VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK 1924-25.

A. M. LAUGHTON, GOVERNMENT STATIST.

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Victorian Year-Book

1924-25

By

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FORTY-FIFTH ISSUE.

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PREFACE

THIS is the forty-fifth issue of the Victorian Year-Book.

The main object of the work is to show the progress made by the State during the year under review, and with this end the particulars appertaining to that year are compared with those relating to previous years. An endeavour is made to present such information as will assist legislators, publicists, and others in forming an opinion in regard to the most suitable methods to be adopted in the future in developing the natural resources of the State and promoting the welfare of the people.

The first part shows the progress of the State since the early days of settlement, and contains a description of the Constitution, as well as an epitome of Acts passed during 1924 by the State Parliament, lists of members of Parliament, articles on the Geology and Flora of the State, &c. Parts II., III., V., VI., and IX. deal with the wealth and progress of the community, as indicated by the growth of population, and by increases in bank deposits, in amounts assured with life offices, in volume of trade, &c., and details are given of the revenue and expenditure of the Government, and of municipalities. Parts IV., VII., and VIII. contain statistics relating to births, marriages and deaths, crime, education, charitable institutions, and other cognate subjects. Part X. a detailed account is given of the agricultural, mineral, manufacturing, and other productions of the State. The various parts were issued as soon as completed. The information in all parts has been brought up to the latest possible date, on many subjects to the middle of the year 1925, and in a few instances to a later date.

In part Vital Statistics information is given in regard to the seasonal prevalence of diseases (in months) in Victoria during the quinquennial period 1920-24. In the appendix will be found a table showing the number of employees and the amounts paid in salaries and wages

by the State Government, Federal Government in the State of Victoria, Municipalities, and certain corporate bodies and institutions in 1924-25 or the latest available year.

The statistics which appear in part Production include a series of tables showing, according to size of holdings, the land occupied in the State in March, 1925, and the cultivation and live stock thereon.

I have to thank the heads of Government Departments and the various experts who have supplied information and in other ways assisted in the preparation of this book. I also take this opportunity of thanking the members of my staff for their hearty co-operation and for the valuable assistance received from them. Special thanks are due to Mr. J. B. Hourigan (Assistant Government Statist) for supervising the preparation of the last three parts during my absence.

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

A. M. LAUGHTON, Government Statist.

Office of the Government Statist, Melbourne, 29th March, 1926.

