

| District.        | Total Area of District. | Area occupied. | Number of Occupiers. | CULTIVATION. |         |         |           |         |                  |        |                                     |             |               | PASTORAL. |         |            |            | PRODUCE.    |            |  |
|------------------|-------------------------|----------------|----------------------|--------------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|------------------|--------|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|---------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|--|
|                  |                         |                |                      | Wheat.       | Oats.   | Barley. | Potatoes. | Onions. | Maise for Grain. | Vines. | Orchards (Grossing Fruit for sale). | Dairy Cows. | Other Cattle. | Horses.   | Pigs.   | Sheep.     | Butter.    | Wool.       | Honey.     |  |
| Central ..       | 4,065,280               | 2,808,987      | 18,127               | 18,127       | 28,901  | 20,010  | 31,853    | 1,480   | 779              | 121    | 42,790                              | 146,654     | 120,536       | 94,593    | 44,167  | 1,002,627  | 13,327,006 | 7,900,062   | 16,161,883 |  |
| North Central .. | 2,929,920               | 2,105,551      | 5,816                | 16,640       | 18,945  | 2,869   | 11,601    | ..      | 10               | 165    | 4,312                               | 40,675      | 34,005        | 22,678    | 14,285  | 1,191,301  | 5,696,725  | 10,037,010  | 199,372    |  |
| Western ..       | 8,775,040               | 6,718,728      | 13,194               | 50,247       | 61,335  | 10,086  | 8,087     | 2,333   | ..               | 36     | 2,229                               | 20,112      | 176,797       | 62,814    | 57,801  | 4,126,789  | 27,340,095 | 37,290,229  | 520,458    |  |
| Wimmers ..       | 7,394,600               | 5,059,922      | 6,646                | 731,480      | 102,900 | 5,225   | 93        | 3       | ..               | 1,625  | 3,418                               | 22,603      | 27,864        | 66,141    | 4,604   | 2,126,938  | 1,874,007  | 19,365,011  | 1,237,850  |  |
| Malles ..        | 10,784,000              | 8,562,130      | 8,927                | 112,096      | 178,415 | 4,100   | 7         | ..      | ..               | 31,291 | 4,219                               | 21,934      | 21,363        | 63,906    | 9,146   | 668,466    | 5,809,974  | 5,411,802   | 112,570    |  |
| Northern ..      | 6,337,280               | 5,293,842      | 12,906               | 645,407      | 109,729 | 9,135   | 26        | 2       | ..               | 3,473  | 22,731                              | 96,834      | 111,241       | 90,543    | 43,540  | 1,976,484  | 12,411,981 | 15,549,989  | 841,067    |  |
| North-Eastern .. | 7,220,480               | 3,924,678      | 5,581                | 44,603       | 18,356  | 912     | 1,102     | 1       | 2,867            | 5,706  | 2,214                               | 70,102      | 146,102       | 31,229    | 29,223  | 668,584    | 9,290,128  | 6,653,390   | 851,286    |  |
| Glippaland ..    | 8,729,200               | 6,428,306      | 9,440                | 11,893       | 4,138   | 11,557  | 8,726     | 685     | 19,807           | ..     | 1,466                               | 159,472     | 187,343       | 41,323    | 38,843  | 801,710    | 25,245,448 | 4,967,294   | 124,091    |  |
| Total for State  | 56,245,760              | 36,806,224     | 80,037               | 2,705,223    | 517,229 | 63,764  | 61,295    | 4,904   | 23,126           | 42,467 | 83,369                              | 760,207     | 846,347       | 473,236   | 288,500 | 12,640,836 | 95,454,296 | 106,787,897 | 4,054,575  |  |

| TOTALS. |                   |           |                   |                         |             |            |  |
|---------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------|--|
| Year.   | Average Rainfall. | WHEAT.    |                   | Wool, Total Production. | LIVE STOCK. |            |  |
|         |                   | Area.     | Average per Acre. |                         | Cattle.     | Sheep.     |  |
| 1920    | 24.71             | 2,395,865 | 17.19             | 90,250,571              | 1,575,138   | 12,171,084 |  |
| 1921    | 30.63             | 2,611,108 | 16.80             | 103,512,777             | 1,760,389   | 13,235,818 |  |
| 1922    | 21.73             | 2,644,314 | 18.00             | 102,467,950             | 1,785,600   | 11,765,520 |  |
| 1923    | 26.12             | 2,454,117 | 15.60             | 82,218,361              | 1,991,397   | 11,060,761 |  |
| 1924    | 28.65             | 2,705,323 | 17.61             | 106,787,897             | 1,605,554   | 12,849,808 |  |

*Statistics of Wheat, Wool, Live Stock, and Rainfall in each District for 5 years; and Agricultural and Pastoral Statistics in detail, for the Season 1924-25.*

### Showing

Scale of Miles

App' of lands & Survey Map

# PRODUCTION.

## LAND SETTLEMENT, ETC.

The total area of the State is 56,245,760 acres. This comprises—

|  | Acres.     |
|--|------------|
| Lands alienated in fee simple .. .. .  | 25,278,681 |
| Lands in process of alienation .. .. . | 8,468,825  |
| Crown lands .. .. .                    | 22,498,254 |
| Total .. .. .                          | 56,245,760 |

The Crown lands comprise—

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Permanent forests (under Forests Act) .   | 3,569,233  |
| Timber reserves (under Forests Act) ..  | 736,355    |
| State forests and Timber reserves (under Land Act) .. .. .                                  | 329,600    |
| Water reserves .. .. .  | 313,551    |
| Reserves for Agricultural Colleges, &c. ..  | 85,590     |
| Reserves in the Mallee .. .. .  | 403,258    |
| Other reserves .. .. .  | 317,271    |
| Roads .. .. .   | 1,794,218  |
| Water frontages, beds of rivers, lakes, &c.; ( unsold land in cities, towns, and boroughs ) | 2,547,790  |
| Land in occupation under—   |            |
| Perpetual leases .. .. .  | 105,539    |
| Other leases and licences .. .. .   | 83,806     |
| Temporary grazing licences .. .. .  | 8,093,101  |
| Unoccupied .. .. .  | 4,118,942  |
| Total .. .. .   | 22,498,254 |

In the following table are shown the area of Crown lands sold absolutely and conditionally, and the area of lands alienated in fee simple in each year since 1914.

A portion of the area conditionally sold reverts to the Crown each year in consequence of the non-fulfilment of conditions by the selectors. The lands alienated each year include areas selected in previous years.

#### ALIENATION OF CROWN LANDS, 1915 TO 1924.

| Year.      | Area of Crown Lands Sold.   |                              | Crown Lands alienated in Fee Simple. |                 |
|------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|
|            | Absolutely, at Auction, &c. | Conditionally to Selectors.* | Area.                                | Purchase Money. |
|            | Acres.                      | Acres.                       | Acres.                               | £               |
| 1915 .. .. | 3,287                       | 129,232                      | 117,257                              | 113,167         |
| 1916 .. .. | 2,061                       | 140,341                      | 89,203                               | 80,238          |
| 1917 .. .. | 2,075                       | 89,164                       | 82,042                               | 79,992          |
| 1918 .. .. | 1,760                       | 74,514                       | 76,064                               | 78,235          |
| 1919 .. .. | 1,166                       | 70,729                       | 102,294                              | 114,654         |
| 1920 .. .. | 3,125                       | 102,534                      | 187,228                              | 192,861         |
| 1921 .. .. | 1,800                       | 99,519                       | 110,056                              | 100,890         |
| 1922 .. .. | 2,658                       | 186,686                      | 106,485                              | 118,698         |
| 1923 .. .. | 3,015                       | 200,517                      | 142,940                              | 167,669         |
| 1924 .. .. | 3,093                       | 151,875                      | 126,147                              | 167,322         |

\* Exclusive of Mallee selectors.

From the period of the first settlement of the State to the end of 1924 the amount realized by the sale of Crown lands was £34,506,535, which represents an average of £1 0s. 5d. per acre for all lands alienated or in process of alienation. Payment of a considerable portion of this amount extended over a series of years without interest, upon very easy terms.

Amount realized by sale of Crown lands.

Lands  
remaining for  
disposal.

The next table shows the whole of the unalienated lands of the Crown remaining for disposal:—

CROWN LANDS REMAINING FOR DISPOSAL ON 31st  
DECEMBER, 1924.

| Location.                                 |   | Classification.           |           |        |           |             | Total.     |              |
|---|---|---------------------------|-----------|--------|-----------|-------------|------------|--------------|
|   |   | Agricultural and Grazing. |           |        |           |             |            | Auri-ferous. |
|   |   | First.                    | Second.   | Third. | Fourth.   | Un-classed. |            |              |
| County.                                   | Acres.  | Acres.                    | Acres.    | Acres. | Acres.    | Acres.      | Acres.     |              |
| Buln Buln ..                              | 4,677   | 30,058                    | 78,398    | ..     | ..        | ..          | 113,133    |              |
| Croajingolong ..                          | 2,510   | 1,756                     | 569,411   | ..     | 837,400   | 13,850      | 1,424,927  |              |
| Dargo ..                                  | ..  | ..                        | 105,258   | ..     | 431,900   | 72,000      | 609,158    |              |
| Tambo ..                                  | ..  | ..                        | 220,397   | ..     | 364,450   | 900         | 585,747    |              |
| Tanjil ..                                 | ..  | ..                        | 110,000   | ..     | 361,650   | 67,000      | 538,650    |              |
| Wonnangatta ..                            | ..  | 39                        | 160,683   | ..     | 942,100   | ..          | 1,102,822  |              |
| Bogong ..                                 | 1,342   | 12,846                    | 210,601   | ..     | 158,724   | 105,015     | 488,528    |              |
| Benambra ..                               | ..  | 403                       | 309,058   | ..     | 315,994   | 90,093      | 715,548    |              |
| Delatite ..                               | 390   | 18,082                    | 210,399   | ..     | 230,050   | 61,333      | 520,254    |              |
| Moira ..                                  | 546   | 149                       | 10,833    | ..     | ..        | ..          | 11,528     |              |
| Anglesey ..                               | ..  | 3,823                     | 71,357    | ..     | ..        | 3,210       | 78,390     |              |
| Bourke ..                                 | ..  | 162                       | ..        | ..     | ..        | ..          | 162        |              |
| Dalhousie ..                              | ..  | 619                       | 1,639     | ..     | ..        | 5,167       | 7,425      |              |
| Evelyn ..                                 | ..  | 12,649                    | 391       | ..     | ..        | 1,315       | 14,355     |              |
| Mornington ..                             | ..  | 994                       | 7,378     | ..     | ..        | ..          | 8,372      |              |
| Bendigo ..                                | 80  | 735                       | 2,595     | ..     | ..        | 4,058       | 7,468      |              |
| Rodney ..                                 | ..  | 254                       | ..        | ..     | ..        | 2,234       | 2,488      |              |
| Borong ..                                 | ..  | 667                       | 68,645    | ..     | 423       | 5,667       | 75,402     |              |
| Gladstone ..                              | 302   | 1,362                     | 1,952     | ..     | ..        | 13,770      | 17,386     |              |
| Lowan ..                                  | ..  | 604                       | 151,470   | 35,915 | 10,608    | ..          | 198,597    |              |
| Kara Kara ..                              | 24  | 126                       | 3,606     | ..     | ..        | 4,476       | 8,232      |              |
| Talbot ..                                 | 50  | 546                       | 278       | ..     | ..        | 42,209      | 43,083     |              |
| Tatchera ..                               | ..  | 70                        | ..        | ..     | ..        | ..          | 70         |              |
| Heytesbury ..                             | ..  | 1,176                     | 166,084   | ..     | ..        | ..          | 167,260    |              |
| Polwarth ..                               | 17,067  | 16,913                    | 23,518    | ..     | ..        | ..          | 62,498     |              |
| Grant ..                                  | ..  | 155                       | 25,192    | ..     | ..        | 14,134      | 39,481     |              |
| Grenville ..                              | 99  | 371                       | ..        | ..     | ..        | 11,279      | 11,749     |              |
| Ripon ..                                  | ..  | 380                       | 24,133    | ..     | ..        | 4,167       | 28,680     |              |
| Normanby ..                               | ..  | 267                       | 122,406   | 5,765  | 8,810     | ..          | 137,248    |              |
| Dundas ..                                 | ..  | ..                        | 44,567    | 8,571  | 15,754    | ..          | 68,892     |              |
| Villiers ..                               | ..  | ..                        | 1,713     | ..     | ..        | ..          | 1,713      |              |
| Follett ..                                | ..  | 1,252                     | 166,555   | ..     | 39,809    | ..          | 207,616    |              |
| Total ..                                  | 27,087  | 103,458                   | 2,873,517 | 50,251 | 3,717,672 | 521,877     | 7,296,862  |              |
| Throughout the State                      | Swamp or reclaimed lands .. .. .  |                           |           |        |           |             | 1,688      |              |
| " ..                                      | Lands which may be sold by auction .. .. .  |                           |           |        |           |             | 7,615      |              |
| The north-western portion of the State    | Mallee lands (such as are suitable to be eventually classed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd class for selection) .. .. . |                           |           |        |           |             | 4,894,408  |              |
| The south-western portion of the State    | Portland Heath (special area, awaiting fresh legislation) .. .. .   |                           |           |        |           |             | 11,470     |              |
| Total area remaining for disposal .. .. . |   |                           |           |        |           |             | 12,212,043 |              |

Much of the land included in the above statement is temporarily leased under grazing licences.

**Pastoral occupation of Crown lands.** The particulars of Crown lands for which licences had been issued for pastoral occupation on 31st December, 1924, are as follows :—

|                            |           |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Number of Licences .. .. . | 5,823     |
| Area (acres) .. .. .       | 8,093,101 |
| Annual Rental .. .. .      | £28,478   |

**Persons who may select land.** Any person of the age of 18 years or upwards is eligible to apply to select under the Land Acts a prescribed area varying according to the classification of the land—less the area of previous selections.

**Concessions to land seekers.** The Lands Inquiry Branch gives information to intending applicants and issues concession warrants for half fares on Victorian Railways to persons travelling to make inspection or take possession of land.

**Area that may be selected.** An applicant may select in the Mallee, under Selection Purchase Lease, 640 acres of first class, 1,000 acres of second class, 1,280 acres of third class, or 1,600 acres of fourth class land, or 4,000 acres of land classed 4A; and, in addition, may acquire privately an area equivalent to that which he selects from the Crown.

**Grazing licences** Grazing licences are renewable annually, and are only granted for waste lands of the Crown until required under the principal sections of the Act.

**Land Laws.** A conspectus of the provisions of the Victorian Land Acts appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17 and previous issues.

**Transfer of Land Act.** The “Torrens System,” whereby persons acquiring possession of land may receive a clear title, was introduced into Victoria in 1862. The system has been the means of simplifying procedure in connexion with the transferring of land. It gives a title to the transferee free of any latent defect and reduces the cost of dealing in real estate by reason of the simplicity of the procedure. All land parted with by the Crown since 1862 is under the operation of the Transfer of Land Act, and the Crown grant issues through the Titles Office; but, to bring under the Act land that was parted with prior to that year, application must be made accompanied by strict proofs of the applicant’s interest in the property. During 1924 there were submitted 598 applications to have brought under the Act land amounting to 21,268 acres in extent and to £1,017,208 in value; whilst the land actually brought under the Act during the year by application was 6,366 acres valued at £615,581. Up to the end of 1924 there had been brought under the Act 3,103,992 acres valued at £64,215,326.

**Assurance  
Fund.**

When application is made to have land brought under the Transfer of Land Act, a contribution to the assurance fund of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. in the £1 on the value of the land is levied on the applicant to assure and indemnify the Government in granting a clear title against all the world, as some other person may have a latent interest in the property, and it may be necessary for the Government to recompense such person out of the fund for the loss of his interest. Receipts during 1924-25 comprised contributions £2,838, interest on stock £2,845, and interest on £75,073—advanced under *The Protection of Public Buildings Act 1885*—£3,003. During the year no payment was made out of the fund in settlement of claims, but £5,346 was paid as interest on securities under the *Special Funds Act 1920*, No. 3067, and £53,681 for the purchase of securities. The balance at the credit of the assurance fund on 30th June, 1925, was £157,648. The amount paid up to 30th June, 1925, as compensation and for judgments recovered, including costs, was £7,953.

**CLOSER SETTLEMENT.****Closer  
Settlement.**

Under the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act the Closer Settlement Board is empowered to expend at the rate of £500,000 per annum in the purchase—either by voluntary or compulsory acquisition—of lands (whether privately owned or held under lease from the Crown) for subdivision into suitable allotments according to the class of the land, and for disposal by the Board to eligible applicants, as stated hereafter. Lands well adapted for settlement are thus made available in those portions of the State in which railways, water supply and markets are provided, and in which roads and other facilities are good. The areas purchased comprise ordinary farming lands in a more or less improved condition, and lands in irrigated districts with plentiful supplies of water for irrigation.

Every application for a Closer Settlement allotment must be accompanied by the registration fee of 5s., a lease fee of £1, and a deposit (equal to 3 per cent. of the capital value of the land) which is deducted from the purchase money. The applicant is required to give evidence of suitability and fitness, &c., to occupy the land. If successful, a permit giving immediate possession is issued (followed by a lease as soon as practicable), and no further payment is required for six months. If the application be refused, the amount forwarded as a deposit in respect of the purchase money and the lease fee are returned to the unsuccessful applicant, but the registration fee is retained. Only one allotment of the maximum value can be granted to any one person, and the principle of residence for eight months in each year is a condition of the lease.

In addition to the provisions for the purchase of large estates for subdivision, the Closer Settlement Act provides that any one or more persons, who are eligible to acquire a farm allotment under the Closer

Settlement Act, may enter into a provisional agreement with the owner of a block of private land for the purchase thereof, and acquire it through the Closer Settlement Board—*vide* section 20, Act 2629. The value of the land must not exceed the maximum allowed under the Act. An application on the proper form must be filled in, and the agreement with full details and the application must be lodged with the Board, together with a valuation fee of £4. Where the agreement is submitted on behalf of more than one applicant, an additional fee of £2 must be lodged in respect of each additional applicant. The fee may be returned if, after a preliminary inspection, the Board does not approve of the application. Should the Board decide to acquire the land, the purchaser is required to deposit an amount not exceeding four half-yearly instalments, and is otherwise subject to all the provisions of the Closer Settlement Act with regard to payments, residence, improvements, &c.

Repurchased lands are disposed of as farm allotments, agricultural labourers' allotments, and workmen's home allotments under conditional purchase lease. The principal terms of these leases, as regards farm allotments, are briefly stated herein. They are given in detail in each title as issued.

Conditional purchase leases are granted to successful applicants under the Closer Settlement Act, and are for such a term not exceeding  $36\frac{1}{2}$  years as may be agreed upon between the lessee and the Board. The purchase money is payable by 73 or a less number of half-yearly instalments. In some cases the Board has granted applications for extension of payments under a lease to  $46\frac{1}{2}$  years, the payments being by 93 half-yearly instalments. The deposit lodged with the application is credited as part of the principal, and the balance bears interest at 5 per cent. Each instalment includes interest upon the balance of purchase money remaining unpaid, and is 3 per cent. half-yearly (6 per cent. per annum) of the capital value of the allotment (less the amount of the deposit). Payments in advance may be made at any time, at the option of the lessee, and a proportionate reduction of interest secured thereby.

In special cases, when a lessee is unable to meet the instalments of purchase money as they fall due, the Board has power to suspend such payments up to an amount not exceeding 60 per cent. of the value of the improvements effected by him. Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum is charged on the amount in arrear or on any instalments which may have been suspended.

The lessee must reside on the allotment for eight months during each year. Personal residence by the lessee's wife, or child over 18 years of age, or parent dependent for support, may, with the approval of the Board, be considered personal residence by the lessee. A farm lessee cannot transfer, assign, mortgage, or sublet the whole or any part of his allotment within the first three years of the lease. The Crown grant may be issued to the lessee at the end of any half-year

after the first twelve years have expired, on payment of the balance of purchase money. The residence condition is not carried into the Crown grant.

**Farm allotments.** Lands for farm allotments are subdivided into suitable areas, of which none must exceed in value £2,500 except in the case of blocks mainly consisting of grazing land, when the value may be increased to £3,500; and no lease of any of these areas can be granted to a person who at the date of application is directly or indirectly the owner of any other land in Victoria (township land excepted) the value of which, together with that of the allotment applied for, exceeds the amount stated. Improvements of a permanent and substantial character must be effected by the lessee of a farm allotment to the value of at least two instalments of the purchase money before the end of the first year from the date of the lease, 10 per cent. of the purchase money before the end of the third year, and a further 10 per cent. before the end of the sixth year. Improvements must thus be made to the value of at least 20 per cent. of the total purchase money payable for the allotment. If an approved deputy is fulfilling the residential condition, the value of the improvements must be at least 30 per cent. of the total purchase money. If they are made in excess of requirements during the first three years, the excess is set off against the expenditure necessary by the end of the sixth year. Where special circumstances warrant action, the Minister, upon the recommendation of the Board, may modify the improvement conditions.

