total..	218	15,692·9	159,094	2,091,673	638,356	2,730,029	2,640,613

The receipts of all charitable institutions for the year 1919-20 amounted to £1,319,982, of which £681,626, or 52 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £1,230,566. Of the Government contribution, £592,666 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 Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1911 it was £732,090, and it had increased to £1,230,566 in 1920.

This is equivalent to an advance of about 68 per cent. The aid from Government increased by 56 per cent., and that from other sources by 103 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, 1911 TO 1920.

Year ended 30th June.	Receipts.			Expenditure.			
	Government aid.	Other.	Total.	Building and extra-ordinary Repairs.	Main-tenance.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
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 ..	525,682	418,050	943,732	89,904	846,339	8,863	945,106
1917 ..	543,225	502,598	1,045,823	132,601	850,357	10,619	993,577
1918 ..	541,817	465,809	1,007,626	67,254	895,919	8,968	972,141
1919 ..	578,055	497,945	1,076,000	62,144	963,647	16,504	1,042,295
1920 ..	681,626	638,356	1,319,982	66,191	1,155,558	8,817	1,230,566

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, 1919-20.

Description of Institution.	Daily average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average cost of each Inmate.		
			£	£	s. d.
General Hospitals	2,237	270,261	120	16	3
Women's Hospital	174	24,494	140	15	5
Children's Hospital	162	23,600	145	13	7
Eye and Ear Hospital	59	8,877	150	9	2
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	33	3,472	105	4	3
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	327	40,011	122	7	2
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ...	126	3,002	23	16	6
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	183	6,550	35	15	10
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	65	5,895	90	13	10
Heatherton Sanatorium	91	6,958	76	9	3
Receiving Houses for the Insane	5,926	309,532	52	4	8
Hospitals for the Insane					
Idiot Asylum					
Benevolent Asylums	1,916	57,054	29	15	7
Convalescent Homes	33	2,106	63	16	4
Blind Asylums	152	8,150	53	12	4
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	97	4,617	47	12	0
Orphan Asylums	1,776	34,571	19	9	4
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	12,746*	250,125	19	12	6
Female Refuges	695	34,066	49	0	6
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	151	5,725	37	18	3
Old Colonists' Association	64	2,989	46	14	1
Lara Inebriates' Institution	35	3,730	106	11	5
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	26	2,195	84	8	6
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	123	3,425	27	16	11
Freemasons' Home	16	1,409	88	1	3
Total	27,213	1,112,814	40	17	10

* Including children boarded out with their own mothers.

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 Orphan Asylums, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, 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.

Of the total income of charitable institutions in 1919-20 more than half was contributed by the Government, and 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. was collected from patients. The receipts of hospitals and other charitable institutions in the State under various headings are shown hereunder:—

SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS IN VICTORIA, 1919-20.

Receipts.	General Hospitals.	Women's Hospital.	Children's Hospital.	Eye and Ear Hospital.	Queen's Memorial Hospital.	Other Hospitals.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid	60,101	2,625	2,800	1,000	19,763	3,931	591,406	681,626
Municipal Grants	13,433	426	471	310	20,970	272	6,609	42,491
Private Contributions ..	38,001	3,394	7,532	722	..	2,047	45,741	97,437
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	18,536	6,783	683	8	..	1,140	2,821	29,971
Legacies, Bequests, Special Donations and Proceeds of Intestate Estates	112,787	14,689	20,559	2,314	1	6,362	31,926	188,638
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations	17,557	1,935	2,080	849	..	581	2,098	25,100
Contributions of Indoor Patients ..	42,043	6,623	1,553	1,212	..	1,733	73,309	126,473
Out-patients' Fees	11,135	458	1,718	1,797	..	560	..	15,668
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33,112	33,112
Interest or Rent	13,871	382	1,452	711	131	196	9,653	26,396
Amounts received on account of Influenza	13,989	..	1,829	..	..	108	..	15,926
Other Sources	12,410	2,870	247	360	569	957	19,731	37,144
Total	353,863	40,185	40,924	9,283	41,434	17,887	816,406	1,319,982

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, 1920, 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 1920. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns, seven of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows :—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1919-20.