**Advances to settlers.** The Closer Settlement Act provides for advances by the Closer Settlement Board to settlers who are—

- (a) Lessees under the *Closer Settlement Act* 1915.
- (b) Licensees of an agricultural or grazing allotment under the *Land Act* 1915.
- (c) Licensees under section 86 of the *Land Act* 1915 or corresponding sections of any repealed Act.
- (d) Conditional purchase lessees under the *Land Act* 1915; or
- (e) Conditional purchase lessees under the Murray Settlements Act, now Section 245, *Land Act* 1915.
- (f) Selection purchase lessees under Sections 46 and 50, *Land Act* 1915, during the first six years of the term of the leases.
- (g) Perpetual lessees under Section 54, *Land Act* 1915.

Advances of money to assist in effecting improvements may be granted by the Board up to 80 per cent. of the value of the permanent improvements effected, such advances to be repaid by half-yearly instalments extending over twenty years, bearing interest at 5 per cent. Advances to acquire stock and for the purchase of seed, manure, and implements can also be made. The total advances for all purposes must not exceed £625.



Advances not exceeding £250 may be made to persons holding approved share-farming or leasing agreements, for the purchase of stock and implements, and for such other purposes as the Board thinks fit, to enable them to carry out the share-farming or leasing agreement.

The period for repaying the advances on improvements is usually limited to twenty years, and for live stock, seed, manure, and implements, to three years, interest at 5 per cent. per annum being charged on the unpaid balance of the amount advanced.

**Group Settlement in Mountainous Areas.** Land may be acquired by the Board in mountainous areas for disposal to any group of settlers (not being less than five), and provision is made for freedom from payment of instalments for any period not exceeding ten years, subject to certain improvement conditions. Special provision is also made to enable the Board to provide road access to such areas. Interest at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum for the free period fixed by the Minister of Lands will be added to the capital value of the allotment, and will be repaid as part of the instalments of purchase money.

The Board may authorize an advance to be made for the purpose of clearing and improving the land, and may make progress payments to the lessee as the work for which the advance is intended progresses.

The Board will also assist in the erection of the dwelling-house and out-buildings required for the allotment. Advances made by the Board for this purpose are repayable on the same terms as those made to assist in effecting improvements which are referred to above.

**Wire netting advances.** Advances of wire netting may also be made under the Closer Settlement Acts to owners of land—

- (a) if such land is held under conditions set forth in the Closer Settlement Acts; or
- (b) if such land immediately adjoins any unoccupied Crown land or is not included in any municipality.

The wire netting supplied is No. 17 gauge,  $1\frac{1}{4}$ -in. mesh, 42 inches wide, and is supplied in rolls of not less than 100 yards. Each advance is limited to a quantity sufficient for 6 miles of vermin-proof fencing, and the price of the wire netting is deemed to be the amount of the advance, which is repayable by a cash payment or on terms over a period not exceeding ten years, with interest at 4 per cent. per annum.

**Alteration of Balancing Date.**

As the balancing date of the Closer Settlement Board has been altered from 30th June to 31st December, particulars relating to Closer Settlement and Discharged Soldiers Settlement at 30th June, 1925, are not available. In the next issue of this work particulars up to 31st December, 1925, will be published.

**Estates purchased.**

Apart from the estates purchased for discharged soldiers' settlement (*vide* page 485) the following is a complete statement of all estates acquired by the Closer Settlement Board for the purpose of closer settlement at 30th June, 1924, including

those purchased by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, i.e., estates in irrigable areas :—

CLOSER SETTLEMENT ESTATES AT 30TH JUNE, 1924.

| Estates.                          | Area.  | Estates.  |                     | No. of Lessees.  |                            |                                     | Areas available for Allotment. |
|-----------------------------------|--------|---|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|                                   |        | Purchase Money, including Discount on Stock or Debentures | Total Cost to Date. | Farm Allotments. | Workmen's Home Allotments. | Agricultural Labourers' Allotments. |                                |
| <b>Dry Areas.</b>                 | acres. | £   | £                   |                  |                            |                                     | acres.                         |
| <b>Farms—</b>                     |        |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| Allambee ..                       | 5,025  | 31,794  | 35,107              | 24               | ..                         | ..                                  | 1,083                          |
| Allendale ..                      | 1,108  | 9,728   | 9,750               | 7                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Balure ..                         | 183    | 1,463   | 1,494               | ..               | ..                         | 10                                  | ..                             |
| Bamawm ..                         | 168    | 1,391   | 1,390               | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Bellarine ..                      | 204    | 5,457   | 7,009               | 6                | ..                         | ..                                  | 65                             |
| Belmont ..                        | 113    | 3,161   | 5,766               | ..               | ..                         | 17                                  | ..                             |
| Boisdale ..                       | 2,521  | 72,174  | 74,763              | 42               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Bona Vista ..                     | 2,060  | 28,832  | 33,580              | 23               | ..                         | 4                                   | ..                             |
| Boorool... ..                     | 2,221  | 45,810  | 46,012              | 4                | ..                         | ..                                  | 1,635                          |
| Chester ..                        | 1,069  | 12,024  | 12,024              | 4                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Cohuna ..                         | 223    | 2,215   | 2,238               | 2                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Colbinabbin ..                    | 19,163 | 110,198   | 114,754             | 87               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Condah ..                         | 157    | 1,725   | 1,725               | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Cornelia Creek ..                 | 29,567 | 121,034   | 125,444             | 76               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Cremona ..                        | 1,292  | 20,140  | 21,923              | 1                | ..                         | 1                                   | ..                             |
| Crystal Waters ..                 | 1,036  | 8,159   | 8,196               | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | 1,036                          |
| Daylesford ..                     | 70     | 2,957   | 5,312               | 14               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Deepline ..                       | 2,964  | 35,742  | 36,711              | 13               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Doogalook ..                      | 4,640  | 29,002  | 29,753              | 16               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Dunrobin ..                       | 18,814 | 119,779   | 123,372             | 56               | ..                         | 23                                  | ..                             |
| Dura ..                           | 331    | 3,200   | 3,258               | 7                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Edeyrn ..                         | 1,991  | 10,455  | 10,501              | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | 2,015                          |
| Englefield ..                     | 11,242 | 33,302  | 33,564              | 4                | ..                         | ..                                  | 4,709                          |
| Ercildoune ..                     | 1,190  | 12,199  | 12,214              | 7                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Eumeralla ..                      | 10,034 | 57,570  | 61,045              | 34               | ..                         | 6                                   | ..                             |
| Eurack ..                         | 5,109  | 53,640  | 57,216              | 45               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Exford ..                         | 8,005  | 64,039  | 67,584              | 43               | ..                         | 6                                   | ..                             |
| Gellion's ..                      | 530    | 21,575  | 21,660              | 6                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Glenaladale ..                    | 2,110  | 28,787  | 29,464              | 16               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Glendinning and Melville Forest.. | 43,800 | 153,453   | 154,576             | 38               | ..                         | ..                                  | 6,516                          |
| Greenvale ..                      | 304    | 7,298   | 7,335               | 4                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Heart ..                          | 3,793  | 56,322  | 58,567              | 38               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Highton ..                        | 424    | 11,032  | 15,467              | 18               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Hogan's ..                        | 444    | 6,197   | 6,345               | 9                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Hurstwood ..                      | 6,493  | 31,311  | 31,573              | 14               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Inverary ..                       | 1,258  | 7,548   | 7,647               | 26               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Keayang ..                        | 1,497  | 14,966  | 16,389              | 12               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Kenilworth ..                     | 18,440 | 55,321  | 56,286              | 29               | ..                         | 12                                  | ..                             |
| Kilmany Park ..                   | 8,746  | 106,080   | 108,496             | 70               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Kongbool ..                       | 32,018 | 111,148   | 111,867             | 28               | ..                         | ..                                  | 1,893                          |
| Konongwotong ..                   | 10,180 | 104,363   | 106,657             | 62               | ..                         | 15                                  | ..                             |
| Koyuga ..                         | 790    | 3,914   | 3,914               | 2                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Laidlaw's ..                      | 1,047  | 7,325   | 7,373               | 3                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Lara ..                           | 8,332  | 45,825  | 48,082              | 32               | ..                         | 7                                   | ..                             |
| Leslie Manor ..                   | 18,005 | 121,085   | 121,813             | 31               | ..                         | ..                                  | 3,207                          |
| Mackey ..                         | 1,078  | 20,626  | 20,635              | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Marathon and Willow-grove ..      | 14,782 | 58,752  | 60,550              | 26               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Maribyrnong ..                    | 1,112  | 10,842  | 11,068              | 12               | ..                         | 2                                   | ..                             |
| Meadowbank ..                     | 313    | 9,085   | 9,608               | 4                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Memie ..                          | 10,027 | 57,159  | 57,525              | 45               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Moralla ..                        | 17,199 | 60,197  | 63,036              | 26               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Mordialloc ..                     | 460    | 7,850   | 13,303              | 31               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Morven ..                         | 8,029  | 39,533  | 39,944              | 20               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Mount Widdierin ..                | 8,333  | 48,634  | 49,878              | 11               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Moyhu ..                          | 2,417  | 19,581  | 20,337              | 22               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |

## CLOSER SETTLEMENT ESTATES AT 30TH JUNE, 1924—continued.

| Estates.   | Area.   | Estates.  |                     | No. of Lessees.  |                            |                                     | Areas available for Allotment. |
|--|---------|---|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  |         | Purchase Money, including Discount on Stock or Debentures | Total Cost to Date. | Farm Allotments. | Workmen's Home Allotments. | Agricultural Labourers' Allotments. |                                |
| Dry Areas—continued.   | acres.  | £   | £                   |                  |                            |                                     | acres.                         |
| <b>Farms—continued.</b>  |         |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| Mundara ..   | 1,915   | 16,516  | 16,589              | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | 1,915                          |
| Nanneella ..   | 738     | 7,767   | 7,842               | 6                | ..                         | 13                                  | ..                             |
| Narnbool ..  | 9,198   | 60,873  | 61,323              | 4                | ..                         | ..                                  | 3,295                          |
| Nathalia ..  | 30      | 361   | 388                 | ..               | ..                         | 5                                   | ..                             |
| Nerrin Nerrin ..   | 7,740   | 67,915  | 69,242              | 28               | ..                         | 1                                   | ..                             |
| Numurkah ..  | 2,363   | 13,901  | 19,004              | 12               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Oaklands ..  | 8,050   | 26,309  | 26,749              | 10               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Overnewton ..  | 11,485  | 71,492  | 73,340              | 67               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Pannoo ..  | 15,101  | 98,455  | 100,609             | 41               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Pirron Yallock ..  | 1,059   | 23,796  | 25,103              | 21               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Restdown ..  | 17,894  | 60,391  | 61,409              | 52               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Richmond Vale ..   | 1,539   | 11,000  | 11,137              | 10               | ..                         | 1                                   | ..                             |
| Romsey ..  | 285     | 8,834   | 8,935               | 14               | ..                         | ..                                  | 115                            |
| Section 20 ..  | 54,879  | 386,507   | 389,426             | 250              | ..                         | 2                                   | ..                             |
| Shepparton (Ascot Park) ..   | 488     | 3,671   | 3,671               | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Springs ..   | 398     | 2,290   | 2,318               | 8                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Springvale ..  | 3,396   | 25,895  | 26,318              | 22               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Squatlescamere ..  | 8,217   | 54,436  | 54,676              | 12               | ..                         | ..                                  | 4,424                          |
| Staughton Vale ..  | 9,847   | 66,466  | 68,023              | 41               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Stoneyhurst ..   | 1,886   | 33,030  | 33,261              | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | 1,868                          |
| Strathkellar ..  | 10,228  | 74,150  | 76,458              | 60               | ..                         | 2                                   | ..                             |
| Tandarra ..  | 4,558   | 21,083  | 21,240              | 19               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Thomastown ..  | 581     | 11,230  | 15,783              | 26               | ..                         | 1                                   | ..                             |
| Tipperary Park ..  | 657     | 4,764   | 4,785               | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | 657                            |
| Walmer ..  | 13,769  | 44,751  | 46,827              | 41               | ..                         | 2                                   | ..                             |
| Wando Vale ..  | 10,446  | 63,985  | 66,840              | 67               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Wangaratta ..  | 794     | 9,659   | 15,530              | 29               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Warragul ..  | 98      | 2,060   | 3,295               | 7                | ..                         | 1                                   | ..                             |
| Waubra ..  | 46      | 1,042   | 1,164               | 10               | ..                         | 3                                   | ..                             |
| Wein Wein Gurrk ..   | 3,021   | 8,684   | 8,964               | 13               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Werneth ..   | 6,585   | 31,043  | 31,778              | 21               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Werribee ..  | 15,218  | 148,802   | 164,332             | 35               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Whitfield ..   | 4,247   | 36,096  | 38,366              | 34               | ..                         | 1                                   | ..                             |
| Willows ..   | 380     | 5,131   | 5,165               | 3                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Woolongoon ..  | 14,320  | 100,405   | 101,003             | 23               | ..                         | ..                                  | 2,276                          |
| Wootong Vale ..  | 11,560  | 57,500  | 57,851              | 18               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Wyuna ..   | 23,024  | 120,876   | 124,640             | 114              | ..                         | 10                                  | ..                             |
| Land purchased for Discharged Soldiers, but granted to civilians under Closer Settlement Acts .. | 62,685  | 451,787   | 451,975             | 241              | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Land disposed of under Discharged Soldiers' Settlement Acts ..                                   | ..      | ..  | ..                  | 137              | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Purchases for Immigration ..   | 5,920   | 103,056   | 103,236             | 5                | ..                         | ..                                  | 4,822                          |
|  | 697,136 | 4,464,008   | 4,599,700           | 2,651            | ..                         | 146                                 | 41,532                         |
| <b>Crown Lands (Farms)—</b>  |         |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| Inverloch ..   | 220     | 693   | 693                 | 1                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Leongatha ..   | 53      | 1,325   | 1,325               | 3                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Mortlake ..  | 2,350   | 10,945  | 10,945              | 10               | ..                         | 17                                  | ..                             |
| Newtown ..   | 157     | 1,955   | 3,496               | 4                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
|  | 2,780   | 14,918  | 16,459              | 18               | ..                         | 17                                  | ..                             |

## CLOSER SETTLEMENT ESTATES AT 30TH JUNE, 1924—continued.

| Estates.   | Area.          | Estates.  |                     | No. of Lessees.  |                            |                                     | Areas available for Allotment. |
|--|----------------|---|---------------------|------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
|  |                | Purchase Money, including Discount on Stock or Debentures | Total Cost to Date. | Farm Allotments. | Workmen's Home Allotments. | Agricultural Labourers' Allotments. |                                |
| <b>Dry Areas—continued.</b>  | acres.         | £   | £                   |                  |                            |                                     | acres.                         |
| <b>Workmen's Homes—</b>  |                |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| Brunswick ..   | 91             | 2,792   | 3,349               | ..               | 56                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Cadman's ..  | 18             | 844   | 1,627               | ..               | 42                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Dal Campbell ..  | 45             | 2,358   | 3,458               | ..               | 63                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Footscray ..   | 31             | 2,494   | 3,794               | ..               | 85                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Glenhuntly ..  | 74             | 7,040   | 12,049              | ..               | 158                        | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Pender's Grove ..  | 233            | 23,337  | 33,243              | ..               | 259                        | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Phoenix ..   | 23             | 968   | 2,338               | ..               | 47                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Tooronga ..  | 101            | 17,675  | 27,601              | ..               | 210                        | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Thornbury ..   | 11             | 5,625   | 7,086               | ..               | 47                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
|  | 627            | 63,133  | 94,545              | ..               | 967                        | ..                                  | ..                             |
| <b>Crown Lands (Workmen's Homes)—</b>  |                |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| Dowling Forest ..  | 225            | 1,350   | 1,376               | ..               | 15                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Geelong ..   | 3              | 300   | 2,347               | ..               | 10                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Maddingley ..  | 13             | 1,300   | 1,300               | ..               | 13                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Warrnambool ..   | 46             | 1,188   | 1,188               | ..               | 25                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Werribee Police Paddock ..   | 57             | 1,680   | 1,701               | ..               | 16                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
|  | 344            | 5,818   | 7,912               | ..               | 79                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| <b>Irrigable Areas.</b>  |                |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| <b>Farms—</b>  |                |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| Bamawm ..  | 13,362         | 122,944   | 134,823             | 141              | ..                         | 11                                  | ..                             |
| Berrys' ..   | 343            | 3,426   | 3,450               | 10               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Cohuna ..  | 11,543         | 114,856   | 121,062             | 103              | ..                         | 6                                   | 710                            |
| Cornelia Creek ..  | 2,507          | 16,501  | 19,823              | 7                | ..                         | ..                                  | 194                            |
| Dingee ..  | 470            | 4,160   | 4,617               | 5                | ..                         | 8                                   | ..                             |
| Echuca ..  | 3,235          | 29,142  | 31,471              | 26               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Koondrook ..   | 3,422          | 23,202  | 23,964              | 32               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Koyuga ..  | 4,173          | 36,228  | 40,492              | 36               | ..                         | 14                                  | 6                              |
| Kyabram ..   | 3,049          | 36,091  | 38,508              | 18               | ..                         | 7                                   | 115                            |
| Nanneella ..   | 8,565          | 78,654  | 84,105              | 87               | ..                         | 2                                   | 30                             |
| Nyah ..  | 35             | 120   | 605                 | 2                | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Section 20 ..  | 829            | 12,719  | 12,768              | 10               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Shepparton ..  | 9,242          | 136,839   | 152,979             | 190              | ..                         | 40                                  | ..                             |
| Stanhope ..  | 20,889         | 228,630   | 233,270             | 67               | ..                         | 11                                  | 1,219                          |
| Swan Hill ..   | 6,878          | 71,817  | 82,363              | 123              | ..                         | 1                                   | ..                             |
| Tongala ..   | 15,228         | 172,395   | 190,382             | 153              | ..                         | 21                                  | 146                            |
| Werribee ..  | 7,906          | 153,871   | 166,016             | 104              | ..                         | 20                                  | 434                            |
| Land purchased for Discharged Soldiers, but granted to civilians under Closer Settlement Acts .. | 8,592          | 108,748   | 108,873             | 215              | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Land disposed of under Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts ..                                    | ..             | ..  | ..                  | 450              | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| Purchases for Immigration ..   | 30,598†        | 476,461   | 477,332             | 73               | ..                         | ..                                  | 2,072                          |
|  | 150,956        | 1,826,804   | 1,926,903           | 1,852            | ..                         | 141                                 | 4,926                          |
| <b>Crown Lands—</b>  |                |   |                     |                  |                            |                                     |                                |
| Swan Hill No. 3 ..   | 655‡           | 2,450   | 2,528               | ..               | ..                         | ..                                  | ..                             |
| <b>Grand Total ..</b>  | <b>852,498</b> | <b>6,377,131</b>  | <b>6,648,047</b>    | <b>4,521</b>     | <b>1,046</b>               | <b>304</b>                          | <b>46,458</b>                  |

† Partly subdivided.

‡ Included in Swan Hill Estate.

NOTE.—The total cost to date of estates comprises the following items :—Purchase money, expenses prior to disposal, public works, and interest capitalized.

Up to 30th June, 1924, the Board had acquired 164 properties, with a total area of 852,489 acres, of which 46,458 acres were then available for allotment. Of the estates acquired, an area of 16,959 acres had been used at the date mentioned for settlement of migrants from overseas. Portions of estates, amounting in the aggregate to 48,811 acres, have been sold by public competition and for public reserves without any restrictions, and are not under conditional purchase lease.

Up to the end of June, 1924, 587 allotments, containing 53,835 acres, had been sold to discharged soldiers and transferred to the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Act.

The extent of the settlement effected by the Board up to 30th June, 1924, is given in the next statement.

#### SUMMARY OF CLOSER SETTLEMENT TO 30TH JUNE, 1924.

| Classification of Holdings.  | Number. | Average Capital Value. | Average Area. | Total Area. |
|--|---------|------------------------|---------------|-------------|
|  | No.     | £                      | Acres.        | Acres.      |
| Areas settled—   |         |                        |               |             |
| Farms .. .. .  | 3,934   | 1,224                  | 170           | 670,081     |
| Agricultural Labourers' Allotments ..  | 304     | 136                    | 12            | 3,675       |
| Workmen's Homes Allotments ..  | 1,046   | 90                     | $\frac{3}{4}$ | 784         |
| Allotments granted to Discharged Soldiers, and transferred to Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts .. | 587     | 958                    | 92            | 53,835      |
| Public Competition, Auction, &c. ..  | ..      | ..                     | ..            | 48,811      |
| Total area of land settled .. .. .   | ..      | ..                     | ..            | 777,186     |
| Area of land available for—  |         |                        |               |             |
| Farm Lands and Agricultural Labourers' Allotments ..   | ..      | ..                     | ..            | 46,458      |
| Public Competition, Auction, &c. ..  | ..      | ..                     | ..            | 1,089       |
| Area of land acquired but not yet available ..   | ..      | ..                     | ..            | 22,749      |
| Loss of area on subdivision (roads, channels, reserves, &c.) ..                                      | ..      | ..                     | ..            | 5,016       |
| Total land acquired to 30th June, 1924 ..  | ..      | ..                     | ..            | 852,498     |

The next table shows the extent of operations with regard to Farm Allotments up to 30th June, 1920, and progressive totals for each of the following years:—

#### FARM ALLOTMENTS—EXTENT OF OPERATIONS TO THE YEARS 1920 TO 1924.

| Year ended 30th June. | Number. | Total Area. | Average Area.     | Total Capital Value. | Average Capital Value. |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------|-------------------|----------------------|------------------------|
|                       |         | Acres.      | Acres.            | £                    | £                      |
| 1920 .. .. .          | 3,060   | 471,239     | 154               | 3,418,020            | 1,117                  |
| 1921 .. .. .          | 3,090   | 470,967     | 152 $\frac{1}{2}$ | 3,429,900            | 1,110                  |
| 1922 .. .. .          | 3,168   | 478,683     | 151               | 3,481,632            | 1,099                  |
| 1923 .. .. .          | 3,403   | 525,434     | 151               | 3,828,375            | 1,125                  |
| 1924 .. .. .          | 3,934   | 670,081     | 170               | 4,815,216            | 1,224                  |

The sum of £5,193,488 had been repaid to the Closer Settlement Fund up to 30th June, 1924. Of that amount £2,390,673 had been transferred to revenue to meet interest due to stockholders, £90,000 had been invested to replace amounts written off estates re-valued, £100,000 had been placed in securities under the Discharged Soldiers Settlement Acts, and £2,518,716 had been utilized for redemption and cancellation of stock and for capital and working expenditure, the balance to the credit of the fund on 30th June, 1924, being £94,099. The balance of unredeemed securities is now £5,216,390, on which the interest payable amounts to £217,567 per annum. Up to 30th June, 1924, 13,663 applications for advances aggregating £1,394,934 had been approved, and that amount had been advanced to effect improvements, or upon improvements already effected by lessees.

**Discharged Soldiers Settlement.** By Acts 2916 of 1917, 2988 of 1918, 3039 of 1919, 3061 of 1920, 3130 of 1921, and 3253 of 1922, provision was made for the settlement of discharged soldiers on the land and for other matters. The operation of these acts is under the control of the Closer Settlement Board, with the limitation that the closer settlement areas under irrigation conditions, and situated within an Irrigation and Water Supply District within the meaning of the *Water Act* 1915, are managed by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.

Up to 30th June, 1924, the Closer Settlement Board and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission had specially purchased for the settlement of soldiers 1,744,111 acres at a cost of £13,214,902. The number of soldiers settled up to that date was as follows:—

|  |               |
|--|---------------|
| On land specially purchased by the Closer Settlement Board   | 6,282         |
| On land specially purchased by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission  | 1,410         |
| On Closer Settlement old estates—Dry areas   | 36            |
| On Closer Settlement old estates—Irrigable areas   | 567           |
| On Crown Lands—Ordinary and Mallee Areas   | 1,270         |
| On Crown Lands—Merbein and Nyah Irrigation Areas   | 186           |
| Soldiers receiving assistance from the Closer Settlement Board, on share farming, leasing agreements and freehold land | 814           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>10,565</b> |

In addition to the above there were available or in process of being made available 18 allotments, of which 1 was on land specially purchased by the Closer Settlement Board, and 17 were on Crown land. There were also 952 blocks available under ordinary Closer Settlement conditions, for which returned soldiers could apply.

Up to the end of June, 1924, the amount of assistance rendered by the Board to soldier settlers by way of advances was £6,223,942.

## WATERWORKS.

All Victorian waterworks are controlled by official bodies, either State or local. The following table, particulars of which were obtained chiefly from the Twentieth Annual Report of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, summarizes those waterworks on which the Government has expended or advanced moneys, and includes practically all waterworks in the State other than minor works constructed by municipalities out of municipal funds:—

WATERWORKS—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND ADVANCES  
BY STATE TO 30TH JUNE, 1925.

| Controlling Bodies.   | Purposes of Supply. | Storage Capacity of Reservoirs.<br>* | Capital Expenditure and Advances by State. |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
|   |                     | Acre feet.                           | £  |
| State Rivers and Water Supply Commission—                     |                     |                                      |  |
| Coliban System ..   | Domestic and Mining | 42,870                               | 1,327,295                                  |
| Broken River Works ..   | Stock and Domestic  | ..                                   | 14,853                                     |
| Goulburn-Waranga ..   | Irrigation, &c. ..  | 354,100                              | 2,138,937                                  |
| Sugarloaf Reservoir (under construction) ..                   | " " ..              | 306,000                              | 1,128,618                                  |
| Kow Swamp Works ..  | " " ..              | 40,860                               | 187,566                                    |
| Loddon River Works ..   | " " ..              | 14,000                               | 167,636                                    |
| North-west (Kerang) Lakes                                     | " " ..              | 88,500                               | 21,484                                     |
| Long Lake Pumping Works ..                                    | Stock and Domestic  | 3,820                                | 27,346                                     |
| Lake Lonsdale Reservoir                                       | " " ..              | 45,480                               | 49,054                                     |
| Lower Wimmera Compensation Works ..                           | " " ..              | 2,870                                | 8,558                                      |
| Wimmera Storages ..   | " " ..              | 159,200                              | 307,803                                    |
| Maffra Scheme (including Glenmaggie Reservoir)                | Irrigation, &c. ..  | 150,000                              | 589,761                                    |
| Bacchus Marsh and Werribee Scheme ..                          | " " ..              | 31,850                               | 168,648                                    |
| Red Cliffs Scheme ..  | " " ..              | ..                                   | 658,684                                    |
| Irrigation and Water Supply Districts (distributory works) .. | " " ..              | ..                                   | 2,612,753                                  |
| Millewa Waterworks Scheme ..                                  | Stock and Domestic  | ..                                   | 179,417                                    |
| Waterworks Districts (distributory works) ..                  | " " ..              | 36,060†                              | 2,241,123                                  |
| Flood Protection Districts                                    | .. ..               | ..                                   | 297,799                                    |
| Miscellaneous Expenditure (Surveys, &c.) ..                   | .. ..               | ..                                   | 190,632                                    |
| Cost of Loan Flotation ..                                     | .. ..               | ..                                   | 168,691                                    |
| Carried forward   | .. ..               | 1,275,610                            | 12,486,658                                 |

WATERWORKS—CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND ADVANCES BY STATE TO  
30TH JUNE, 1925—*continued*.

| Controlling Bodies.   | Purposes of Supply. | Storage Capacity of Reservoirs.<br>* | Capital Expenditure and Advances by State. |
|---|---------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
|   |                     | Acre feet.                           | £  |
| Brought forward ..  | .. .. .             | 1,275,610                            | 12,486,658                                 |
| River Murray Agreement Works (Commission the constructing authority) .. | Irrigation, &c. ..  | 550,000                              | 1,027,720                                  |
| Total State Rivers and Water Supply Commission                          | .. .. .             | 1,825,610                            | 13,514,378                                 |
| First Mildura Irrigation and Water Supply Trust ..                      | Irrigation, &c. ..  | ..                                   | 117,681                                    |
| Abolished Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts (8)                        | " " ..              | ..                                   | 32,754                                     |
| Waterworks Trusts ..  | Stock and Domestic  | 4,330                                | 1,591,425                                  |
| Municipal Corporations ..   | " "                 | 11,420                               | 761,959                                    |
| Free Grants to Local Authorities ..                                     | .. .. .             | ..                                   | 147,046                                    |
| Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works ..                            | Domestic ..         | 23,730                               | 6,503,800                                  |
| Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust ..                                | " " ..              | 9,930                                | 664,448                                    |
| Total ..  | .. .. .             | 1,875,020                            | 23,333,491                                 |

\* Total capacity of Storages, when works in hand are completed.

† Includes miscellaneous Storages, the expenditure on which has been debited to the districts concerned.

NOTE.—One acre foot of water equals 43,560 cubic feet, or 272,250 gallons.

Of the expenditure given in the case of the Melbourne waterworks, £3,189,934 represents money borrowed by the State, all of which had been redeemed at 30th June, 1924—£800,000 out of consolidated revenue, and £2,389,934 by payments from the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, to which body the waterworks were transferred in 1891. Further particulars relating to this Board will be found on page 247, Part V., of this volume.

The Geelong Waterworks were sold by the Government to the Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust in 1908 for £265,000. The expenditure shown in the above table includes, in addition to this amount, the outstanding State loan liability on account of the works, viz., £155,577, and the capital expenditure by the Trust since acquiring the works, viz., £243,871.



The next table summarizes the amounts disbursed on State works and those granted and lent to local bodies by the State on account of waterworks. In addition to their receiving free grants large sums have been written off the liabilities of the local bodies.

### STATE EXPENDITURE AND ADVANCES ON WATERWORKS TO 30TH JUNE, 1925.

|  | Expenditure and Advances by State. | Capital Written Off. | Payments towards Redemption. | Free Head-works and Advances. | Amount standing at Debit, 30th June, 1925. |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
|  | £                                  | £                    | £                            | £                             | £  |
| State Rivers and Water Supply Commission—              |                                    |                      |                              |                               |  |
| Free Headworks .. ..                                   | 1,214,741                          | ..                   | 420                          | 1,214,321                     | ..   |
| Other Main Supply Works (including Coliban) .. ..      | 5,760,919                          | ..                   | 90                           | ..                            | 5,760,829                                  |
| Irrigation and Water Supply Districts .. ..            | 2,612,753                          | 575,152              | 20,679                       | ..                            | 2,016,922                                  |
| Waterworks Districts .. ..                             | 2,241,123                          | 175,055              | 45,113                       | ..                            | 2,020,955                                  |
| Flood Protection Districts .. ..                       | 297,799                            | ..                   | ..                           | ..                            | 297,799                                    |
| Miscellaneous Expenditure (Surveys, &c.) .. ..         | 190,632                            | ..                   | ..                           | ..                            | 190,632                                    |
| Cost of Loan Flotation .. ..                           | 168,691                            | ..                   | ..                           | 36,091                        | 132,600                                    |
|  | 12,486,658                         | 750,207              | 66,302                       | 1,250,412                     | 10,419,737                                 |
| River Murray Agreement Works ..                        | 1,027,720                          | ..                   | ..                           | ..                            | 1,027,720                                  |
| Total State Rivers and Water Supply Commission .. ..   | 13,514,378                         | 750,207              | 66,302                       | 1,250,412                     | 11,447,457                                 |
| First Mildura Irrigation and Water Supply Trust .. ..  | 117,681                            | ..                   | 7,712                        | ..                            | 109,969                                    |
| Abolished Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts (8) .. .. | 32,754                             | 32,724               | 30                           | ..                            | ..   |
| Waterworks Trusts .. ..                                | 1,591,425*                         | 316,537              | 230,304                      | ..                            | 1,044,584                                  |
| Municipal Corporations .. ..                           | 761,959†                           | 163,760              | 118,755                      | ..                            | 479,444                                    |
| Free Grants to Local Authorities ..                    | 147,046                            | ..                   | ..                           | 147,046                       | ..   |
| Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works .. ..        | 3,189,934                          | ..                   | 3,189,934                    | ..                            | ..   |
| Glenelg Waterworks and Sewerage Trust                  | 455,812                            | ..                   | 300,235                      | ..                            | 155,577                                    |
| Total .. ..  | 19,810,989                         | 1,263,228            | 3,913,272                    | 1,397,458                     | 13,237,031                                 |

\* Amount includes £6,871 representing Interest Capitalized.

† " " £43,979 " " "

In addition to the capital written off, as shown above, arrears of interest amounting to £579,786 have been written off certain liabilities to the State, viz., £342,773 from the liabilities of what were originally Irrigation and Water Supply Trusts, £85,556 from the liabilities of Waterworks Trusts, and £151,457 from the liabilities of Municipal Corporations. Thus the amount which has actually been written off the liabilities of the Trusts (Irrigation and Waterworks) and Corporations is £1,843,014. Interest outstanding at 30th June, 1925, amounted to £27,033, viz., £9,159 against the First Mildura Trust, £14,545 against Waterworks Trusts, and £3,329 against Municipal Corporations.

### IRRIGATION.

**Progress of  
Irrigation.**

Prior to 1905 the management of irrigation in Victoria was in the hands of various Irrigation Trusts, which were financed by the State. These Trusts drifted into financial difficulties and the State was compelled to assume control.

In the year mentioned, by the authority of Parliament, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was constituted and intrusted with the management of all irrigation works, except those controlled by the First Mildura Trust. This authority is embodied in the *Water Act* 1915—which consolidates the *Water Acts* of 1905 and 1909, of which epitomes have been given in previous issues of this work—and the *Water Acts* 1916 and 1918. The chief difficulties under which the Irrigation Trusts laboured were sparse settlement, and the absence of powers to make compulsory charges on the properties commanded by the irrigation channels. Since the assumption of control by the Commission a policy of closer settlement on the lands served by the irrigation channels has been inaugurated and vigorously pushed on, and a system of compulsory rating enforced, along with which there has been the allotment of water as a right to properties in channelled areas.

An illustration of the influence of closer settlement and the allotment of water rights in extending irrigation is contained in the following table, which shows, for the districts having water rights, most of which

are directly affected by the Commission's Closer Settlement policy, the areas irrigated in 1909-10—the year in which these two factors were first put into operation—and the average areas for the last five years :—

### PROGRESS OF IRRIGATION IN CLOSER SETTLEMENT AREAS.

| District<br>(having allotted Water Rights). | Area Irrigated. |                                    |
|---|-----------------|------------------------------------|
|   | 1909-10.        | Average for<br>last Five<br>Years. |
|   | Acres.          | Acres.                             |
| Supplied from the Goulburn—                 |                 |                                    |
| Shepparton .. ..                            | ..              | 13,811                             |
| Rodney .. ..                                | 32,356          | 46,038                             |
| Stanhope .. ..                              | 2,000           | 8,652                              |
| Tongala .. ..                               | 3,000           | 12,390                             |
| Rochester .. ..                             | 500             | 26,223                             |
| Echuca North (three years) ..               | ..              | 2,167                              |
| Dingee .. ..                                | ..              | 3,195                              |
| Tragowel Plains .. ..                       | 20,000          | 35,866                             |
| Supplied from the Murray—                   |                 |                                    |
| Cohuna .. ..                                | 12,000          | 17,728                             |
| Gannawarra .. ..                            | 7,825           | 19,748                             |
| Koondrook .. ..                             | 5,029           | 14,262                             |
| Swan Hill .. ..                             | 5,410           | 12,626                             |
| Nyah .. ..                                  | 569             | 2,613                              |
| Merbein .. ..                               | 202             | 7,543                              |
| Tresco (three years) ..                     | ..              | 2,102                              |
| Mystic Park (two years) ..                  | ..              | 1,706                              |
| Supplied from the Werribee—                 |                 |                                    |
| Bacchus Marsh .. ..                         | 31              | 2,479                              |
| Werribee .. ..                              | ..              | 5,313                              |
| Total .. ..                                 | 88,922          | 234,462.                           |

The area under irrigated culture in the whole State, in 1924-25, for all kinds of crop, was 375,503 acres, the largest yet recorded, being an increase of 50,945 acres over the area irrigated in the previous year, and 64,072 acres above the average of the previous four years.

Total area irrigated.

The subjoined table shows the total extent of irrigated land in the State in 1909-10 and each of the last five years, and the purposes for which the land was utilized :—

IRRIGATED AREAS : HOW UTILIZED.

| Crop.                               | 1909-10. | 1920-21. | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
|-------------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                                     | acres.   | acres.   | acres.   | acres.   | acres.   | acres.   |
| Cereals .. ..                       | 23,715   | 26,546   | 25,039   | 60,304   | 32,240   | 45,215   |
| Lucerne .. ..                       | 24,124   | 72,338   | 82,226   | 92,679   | 94,479   | 103,200  |
| Sorghum and other annual fodders .. | 8,094    | 25,963   | 28,112   | 35,591   | 33,356   | 30,683   |
| Pastures .. ..                      | 50,541   | 100,424  | 88,195   | 88,787   | 91,912   | 119,563  |
| Vineyards and orchards              | 17,524   | 50,281   | 55,601   | 61,061   | 64,647   | 66,780   |
| Fallow .. ..                        | 4,988    | 3,465    | 4,867    | 8,850    | 4,523    | 4,863    |
| Miscellaneous ..                    | 785      | 3,517    | 3,867    | 3,455    | 3,401    | 5,199    |
| Total ..                            | 129,771  | 282,534  | 287,907  | 350,727  | 324,558  | 375,503  |

NOTE.—In 1909-10, 8,000 acres, details of which are not available, were irrigated by private diversions, making a total area for that year of 137,771 acres.

Of the total area irrigated in 1924-25—375,503 acres—the percentages devoted to different purposes were as follows :—Pastures, 32 ; cereals, 12 ; lucerne, 28 ; vineyards, orchards, and gardens, 18 ; sorghum and other annual fodder crops, 8 ; fallow, 1 ; and miscellaneous, 1.

**Closer Settlement in Irrigation Districts.** The Commission during 1924-25 provided 195 holdings under ordinary Closer Settlement conditions for 13 discharged soldiers, 135 local civilians, and 47 approved oversea settlers. In addition, extensions to storages and supply channels made available domestic and stock supplies in new districts

providing for settlement on about 300 holdings. The area of the estates in the irrigated areas thrown open for settlement during the year totalled 3,940 acres, of which 890 acres were purchased during the year. In the districts supplied by the Goulburn Irrigation System, 42 holdings of an area of 2,973 acres were provided as follows:—1,370 acres at Rodney, 960 acres at East Goulburn, and 643 acres at Tongala. In the Koondrook Irrigation District 660 acres were subdivided into 12 allotments. At Narre Warren 16 small holdings, totalling about 280 acres, were made available.

The inauguration of a Closer Settlement area at Narre Warren and Hallam marked a new development in Closer Settlement in the State. The properties acquired, totalling 3,300 acres of rich land eminently suited for intense culture, are being drained and subdivided into small holdings suitable for market gardening and poultry farming. The district is about 24 miles from Melbourne, and, as the areas adjacent to the metropolis hitherto used for market gardening purposes are being gradually absorbed by extensions of suburban residential areas, the settlement will eventually play an important part in the supply of market garden produce for the city. Most of the 16 holdings already subdivided were immediately taken up, and other blocks are now being made available. Water will be delivered under pressure from a main supply pipe of the Mornington Peninsula System.

The Commission has practically completed the work of repatriating discharged soldiers; the chief responsibility now being to see to the welfare of the men already settled, and, by an adequate system of advances, help towards permanent improvements to their holdings. Since the commencement of the repatriation of Victoria's soldiers, the Commission has placed 2,181 discharged soldiers on irrigable blocks; of this number 343 obtained their farms under section 20 of the Closer Settlement Act.

The Commission has in hand 30,000 acres of suitable land available for settlement awaiting the extension of the storage and irrigation schemes. Of this area, 1,300 acres near Kyabram are available for immediate occupation; 10,000 acres are at Katandra, which will be served by the East Goulburn Channel (now being enlarged and extended); and 3,300 acres are at Calivil, near the River Loddon. Some of the reserve lands are temporarily leased as follows:—a balance of 10,000 acres of the irrigable portion of Red Cliffs Soldier Settlement; 3,000 acres at Maffra (partly subdivided); and 3,000 acres at Hallam and Narre Warren. These will be made available for settlement as the occasion demands and as soon as the progress of the works permit.

The following statement shows the lands purchased for civilians and discharged soldiers by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission and the extent of settlement on each estate after subdivision. The subdivided portions are already supporting twenty times as many families as were living on them previously. The statement contains

also particulars of settlement effected under section 20 of the *Closer Settlement Act* 1915 outside the large estates subdivided by the Commission :—

| Closer Settlement Estate.   | Area of Lands purchased by the State in Acres. | Properties Subdivided. |         |  |                                     |                        |  |   |
|---|--|------------------------|---------|--|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--|---|
|   |  | Area in Acres.         | Number. | Number of Families thereon when Purchased. | Subdivided into—                    |                        | Number of Closer Settlement Blocks now occupied. | Present Increase in Number of Families. |
|   |  |                        |         |  | Number of Closer Settlement Blocks. | Average Area in Acres. |  |   |
| Shepparton .. .. .  | 14,170   | 14,170                 | 33      | 29   | 388                                 | 34                     | 373  | 344                                     |
| East Goulburn .. .. .   | 10,970   | 960                    | 1       | 1  | 13                                  | 71                     | 13   | 12                                      |
| Rodney .. .. .  | 2,800  | 2,750                  | 6       | 4  | 40                                  | 69                     | 34   | 30                                      |
| Stanhope .. .. .  | 21,500   | 21,500                 | 7       | 13   | 330                                 | 55                     | 301  | 288                                     |
| Kyabram .. .. .   | 4,600  | 3,000                  | 7       | 10   | 57                                  | 52                     | 53   | 43                                      |
| Tongala .. .. .   | 18,820   | 18,820                 | 40      | 35   | 314                                 | 58                     | 300  | 265                                     |
| Koyuga .. .. .  | 4,200  | 4,200                  | } Pt. 1 | ..   | { 50                                | 79                     | 48   | 48                                      |
| Cornelia Creek .. .. .  | 2,500  | 2,500                  |         |  | { 19                                | 161                    | 19   | 19                                      |
| Nanneella .. .. .   | 9,000  | 9,000                  | 17      | 7  | 119                                 | 73                     | 115  | 108                                     |
| Echuca .. .. .  | 3,600  | 3,600                  | 8       | 4  | 31                                  | 101                    | 30   | 26                                      |
| Bamawm .. .. .  | 13,400   | 13,400                 | 28      | 21   | 160                                 | 70                     | 176  | 155                                     |
| Dingee .. .. .  | 500  | 500                    | 3       | 1  | 17                                  | 27                     | 14   | 13                                      |
| Calivil .. .. .   | 3,300  | ..                     | ..      | ..   | ..                                  | ..                     | ..   | ..                                      |
| Cohuna .. .. .  | 12,000   | 12,000                 | 29      | 10   | 137                                 | 83                     | 119  | 109                                     |
| Koondrook .. .. .   | 9,080  | 9,080                  | 14      | 10   | 135                                 | 61                     | 111  | 101                                     |
| Swan Hill .. .. .   | 12,500   | 12,500                 | 34      | 16   | 303                                 | 39                     | 288  | 272                                     |
| Nyah .. .. .  | 3,800  | 3,800                  | 8       | 1  | 237                                 | 15                     | 233  | 232                                     |
| Merbein (Crown) .. .. .   | 8,300  | 8,300                  | ..      | ..   | 410                                 | 20                     | 407  | 407                                     |
| Red Cliffs .. .. .  | 33,000   | 18,000                 | 1       | 3  | 706                                 | 17                     | 696  | 663                                     |
| Bacchus Marsh .. .. .   | 70   | 70                     | 1       | ..   | 2                                   | 36                     | 2  | 2                                       |
| Werribee .. .. .  | 10,000   | 10,000                 | 1       | 11   | 233                                 | 36                     | 223  | 218                                     |
| Hallam .. .. .  | 3,300  | 280                    | 3       | 1  | 16                                  | 17                     | 13   | 12                                      |
| Maffra .. .. .  | 7,900  | 4,900                  | 7       | 4  | 107                                 | 43                     | 37   | 33                                      |
| Properties purchased under Section 20, <i>Closer Settlement Act</i> 1915, outside above Estates, <i>vide</i> page 478 | 209,290  | 173,310                | 249     | 181  | 3,844                               | 41                     | 3,611  | 3,430                                   |
|   | 19,540   | ..                     | ..      | ..   | ..                                  | ..                     | 200  | ..                                      |
|   | 228,830  |                        |         |  |                                     |                        |  |   |

The development of irrigation in all parts of the world is one of slow but sure growth; and, although in some countries there has been a slight retrogression on account of the post-war slump in markets for agricultural produce, it is gratifying to note that, in this country, irrigation development has continued to make satisfactory progress. Settlement during the year has been effected mainly in the Murrabit and Shepparton irrigation districts. In the Murrabit district the opening of the new railway has given the district a great impetus, and the township of Murrabit is developing with rapidity.