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 ..	52	428	4,942,279	3,591	1,384
Women's Hospital ..	1	27	229,970	201	1,144
Children's Hospital ..	1	18	143,100	181	791
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	4	25,730	39	660
Eye and Ear Hospital ..	1	18	89,248	92	970
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	50	499,098	514	971
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ..	1	5	63,880	163	392
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home ..	1	8	155,625	116	1,342
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives ..	1	10	58,582	90	651
Heatherton Sanatorium ..	1	13	99,728	92	1,084
Receiving Houses for the Insane ..	2	22	63,782	107	596
Hospitals for the Insane ..	9	1,422	3,554,040	4,963	716
Idiot Asylum ..	1	20	114,288	312	366
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	187	1,971,978	2,401	821
Convalescent Homes ..	2	24	68,790	61	1,128
Blind Asylums ..	2	13	97,200	98	992
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ..	1	4	87,604	90	973
Orphan Asylums ..	10	91	898,248	1,772	507
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools ..	12	56	267,196	594	450
Female Refuges ..	10	178	641,303	849	755
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ..	4	21	91,934	189	486
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	11	46,796	50	936
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	39	46,151	55	839
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	1	22	73,669	104	708
Total ..	125	2,691	14,330,219	16,724	858

Charitable
Institutions
—inmates
and deaths.

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

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1919-20.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
General Hospitals	35,007	2,236·6	3,120	per cent. 8·9
Women's Hospital	4,846	173·8	122	2·5
Children's Hospital	2,846	161·5	408	14·3
Eye and Ear Hospital	1,376	59·4	7	·5
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	475	33·3	15	3·2
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital	4,608	327·0	214	4·6
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	269	126·0	10	3·7
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	236	182·5	7	3·0
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	290	65·0	13	4·5
Heatherton Sanatorium	267	90·8	76	28·5
Receiving Houses for the Insane	964	85·5	31	3·2
Hospitals for the Insane	6,674	5,498·5	444	6·7
Idiot Asylum	399	342·5	33	8·3
Benevolent Asylums	3,465	1,916·0	487	14·1
Convalescent Homes	816	33·3	..	..
Blind Asylums	199	152·5	1	·5
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	112	96·6	..	..
Orphan Asylums	2,530	1,776·4	3	·1
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	13,687	12,745·5	150	1·1
Female Refuges	1,295	694·5	14	1·1
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	555	151·0	2	·4
Old Colonists' Association	68	64·0	4	5·9
Lara Inebriates' Institution	202	35·0	..	..
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	81	26·4	2	2·5
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	125	122·8	1	·8
Freemasons' Home	18	16·0	1	5·6
Total	81,410	27,212·4	5,165	6·3

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 40 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 320 infants in the Female Refuges, and 221 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

The following statement contains particulars as to the number of beds, the number of patients treated, and the deaths which occurred in general hospitals during the year 1919-20. The receipts, distinguishing moneys received from the

Patients
treated, etc.,
in hospitals.

Government and other sources, and the expenditure per head for maintenance are also shown :—

**NUMBER OF PATIENTS TREATED IN GENERAL HOSPITALS ;
ALSO DEATHS, TOTAL RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE
PER HEAD FOR MAINTENANCE, 1919-20.**