In the dried fruit irrigation areas the main crop of sultanas was of outstanding quality, being considered by experts to be equal to, if not better than, the highest grades produced in other countries. This

**Progress of  
Irrigated Closer  
Settled  
Districts.**

result was attained by the introduction of a new process of dipping known as the "cold dip," and to special attention paid to harvesting and processing. In Red Cliffs, the largest soldier settlement in the State, an area of 8,000 acres is now planted with vines, and 600 acres with citrus trees. The yield in 1924, as the result of less than four years' settlement, was 570 tons of dried fruit; in 1925, the harvest amounted to 2,500 tons; and, in the coming season, a yield of between 4,000 and 5,000 tons is anticipated. Some settlers are profitably engaged in sidelines such as fresh fruit, green peas, and tomato growing. Australian sales of dried fruits are controlled by the recently established Victorian Dried Fruits Board, and sales overseas by the Commonwealth Dried Fruits Control Board.

The Co-operative Fruit Canneries at Shepparton and Kyabram again had a most successful season—the combined pack of over 8,000,000 tins being disposed of locally and overseas at satisfactory prices. Another co-operative cannery has been established at Mooroopna; the capacity of the Kyabram Cannery is being increased; and, at Shepparton, the capacity of the cannery is to be doubled and a cool store provided.

With the objective of improving the quality of herds and their milk-producing capabilities, herd-testing associations have been formed in the Tongala, Nanneella, Cohuna, and Kerang irrigation districts. Some of the best pure-bred herds in the State are located in irrigation districts.

The Irrigation Research Committee, comprising representatives of the Department of Agriculture and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, the formation of which was mentioned in the 1923-24 issue of this publication, has carried out experiments at Swan Hill and Rochester during 1925, and these will be extended to Stanhope and Tongala. The results obtained are most gratifying, and indicate that, given the correct manurial treatment, crops yielding as much as 7 tons of lucerne hay per acre could be obtained.

In addition to waterworks for purposes of irrigation, extensive schemes for the supply of water for domestic and stock purposes are under the control of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Altogether, the area within the State so supplied is approximately 22,214 square miles—slightly more than one-quarter of the total area of the State. The major portion so supplied is in the Mallee and Wimmera districts.

The number of towns supplied with water, exclusive of the City of Melbourne and its suburbs, is as follows:—69 towns of a total population of 106,580 supplied by the Commission, 106 towns with a total population of 174,070 supplied by Waterworks Trusts, and 18 towns with a total population of 74,720 supplied by Local Governing Bodies.

Supply of  
water for  
domestic and  
stock purposes.

## STORAGE AND SUPPLY SCHEMES.

**Total Storages in State.** In 1902 the total capacity of storages in the State was 172,000 acre-feet. The present capacity is about 871,610 acre-feet, and, when the Sugarloaf, Wimmera, and Maffra Storages have been completed, the total capacity will exceed 1,275,000 acre-feet. The Hume Reservoir, which is in course of construction, and is not included in the storages referred to, will contain between 1,100,000 and 2,000,000 acre-feet (*vide* page 499), half of which can, subject to the provisions of the River Murray Agreement, be credited to the State of Victoria. The construction of storage works by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was continued during the year.

**Goulburn Storages.** At the Sugarloaf Reservoir, on the Upper Goulburn River, work is well advanced with the main retaining wall, which consists of a diaphragm of concrete, a wall of clayey material on the upstream side of the diaphragm, and supporting masses of rock. The valve tower has been completed for some time, and hydraulic lifters for operating the valves have now been placed in position. A volume of about 80,000 acre-feet of water can already be held in store, and this will be increased to 306,000 acre-feet when the present undertaking is completed. It has been ascertained by surveys that the site would admit of a storage basin of a total capacity of 918,000 acre-feet. This result could be obtained by progressive stages. It is expected that the cast iron gates and pipes for an emergency or power outlet will be placed in position during the coming year. In view of the possibility of the outlet being utilized in connexion with the Sugarloaf Hydro-electric Scheme (*vide* page 499), the State Electricity Commission was consulted prior to the final adoption of plans.

At the Waranga Reservoir, which has a storage capacity of 333,400 acre-feet, work is proceeding on a wall of reinforced concrete that is being built to further strengthen the present embankment. This work, which was commenced in 1923, is practically completed. In addition, a considerable amount of work has been done on the inlet and outlet channels, including the raising of a measuring weir on the outlet channel.

**Wimmera Storages.** Progress was made with the works for supplementing the domestic and stock supplies to the districts served by the Wimmera-Mallee system. The embankment at Taylor's Lake has been completed, and the storage filled to its full capacity—30,000 acre-feet. The building of the embankment for the first stage of Pine Lake Reservoir, and the construction of the valve tower and outlet structures have been completed. The lake is now filled to a depth of 37 feet, the volume stored being 22,000 acre-feet, all of which is held within its natural banks. The embankment will be built in two stages, the first of which will enable 34,000 acre-feet of water to be impounded. The ultimate holding capacity of this storage will be 62,000 acre-feet. The new main channel connecting the Wimmera



River with Taylor's Lake and Pine Lake Storage is completed and in operation. Its capacity is 1,200 acre-feet per day.

The storage provision of the Wimmera-Mallee Supply Scheme now reaches 152,350 acre-feet as against 69,000 acre-feet a few years ago. Storage works now in course of construction will carry the capacity to no less than 212,350 acre-feet. The water is distributed throughout a total area of about 11,000 square miles by main and distributary channels aggregating over 4,950 miles in length (exclusive of an approximately equal length of farmers' connecting branches). This system also supplies water to 32 towns.

**Northern Mallee Water Supply.** In the Walpeup portion of the Northern Mallee, comprising an area of about 1,250,000 acres, which adjoins the Wimmera-Mallee districts but is generally too high for inclusion in the gravitation channel system, the Commission has met the water supply needs of settlers by sinking bores, and excavating large public tanks. There are now 97 successful public bores in this area with an average depth of 460 feet, and 193 tanks with a total storage capacity of 1,032,500 cubic yards.

**Millewa Water Supply.** The extensive domestic and stock supply scheme for the supply of water to an area of about 1,000,000 acres in the extreme north-western portion of the State (opened up by the 55 miles of railway from Red Cliffs that is being constructed for the service of that territory), is so well advanced that a new Waterworks District, known as "Lower Millewa," has been constituted. The scheme will comprise two main lifts, of about 125 feet and 150 feet, the first being from Lake Cullulleraine—a depression on the edge of the river flats about 5 miles from the River Murray. In the first lift system 50 miles of main channels and 267 miles of distributaries have already been constructed; these will serve 421 Mallee blocks, with a total area of 350,000 acres, which have been allotted to settlers. The work will be carried out in successive stages to meet the requirements of the gradually extending settlement. In this area and the adjacent Sunset country, 80 tanks have been constructed, with a total storage capacity of 110,700 cubic yards.

**Carwarp Waterworks District.** In the Carwarp Waterworks District, supplied from the Red Cliffs pumping station, the construction of a main channel to supply about 50 square miles of new country at Carwarp and Colignan is nearing completion. The works to supply water to the high lands surrounding Carwarp Railway Station, including 12 miles of channels and a pump and rising main, have been completed and water supplied to settlers. These lands have been formed into a separate waterworks district called "Carwarp Central."

**Mornington Peninsula Scheme.** The important scheme of reticulated supply to the Naval Base, the inland towns of Berwick, Beaconsfield, Noble Park, Spring Vale, Dandenong, Somerville, Cranbourne, and Bittern, and the bayside towns of Mornington, Frankston, South Frankston, Seaford, Carrum, Chelsea, Edithvale, and Aspendale, is in full working order. The reservoirs at Beaconsfield, Frankston, South Frankston, Mornington, and Bittern were kept fully

supplied during the last year. Besides carrying out large extensions of mains in all existing districts, the work of reticulating the highest levels of South Frankston were completed.

The storage of 36,000,000 gallons capacity, on Heywood's Hill, 2 miles north of Dandenong, proved very satisfactory, and, in addition to considerable extensions being effected in the reticulation generally, the new main supply line from Berwick to Heywood's Hill Reservoir has been completed and is now in full working order.

The main race is now being extended from Toomuc Creek, to tap the Cannibal Creek and Bunyip River, as outlined in the original scheme. This will ensure adequate supplies to meet the increasing demands of reticulations already connected, and to provide for Hastings, Pakenham, Garfield, Bunyip, and, when required, the bayside towns of Dromana, Rosebud, Rye, Sorrento, and Portsea. It will also give an abundant supply for the scheme for developing the irrigation, by pressure pipes, of small blocks suitable for market gardening and intensive culture. In this connexion the estates in the Hallam Valley, comprising 3,300 acres, purchased by the Commission for Closer Settlement purposes, are being subdivided and allotted to settlers for intensive culture under irrigation.

**Goulburn  
Irrigation  
Areas.**

With the practical completion of the Waranga Reservoir enlargement and improvement works, and the steady construction of Sugarloaf Reservoir, active preparations have been made for enlarging and extending the works for the distribution of the increased supplies of water becoming available, and considerable expansion of the whole system is now taking place. The main Eastern Channel—from the Goulburn Weir to the River Broken—previously supplying Shepparton District only, is being enlarged, and extended north-easterly about 15 miles. The Shepparton District has been extended, and further areas, including 9,000 acres purchased by the Commission for Closer Settlement purposes, will be supplied. New lands south of the River Broken, comprising 14,000 acres, are now receiving supplies, and have been constituted the "South Shepparton Irrigation District."

On the west of the River Goulburn, several main channels of the Rodney District have been enlarged and new main channels constructed to cope with the increasing demand for water. Further west, the works of the Rochester Irrigation District are being extended, and already 18,000 acres have been added to the district. A new main channel—Tandarra-Calivil, from the Waranga-Western main channel, towards the River Loddon, is under construction, and is well advanced. This channel will supplement the supply to the Tragowel Plains Irrigation District, and some large areas of new irrigation lands *en route*. The Waranga-Western main channel has been extended to the River Loddon (98 miles from Waranga Reservoir), and a weir and regulator built on that river, enabling the Commission to augment the supply to the Boort District, hitherto dependent entirely on the uncertain quantities of water obtainable from the River Loddon.

In the districts administered from the Cohuna and Loddon-Murray Irrigation Areas. Kerang centres the completion of the Torumbarry Weir has been responsible for a marked impetus in the development of irrigation, extensive areas now being provided for by gravitation entirely, where previously a combined gravitation and pumping system was necessary.

As well as the improvements in the conditions obtaining in established districts, large areas of dry farming lands are rapidly being brought under irrigation. First among these is an area of 8,000 acres between Gunbower Channel and Cohuna Irrigation District. A complete system of channels has been provided for these lands, which have now been constituted the "Leitchville Irrigation District."

Another important development was the reticulation of 6,000 acres between the Rivers Murray and Loddon, and the inclusion of these lands within the Koondrook Irrigation District. This extension includes a number of soldier settlers' holdings, previously supplied, at great cost, by private pumping plants.

The irrigable area benefited by Torumbarry Weir was still further increased by the construction of main and distributary channels from Pyramid Creek, upstream from Kerang Weir. These works provide a supply for 8,400 acres of lands north-east of Kerang, and now added to the Gannawarra Irrigation District.

The continuous gravitation supplies rendered available by Torumbarry Weir and distribution works enabled the Kerang North-West Lakes to be maintained at full supply level during the irrigation season, while the Swan Hill Irrigation District of 21,000 acres, which, until recently, was supplied partly by gravitation and partly by pumping, has now been brought wholly under the influence of gravitation, and extended by the inclusion of about 14,600 acres of lands between Lake Boga and Swan Hill.

The important irrigation works, to provide a gravitation supply to the country between Third Lake and Benjeroop, have been completed and are in full operation, and the lands so served—about 13,000 acres—have been constituted the "Third Lake" Irrigation District.

Good progress was made during the year with the construction of the cyclopean concrete dam on the Macallister River, which, when completed, will impound 150,000 acre-feet of water for the irrigation of 80,000 acres of land. The dam is sufficiently high to store about 50,000 acre-feet of water in the summer of 1925-26. The northern main channel, commanding Newry and Boisdale Flats, and the whole of Maffra and Sale districts, has been completed, and the reticulation of Boisdale Flats so far advanced that water for the irrigation of this rich area is now being delivered. It is expected that during the ensuing summer water will also be available for Airly, Cobain's, and other estates (totalling 6,000 acres, in the vicinity of Sale) purchased and subdivided by the Commission for Closer Settlement purposes. In the area to be served by the southern main channel, the distributary channels on the Mewburn Park Closer Settlement Estate have been completed, and a supply can now be

given to this area also, if urgently required, by pumping from the river pending completion of the main channel.

**Red Cliffs  
Irrigation  
District.**

At Red Cliffs, the scheme, which ranks first in importance among the pumping systems of the State, supplies water to an area totalling 18,000 acres, including the township and 704 soldier settlement blocks. The plant is capable of delivering 500 acre-feet of water per day, lifted 105 feet. The total length of channels constructed to date is 124 miles. Channels having a total length of 95 miles have been lined with concrete, with the result that 614 blocks—86 per cent. of the total in the settlement—are protected from seepage from channels. Following considerable progress in the township, which has been proclaimed an Urban Waterworks District, a concrete standpipe, 70 feet high and 26 feet in diameter, has been erected, and reticulation extended to meet requirements.

**Flood  
Protection  
Schemes**

The Commission has under construction a comprehensive scheme of works for the reclamation of the extensive swamps in West Gippsland, known as Kooweerup and Cardinia, and for the protection from periodical flooding of the surrounding low-lying lands, aggregating in all 100,000 acres. These areas have been constituted Flood Protection Districts under the provisions of the Water Acts. The construction of the huge main drains, feeders and subsidiary works has reached the stage that provides the landholders affected with protection from all but abnormal floods, and flood protection charges have been levied accordingly.

Flood protection works have also been constructed at Loch Garry (below Shepparton) for the regulation of Goulburn flood waters. The area benefited—about 40,000 acres—has been constituted the “Loch Garry Flood Protection District.” Further down the Goulburn (at Kanyapella) works have been constructed for the relief from flooding of an area of about 13,500 acres. This area has been constituted the “Kanyapella Flood Protection District.”

**River Murray  
Waters.**

The scheme of works provided in the River Murray Waters Acts passed by the Governments of the Commonwealth and of the States of New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia comprises storages on the Upper River Murray and at Lake Victoria, locks and weirs in the course of the River Murray from its mouth to Echuca, and also locks and weirs on the lower part of the River Darling or the River Murrumbidgee, as may be decided by the Government of New South Wales. The Acts provide that for purposes of construction the Minister for Public Works of New South Wales shall be the Constructing Authority for that State; that, for the State of South Australia, the Commissioner of Public Works shall be the Constructing Authority; and that the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission shall be the Constructing Authority for Victoria.

Under the River Murray Agreement of 1914 the estimated total cost of the whole of the works is set down at £4,663,000. It is now clear, from the experience gained in connexion with the works which have been put in hand to date, that the total cost of the works will

be fully double that amount. The four contracting Governments have agreed to share equally in the total cost of the works. The total expenditure incurred up to 30th June, 1925, on the portion of the scheme completed and in course of construction was £3,440,000.

The site of the Hume Reservoir is a little below the junction of the rivers Murray and Mitta Mitta. Originally it was designed to provide for a capacity of 1,100,000 acre-feet, but, at a conference of Ministers representing the four interested Governments, held on the 8th and 9th days of August, 1924, the following proposals raised by the Government of Victoria were agreed to :—

- (a) That the work of construction of the Hume dam, of sufficient dimensions to provide for a reservoir of 2,000,000 acre-feet, proceed for a period not exceeding three years, and that the question of the ultimate capacity and completion of the reservoir be then the subject of a further conference. All waters to be used to meet the present allocation obligations and as a reserve for dry years.
- (b) That provision be made for outlet works at the Hume Reservoir suitable for hydro-electric generation purposes, provided, however, that the use of the reservoir for these purposes does not interfere with the volumes of water required for the purposes set out in the River Murray Agreement. The cost of such additional outlet works, estimated at £40,000, shall be borne in equal shares by the States of New South Wales and Victoria, which Governments should have the sole use of any power generated at the reservoir.

The work is being carried out by the Constructing Authorities for the States of New South Wales and Victoria. On the New South Wales section considerable progress has been made, and work is now being proceeded with on the concrete structure. On the Victorian side the construction of the main embankment is being steadily advanced.

The Torumbarry Weir and Lock (near Echuca) has been in successful operation during the last year, and water has been diverted for the various irrigation districts benefited.

Weir and Lock No. 11—situated about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile downstream from Mildura—will form, when completed, a lock pool for about 40 miles upstream, providing a local reserve storage of great value and reducing the suction lift at the Mildura and Red Cliffs Pumping Stations. Good progress was made with the works, including the excavation of the lock canal; concreting of lock walls and floor, and construction of the lock gates. The Constructing Authority for New South Wales is also proceeding with the construction of No. 10 Weir and Lock at Wentworth; while, in the South Australian section, Weir and Lock No. 1 at Blanchetown and No. 3 near Lake Bonney have been completed, substantial progress has been made with No. 5 near Renmark, and No. 9 near the offtake to Lake Victoria, and a start made on No. 2. Lake Victoria Storage Works are also approaching completion.

**Artesian Bores.**

The following particulars relating to artesian boring have been supplied by the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission :—

**ARTESIAN AND SUB-ARTESIAN BORING (MALLEE).**

| Number of Bores Sunk.* |          | Total Depth of Bores.* |                 |
|------------------------|----------|------------------------|-----------------|
| State.                 | Private. | State.                 | Private.        |
| 96                     | 263      | Feet.<br>44,492        | Feet.<br>51,200 |

\* At 31st December, 1924.

**Mildura Irrigation Settlement.**

The Mildura Irrigation Settlement, on the River Murray, was established in 1887 under the management of the Chaffey Brothers Limited, and in 1895 the control of the water supply was vested in the First Mildura Irrigation Trust. Water is obtained by pumping from the river. The following particulars are an indication of the prosperity of the settlement :—

**POPULATION OF MILDURA SHIRE, 1891 TO 1924.\***

|      |                |    |        |      |          |    |    |        |
|------|----------------|----|--------|------|----------|----|----|--------|
| 1891 | April (Census) | .. | 2,321  | 1922 | December | .. | .. | 13,760 |
| 1901 | March (Census) | .. | 3,325  | 1923 | ..       | .. | .. | 13,950 |
| 1911 | April (Census) | .. | 6,119  | 1924 | ..       | .. | .. | 14,250 |
| 1921 | April (Census) | .. | 13,183 |      |          |    |    |        |

\* Including the population of the town of Mildura, which up to 1920 was part of the shire.

The capital value of property in the Shire of Mildura in 1913 was £1,294,160. In 1924 in the same area it had risen to £3,730,540. The receipts and payments of the Mildura Irrigation Trust during the year ended 30th June, 1925, were as follows :—

**RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS OF FIRST MILDURA IRRIGATION TRUST, 1924-25.**

| Receipts.              |    | £      | Payments.                               |    | £      |
|------------------------|----|--------|---|----|--------|
| Horticultural Rates    | .. | 37,727 | Wages and Salaries                      | .. | 16,307 |
| Special Waterings, &c. | .. | 2,574  | Firewood                                | .. | 21,155 |
| Miscellaneous          | .. | 3,473  | Interest, Sinking Fund and Depreciation | .. | 4,315  |
|                        |    |        | Miscellaneous                           | .. | 4,556  |
| Total                  | .. | 43,774 | Total                                   | .. | 46,333 |

The extent of watering done represented 22,876 water acres in 1917-18, 39,895 acres in 1918-19, 41,808 acres in 1919-20, 35,632 acres in 1920-21, 44,150 acres in 1921-22, 42,807 acres in 1922-23, 42,854 acres in 1923-24, and 39,212 acres in 1924-25.

## METEOROLOGY.

Particulars in regard to climate and weather conditions have been furnished by the Commonwealth Meteorologist, and are given in the following tables. In the first are shown the rainfall for each of the years 1922, 1923, and 1924, and the average yearly amount of rainfall deduced from all available records to December, 1924, in each of the 26 river basins or districts constituting the State of Victoria :—

## RAINFALL.—YEARLY RECORDS AND AVERAGES.

| Basin or District.                   | Rainfall.        |         |         |  |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|---------|---------|--|
|                                      | During the Year— |         |         | Yearly<br>Average to<br>December,<br>1924. |
|                                      | 1922.            | 1923.   | 1924.   |  |
|                                      | Inches.          | Inches. | Inches. | Inches.                                    |
| Glenelg and Wannon Rivers ..         | 24.42            | 29.75   | 28.72   | 26.27                                      |
| Fitzroy, Eumeralla, and Merri Rivers | 27.06            | 32.61   | 26.73   | 28.28                                      |
| Hopkins River and Mt. Emu Creek ..   | 23.27            | 29.55   | 31.94   | 25.32                                      |
| Mt. Elephant and Lake Corangamite    | 23.43            | 27.00   | 27.99   | 24.79                                      |
| Cape Otway Forest ..                 | 43.74            | 47.12   | 44.71   | 39.40                                      |
| Moorabool and Barwon Rivers ..       | 23.17            | 24.47   | 32.28   | 24.55                                      |
| Werribee and Saltwater Rivers ..     | 21.61            | 19.88   | 31.89   | 23.82                                      |
| Yarra River and Dandenong Creek ..   | 35.37            | 34.19   | 49.40   | 34.26                                      |
| Koo-wee-rup Swamp ..                 | 37.29            | 37.19   | 47.57   | 36.29                                      |
| South Gippsland ..                   | 38.52            | 43.48   | 40.95   | 39.17                                      |
| Latrobe and Thomson Rivers ..        | 35.94            | 39.12   | 47.21   | 38.54                                      |
| Macallister and Avon Rivers ..       | 24.18            | 22.73   | 25.91   | 23.91                                      |
| Mitchell River ..                    | 25.09            | 24.37   | 25.85   | 26.17                                      |
| Tambo and Nicholson Rivers ..        | 25.62            | 23.08   | 28.61   | 27.64                                      |
| Snowy River ..                       | 28.64            | 28.42   | 33.66   | 34.66                                      |
| Murray River ..                      | 11.66            | 17.17   | 23.56   | 16.93                                      |
| Mitta Mitta and Kiewa Rivers ..      | 26.54            | 38.22   | 46.10   | 33.67                                      |
| Ovens River ..                       | 25.05            | 34.60   | 42.14   | 33.82                                      |
| Goulburn River ..                    | 21.25            | 27.36   | 32.38   | 26.64                                      |
| Campaspe River ..                    | 16.05            | 22.14   | 28.33   | 23.17                                      |
| Loddon River ..                      | 14.21            | 20.62   | 24.93   | 20.46                                      |
| Avoca River ..                       | 13.26            | 17.39   | 22.14   | 17.30                                      |
| Avon and Richardson Rivers ..        | 15.30            | 17.34   | 20.08   | 15.53                                      |
| Eastern Wimmera ..                   | 21.11            | 23.70   | 26.32   | 21.53                                      |
| Western Wimmera ..                   | 20.28            | 23.82   | 22.05   | 20.11                                      |
| Mallee ..                            | 9.09             | 12.95   | 14.24   | 12.72                                      |
| Weighted Averages ..                 | 21.35            | 25.34   | 28.65   | 24.39                                      |

The wettest portion of the State is the Cape Otway Forest, which is closely followed by the South Gippsland district and the Latrobe and Thomson Basin. The lowest rainfall occurs in the Mallee district, where it averages 12.72 inches per annum, as compared with 24.39 inches for the whole State.

An estimate of the areas of the State, in square miles, subject to different degrees of rainfall was first made in 1910 and the figures have stood till the present time. However, the Commonwealth Meteorologist, in view of the more comprehensive data available, now gives the following figures:—

## DISTRIBUTION OF AVERAGE RAINFALL.

| Rainfall. |    |    |    |    |    | Area.         |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|---------------|
| Inches.   |    |    |    |    |    | Square Miles. |
| Under 15  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 19,270        |
| 15 to 20  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 13,492        |
| 20 to 25  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14,170        |
| 25 to 30  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15,579        |
| 30 to 40  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 14,450        |
| 40 to 50  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 7,338         |
| 50 to 60  | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2,980         |
| Over 60   | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 605           |

The rainfall recorded for each quarter of 1924 and the quarterly averages up to 1924 deduced from all available records are as follows:—

## RAINFALL—QUARTERLY RECORDS AND AVERAGES.

| Basin or District.                   | First Quarter. |          | Second Quarter. |          | Third Quarter. |          | Fourth Quarter. |          |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|----------------|----------|-----------------|----------|
|                                      | Amount.        | Average. | Amount.         | Average. | Amount.        | Average. | Amount.         | Average. |
|                                      | points         | points   | points          | points   | points         | points   | points          | points   |
| Glenelg and Wannon Rivers            | 741            | 361      | 623             | 772      | 813            | 906      | 695             | 588      |
| Fitzroy, Eumeralla, and Merri Rivers | 850            | 436      | 592             | 825      | 673            | 947      | 558             | 620      |
| Hopkins River and Mt. Emu Creek      | 819            | 431      | 612             | 701      | 846            | 809      | 917             | 591      |
| Mt. Elephant and Lake Corangamite    | 823            | 439      | 522             | 691      | 692            | 763      | 762             | 586      |
| Cape Otway Forest                    | 1,290          | 604      | 1,015           | 1,167    | 1,197          | 1,325    | 969             | 844      |
| Moorabool and Barwon Rivers          | 1,181          | 481      | 489             | 659      | 672            | 710      | 886             | 605      |
| Werribee and Saltwater Rivers        | 993            | 519      | 376             | 597      | 746            | 652      | 1,074           | 614      |
| Yarra River and Dandenong Creek      | 1,559          | 702      | 855             | 871      | 1,042          | 931      | 1,484           | 922      |
| Koo-wee-rup Swamp                    | 1,487          | 692      | 886             | 993      | 1,166          | 1,016    | 1,218           | 928      |
| South Gippsland                      | 1,358          | 785      | 664             | 1,082    | 1,053          | 1,141    | 1,020           | 909      |
| Latrobe and Thomson Rivers           | 1,487          | 730      | 755             | 985      | 1,105          | 1,115    | 1,374           | 1,024    |
| Macallister and Avon Rivers          | 992            | 614      | 322             | 522      | 525            | 599      | 752             | 656      |
| Mitchell River                       | 926            | 656      | 414             | 555      | 498            | 689      | 747             | 687      |
| Tambo and Nicholson Rivers           | 1,050          | 702      | 455             | 651      | 443            | 676      | 913             | 735      |
| Snowy River                          | 1,092          | 815      | 579             | 879      | 545            | 903      | 1,150           | 869      |
| Murray River                         | 532            | 311      | 457             | 493      | 554            | 493      | 813             | 396      |
| Mitta Mitta and Kiewa Rivers         | 1,090          | 606      | 801             | 919      | 1,237          | 1,037    | 1,482           | 805      |
| Ovens River                          | 861            | 532      | 906             | 993      | 1,107          | 1,105    | 1,340           | 752      |
| Goulburn River                       | 803            | 460      | 660             | 763      | 807            | 812      | 968             | 629      |
| Campaspe River                       | 739            | 413      | 550             | 685      | 657            | 728      | 887             | 491      |
| Loddon River                         | 660            | 355      | 430             | 605      | 591            | 632      | 812             | 454      |
| Avoca River                          | 648            | 282      | 354             | 525      | 497            | 549      | 715             | 374      |
| Avon and Richardson Rivers           | 500            | 249      | 299             | 462      | 502            | 504      | 707             | 338      |
| Eastern Wimmera                      | 555            | 302      | 477             | 647      | 729            | 725      | 871             | 479      |
| Western Wimmera                      | 597            | 255      | 480             | 619      | 608            | 703      | 520             | 434      |
| Mallee                               | 319            | 229      | 203             | 359      | 313            | 392      | 589             | 292      |
| The whole State                      | 788            | 441      | 520             | 680      | 689            | 742      | 868             | 576      |



The averages of the climatic elements for the seasons in Melbourne deduced from all available official records are given below:—

### AVERAGES OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

| Meteorological Elements.                                  | Spring. | Summer. | Autumn. | Winter. |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Mean pressure of air in inches ..                         | 29·970  | 29·923  | 30·080  | 30·077  |
| Monthly range of pressure of air—Inches                   | 0·892   | 0·767   | 0·814   | 0·978   |
| Mean temperature of air in shade—°Fahr.                   | 57·7    | 66·6    | 59·4    | 50·0    |
| Mean daily range of temperature of air in shade—°Fahr. .. | 18·6    | 21·1    | 17·4    | 13·9    |
| Mean relative humidity. Saturation=100                    | 66      | 60      | 70      | 76      |
| Mean rainfall in inches ..                                | 7·35    | 5·90    | 6·56    | 5·80    |
| Mean number of days of rain ..                            | 38      | 24      | 33      | 42      |
| Mean amount of spontaneous evaporation in inches ..       | 10·21   | 17·25   | 7·82    | 3·62    |
| Mean daily amount of cloudiness—Scale 0 to 10 ..          | 6·0     | 5·2     | 5·9     | 6·4     |
| Mean number of days of fog ..                             | 1       | 1       | 6       | 11      |

In the subjoined statement are shown the yearly averages of the climatic elements in Melbourne for 1924 and for the last 69 years, as well as the extremes between which the yearly average values of such elements have oscillated in the latter period.

### YEARLY AVERAGES AND EXTREMES OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS.

| Meteorological Elements.                         | Yearly Averages and Extremes. |                       |   |         |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---|---------|
|  | Year 1924.                    | Average for 69 Years. | Extremes between which the Yearly Average Values have oscillated in 69 years. |         |
|  |                               |                       | Highest.  | Lowest. |
| Mean atmospheric pressure (inches) ..            | 30·001                        | 30·012                | 30·106  | 29·945  |
| Highest " " " ..                                 | 30·624                        | 30·605                | 30·762  | 30·488  |
| Lowest " " " ..                                  | 29·192                        | 29·255                | 29·495  | 28·942  |
| Range (inches) ..                                | 1·432                         | 1·350                 | 1·719   | 1·104   |
| Mean temperature of air in shade (°Fahr.) ..     | 57·4                          | 58·4                  | 59·9  | 57·3    |
| Mean daily maximum .. (°Fahr.)                   | 65·4                          | 67·3                  | 69·0  | 65·4    |
| Mean daily minimum ..                            | 49·4                          | 49·5                  | 51·2  | 47·2    |
| Absolute maximum ..                              | 104·3                         | 105·2                 | 111·2   | 96·6    |
| Absolute minimum ..                              | 32·9                          | 30·8                  | 34·2  | 27·0    |
| Mean daily range ..                              | 16·0                          | 17·8                  | 20·4  | 15·0    |
| Absolute annual range ..                         | 71·4                          | 74·4                  | 82·6  | 66·0    |
| Solar Radiation (mean maxima) ..                 | 112·2                         | 117·9                 | 127·6   | 106·0   |
| Terrestrial Radiation (mean minima) .. (°Fahr.)  | 43·5                          | 44·0                  | 46·8  | 39·5    |
| Rainfall (in inches) ..                          | 36·48                         | 25·61                 | 38·04   | 15·61   |
| Number of wet days ..                            | 171                           | 137                   | 171   | 102     |
| Year's amount of free evaporation (in inches) .. | 36·65                         | 38·90                 | 45·66   | 31·59   |
| Percentage of humidity (saturation =100) ..      | 67                            | 68                    | 76  | 62      |
| Cloudiness (scale 10 = overcast, 0 = clear) ..   | 6·3                           | 5·9                   | 6·4   | 4·8     |
| Number of days of fog ..                         | 36                            | 19                    | 39  | 5       |

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

**Department of Agriculture.** This Department is controlled by a Minister of the Crown, under whom there is a large staff of experts with the Director of Agriculture as permanent head. These officers are actively engaged in supervising all matters relating to the Agricultural, Pastoral, Fruit and Dairying Industries of the State, and in giving instructions to those engaged therein. The Department publishes a monthly journal.

**Government Experimental Farms.** The great expansion in our rural industries during recent years has been largely brought about by the general adoption of better methods of farming, and by the introduction of more prolific wheats, and it is claimed that these improvements have been adopted as the result of the experimental and demonstration work of the Department of Agriculture. In 1912 a Central Research Farm was established at Werribee, and it is there that the initiative with regard to practically all experimental and research work is now undertaken. The State farms at Rutherglen and Longerenong are used as district experimental stations for the North-East and the Wimmera respectively. In addition, there are a number of subsidized experimental and demonstration areas located on private farms throughout the State.

**Agricultural Colleges.** An Act for the establishment of Agricultural Colleges was passed in 1884, and 14,458 acres, comprising 5,955 acres at Dookie, 2,386 acres at Longerenong, 2,500 acres at Gunyah, 2,800 acres at Olangolah, and 817 acres at Bullarto, were reserved as sites for colleges and experimental farms. The areas at Dookie and Longerenong are being used for the purpose for which they were reserved, but the other three are devoted to other uses.

In addition to the college and farm lands, provision was made by the Act of 1884 to permanently reserve from sale an area of not more than 150,000 acres of Crown lands, and to vest it in trustees to be appointed, who should hold it in trust for the benefit of and by way of an endowment for State agricultural colleges and experimental farms. The land so reserved now amounts to 71,412 acres, and is let for grazing and agricultural purposes.

The fee for students in residence at the agricultural colleges is £35 per annum for maintenance, including stationery and medical and other charges. No charge is made for instruction. Accommodation is provided at Dookie for 100 and at Longerenong for 50 students.

**School of  
Primary  
Agriculture  
and  
Horticulture.**

This institution is situated in the Burnley Gardens, close to the Hawthorn and Heyington railway stations. The classes are open to male and female students above fourteen years of age. The Course for the Certificate in Horticulture occupies two years, and is intended for those who propose to follow orchard or garden work as a profession. Part time classes are also held for those who are unable to devote full time to the subject. Another feature of the work at the school is the holding of regular classes of instruction in Agricultural Science for those desirous of taking the subject either in the Intermediate or the Leaving grade at the Annual Public Examinations conducted by the University. A practical training is obtained in the orchards, gardens, and nursery connected with the school; the course also includes lectures and demonstrations by various expert teachers. Excursions to up-to-date farms, orchards, and nurseries form part of the work of the school. In 1924 the students enrolled numbered 140.

**Experimental  
Farms and  
Agricultural  
Colleges.**

Various particulars relating to the State Experimental Farms and Agricultural Colleges are embodied in the next statement.

### GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL FARMS AND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES, 1924.

| Particulars.                         | Central<br>Research<br>Farm,<br>Werribee. | Ruther-<br>glen<br>Farm,<br>&c. | Dookie<br>Agricultural<br>College. | Longer-<br>enong<br>Agricultural<br>College. | School<br>of<br>Primary<br>Agriculture,<br>&c. |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
|                                      | No.                                       | No.                             | No.                                | No.  | No.  |
| Professional Staff .. .. .           | 1   | 2                               | 12                                 | 8  | 4  |
| Hands employed .. .. .               | 44  | 40                              | 44                                 | 17   | 5  |
| Students .. .. .                     | 15  | 9                               | 92                                 | 50   | 140  |
|                                      | £   | £                               | £                                  | £  | £  |
| Value of plant and machinery .. .. . | 3,432                                     | 2,770                           | 7,735                              | 4,612  | 150  |
| Value of produce for year .. .. .    | 9,833                                     | 4,975                           | 12,126                             | 9,492  | 1,200  |
| Receipts—                            |   |                                 |                                    |  |  |
| Government Grant .. .. .             | 12,920                                    | 6,534                           | 3,750                              | 1,250  | 2,110  |
| Fees .. .. .                         | ..  | ..                              | 3,385                              | 1,781  | 93   |
| Sale of produce, &c. .. .. .         | 9,758                                     | 4,896                           | 8,781                              | 6,667  | 909  |
| Other .. .. .                        | 315                                       | 135                             | 100                                | 33   | 8  |
| Total receipts .. .. .               | 22,993                                    | 11,565                          | 16,016                             | 9,731  | 3,120  |
| Expenditure—                         |   |                                 |                                    |  |  |
| Salaries—                            |   |                                 |                                    |  |  |
| Professional Staff .. .. .           | 372                                       | 765                             | 4,357                              | 2,047  | 1,307  |
| General Staff .. .. .                | 6,247                                     | 4,968                           | 4,338                              | 2,279  | 1,017  |
| Buildings and maintenance .. .. .    | 1,973                                     | 1,369                           | 17,197                             | 7,021  | 277  |
| Other .. .. .                        | 3,446                                     | 2,325                           | 145                                | ..   | 469  |
| Total expenditure .. .. .            | 12,038                                    | 9,427                           | 26,037*                            | 11,347                                       | 3,070  |

\* Excluding grant received from the Council of Agricultural Education.

GOVERNMENT EXPERIMENTAL FARMS AND AGRICULTURAL  
COLLEGES, 1924—*continued.*

| Particulars.                            | Central<br>Research<br>Farm,<br>Werribee. | Ruther-<br>glen<br>Farm,<br>&c. | Dookie<br>Agri-<br>cultural<br>College. | Longer-<br>enong<br>Agri-<br>cultural<br>College. | School<br>of<br>Primary<br>Agricul-<br>ture, &c. |
|---|---|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
|   | acres.                                    | acres.                          | acres.                                  | acres.  | acres.   |
| Area under—                             |   |                                 |   |   |  |
| Cereals for Grain .. ..                 | 471                                       | 220                             | 400                                     | 660   | ..   |
| Hay .. ..                               | 326                                       | 140                             | 300                                     | 100   | 1  |
| Fruit trees, &c. .. ..                  | ..  | 1½                              | 12                                      | 20  | 14   |
| Vines .. ..                             | ..  | 101                             | 15                                      | 5   | 4  |
| Green fodder .. ..                      | 55  | 14                              | 7                                       | 40  | ..   |
| Other crops .. ..                       | 232                                       | 54                              | ..                                      | ..  | ½  |
| Total area under crop ..                | 1,084                                     | 530½                            | 734                                     | 825   | 15½  |
| Area of land in fallow .. ..            | 686                                       | 307                             | 400                                     | 633   | ..   |
| Area under artificially sown grasses .. | 236                                       | 129                             | 20                                      | 32  | 9  |
| Area resting .. ..                      | 150                                       | 142                             | 1,146                                   | 342   | ..   |
| Total area of arable land ..            | 2,156                                     | 1,108½                          | 2,300                                   | 1,832   | 24½  |
| Balance of area .. ..                   | 53  | 204½                            | 3,655                                   | 554   | 8½   |
| Total area of farm .. ..                | 2,209                                     | 1,313                           | 5,955                                   | 2,386   | 33   |
| Live Stock—                             | No.                                       | No.                             | No.                                     | No.   | No.  |
| Horses .. ..                            | 107                                       | 47                              | 100                                     | 44  | 2  |
| Dairy cows .. ..                        | 80  | 15                              | 45                                      | 23  | 6  |
| All other cattle .. ..                  | 75  | 10                              | 181                                     | 47  | 9  |
| Sheep .. ..                             | 1,250                                     | 450                             | 2,370                                   | 812   | ..   |
| Pigs .. ..                              | ..  | 40                              | 185                                     | 44  | ..   |

**Inspection of Orchards, Nurseries, &c.** The orchards, nurseries, and gardens of the State are systematically inspected by the officers of the Horticultural Division of the Department of Agriculture. Nurseries are inspected every six months, and certified to by the departmental supervisors if clean and free from disease. Old, worn-out, and infected orchards are destroyed.

The Department has purchased fumigating outfits for the purpose of fumigating citrus trees for the control of scale insects, and is performing the work for citrus growers at cost price. Much satisfaction has been expressed by growers at this being done.

Special attention is being paid to the grading and packing of fruit; packing classes have been established and are successfully conducted by departmental officers in a number of fruit districts throughout the State. In addition to this, individual growers receive personal instruction.

Lectures and demonstrations are given on the various other phases of horticulture; experiments are carried out in the treatment of diseases; and sites are selected on the farms of intending fruit-growers, to whom advice is given as to the most suitable varieties to be planted and their subsequent treatment.

The fear of introducing the fruit-flies *Tephritis tryoni* and *Halterophora capitata* and diseases arising from other causes has necessitated a thorough examination of fruit from Queensland, New South Wales, and elsewhere. The fruit-fly question is a very grave one, and, should either of the above-named insects obtain a footing in Victoria, a great portion of the large and important fruit industry of our State will be practically ruined.