Hospital.	Number of Beds.	Total Indoor Patients treated during Year.	Average Daily Number of Indoor Patients treated.	Number of Deaths.	Receipts.			Expenditure per Head for Maintenance.
					From Government.	Other.	Total.	
					£	£	£	£ s. d.
Amherst ..	100	370	48.0	16	2,188	866	3,054	64 16 3
Ararat ..	70	534	45.5	41	850	2,679	3,529	64 18 6
Ballarat ..	170	1,310	76.0	97	1,955	6,903	8,858	118 4 9
Beechworth ..	95	264	14.0	22	565	1,591	2,156	149 12 10
Bendigo ..	222	2,193	142.0	184	3,160	11,233	14,393	116 3 3
Castlemaine ..	75	572	32.8	38	800	2,508	3,308	92 14 11
Daylesford ..	52	272	25.9	16	469	2,597	3,066	90 3 1
Geelong ..	217	1,466	74.0	89	1,900	9,130	11,030	138 10 0
Hamilton ..	91	439	38.8	27	540	2,152	2,692	91 14 0
Kyneton ..	54	363	17.4	24	447	1,981	2,428	113 18 2
Maryborough ..	95	491	32.9	31	787	1,591	2,378	78 10 10
Melbourne ..	350	6,945	379.4	923	17,500	89,673	107,173	152 12 8
Alfred ..	168	2,827	177.0	239	6,348	41,044	47,392	168 1 10
Austin ..	290	572	242.7	245	5,050	17,533	22,583	84 9 11
Homœopathic..	98	1,884	99.6	154	1,500	15,502	17,002	123 19 11
St. Vincent's ..	122	2,403	126.1	193	4,500	20,825	25,325	151 7 5
Mooroopna ..	104	1,346	82.0	81	1,288	5,386	6,674	76 19 9
Sale ..	68	781	47.1	50	1,010	3,658	4,668	108 9 5
Stawell ..	66	366	21.1	31	383	1,648	2,031	120 4 9
Swan Hill ..	52	581	29.9	33	405	2,310	2,715	88 7 11
Wangaratta ..	65	708	31.0	58	872	3,369	4,241	97 18 9
Warrnambool..	92	594	42.0	41	600	3,371	3,971	95 12 10
*Other Hospitals	875	7,726	411.4	487	6,984	45,212	53,196	120 11 9
Total ..	3,591	35,007	2,236.6	3,120	60,101	292,762	353,863	120 16 9

* 30 in number.

The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year-Books* for 1915-16 and 1916-17 contain a statement of the circumstances associated with the foundation of the hospital in 1846, and a reference to its rebuilding in recent years.

It has always been the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain 350 beds, in which 6,945 in-patients were treated in 1919-20. In the out-patients' and casualty departments 34,538 persons were treated in that year. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 171,004.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1920, numbered 278,422, and the out-patients, 1,186,096.

In 1919-20 the Government grant for maintenance amounted to £17,500; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £754; private contributions amounted to £7,365; entertainments in aid to £80; bequests to £55,731; Hospital Sunday collections to £4,336; payments and contributions by in-door patients to £6,708; and out-patients' fees to £4,121; interest yielded a revenue of £4,016; and £6,562 was received from all other sources. The receipts for the twelve months reached a total of £107,173, and the expenditure was £58,070.

Attached to the Melbourne Hospital is the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine, which is endowed by the Trustees of the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust. The Institute is proving of valuable assistance in the many lines of Research which are being conducted by an efficient and highly-trained staff.

Other Hospitals, &c. Statements showing the nature of the work performed by other hospitals, societies, &c., are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 568 to 582, and 586.

HEALTH ACT 1919.

The main features of the Act are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 383 to 385.

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. It 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, 1920, 341 patients were treated at the sanatorium, 47 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number, 160 did very well, 82 were classed as incurable, and 29 were discharged at their own request, or for special reasons (some of these being cases sent in for a short period for educational purposes). Twelve deaths occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 58 patients remaining under care. The benefits of treatment and education that the institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages have now been received by 4,464 patients. Of these, 2,917 had the disease arrested or their condition much improved; 839 were incurable; 80 died; 570 left of their own accord; and 58 remained at end of 1920. 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 1920, 117 patients were treated, of whom 58 were discharged, their condition being much improved; 1 left of her own accord; 20 left, described as incurable; 5 died; and 33 remained under treatment at the end of the year. Sanatorium treatment has now been received by 1,778 patients. Of these, 1,501 were discharged cured or relieved; 45 left of their own accord; 163 were incurable; 36 died; and 33 remained on 31st December, 1920.

There is a sanatorium for intermediate and advanced cases at Heatherton, near Cheltenham Benevolent Asylum, containing 95 beds. There were on 1st January, 1920, 90 persons in the institution, and the number admitted during the succeeding twelve months was 158, making a total of 248 who received treatment during the year 1920. Of these, 78 were discharged, 80 died, and 90 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 Minister of Health.