Plants and cuttings coming from foreign parts are fumigated if a certificate that they have been treated at the port of shipment does not accompany the consignment. Even when they have been thus certified the Senior Fruit Inspector has the right of examination and, if necessary, of ordering a second fumigation.

**Forestry.** The State Forests are controlled by a Commission of three, which was appointed in 1919. The State has a wooded area of about 8,000,000 acres, of which about 4,162,000 acres are set aside as timber and climatic reserves. The wooded area consists of—

1. Three million acres of merchantable forest, mainly situated along the Dividing Range with its spurs and foothills and also including the red gum forests of the northern river basins and of the River Glenelg in the south-western district.

2. Three million acres of forest in the more rugged portions of the mountain region. These forests are not at present accessible for practical working, owing to difficulties of transport; their protection, however, is essential for the maintenance of streams and springs.

3. Two million acres in the north-west of the State, known as Mallee, bearing at intervals a thick growth of stunted eucalypts and interspersed with belts of cypress pine and belar.

The forests of Victoria may be divided into four main classes which are referred to hereunder:—

- (a) The coastal region, extending from the shore line some fifty miles northward, carries chiefly messmate and three species of stringybark. In Cape Otway district, however, bluegum, mountain ash, and spotted gum predominate; whilst, in the extreme south-east of the State, silvertop, small-fruited bluegum, bastard mahogany, bloodwood, and Gippsland grey box are found.
- (b) The mountain region. In the western half of the State the predominant species in the hill forests are messmate, bluegum, manna gum, brown and red stringybarks, and yellow box. In the eastern half of the State the prevailing species are mountain ash, spotted gum, messmate, peppermint, red ash or woollybutt, and bluegum, with stunted snow gums on the steep granitic slopes near the mountain summits.

- (c) The foothills, stretching from the Dividing Range northward down to the plains, bear three valuable species, red iron bark, white ironbark or yellow gum, and grey box.
- (d) The river basins of the Murray and the streams flowing over the northern plain, and of the River Glenelg in the south-western district, bear broad belts of river redgum.

The timbers of commercial value in Victoria number about twenty, all species of the eucalyptus family. In addition, there are a number of woods of fine grain, many of them, however, being small trees confined to limited areas.

With careful conservation and management Victoria's forests are capable of yielding considerable amounts of timber for all time, despite the ravages made upon them in the past by bush fires, settlement, and mining.

The State is notably deficient in softwoods or conifers, though over extensive areas the conditions are suitable for their growth once they are introduced. To encourage their growth, both in State and in private plantations, three large nurseries have been established, at Creswick, Macedon and Broadford, and a number of plantations have been formed, the principal ones being situated at Creswick, Mount Macedon, Frankston, Anglesea, Port Campbell, Bright, Castlemaine, Harcourt, Scarsdale, and Mount Disappointment. In addition to providing trees for the plantations, the nurseries supply considerable numbers of plants at low rates to State schools, public bodies and private applicants. This has proved of great benefit to the community by fostering an interest in tree planting generally, and especially by encouraging farmers to plant in order to afford protection to their homesteads and to provide shade and shelter for their flocks and herds.

A Forest School for training cadets is maintained at Creswick. The Commission also controls a State sawmill in the Warburton district, and Timber Seasoning Works at Newport, from which seasoned weatherboards, cabinet stock, floorings and linings are supplied, largely for use in the building of State schools and for other public works.

The Forestry Fund was established in 1918 by Act No. 2976, and made applicable only to expenditure on the improvements and reforestation of State forests and the development of forestry. In each year the Treasurer makes a grant of £40,000 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the Fund, and also half of the amount in excess of £80,000 received from royalties, leases, licences, and permits.

The revenue derived from forest sources during the financial year 1924-25 was £162,786, and the expenditure was £201,246—£179,278 of which was paid out of the Consolidated Revenue, and the balance—£21,968—from the Forestry Fund. The balance at the credit of the Fund at 30th June, 1925, was £51,602.

It is estimated that the quantity of timber produced in the rough in 1924-25 was 112,350,000 super feet. In addition, 457,328 tons measurement of fuel timber was produced.

**Agriculture—expenditure and revenue connected with.** The State has rendered substantial assistance to the various branches of the agricultural and pastoral industries during past years. The appended table summarizes for the last five years the items of State expenditure from consolidated revenue in this direction, and shows the amount of revenue received by the Department of Agriculture, which consists chiefly of payments by exporters for packing produce for export, and from State Forests and Nurseries, consisting chiefly of Royalties :—

**EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE CONNECTED WITH  
AGRICULTURE, ETC., 1920-21 to 1924-25.**

|   | 1920-21.       | 1921-22.       | 1922-23.       | 1923-24.       | 1924-25.       |
|---|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Expenditure.</i>   | £              | £              | £              | £              | £              |
| Department of Agriculture ..                                  | 33,282         | 34,610         | 35,063         | 41,549         | 30,652         |
| Horticultural Branch ..                                       | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | 27,938*        |
| Grants to Agricultural and Horticultural Societies, &c. ..    | 975            | 675            | 675            | 775            | 875            |
| Development of Export Trade ..                                | 58,785         | 61,151         | 60,316         | 53,372         | 50,679         |
| Viticultural Education and Inspection of Vineyards ..         | 6,112          | 6,881          | 6,334          | 4,454          | 2,092          |
| Maffra Beet Sugar Factory ..                                  | 42,159         | 59,791         | 75,291         | 74,497         | 105,680        |
| Advances to Settlers for losses by bush fires, floods, &c. .. | 2,008          | 91             | 7,300          | 659            | 1,190          |
| Technical Agricultural Education, &c. ..                      | 28,518         | 26,136         | 26,123         | 31,824         | 28,478         |
| Publishing Agricultural Reports ..                            | 249            | 227            | 329            | 250            | 213            |
| Rabbit and Vermin Extirpation ..                              | 36,158         | 40,766         | 47,410         | 85,489         | 84,368         |
| Stock and Dairy Branch ..                                     | 35,731         | 42,442         | 43,887         | 48,627         | 53,527         |
| Labour Colonies ..  | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             | ..             |
| State Forests and Nurseries ..                                | 145,790        | 154,023        | 157,347        | 168,880        | 179,278        |
| Miscellaneous ..  | 2,999          | 2,428          | 3,104          | 6,006          | 6,239          |
| <b>Total ..</b>   | <b>392,766</b> | <b>429,221</b> | <b>463,179</b> | <b>516,382</b> | <b>571,209</b> |
| <i>Revenue.</i>   |                |                |                |                |                |
| Department of Agriculture ..                                  | 100,715        | 72,505         | 78,017         | 73,282         | 81,687         |
| State Forests and Nurseries ..                                | 138,679        | 154,611        | 163,038        | 166,446        | 162,786        |

\* Previously included in Department of Agriculture.

Included in the expenditure on State Forests and Nurseries are net payments into the Forestry Fund; these amounts are as follows :—£21,474 in 1920-21, £17,020 in 1921-22, £16,205 in 1922-23, and £5,919

in 1923-24. In 1924-25, owing to increased expenditure, £21,968—not included in the above statement—was paid out of the Fund.

In addition to the expenditure shown, various sums have been advanced from loans and votes for the purpose of aiding closer settlement, for the resumption of mallee lands, for relief to farmers on account of bush fires and flood losses, and for purchase of seed wheat and fodder. These advances are gradually being repaid.

The expenditure from Loan Funds in 1924-25 was £1,765,485—£1,133,588 having been expended on discharged soldiers' land settlement, £592,372 on closer settlement, £32,399 on wire netting, £6,078 on Maffra Beet Sugar Factory, and £1,048 on Agricultural Colleges.

## AGRICULTURE.

**Progress of cultivation.** All divisions of the State are suitable for cultivation, but the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern are the principal wheat-growing districts and furnish about 95 per cent. of the total area under this crop. In recent years the chief extensions of the wheat-growing areas have been in the Mallee. In this district, which has a rainfall at one time thought wholly inadequate, wheat growing was rendered practicable by the introduction of machinery specially suited to the conditions, the extension of railway lines, and storage of water for domestic and stock supplies; and, with more of these facilities being made available each year, further areas are gradually being brought under cultivation. An indication of the growing importance of the Mallee is afforded by recent figures, which show that, of the wheat produced in the State in the last five seasons, the proportion obtained from the Mallee was 31 per cent., as against slightly less than 5 per cent. in 1891-92. The area under cultivation in the Mallee last season for all purposes was 2,384,300 acres.

The area cultivated in the State in 1924-25 was 6,976,664 acres, as against an annual average of 6,478,549 acres for the previous five seasons, 5,032,359 acres for the seasons 1905-15, and 3,547,111 acres for the seasons 1895-1905. Notwithstanding the great increase in the area cultivated, the dairying and pastoral industries show a considerable expansion. This is evidenced by a comparison of the exports of the principal products to overseas countries in the year 1900 with the annual average in the last five seasons. The values have risen as follows:—Butter and cheese from £1,252,277 to £3,450,950; milk and cream from £5,455 to £1,302,497; and meats from £502,285 to £1,433,090.

The increase in cultivation has been associated with new and improved farming methods. The chief of these are the practice of fallowing, the use of fertilizers, the selection of suitable seeds, and the increasing attention given to crop rotation. The more general adoption of improved methods in recent years has contributed greatly to



the production of the State. The following table shows the progress of cultivation from period to period during the last 70 years :—

### ACREAGE CULTIVATED ANNUALLY, 1855 TO 1925.

| Period or Year (ending in March). | Annual Average. |           |                    |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|--------------------|
|                                   | Crop.           | Fallow.   | Total Cultivation. |
|                                   | acres.          | acres.    | acres.             |
| 1855-65 .. ..                     | 325,676         | 12,146    | 337,822            |
| 1865-75 .. ..                     | 624,377         | 57,274    | 681,651            |
| 1875-85 .. ..                     | 1,306,920       | 137,536   | 1,444,456          |
| 1885-95 .. ..                     | 2,109,326       | 364,282   | 2,473,608          |
| 1895-1905 .. ..                   | 3,022,914       | 524,197   | 3,547,111          |
| 1905-15 .. ..                     | 3,756,211       | 1,276,148 | 5,032,359          |
| 1915-16 .. ..                     | 5,711,265       | 1,358,343 | 7,069,608          |
| 1916-17 .. ..                     | 4,851,335       | 1,899,559 | 6,750,894          |
| 1917-18 .. ..                     | 4,110,225       | 1,672,729 | 5,782,954          |
| 1918-19 .. ..                     | 3,942,899       | 1,548,121 | 5,491,020          |
| 1919-20 .. ..                     | 4,000,815       | 1,357,536 | 5,358,351          |
| 1920-21 .. ..                     | 4,489,503       | 1,935,747 | 6,425,250          |
| 1921-22 .. ..                     | 4,530,312       | 2,052,964 | 6,583,276          |
| 1922-23 .. ..                     | 4,862,548       | 2,186,881 | 7,049,429          |
| 1923-24 .. ..                     | 4,682,144       | 2,294,297 | 6,976,441          |
| 1924-25 .. ..                     | 4,761,394       | 2,215,270 | 6,976,664          |

Areas under  
Principal  
Crops.

The principal crops grown in the State are wheat, oats, barley, potatoes and hay. The average annual acreage of these for ten-year periods from 1855 to 1915 and the acreage for each of the last ten seasons are given in the next table :—

### ANNUAL ACREAGE OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1855 TO 1925.

| Period or Year<br>(ending in March). | Average Annual Area of— |         |         |           |           |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|
|                                      | Wheat.                  | Oats.   | Barley. | Potatoes. | Hay.      |
|                                      | acres.                  | acres.  | acres.  | acres.    | acres.    |
| 1855-65 .. ..                        | 119,001                 | 83,296  | 4,843   | 24,123    | 80,117    |
| 1865-75 .. ..                        | 278,077                 | 129,384 | 19,262  | 36,744    | 117,393   |
| 1875-85 .. ..                        | 776,031                 | 147,343 | 41,188  | 39,089    | 226,775   |
| 1885-95 .. ..                        | 1,236,501               | 210,901 | 64,310  | 48,009    | 437,087   |
| 1895-1905 .. ..                      | 1,898,280               | 340,957 | 52,829  | 45,243    | 540,472   |
| 1905-15 .. ..                        | 2,190,336               | 390,642 | 60,378  | 56,272    | 848,587   |
| 1915-16 .. ..                        | 3,679,971               | 353,932 | 61,400  | 56,910    | 1,330,455 |
| 1916-17 .. ..                        | 3,125,692               | 441,598 | 93,015  | 73,618    | 897,186   |
| 1917-18 .. ..                        | 2,690,216               | 293,214 | 84,931  | 66,966    | 748,808   |
| 1918-19 .. ..                        | 2,214,490               | 342,867 | 100,198 | 51,620    | 984,479   |
| 1919-20 .. ..                        | 1,918,269               | 559,547 | 85,323  | 53,918    | 1,116,998 |
| 1920-21 .. ..                        | 2,295,865               | 443,636 | 93,954  | 62,687    | 1,333,397 |
| 1921-22 .. ..                        | 2,611,198               | 318,681 | 100,127 | 63,895    | 1,159,135 |
| 1922-23 .. ..                        | 2,644,314               | 492,356 | 102,773 | 61,741    | 1,261,408 |
| 1923-24 .. ..                        | 2,454,117               | 520,654 | 56,564  | 59,306    | 1,277,606 |
| 1924-25 .. ..                        | 2,705,323               | 517,229 | 63,764  | 61,295    | 1,120,312 |

**Production of Principal Crops.** The average annual production of the five principal crops for decennial periods, from 1855 to 1915, and the production for each of the last ten seasons were as follows :—

ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1855 to 1925.

| Period or Year<br>(ending in March). | Average Annual Production of— |            |           |           |           |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                      | Wheat.                        | Oats.      | Barley.   | Potatoes. | Hay.      |
|                                      | bushels.                      | bushels.   | bushels.  | tons.     | tons.     |
| 1855-65 ..                           | 2,198,874                     | 2,068,648  | 103,575   | 62,723    | 111,806   |
| 1865-75 ..                           | 4,385,814                     | 2,636,747  | 390,337   | 111,800   | 153,852   |
| 1875-85 ..                           | 8,593,308                     | 3,297,468  | 799,938   | 135,614   | 276,771   |
| 1885-95 ..                           | 12,268,905                    | 4,649,393  | 1,187,007 | 170,905   | 547,092   |
| 1895-1905 ..                         | 14,032,145                    | 6,649,453  | 947,580   | 134,357   | 672,982   |
| 1905-15 ..                           | 22,906,743                    | 7,342,468  | 1,243,442 | 158,445   | 1,084,726 |
| 1915-16 ..                           | 58,521,706                    | 9,328,894  | 1,734,511 | 173,821   | 2,342,094 |
| 1916-17 ..                           | 51,162,438                    | 8,289,289  | 1,799,784 | 187,992   | 1,232,721 |
| 1917-18 ..                           | 37,737,552                    | 6,141,287  | 1,970,650 | 182,195   | 949,545   |
| 1918-19 ..                           | 25,239,871                    | 5,274,984  | 2,028,635 | 137,533   | 1,113,861 |
| 1919-20 ..                           | 14,858,380                    | 6,603,067  | 1,528,654 | 145,888   | 1,242,489 |
| 1920-21 ..                           | 39,468,625                    | 10,907,191 | 2,495,762 | 171,628   | 1,984,854 |
| 1921-22 ..                           | 43,867,596                    | 6,082,258  | 2,336,246 | 173,660   | 1,548,453 |
| 1922-23 ..                           | 35,697,220                    | 8,093,459  | 2,442,041 | 148,354   | 1,665,089 |
| 1923-24 ..                           | 37,795,704                    | 9,366,205  | 1,455,435 | 238,520   | 1,541,287 |
| 1924-25 ..                           | 47,364,495                    | 9,572,003  | 1,444,823 | 139,043   | 1,492,588 |

**Principal crops in Districts.** The percentage in each district of the total area under each principal crop during last season was as given below :—

PERCENTAGE IN EACH DISTRICT OF TOTAL AREA UNDER EACH PRINCIPAL CROP, 1924-25.

| District.           | Percentage in each District of Area under— |       |         |           |       |              |
|---------------------|--|-------|---------|-----------|-------|--------------|
|                     | Wheat.                                     | Oats. | Barley. | Potatoes. | Hay.  | Other Crops. |
| Central .. ..       | 0·49                                       | 4·56  | 31·38   | 51·64     | 16·75 | 30·21        |
| North-Central .. .. | 0·61                                       | 3·49  | 4·09    | 18·93     | 6·23  | 2·70         |
| Western .. ..       | 1·86                                       | 11·90 | 15·74   | 13·19     | 13·84 | 5·08         |
| Wimmera .. ..       | 27·04                                      | 19·89 | 8·51    | 0·15      | 17·30 | 1·92         |
| Mallee .. ..        | 44·06                                      | 34·49 | 6·43    | 0·01      | 18·80 | 13·59        |
| Northern .. ..      | 23·86                                      | 21·22 | 14·36   | 0·04      | 17·30 | 15·98        |
| North-Eastern .. .. | 1·65                                       | 3·65  | 1·43    | 1·80      | 4·69  | 7·60         |
| Gippsland .. ..     | 0·43                                       | 0·80  | 18·06   | 14·24     | 5·09  | 22·92        |

NOTE.—For counties contained in each District, see table on page 517.

The area under the principal crops in proportion to the total area under crop in each district during last season was as follows:—

**RELATIVE AREAS DEVOTED TO DIFFERENT CROPS IN EACH DISTRICT, 1924-25.**

| District.             | Percentage of Area under all Crops devoted to— |       |         |           |       |              |
|-----------------------|--|-------|---------|-----------|-------|--------------|
|                       | Wheat.   | Oats. | Barley. | Potatoes. | Hay.  | Other Crops. |
| Central .. ..         | 3.61   | 6.47  | 5.48    | 8.68      | 51.45 | 24.31        |
| North-Central .. ..   | 13.15  | 14.25 | 2.06    | 9.16      | 55.13 | 6.25         |
| Western .. ..         | 16.75  | 20.52 | 3.35    | 2.70      | 51.71 | 4.97         |
| Wimmera .. ..         | 70.38  | 9.90  | 0.52    | 0.01      | 18.65 | 0.54         |
| Mallee .. ..          | 73.35  | 10.98 | 0.25    | 0.00      | 12.96 | 2.46         |
| Northern .. ..        | 64.22  | 10.92 | 0.91    | 0.60      | 19.28 | 4.67         |
| North-Eastern .. ..   | 31.79  | 13.44 | 0.65    | 0.79      | 37.43 | 15.90        |
| Gippsland .. ..       | 7.29   | 2.59  | 7.18    | 5.44      | 35.54 | 41.96        |
| Total for Victoria .. | 56.82  | 10.86 | 1.34    | 1.28      | 23.54 | 6.16         |

NOTE.—For counties contained in each District, see table on page 517.

The area and produce of the principal crops per head of population are given in the next table for each of the last five years:—

**AREA AND PRODUCTION OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS PER HEAD OF POPULATION, 1920-21 to 1924-25.**

| Year ended March— |  |  | Wheat.                          | Oats.    | Barley.  | Potatoes. | Hay.   |
|-------------------|--|--|---------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|--------|
|                   |  |  | Area per Head of Population.    |          |          |           |        |
|                   |  |  | acres.                          | acres.   | acres.   | acres.    | acres. |
| 1921 .. ..        |  |  | 1.52                            | .29      | .06      | .04       | .88    |
| 1922 .. ..        |  |  | 1.70                            | .21      | .07      | .04       | .75    |
| 1923 .. ..        |  |  | 1.67                            | .31      | .07      | .04       | .80    |
| 1924 .. ..        |  |  | 1.51                            | .32      | .03      | .04       | .79    |
| 1925 .. ..        |  |  | 1.63                            | .31      | .04      | .04       | .68    |
|                   |  |  | Produce per Head of Population. |          |          |           |        |
|                   |  |  | bushels.                        | bushels. | bushels. | tons.     | tons.  |
| 1921 .. ..        |  |  | 26.16                           | 7.23     | 1.65     | .11       | 1.32   |
| 1922 .. ..        |  |  | 28.54                           | 3.96     | 1.52     | .11       | 1.01   |
| 1923 .. ..        |  |  | 22.61                           | 5.13     | 1.55     | .09       | 1.05   |
| 1924 .. ..        |  |  | 23.25                           | 5.76     | .89      | .15       | .95    |
| 1925 .. ..        |  |  | 28.58                           | 5.77     | .87      | .08       | .90    |

Except in the three seasons 1895-6, 1902-3, and 1914-15, the wheat produced during each year since 1870 has been more than sufficient to supply home consumption.

Values of  
five principal  
crops.

The following table gives the annual value of each of the five principal crops, based upon prices realized upon farms, also the value of each crop per acre for each of the last five years.

VALUES OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS.

| Year.                  | Annual Value of— |           |         |           |           |
|------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|
|                        | Wheat.           | Oats.     | Barley. | Potatoes. | Hay.      |
|                        | £                | £         | £       | £         | £         |
| 1920-21 .. ..          | 14,307,377       | 1,295,229 | 447,352 | 586,458   | 5,259,863 |
| 1921-22 .. ..          | 10,509,945       | 931,346   | 401,600 | 555,111   | 4,413,091 |
| 1922-23 .. ..          | 8,031,875        | 1,416,355 | 436,235 | 1,040,662 | 6,327,338 |
| 1923-24 .. ..          | 8,189,069        | 1,455,331 | 262,210 | 701,229   | 5,229,162 |
| 1924-25 .. ..          | 11,993,546       | 934,538   | 354,006 | 682,878   | 3,639,496 |
|                        | £ s. d.          | £ s. d.   | £ s. d. | £ s. d.   | £ s. d.   |
| Value per acre 1920-21 | 6 4 8            | 2 18 5    | 4 15 3  | 9 7 1     | 3 18 11   |
| „ „ 1921-22            | 4 0 6            | 2 18 5    | 4 0 3   | 8 13 9    | 3 16 2    |
| „ „ 1922-23            | 3 0 9            | 2 17 6    | 4 4 11  | 16 17 1   | 5 0 4     |
| „ „ 1923-24            | 3 6 9            | 2 15 11   | 4 12 9  | 11 16 6   | 4 1 10    |
| „ „ 1924-25            | 4 8 8            | 1 16 2    | 5 11 0  | 11 2 10   | 3 5 0     |

The value of the five principal crops was £17,604,464 in 1924-25, as against £15,837,001 in 1923-24, £17,252,465 in 1922-23, £16,811,093 in 1921-22 and £21,896,279 in 1920-21.

Wheat  
production.

On the experience of the last five seasons the area under wheat for grain represented 54 per cent. of the total under all crops. The acreage, the total production, and the yield

per acre are given in the next table for decennial periods from 1860 to 1920, and for each of the last five seasons :—

### WHEAT PRODUCTION, 1860 TO 1925.

| Period or Season (ending in March). | Annual Average.  |             |                 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-----------------|
|                                     | Area under Crop. | Production. | Yield per Acre. |
|                                     | acres.           | bushels.    | bushels.        |
| 1860-70 .. .. .                     | 194,714          | 3,480,765   | 17·87           |
| 1870-80 .. .. .                     | 431,444          | 5,510,125   | 12·77           |
| 1880-90 .. .. .                     | 1,077,575        | 10,793,936  | 10·02           |
| 1890-1900 .. .. .                   | 1,563,403        | 12,610,595  | 8·07            |
| 1900-10 .. .. .                     | 1,983,874        | 19,242,402  | 9·70            |
| 1910-20 .. .. .                     | 2,570,540        | 30,632,514  | 11·92           |
| 1921 .. .. .                        | 2,295,865        | 39,468,625  | 17·19           |
| 1922 .. .. .                        | 2,611,198        | 43,867,596  | 16·80           |
| 1923 .. .. .                        | 2,644,314        | 35,697,220  | 13·50           |
| 1924 .. .. .                        | 2,454,117        | 37,795,704  | 15·40           |
| 1925 .. .. .                        | 2,705,323        | 47,364,495  | 17·51           |

Although a large area in districts of limited rainfall has been brought under cultivation for wheat growing during late years, the yield per acre for the State on the average of the last fifteen seasons was 13·29 bushels, which is better than the corresponding averages for decennial periods of earlier date back to 1870. This satisfactory result is largely due to the use of more prolific varieties of seed and to the more general practice of fallowing and fertilizing. In addition to the area shown for grain, 87,312 acres of wheat were cut for hay last season, so that the total area under wheat in 1924-25 was 2,792,635 acres.

The production of wheat in the other Australian States in 1924-25 was as follows :—New South Wales, 59,785,000 bushels; South Australia, 30,528,625 bushels; Western Australia, 23,887,397 bushels; Queensland, 2,779,829 bushels; and Tasmania, 231,388 bushels. The total production for the Commonwealth was 164,576,734 bushels.

Wheat  
growing in  
counties.

The principal wheat growing areas are the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern districts. Although other districts provide only small proportions of the total area they are not to be regarded as unsuitable for wheat growing, as their average yield per acre is usually greater than in the areas mentioned. The production of wheat in different counties for each of the last three seasons is shown in the following table:—

### WHEAT YIELDS IN COUNTIES FOR THE LAST THREE SEASONS.

| Districts and Counties. | Year ended March. |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
|-------------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                         | Area.             |                  |                  | Produce.          |                   |                   | Average per Acre. |              |              |
|                         | 1923.             | 1924.            | 1925.            | 1923.             | 1924.             | 1925.             | 1923.             | 1924.        | 1925.        |
|                         | acres.            | acres.           | acres.           | bushels.          | bushels.          | bushels.          | bush.             | bush.        | bush.        |
| <b>Central—</b>         |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Bourke ..               | 3,598             | 3,438            | 4,633            | 69,281            | 66,877            | 92,337            | 19·26             | 19·45        | 19·93        |
| Grant ..                | 6,628             | 5,812            | 8,106            | 120,755           | 107,589           | 145,297           | 18·22             | 18·51        | 17·92        |
| Mornington ..           | 396               | 433              | 319              | 7,429             | 7,828             | 5,302             | 18·76             | 18·08        | 16·62        |
| Evelyn ..               | 108               | 107              | 99               | 1,959             | 2,155             | 1,699             | 18·14             | 20·14        | 17·16        |
| <b>North-Central—</b>   |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Anglesey ..             | 768               | 1,152            | 1,198            | 12,486            | 23,952            | 20,143            | 16·26             | 20·79        | 16·81        |
| Dalhousie ..            | 2,224             | 2,051            | 2,622            | 39,904            | 32,917            | 45,135            | 17·94             | 16·05        | 17·21        |
| Talbot ..               | 9,085             | 6,389            | 12,820           | 148,533           | 99,560            | 263,480           | 16·35             | 15·58        | 20·55        |
| <b>Western—</b>         |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Grenville ..            | 12,473            | 3,889            | 4,562            | 186,168           | 53,507            | 72,130            | 14·93             | 13·76        | 15·81        |
| Polwarth ..             | 78                | 18               | 49               | 1,025             | 371               | 532               | 13·14             | 20·61        | 10·86        |
| Heytesbury ..           | 4                 | ..               | 4                | 46                | ..                | 49                | 11·50             | ..           | 12·25        |
| Hampden ..              | 14,367            | 9,037            | 9,821            | 263,621           | 133,450           | 173,857           | 18·35             | 14·77        | 17·70        |
| Ripon ..                | 55,351            | 37,736           | 31,852           | 1,085,819         | 578,469           | 616,983           | 19·62             | 15·33        | 19·37        |
| Villiers ..             | 2,097             | 397              | 861              | 32,907            | 6,278             | 15,449            | 15·69             | 15·81        | 17·94        |
| Normanby ..             | 1,225             | 642              | 752              | 21,254            | 11,610            | 11,965            | 17·35             | 18·08        | 15·91        |
| Dundas ..               | 4,730             | 1,965            | 2,302            | 73,606            | 22,353            | 33,726            | 15·56             | 11·38        | 14·65        |
| Follett ..              | 540               | 77               | 44               | 8,357             | 976               | 809               | 15·48             | 12·68        | 18·16        |
| <b>Wimmera—</b>         |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Lowan ..                | 186,281           | 136,167          | 173,652          | 3,942,804         | 2,380,800         | 3,972,195         | 21·17             | 17·48        | 22·87        |
| Borong ..               | 402,825           | 379,007          | 408,387          | 9,151,897         | 8,962,260         | 10,713,127        | 22·72             | 23·65        | 26·23        |
| Kara Kara ..            | 145,521           | 121,129          | 149,441          | 2,783,428         | 2,191,925         | 3,377,400         | 19·12             | 18·10        | 22·60        |
| <b>Mallee—</b>          |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Millewa ..              | 2,435             | 1,491            | 6,378            | 7,884             | 16,735            | 11,826            | 3·24              | 11·22        | 18·54        |
| Weeah ..                | 197,049           | 188,167          | 175,260          | 1,725,094         | 1,973,614         | 1,968,002         | 8·75              | 10·49        | 11·23        |
| Karkaroc ..             | 572,498           | 589,959          | 628,200          | 4,661,460         | 7,293,987         | 6,984,439         | 8·14              | 12·36        | 11·12        |
| Tatchera ..             | 370,377           | 371,662          | 382,258          | 2,743,941         | 4,836,528         | 4,712,863         | 7·41              | 13·01        | 12·33        |
| <b>Northern—</b>        |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Gunbower ..             | 35,891            | 30,425           | 37,240           | 384,385           | 382,809           | 622,473           | 10·71             | 12·58        | 16·72        |
| Gladstone ..            | 115,209           | 85,075           | 120,587          | 1,089,102         | 1,111,661         | 2,614,400         | 14·66             | 13·07        | 21·68        |
| Bendigo ..              | 121,520           | 94,627           | 125,790          | 1,529,560         | 1,307,436         | 2,359,618         | 12·59             | 13·82        | 18·76        |
| Rodney ..               | 80,371            | 70,261           | 85,052           | 1,104,218         | 1,031,530         | 1,725,647         | 13·65             | 14·68        | 20·29        |
| Moir ..                 | 254,931           | 267,824          | 276,738          | 3,145,685         | 4,320,837         | 5,854,344         | 12·34             | 16·13        | 21·15        |
| <b>North-Eastern—</b>   |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Delatite ..             | 8,129             | 6,726            | 8,005            | 136,692           | 124,759           | 119,831           | 16·82             | 18·55        | 14·97        |
| Bogong ..               | 29,646            | 29,857           | 36,305           | 441,893           | 471,081           | 606,930           | 14·91             | 15·78        | 16·72        |
| Benambra ..             | 205               | 332              | 293              | 3,570             | 8,290             | 5,022             | 17·41             | 25·00        | 17·14        |
| Wonnangatta ..          | ..                | ..               | ..               | ..                | ..                | ..                | ..                | ..           | ..           |
| <b>Gippsland—</b>       |                   |                  |                  |                   |                   |                   |                   |              |              |
| Croajingolong ..        | 51                | 39               | ..               | 752               | 754               | ..                | 14·75             | 19·33        | ..           |
| Tambo ..                | 43                | 37               | 53               | 767               | 806               | 1,186             | 17·84             | 21·78        | 22·38        |
| Dargo ..                | 167               | 238              | 332              | 3,672             | 7,515             | 5,794             | 21·99             | 31·58        | 17·45        |
| Tanjil ..               | 6,121             | 7,279            | 10,523           | 150,295           | 212,718           | 196,734           | 24·55             | 29·22        | 18·70        |
| Bulu Bulu ..            | 872               | 672              | 785              | 16,971            | 11,707            | 13,771            | 19·46             | 17·42        | 17·54        |
| <b>Total ..</b>         | <b>2,644,314</b>  | <b>2,454,117</b> | <b>2,705,323</b> | <b>35,697,220</b> | <b>37,795,704</b> | <b>47,364,495</b> | <b>13·50</b>      | <b>15·40</b> | <b>17·51</b> |

The table which follows gives the average yield of wheat per acre in the principal wheat growing counties for each of the last ten years :—

**AVERAGE YIELD OF WHEAT PER ACRE IN WHEAT  
GROWING COUNTIES, 1915-16 to 1924-25.**

| District and County.      | Average Yield of Wheat per Acre (in Bushels) during Year ended March— |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
|---------------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
|                           | 1916.   | 1917. | 1918. | 1919. | 1920. | 1921. | 1922. | 1923. | 1924. | 1925. |
| <b>Western District—</b>  |   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Ripon .. ..               | 21.58   | 13.33 | 13.27 | 10.06 | 16.26 | 21.74 | 19.63 | 19.62 | 15.33 | 19.37 |
| <b>Wimmera District—</b>  |   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Lowan .. ..               | 16.78   | 17.93 | 16.52 | 15.78 | 13.47 | 20.94 | 21.53 | 21.17 | 17.48 | 22.87 |
| Borong .. ..              | 19.27   | 22.49 | 22.62 | 20.01 | 15.76 | 23.79 | 23.05 | 22.72 | 23.65 | 26.23 |
| Kara Kara ..              | 19.36   | 19.66 | 17.68 | 14.39 | 14.10 | 21.25 | 22.05 | 19.12 | 18.10 | 22.60 |
| <b>Mallee District—</b>   |   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Weeah .. ..               | 12.26   | 14.56 | 10.21 | 6.38  | 3.43  | 14.28 | 8.89  | 8.75  | 10.49 | 11.23 |
| Karkaroc ..               | 10.62   | 14.78 | 10.94 | 7.15  | 3.29  | 13.42 | 10.88 | 8.14  | 12.36 | 11.12 |
| Tatchera ..               | 10.09   | 15.80 | 12.30 | 9.44  | 4.60  | 13.65 | 13.13 | 7.41  | 13.01 | 12.33 |
| <b>Northern District—</b> |   |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Gunbower ..               | 15.33   | 15.89 | 14.23 | 8.74  | 8.96  | 15.27 | 15.76 | 10.71 | 12.58 | 16.72 |
| Gladstone ..              | 17.94   | 19.10 | 14.17 | 11.52 | 12.08 | 18.72 | 18.65 | 14.66 | 13.07 | 21.68 |
| Bendigo .. ..             | 19.18   | 17.11 | 13.85 | 11.33 | 9.30  | 14.56 | 17.25 | 12.59 | 13.82 | 18.76 |
| Rodney .. ..              | 20.15   | 14.69 | 12.67 | 10.80 | 6.85  | 15.79 | 15.77 | 13.65 | 14.68 | 20.29 |
| Molra .. ..               | 17.88   | 14.44 | 11.38 | 10.70 | 4.79  | 17.46 | 16.83 | 12.34 | 16.13 | 21.15 |
| Total State ..            | 159.0   | 16.37 | 14.03 | 11.40 | 7.75  | 17.19 | 16.80 | 13.50 | 15.40 | 17.51 |

**Varieties of  
Wheat.**

Australian wheat is noted for its hard, white, and dry qualities, and, on account of the whiteness of the flour made therefrom, it is much sought after by oversea millers for the purpose of mixing with other wheats.

Enquiries in regard to the area sown under each variety of wheat for the 1925-26 season were made with the view of ascertaining the varieties most in favour among Victorian growers, and of enabling the Agricultural Department to advise growers as to the most suitable varieties to grow in a particular district.

An analysis of the replies of the growers who supplied the information is given in the appended table :—

VARIETIES OF WHEAT SOWN IN VARIOUS DISTRICTS OF THE STATE, 1925-26.

| Districts.                  | Wheat.                          |              |             |                |           |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|---------------|
|                             | Variety (according to acreage). |              |             |                |           |               |
|                             | Federation.                     | Currawa.     | Major.      | Yandilla King. | Penny.    | Bald's Early. |
|                             | per cent.                       | per cent.    | per cent.   | per cent.      | per cent. | per cent.     |
| Central ..                  | 10.50                           | 9.70         | 30.70       | 2.60           | ..        | ..            |
| North-Central ..            | 30.79                           | 1.50         | 13.13       | 4.69           | ..        | ..            |
| Western ..                  | 56.50                           | ..           | 8.67        | 2.42           | 3.40      | ..            |
| Wimmera ..                  | 72.03                           | 0.97         | 3.88        | 0.72           | 3.98      | 1.16          |
| Mallee ..                   | 17.49                           | 23.10        | 5.23        | 7.39           | 5.63      | 5.12          |
| Northern ..                 | 60.49                           | 1.02         | 20.56       | 2.58           | 1.36      | 1.44          |
| North-Eastern ..            | 29.70                           | 7.49         | 19.15       | 2.72           | 2.95      | ..            |
| Gippsland ..                | 3.81                            | 6.06         | 75.70       | ..             | 8.82      | ..            |
| Percentage of total area .. | 43.38                           | 10.69        | 9.61        | 4.14           | 3.97      | 2.85          |
|                             | Gluyas.                         | Mac's White. | Ruff's Imp. | Dollar.        | Other.    | Total.        |
|                             | per cent.                       | per cent.    | per cent.   | per cent.      | per cent. | per cent.     |
| Central ..                  | ..                              | ..           | ..          | ..             | 46.50     | 100.00        |
| North-Central ..            | ..                              | 1.90         | ..          | ..             | 47.99     | 100.00        |
| Western ..                  | ..                              | ..           | ..          | 2.01           | 27.00     | 100.00        |
| Wimmera ..                  | ..                              | ..           | 7.64        | 2.02           | 7.60      | 100.00        |
| Mallee ..                   | 6.52                            | 5.60         | ..          | 2.27           | 21.65     | 100.00        |
| Northern ..                 | ..                              | ..           | ..          | ..             | 12.55     | 100.00        |
| North-Eastern ..            | ..                              | ..           | ..          | ..             | 37.99     | 100.00        |
| Gippsland ..                | ..                              | ..           | 0.18        | ..             | 5.43      | 100.00        |
| Percentage of total area .. | 2.79                            | 2.41         | 2.21        | 1.70           | 16.25     | 100.00        |

In all, over 120 varieties of wheat were sown. The number of these which were tried in the Mallee greatly exceeded the number experimented with in any other district. If a more detailed list is required for any district it can be obtained on application to the Government Statist.



**Wheat  
standard.**

The weight of an imperial bushel of wheat is 60 lbs., but the actual weight of a bushel of Victorian wheat of the fair average quality standard annually fixed by the Chamber of Commerce was 61·10 lbs. on the average of the last ten years. The following statement shows the variation in the f.a.q. standard weight of a bushel of Victorian wheat for each season since 1914-15 :—

### F.A.Q. WHEAT STANDARD, 1916 TO 1925.

| Season ended March— |    |    | Weight of<br>Bushel (f.a.q.). | Season ended March— |    |     | Weight of<br>Bushel (f.a.q.). |
|---------------------|----|----|-------------------------------|---------------------|----|-----|-------------------------------|
|                     |    |    | lbs.                          |                     |    |     | lbs.                          |
| 1916                | .. | .. | 61                            | 1921                | .. | ..  | 60½                           |
| 1917                | .. | .. | 60½                           | 1922                | .. | ... | 60                            |
| 1918                | .. | .. | 60                            | 1923                | .. | ..  | 61¼                           |
| 1919                | .. | .. | 62½                           | 1924                | .. | ..  | 61                            |
| 1920                | .. | .. | 62                            | 1925                | .. | ..  | 62½                           |

**Stocks of  
wheat and  
flour.**

It is estimated that about 11,000,000 bushels of wheat are required locally for food and seed. The stocks of wheat and flour in the State on 31st October, 1925, and on 30th June, 1922, and at the same date in each of the previous eight years, were as follows :—

### WHEAT AND FLOUR ON HAND, 1914 TO 1925.

| Year. |               |    |    | Quantity in Bushels. |                                    |            |
|-------|---------------|----|----|----------------------|------------------------------------|------------|
|       |               |    |    | Wheat.               | Flour<br>(equivalent in<br>Wheat). | Total.     |
| 1914  | ..            | .. | .. | 8,002,311            | 940,138                            | 8,942,449  |
| 1915  | ..            | .. | .. | 582,448              | 510,300                            | 1,092,748  |
| 1916  | ..            | .. | .. | 42,578,379           | 519,162                            | 43,097,541 |
| 1917  | ..            | .. | .. | 63,852,078           | 1,078,875                          | 64,930,953 |
| 1918  | ..            | .. | .. | 70,031,000           | 1,658,000                          | 71,689,000 |
| 1919  | ..            | .. | .. | 53,023,000           | 3,284,000                          | 56,307,000 |
| 1920  | ..            | .. | .. | 11,780,159           | 4,861,000                          | 16,641,159 |
| 1921  | ..            | .. | .. | 14,883,400           | 800,000                            | 15,683,400 |
| 1922  | ..            | .. | .. | 5,065,600            | 883,150                            | 5,948,750  |
| 1923  | Not collected | .. | {  | ..                   | ..                                 | ..         |
| 1924  |               |    |    | ..                   | ..                                 | ..         |
| 1925  | ..            | .. | .. | 1,446,240            | 2,955,640                          | 4,401,880  |

**Oats.**

In 1924-25 the area harvested for oats in Victoria was 517,229 acres, from which a yield of 9,572,003 bushels was obtained, giving an average of 18·51 bushels to the acre. The appended statement shows the harvest results for this crop for each of the last ten seasons, and for ten-year periods prior thereto back to 1865 :—

## OATS GROWN, 1865 TO 1925.

| Period or Year (ending in March). | Annual Average.  |            |                   |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|
|                                   | Area under Crop. | Produce.   | Average per Acre. |
|                                   | acres.           | bushels.   | bushels.          |
| 1865-75 .. .. .                   | 129,384          | 2,636,747  | 20·38             |
| 1875-85 .. .. .                   | 147,343          | 3,297,468  | 22·38             |
| 1885-95 .. .. .                   | 210,901          | 4,649,393  | 22·05             |
| 1895-1905 .. .. .                 | 340,957          | 6,649,453  | 19·50             |
| 1905-15 .. .. .                   | 390,643          | 7,342,468  | 18·79             |
| 1916 .. .. .                      | 353,932          | 9,328,894  | 26·36             |
| 1917 .. .. .                      | 441,598          | 8,289,289  | 18·77             |
| 1918 .. .. .                      | 293,214          | 6,141,287  | 20·94             |
| 1919 .. .. .                      | 342,867          | 5,274,984  | 15·38             |
| 1920 .. .. .                      | 559,547          | 6,603,067  | 11·80             |
| 1921 .. .. .                      | 443,636          | 10,907,191 | 24·59             |
| 1922 .. .. .                      | 318,681          | 6,082,258  | 19·09             |
| 1923 .. .. .                      | 492,356          | 8,093,459  | 16·44             |
| 1924 .. .. .                      | 520,654          | 9,366,205  | 17·99             |
| 1925 .. .. .                      | 517,229          | 9,572,003  | 18·51             |

In addition to the area for grain shown for last season there were 1,000,382 acres of oats cut for hay, so that the total area sown with oats in 1924-25 was 1,517,611 acres. During 1924-25 there were exported from Victoria to overseas countries 162,115 bushels of oats and 17,384 lbs. of oatmeal.