St. John Ambulance Association. The work carried on by this Association is referred to in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and the injured. Full information in regard to the formation of classes may be obtained from the secretary, Mr. J. Harold Lord, 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone Central 1370.)

Victorian Civil Ambulance Service. This service, which is associated with St. John Ambulance Association, attended to 9,527 calls, of which 1,451 were accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1921; the mileage travelled was 83,534. In 1,869 cases no fee was paid. Country trips, to the number of 660, were undertaken during the year. The registered office and head depôt is situated at 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne. (Telephone Central 121.)

Charity Organization Society. A statement of the objects of this society appears in the *Year-Book* 1916-17, page 583.

The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1920, 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, £1,098; expenditure, £1,392; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £1,152; expenditure, £1,167; Emergency Relief Account—Donations and refunds, £111; expenditure, £122. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 2,007, of which 1,070 were new cases investigated. More than half of these new cases concerned returned soldiers or soldiers' dependants who came under the notice of the society, not as normal cases of distress, but through various patriotic and repatriation organizations. Since the outbreak

of war in 1914 the Society has been called upon to investigate approximately 7,500 cases of this class. During the year under review, 80 men and women obtained temporary or permanent employment through the Society's assistance, and 293 men were provided with work at the Society's wood-yard. The records of the Society now contain more than 30,000 social histories of distressed families and individuals.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria 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, 1921, 76 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 12 certificates, 15 bronze medals, 1 clasp to silver medal, and 1 silver medal were granted. The receipts during 1920-21 amounted to £464, and the expenditure to £450. 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 1920-21, 22 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 2 in Western Australia, 3 in Queensland, and 2 in South Australia. 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.

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.

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 1920-21 the awards granted totalled 908. A scheme

to encourage senior cadets to become efficient life savers is to be initiated, and it is hoped that by this means the national system of defence will be promoted, and the physique of the rising generation improved. The whole of the State schools in Victoria have become affiliated to the society, and it is expected that the awards will be considerably increased as the result of this connexion.

The objects of the society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1920, 1,837 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 1,581 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 211 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 £4,250 and the expenditure to £1,108.

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 following amounts were collected in each of the last six years:—1915, £15,911; 1916, £18,525; 1917, £19,020; 1918, £22,447; 1919, £18,586; and 1920, £19,750.

The total amount which has been collected since the movement was inaugurated in 1873 is £445,227.

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions in 1920 are given hereunder:—

	£
Melbourne Hospital	4,590
Children's Hospital	2,213
Alfred Hospital	2,020
St. Vincent's Hospital	1,644
Women's Hospital	1,932
Benevolent Asylum	750
Austin Hospital	1,442
Homœopathic Hospital	728
Eye and Ear Hospital	899
St. John Ambulance Association ..	600
Melbourne District Nursing Society	600
Queen Victoria Hospital	358
Other Institutions	890
Total distributed	18,666

On a day fixed, about the beginning of September in each year, ladies attired in white costumes sell sprigs of wattle blossom in the streets and elsewhere, and the amounts obtained are usually allotted to the children's charities. The sums which have been raised each year during the last seven years are as follows:—1914, £2,115; 1915, £2,553; 1916, £8,604; 1917, £7,000; 1918, £7,238; 1919, £5,393; and 1920, £4,304. From 1915 to 1920 the Wattle Day collection was organized and controlled by the Commonwealth Button Fund, and emblematic "buttons" and badges were sold in addition to wattle blossom. The Commonwealth Button Fund was wound up in January, 1921.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

**Federal
invalid and
Old-age
Pensions Act.**

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an Act passed in 1908 and Amending Acts. The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains, on pages 591 to 597, information relating to the amounts of pensions payable and the persons entitled to receive them. The amounts have since been increased.

The maximum pension, whether old-age or invalid, is 15s. per week, and the commencing age for old-age pensions is 65 years in the case of men (60 years where a man is permanently incapacitated for work) and 60 years in the case of women.

Invalid pensions are, subject to conditions set forth in the Act, payable to 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 became permanently incapacitated or blind in Australia, and is not receiving an old-age pension.

By an amending Act of 1916 provision was made whereby a claimant (or a pensioner) who was found by a Magistrate to be unfit to be entrusted with a pension could be granted a pension of 2s. per week, payment of which would be suspended until the claimant had become an inmate of a benevolent asylum. When such a person is admitted to a benevolent asylum payment for his maintenance at the rate of 10s. 6d. per week is made by the Commonwealth Government to the institution.

Amendments of the Act were made in 1917 which affected the payments to dependants of members of the Commonwealth naval and military forces.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1921, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 11,415; women, 18,970; total, 30,385. Invalid pensioners—men, 5,322; women, 5,852; total, 11,174.

Of the persons living in Victoria at or above the ages at which old-age pensions commence, 29 per cent. were receiving pensions on 30th June, 1921.

**Pensioners,
1901 to
1920-21.**

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, 1921, it had reached a total of 30,385 (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 shown in the following statement:—

OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA,
1901 TO 1921.

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
1917-18	29,159	8,901	38,060	1,168,498
1918-19	29,179	9,337	38,516	1,199,787
1919-20	29,565	10,277	39,842	1,348,100*
1920-21	30,385	11,174	41,559	1,533,430*

* This includes payments of pensions of 2s. per week to inmates of Benevolent Asylums. There were 653 such pensions in force on 30th June, 1921.

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. The number of claims granted in Victoria to 30th June, 1921, was 297,904 and the total of the allowances paid in the State to that date was £1,489,520.

For the year ended 30th June, 1921, the number of claims granted was 36,778, and the amount paid in allowances £183,890.

War Pensions. The number of war pensions in force in Victoria on 30th June, 1921, was 74,801, and the annual liability of the Commonwealth Government in connexion therewith was £2,167,490. Of the total number of pensioners, 26,053 were incapacitated members of the Forces, and 48,748 were dependants of deceased and incapacitated members.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

Lunacy
Department.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1919 and 1920 :—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1919 AND 1920.

	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1919.	1920.	
In State Hospitals	5,136	5,261	+ 125
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	579	454	- 125
Boarded Out	131	115	- 16
In Licensed Houses	73	82	+ 9
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses	18	13	- 5
Total Number of Registered Insane	5,937	5,925	- 12
In Receiving Institutions	84	93	+ 9
Total	6,021	6,018	- 3
Voluntary Boarders	43	51	+ 8
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers (not included in other statistics)	120	100	- 20

An increased admission rate—the highest so far in the history of the Victorian Lunacy Department—is the principal cause of an increased number resident at the end of the year. This increase totals 125, and it appears to be the direct result of the low increments of preceding years.

There is, however, a considerable reduction in the numbers of those patients who are out on probation—Trial Leave—from the State institutions, the result being that, although there are more patients in the State institutions and private licensed houses, there is a fall of 12 in the number of registered insane. With a small increase in the population of the State, the ratio of the insane to the sane is now 1 to 257.

The number of Voluntary Boarders seeking admission has risen to 193, and there are 100 cases of mental disorder in returned soldiers; both of these classes are excluded from the ordinary lunacy statistics.

The admissions to the institutions at Royal Park reached the high figure of 1,082, and the proper work of these reception hospitals is being defeated by the fact that incurable and altogether unsuitable cases,

clearly certifiable, are being sent there to the detriment of those cases who are sent for observation, or who are in an early stage of mental disorder and therefore more readily curable. On the other hand, the Voluntary Boarder system is bringing in more and more cases each year, and these patients being in an early stage of their malady are recovering to the extent of 86 per cent.

The number of admissions to Hospitals for Insane for each of the years 1916 to 1920 is given below :—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1916	342	317	659	61	52	113	772
1917	363	325	688	39	35	74	762
1918	305	356	661	41	60	101	762
1919	353	317	670	31	44	75	745
1920	421	354	775	44	45	89	864

The voluntary boarders are not included in the above figures. The number of such boarders admitted during the last five years was as follows :—136 in 1916, 140 in 1917, 163 in 1918, 167 in 1919, and 193 in 1920.

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected and reformatory children. There were at the end of 1920 three industrial and five 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, 1920, numbered 6,226—6,094 neglected and 132 reformatory children—and there were 25 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, 1916 TO 1920.

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.	
1916 ...	8,801	788	625	365	6	10,585
1917 ...	9,130	848	532	444	12	10,966
1918 ...	9,305	909	493	454	6	11,167
1919 ...	3,989	985	502	472	3	*5,951
1920 ...	4,128	1,021	448	497	...	*6,094

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.	
1916 ...	129	28	35	3	...	195
1917 ...	120	26	27	4	...	177
1918 ...	110	40	25	5	...	180
1919 ...	114	33	20	13	...	180
1920 ...	86	30	13	3	...	132

* Under the provisions of section 9 of the *Children's Maintenance Act 1919*, 5,392 children, who had previously been committed as "neglected" children and boarded out to their mothers, were discharged as wards of the State, but payments for their maintenance were continued to the mothers. At the end of 1920 there were 6,928 such children.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send to the Department reports as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 11s. 6d. per week for children under 12 months, and 8s. per week for children over 12 months old. These rates have been payable since 1st November, 1920. For the previous eleven months the rates were 10s. and 7s. respectively. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

Children committed to the care of the State, 1920.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1920 were as follows:—

Cases in which Parents were held to be—	Number.
Blamable—One Parent—	
Father deserted and mother an invalid	3
" " " dead	19
" " " in asylum	3
" " " in hospital	5
" " " poor	278
" divorced and mother poor	1
" drunkard " poor	1
" in gaol and mother poor	14
" " " dead	7
" of doubtful character and mother poor	2
" unknown and mother dead	15
" " " poor	49
Mother deserted and father dead	8
" " " an invalid	2
" " " poor	7
" drunkard " dead	3
" " " poor	1
" of doubtful character and father dead	20
" " " " poor	3
" " " " an invalid	8
" divorced and father poor	3
Both Parents—	
Father deserted and mother of doubtful character ..	2
" " " drunkard	4
" unknown " deserted	15
" " " in gaol	1
" " " of doubtful character	5
" " " in hospital	1
" " " in asylum	4
Parents deserted	34
" of doubtful character	4
" unknown	8
Total	530
Blameless—Both Parents—	
Father an invalid and mother dead	3
" " " poor	13
" " " in asylum	1
" " " in hospital	6
" dead and mother poor	69
" " " invalid	2
" " " in asylum	3
" " " in hospital	3
" in asylum and mother poor	8
" insane " dead	4
" in hospital " poor	2
" poor and mother dead	29
Parents poor	186
" dead	76
Total	405
Total number of children placed under control during the year..	935

CHILDREN'S MAINTENANCE ACT 1919, No. 3001.

A statement of the principal provisions of this Act is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 395 and 396. For the twelve months ended 31st December, 1920, assistance was granted under the Children's Maintenance Act in respect of 2,174 children, and 6,928 children were boarded out to their mothers at the end of the year, an increase of 722 as compared with the number at the end of the previous year, viz., 6,206.

The following statement shows the number of wards of the State and of children boarded out with their mothers for the years 1910 to 1920 inclusive :—

WARDS OF STATE AND CHILDREN BOARDED OUT WITH MOTHERS, 1910 TO 1920.

Year.	Number boarded out to Foster Mothers at end of Year.	Number boarded out with Mothers at end of Year.	Total number boarded out at end of Year.	Total Cost of maintenance of boarded out Children.	Other Wards of State.	Total Wards of State and Children† boarded out with Mothers.
1910 ..	2,645	2,230	4,875	£ 66,879	1,985	6,860
1911 ..	2,958	2,358	5,316	74,719	1,865	7,181
1912 ..	2,991	2,978	5,969	83,327	1,815	7,784
1913 ..	3,090	3,696	6,786	93,509	1,767	8,553
1914 ..	3,342	4,144	7,486	102,051	1,853	9,339
1915 ..	3,359	4,681	8,040	127,898*	2,136	10,176
1916 ..	3,817	4,984	8,801	140,752	1,979	10,780
1917 ..	3,979	5,151	9,130	147,794	2,013	11,143
1918 ..	3,981	5,324	9,305	153,350	2,042	11,347
1919 ..	3,989	6,206†	10,195	161,044*	2,142	12,337
1920 ..	4,128	6,928†	11,056	210,457*	2,098	13,154

* Payment for children over the age of two years was increased from 5s. to 6s. per week from 1st April, 1915, and from 6s. to 7s. per week from 1st December, 1919. On 1st November, 1920, payment was increased from 10s. to 11s. 6d per week for children under the age of 12 months, and from 7s. to 8s. per week for all over that age.

† Not wards of State.

‡ These children were wards of State prior to 1919.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The Governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1920 to £237,078, and that for reformatory school children to £2,910; the expenses of administration amounted to £10,137, making a total gross expenditure of £250,125. A sum of £11,563 was received from parents for maintenance, and of £114 from other sources, making the net expenditure £238,448. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1920, was 6,094; of this total, 4,128 were maintained in foster homes, 164 were in Government receiving depôts, 28 were in private industrial schools, 274 were in other institutions, 448 were at service earning their own living, 30 were in hospitals, 1 was in gaol, and 1,021 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1920, was 132. Of this number 86 were maintained

in private schools, 13 were in service earning their own living, 2 were in hospital, 1 was in gaol, and 30 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 statement which follows :—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1911 TO 1920.

Year.			Net Expenditure.	Year.			Net Expenditure.
			£				£
1911	..	..	93,781	1916	..	..	159,929
1912	..	..	103,092	1917	..	..	167,214
1913	..	..	114,264	1918	..	..	171,474
1914	..	..	122,564	1919	..	..	181,385
1915	..	..	149,324	1920	..	..	238,448

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

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 of this part of the Act, and gives particulars respecting the children under their care during 1920 :—

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 31.12.19.	Admissions during 1920.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.20.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Burwood Boys' Home	44	..	..	27	50
Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society ..	138	8	6	18	125
Clifden Home, Wedderburn ..	14	..	..	..	14
Gordon Institute, Melbourne..	110	5	5	31	96
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East	72	7	3	34	69
Methodist Homes for Children	216	3	13	51	233
Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East	11	4	..	4	10
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society	294	18	19	2	288
Presbyterian Rescue Home, Elsternwick	34	..	6	3	34
St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills	271	..	101	103	273
Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn	35	..	..	51	46
Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society	144	1	7	34	140
Sutherland Home	224	2	9	63	198
Ragged Boys' Home, Latrobe-street, Melbourne .. ..	..	2	..	26	49
Total	1,613	50	169	447	1,625

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, 1920, reached the large total of 16,955, viz., 6,251 (6,226 state wards and 25 incapacitated) under the control of the Neglected Children's Department; 6,928 boarded out with mothers, 1,625 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII. of the Neglected Children's Act, 308 in Foundling Hospitals, and 1,843 in Orphan Asylums.

Infant Life Protection Act.

With the 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).

On 31st December, 1920, there were 474 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of this Act. The deaths during the year numbered 75. In addition, 139 children became wards of the Neglected Children's Department by the operation of section 15 and 1 under section 17 of the Act. Two hundred and thirty-three cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Six female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

RELIEF FUNDS.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

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, and a fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances. On 31st December, 1919, there remained five widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each, and at that date the amount at credit was £17,614, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street, Melbourne, £5,607 was in Government inscribed stock and debentures, and £7 was cash in hand.

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND.

Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund.

A provision of the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1909* (No. 2240)—now the *Coal Mines Regulation Act 1915* (No. 2630)—relates to the constitution of a Fund called the Victorian Coal Miners' Accidents Relief Fund, to which

every person employed in a coal mine is compelled to contribute $4\frac{1}{2}$ d. 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 employers' contributions should commence from 2nd April, 1910. Committees were formed at the collieries (numbering 7 in 1920), their principal functions being to collect contributions and, subject to the approval of the Board, to allot the allowances.

During 1920 the contributions from employees amounted to £1,552, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £1,272. For the year ended 31st December, 1920, the total revenue was £2,543—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £442, and interest to £548, and the balance coming from the mine-owners (£778) and the Government (£775). The expenditure included £980 paid in allowances and £332 cost of administration. The accumulated funds amounted to £14,662—£8,700 invested in $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. Government stock, £5,950 in Commonwealth war loans, and £12 bank balance. Relief was given in 377 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents, there are 14 persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being 14. Two (2) fatal accidents occurred during the year. There are 11 widows, 2 mothers, and 24 children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities in 1920 and previous years.

WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

**The Watson
Sustentation
Fund.**

The circumstances under which this fund was inaugurated are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 612. Payments to beneficiaries were 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.

The following are the particulars of members (of the Bendigo Miners' Association) relieved, &c., and of receipts and expenditure:—From the inception of the fund in 1891 to the end of 1920 the total expenditure was £34,981, of which £31,243 represented sick pay and £3,106 donations to members and wives and families of deceased members. During 1920, 118 members were relieved and 27 died, and 62 were on the funds at the end of the year. The receipts for the year were £1,393. Sick pay for 1920 amounted to £1,694, donations to members and wives and families of deceased members to £21, and expenses of administration to £50; the total expenditure being £1,765. The balance in hand at the end of the year 1919 was £1,159, and at the end of 1920 £1,787.

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 1920-21 was 63, to whom £600 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £112. The accumulated fund on 30th June, 1921, was £15,606. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the Fund for that year (£708) an amount of £407 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, misfortune, or infirmity were unable to earn their living. A sum of £407 was distributed in this manner, £4 was expended on management, and £16 remained in the bank at the date of balancing.

PATRIOTIC FUNDS.

Patriotic Funds. The *Year-Book* for 1918-19 contains, on pages 391 and 392, a statement of the collections in money and the value of the goods contributed in the State of Victoria to the various Patriotic Funds from the outbreak of hostilities to the 31st December, 1918. The total amount for the State, including contributions received after the last-mentioned date, is estimated to have been well over £4,000,000.

IMMIGRATION AND LABOUR BUREAU.

Immigration Bureau. The Immigration Bureau, which is a branch of the Labour Department, deals with the subject of assisted immigration to Victoria.

On 1st March, 1921, a joint Commonwealth and State Scheme of Immigration came into operation, and from that date the Government of the Commonwealth assumed responsibility for the booking of passages for nominated and other settlers proceeding to Australia, and took over all administrative work in London, including advertising and the medical inspection of prospective settlers.

Approval of nominations is dealt with by the State Authorities, who also indicate the classes and numbers of persons who it is considered may be absorbed in the population without detriment to local artisans and other residents, and for whom it is desired that passages be arranged. To the States is also intrusted the matter of settling on the land or providing employment for new arrivals.

The State Government is now chiefly occupied and concerned, so far as land settlement goes, with the repatriation of Australian soldiers, and all the resources of the State are being called into requisition for their satisfactory settlement on the land. The Victorian Government, therefore, in the disposal of Crown lands, or in the subdivision of areas

repurchased from private owners, is giving first claim and preference to Australian soldiers as against all other applicants.

Subject to these conditions, the Government, through this Bureau and in other ways, affords all advice and assistance possible to prospective settlers arriving from overseas, whether desiring to take up land or to obtain employment. In the cases of private purchasers of land by new arrivals, valuations on their behalf will, if desired, be made by expert officers free of charge. Nominated passages may be arranged from Great Britain and certain European countries, also under special conditions from Canada and the United States of America. In the case of those not eligible to receive free passages under the British scheme, the Commonwealth Government contributes £12 per adult and proportionately for children towards the fares of approved nominees.

Nomination forms and all particulars as to rates, &c., may be obtained on application to the Officer-in-Charge, Immigration Bureau, 555 Flinders-street, Melbourne, with whom nominations should be lodged. Inquiries in Great Britain should be addressed to the Director, Commonwealth Migration and Settlement Office, Australia House, Strand, London.