**Varieties of Oats.**

Enquiries in regard to the different kinds of oats sown for the 1925-26 season showed that, of those growers who supplied the information, 89 per cent. planted principally Algerian, and 10 per cent. Mortgage Lifter oats; the principal kinds planted by the remaining 1 per cent. of growers included nine varieties.

**Barley.** The area under barley in 1924-25 was 63,764 acres, of which 42,217 were under malting, and 21,547 under other barley. The figures in the subjoined table show the acreage, production, and yield per acre, for each of the last five years :—

## CULTIVATION OF BARLEY, 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Year ended<br>March— | Area under Crop. |        | Produce.  |           | Average per Acre. |          |          |
|----------------------|------------------|--------|-----------|-----------|-------------------|----------|----------|
|                      | Malting.         | Other. | Malting.  | Other.    | Malting.          | Other.   | Total.   |
|                      | acres.           | acres. | bushels.  | bushels.  | bushels.          | bushels. | bushels. |
| 1921 ..              | 50,297           | 43,657 | 1,306,210 | 1,189,552 | 25·97             | 27·25    | 26·56    |
| 1922 ..              | 47,686           | 52,441 | 1,103,039 | 1,233,207 | 23·13             | 23·52    | 23·33    |
| 1923 ..              | 64,648           | 38,125 | 1,525,744 | 916,297   | 23·60             | 24·03    | 23·76    |
| 1924 ..              | 39,588           | 16,976 | 1,037,144 | 418,291   | 26·20             | 24·64    | 25·73    |
| 1925 ..              | 42,217           | 21,547 | 971,532   | 473,291   | 23·01             | 21·97    | 22·66    |

During 1924-25, 1,703,917 bushels of barley were used locally in the production of 1,648,690 bushels of malt.

**Potatoes.** The area planted with potatoes in 1924-25 was 61,295 acres, and the production was 139,043 tons, which represented a yield of 2·27 tons per acre, as compared with 4·02 tons in the previous season and 2·40 tons in 1922-23. The following table shows the potato returns for the last thirty-five years :—

## POTATO PRODUCTION, 1890 to 1925.

| Period or Year (ending in June). |    |    |    | Annual Average.  |          |                   |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|------------------|----------|-------------------|
|                                  |    |    |    | Area under Crop. | Produce. | Average per Acre. |
|                                  |    |    |    | acres.           | tons.    | tons.             |
| 1890-1900 .. ..                  | .. | .. | .. | 47,738           | 155,432  | 3·26              |
| 1900-10 .. ..                    | .. | .. | .. | 48,857           | 142,307  | 2·91              |
| 1910-20 .. ..                    | .. | .. | .. | 60,127           | 166,677  | 2·77              |
| 1921 .. ..                       | .. | .. | .. | 62,687           | 171,628  | 2·74              |
| 1922 .. ..                       | .. | .. | .. | 63,895           | 173,660  | 2·72              |
| 1923 .. ..                       | .. | .. | .. | 61,741           | 148,354  | 2·40              |
| 1924 .. ..                       | .. | .. | .. | 59,306           | 238,520  | 4·02              |
| 1925 .. ..                       | .. | .. | .. | 61,295           | 139,043  | 2·27              |

The estimated value of the potatoes produced last season was £682,878, as against £701,229 in 1923-24, £1,040,662 in 1922-23, £555,111 in 1921-22, and £586,458 in 1920-21.

**Hay.** In 1925 the production of hay amounted to 1,492,588 tons, as against 1,541,287 tons in 1924, 1,665,089 tons in 1923, 1,548,453 tons in 1922, and 1,984,854 tons in 1921. The quantity of straw returned for the season 1924-25 was 44,614 tons as against 44,451 tons for the previous year. The hay returns for decennial

periods from 1890 to 1920, and each of the last five seasons, are shown in the table which follows :—

HAY PRODUCTION, 1890 TO 1925.

| Period or Year (ending in March). |    |    |    | Annual Average.   |           |                   |
|-----------------------------------|----|----|----|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|
|                                   |    |    |    | Area cut for Hay. | Produce.  | Average per Acre. |
|                                   |    |    |    | acres.            | tons.     | tons.             |
| 1890-1900                         | .. | .. | .. | 467,668           | 576,618   | 1·23              |
| 1900-10                           | .. | .. | .. | 664,387           | 894,108   | 1·35              |
| 1910-20                           | .. | .. | .. | 984,797           | 1,269,767 | 1·29              |
| 1921                              | .. | .. | .. | 1,333,397         | 1,984,854 | 1·49              |
| 1922                              | .. | .. | .. | 1,159,135         | 1,548,453 | 1·34              |
| 1923                              | .. | .. | .. | 1,261,408         | 1,665,089 | 1·32              |
| 1924                              | .. | .. | .. | 1,277,606         | 1,541,287 | 1·21              |
| 1925                              | .. | .. | .. | 1,120,312         | 1,492,588 | 1·33              |

The estimated value of the hay crop was £3,639,496 for 1925, as compared with £5,229,162 for 1924, £6,327,338 for 1923, £4,413,091 for 1922, and £5,259,863 for 1921. Of the total hay produced in 1925, 1,318,230 tons were eaten, 119,918 tons were wheaten, and 54,440 tons were made from lucerne and other crops; the yields per acre of these varieties of hay were 1·32, 1·37, and 1·67 tons respectively.

Information is obtained direct from growers, in February or March of each year, in regard to the prices of the leading agricultural products other than the main crop of potatoes, the price of which is ascertained in June or July. The following table gives the average price of each product for each of the last ten years :—

PRICES OF PRODUCE, 1915 TO 1925.

| Year. |    | Average Price in February and March. |             |             |             |          |             |                             |
|-------|----|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------|-----------------------------|
|       |    | Wheat.                               | Oats.       | Barley.     |             | Hay.     | Potatoes.   |                             |
|       |    |                                      |             | Malting.    | Other.      |          | Early Crop. | Main Crop<br>(after March). |
|       |    |                                      |             |             |             |          |             |                             |
|       |    | per bushel.                          | per bushel. | per bushel. | per bushel. | per ton. | per ton.    | per ton.                    |
|       |    | s. d.                                | s. d.       | s. d.       | s. d.       | s. d.    | s. d.       | s. d.                       |
| 1916  | .. | 3 9                                  | 2 0½        | 3 11½       | 2 10        | 35 0     | 201 0       | 106 0                       |
| 1917  | .. | 4 0                                  | 2 0         | 3 11½       | 2 10        | 33 0     | 114 0       | 53 0                        |
| 1918  | .. | 4 0                                  | 3 1½        | 4 2½        | 3 4½        | 59 0     | 79 0        | 55 0                        |
| 1919  | .. | 4 9                                  | 4 5½        | 5 0½        | 3 11¾       | 83 0     | 210 0       | 149 0                       |
| 1920  | .. | 7 8½                                 | 5 7¼        | 6 7½        | 5 8         | 134 0    | 219 0       | 178 0                       |
| 1921  | .. | 7 3                                  | 2 4½        | 4 0½        | 3 1         | 53 0     | 101 0       | 64 0                        |
| 1922  | .. | 4 9½                                 | 3 0¾        | 4 0¼        | 2 11        | 57 0     | 94 0        | 60 0                        |
| 1923  | .. | 4 6                                  | 3 6         | 3 11        | 3 0         | 76 0     | 170 0       | 136 0                       |
| 1924  | .. | 4 3                                  | 3 1½        | 3 9½        | 3 2½        | 72 0     | 111 0       | 53 0                        |
| 1925  | .. | 5 0¾                                 | 1 11½       | 5 3¾        | 4 0½        | 48 9     | 121 0       | 94 0                        |

NOTE.—Prior to 1925, only freight and handling charges were deducted; but, for that year, the cost for bags and seed were also deducted from the F.O.B. charges.

**Other Crops.** The area under other than principal crops and the production since March, 1922, are shown in the subjoined table:—

## OTHER THAN PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1922-23 TO 1924-25.

| Crop.                               | Area.     | Production.       | Area.     | Production.       | Area.     | Production.       |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|
|                                     | 1922-23.  |                   | 1923-24.  |                   | 1924-25.  |                   |
|                                     | acres.    | bushels.          | acres.    | bushels.          | acres.    | bushels.          |
| Maize.. ..                          | 25,846    | 879,915           | 29,104    | 1,464,731         | 23,126    | 891,987           |
| Rye .. ..                           | 1,291     | 15,718            | 899       | 11,151            | 1,029     | 13,000            |
| Peas .. ..                          | 11,149    | 214,544           | 11,216    | 233,047           | 11,759    | 256,160           |
|                                     |           | tons.             |           | tons.             |           | tons.             |
| Mangel-wurzel ..                    | 684       | 8,120             | 854       | 13,569            | 736       | 10,022            |
| Beet, Carrots, Parsnips and Turnips | 433       | 1,878             | 538       | 4,222             | 238       | 1,847             |
| Onions .. ..                        | 6,954     | 44,409            | 4,714     | 31,683            | 4,504     | 26,555            |
| Green Forage ..                     | 102,451   | ..                | 107,371   | ..                | 99,531    | ..                |
| Grass and Clover Seeds ..           | 1,468     | bushels.<br>7,859 | 1,306     | bushels.<br>6,466 | 1,424     | bushels.<br>8,597 |
| Hops .. ..                          | 194       | cwt.<br>2,071     | 224       | cwt.<br>2,481     | 269       | cwt.<br>4,240     |
| Tobacco .. ..                       | 890       | 4,151             | 1,047     | 1,165             | 1,228     | †                 |
| Vines—Grapes                        | 38,892    | 1,879,964         | 42,599    | 2,707,729         | 42,467    | 2,142,349         |
|                                     |           | 435 fibre         |           | ..                |           | 800 seed.         |
|                                     |           | 1,725 seed        |           | ..                |           | straw             |
| Flax .. ..                          | 590       | 25 tow            | Nil       | ..                | 130       | awaiting          |
|                                     |           | ..                |           | ..                |           | treat-            |
| Gardens and Orchards ..             | 86,014    | ..                | 85,570    | ..                | 85,358    | ment.             |
| Minor Crops ..                      | 9,082     | ..                | 12,237*   | ..                | 7,052*    | ..                |
| Land in Fallow                      | 2,186,881 | ..                | 2,294,297 | ..                | 2,215,270 | ..                |
| Artificial Grasses                  | 957,454   | ..                | 938,547   | ..                | 843,095   | ..                |

\* For details see page 533.

† Not available.

**Maize.** The area under maize for grain in 1924-25 was 23,126 acres, and the production was 891,987 bushels, which represented a yield of 38·57 bushels per acre, as compared with 50·33 bushels in 1923-24, 34·04 bushels in 1922-23, 40·99 bushels in 1921-22, and 44·14 bushels in 1920-21. Of the total production for last season 89 per cent. was obtained from the Gippsland district. The area, total production, and produce per acre are given in the next

table for each of the last five seasons and for periods prior thereto back to 1890 :—

MAIZE PRODUCTION, 1890 to 1925.

| Period or Year (ending in June). | Annual Average.             |             |                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
|                                  | Area under Maize for Grain. | Production. | Produce per Acre. |
|                                  | acres.                      | bushels.    | bushels.          |
| 1890-1900 .. .. .                | 8,688                       | 452,907     | 52·13             |
| 1900-10 .. .. .                  | 12,082                      | 716,158     | 59·27             |
| 1910-20 .. .. .                  | 20,811                      | 922,461     | 44·33             |
| 1921 .. .. .                     | 24,149                      | 1,065,880   | 44·14             |
| 1922 .. .. .                     | 23,227                      | 951,960     | 40·99             |
| 1923 .. .. .                     | 25,846                      | 879,915     | 34·04             |
| 1924 .. .. .                     | 29,104                      | 1,464,731   | 50·33             |
| 1925 .. .. .                     | 23,126                      | 891,987     | 38·57             |

On the average of the last five seasons the yield per acre was 41·9 bushels, as against 45·0 in 1910-15, and 65·4 in 1900-05. The relatively light yield per acre for the latest five-year period was probably due to the cultivation of new areas, which are less fertile than the rich river flats upon which this cereal was grown exclusively in earlier periods.

**Rye.** The area under rye in 1924-25 was 1,029 acres, from which 13,000 bushels of grain were obtained. The production was 11,151 bushels in 1923-24, 15,718 bushels in 1922-23, 14,442 bushels in 1921-22, and 21,359 bushels in 1920-21. Rye was grown principally in the counties of Delatite, Grant, and Talbot last season. The area under this crop in the three counties mentioned was about 56 per cent. of the total for the whole State.

**Peas.** The area under peas in 1924-25 was 11,759 acres, and the return, 256,160 bushels, there being a slight increase in each case on the figures for the previous year. Last season peas were grown to some extent in all districts with the exception of the Mallee. The counties from which the largest returns were obtained and the yields of these counties were as follows :—Grant, 87,993 bushels; Bourke, 38,666 bushels; Tanjil, 23,828 bushels; Buln Buln, 18,848 bushels; Talbot, 11,589 bushels; and Mornington, 11,242 bushels. The production of peas in the six counties mentioned was equal to 75 per cent. of the total for the whole State.

**Mangel-wurzel.** In 1924-25 there were 736 acres under mangel-wurzel, as against 854 in 1923-24, 684 in 1922-23, 560 in 1921-22, 524 in 1920-21, 547 in 1919-20, and 581 in 1918-19. The production last year was 10,022 tons, as compared with an annual average of 8,517 tons for the preceding five-year period. Mangolds are grown principally in the Gippsland, Western, and Central districts.

**Beet, carrots, parsnips, and turnips.** The cultivation of beet, carrots, parsnips, and turnips, exclusive of those grown in market gardens, showed a decrease in area as compared with the previous season. In 1924-25 the extent of land sown was 238 acres, as against 538 in

1923-24, 433 in 1922-23, 401 in 1921-22, and 410 in 1920-21. The produce for last year was 1,847 tons, as compared with 4,222 in 1923-24, 1,878 in 1922-23, 2,134 in 1921-22, and 2,289 in 1920-21.

**Onions.** Onions are grown in nearly every county south of the Dividing Range. The returns for last season show that in Grenville the yield was 8,392 tons from 1,177 acres; in Bourke, 4,369 tons from 636 acres; in Villiers, 3,691 tons from 643 acres; in Polwarth, 2,971 tons from 480 acres; in Grant, 2,931 tons from 625 acres; in Buln Buln, 2,881 tons from 681 acres; and, in Mornington, 1,077 tons from 218 acres. The following statement shows the area and yield for each of the last five years:—

#### ONION CULTIVATION, 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Year.   |    |    |    |    | Area.  | Produce. |
|---------|----|----|----|----|--------|----------|
|         |    |    |    |    | acres. | tons.    |
| 1920-21 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8,000  | 42,985   |
| 1921-22 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6,158  | 31,586   |
| 1922-23 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6,954  | 44,409   |
| 1923-24 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4,714  | 31,683   |
| 1924-25 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4,504  | 26,555   |

The value of onions grown was £209,803 in 1924-25, as compared with £215,444 in 1923-24, £139,888 in 1922-23, £150,033 in 1921-22, and £131,104 in 1920-21.

**Green forage.** The area devoted to green forage in 1924-25 was 99,531 acres, 107,371 in 1923-24, 102,451 in 1922-23, 89,410 in 1921-22, 79,524 in 1920-21, and 89,802 in 1919-20.

**Ensilage.** The practice of preserving forage in a green state has existed in Victoria for many years, but only a small number of farmers have adopted it. The returns for the last five seasons are given in the next table:—

#### ENSILAGE RETURNS, 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Year ended March— |    |    |    |    | Number of Farms<br>on which made. | Number of Silos<br>(Pits and Stacks). | Materials used. |
|-------------------|----|----|----|----|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
|                   |    |    |    |    |                                   |                                       | tons.           |
| 1921              | .. | .. | .. | .. | 99                                | 175                                   | 9,702           |
| 1922              | .. | .. | .. | .. | 107                               | 141                                   | 5,873           |
| 1923              | .. | .. | .. | .. | 103                               | 138                                   | 5,674           |
| 1924              | .. | .. | .. | .. | 61                                | 88                                    | 3,649           |
| 1925              | .. | .. | .. | .. | 106                               | 149                                   | 6,667           |

**Grass and clover seed.** The area harvested for grass and clover seed last season was 1,424 acres, as compared with 1,306 in 1923-24, 1,468 in 1922-23, 1,800 in 1921-22, and 1,872 in 1920-21. The production in 1924-25 was 8,597 bushels, as against 6,466 in 1923-24, 7,859 in 1922-23, 12,226 in 1921-22, and 11,555 in 1920-21.

**Hops.** The hop-growing industry attained its maximum development in 1883-4, when 1,758 acres yielded 15,717 cwt. In 1924-25 the return from 269 acres was 4,240 cwt. Delatite, Bogong, Bourke, Polwarth, and Buln Buln were the only counties in which hops were grown last season.

**Flax.** No flax was sown during the year 1923-24, but the Commonwealth Flax Committee, now wound up, supplied to Drysdale farmers seed for sowing in the 1924-25 season. An area of 130 acres was sown, the resultant harvest of which will be treated by a private company. Particulars of the crop for each of the last five years are given in the following statement:—

FLAX, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year.         | Area under Crop. | Seed Produced. | Fibre Produced. | Tow Produced. | Straw awaiting Treatment. |
|---------------|------------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
|               | acres.           | cwt.           | cwt.            | cwt.          | tons.                     |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 1,350            | 3,658          | 938             | 99            | 662                       |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 1,640            | 4,187          | 440             | 20            | 960                       |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 590              | 1,725          | 435             | 25            | ..                        |
| 1923-24 .. .. | Nil              | ..             | ..              | ..            | ..                        |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 130              | 800            | 17              | 3             | 130                       |

NOTE.—For particulars of New Zealand flax, not included in above statement, *vide* page 533.

In 1924-25 imports into Victoria from countries outside Australia included linseed to the value of £112,299, linseed oil worth £63,966, and fibre worth £209,760.

**Tobacco.** Tobacco production reached its maximum in 1880-1, when 17,333 cwt. of dry leaf was produced. Subsequent years were marked by great variations in area and produce, but since 1920-21 increasing areas have been devoted to the industry. The area devoted to this product last year was 1,228 acres, of which 576 were in Delatite, and 480 in Bogong. Particulars relating to the cultivation of tobacco for each of the last five years are as follows:—

CULTIVATION OF TOBACCO, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year.         | Area.  | Produce.    |
|---------------|--------|-------------|
|               | acres. | cwt. (dry). |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 95     | 908         |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 604    | 3,735       |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 890    | 4,151       |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 1,047  | 1,165       |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 1,228  | †           |

† Not available.



**Vine Production.**

During the period 1904-15 the area under vines decreased by 6,712 acres, or by nearly 24 per cent., and the number of growers decreased by 521, or by 23 per cent. Since 1915 there has been a fairly large increase in the area and the number of growers. Vineyards are distributed fairly well over the State, and there are certain districts where the principal industries are connected with vine-growing. The Shire of Mildura produced last season 1,640,375 cwt. of grapes; Swan Hill, 317,891 cwt.; Rutherglen, 95,517 cwt.; Rodney, 13,558 cwt.; and Stawell, 12,813 cwt. At Mildura the crop is principally dried for raisins and currants. The results of five years' operations are given below :—

## VINE PRODUCTION, 1921 TO 1925.

| Year ended June— | Number of Growers. | Area.  | Produce.         |            |               |           |                |
|------------------|--------------------|--------|------------------|------------|---------------|-----------|----------------|
|                  |                    |        | Grapes gathered. | Wine made. | Raisins made. |           | Currants made. |
|                  |                    |        |                  |            | Lexias.       | Sultanas. |                |
|                  |                    | acres. | cwt.             | gallons.   | cwt.          | cwt.      | cwt.           |
| 1921 ..          | 2,066              | 29,255 | 1,072,767        | 2,222,305  | 33,150        | 83,737    | 62,919         |
| 1922 ..          | 2,422              | 33,175 | 1,314,839        | 1,335,066  | 49,080        | 141,371   | 75,042         |
| 1923 ..          | 2,775              | 38,892 | 1,879,964        | 1,717,490  | 67,850        | 217,670   | 98,081         |
| 1924 ..          | 3,047              | 42,599 | 2,707,729        | 2,177,127  | 71,993        | 366,834   | 150,867        |
| 1925 ..          | 2,999              | 42,467 | 2,142,349        | 1,368,765  | 70,695        | 296,304   | 104,948        |

Of the total quantity of grapes gathered in 1925, 216,390 cwt. were used for making wine and spirits, 1,872,514 cwt. for raisins and currants, and 53,445 cwt. for table consumption and export. Of the 296,304 cwt. of sultanas made, 237,226 cwt. were from Mildura, and 57,688 cwt. from Swan Hill.

Raisins are produced in Victoria upon a scale far in excess of the State's requirements. It is estimated that a year's consumption of raisins is about 88,000 cwt.; consequently, about 280,000 cwt. of the production in 1925 were available for interstate or oversea export. A year's consumption of currants is about 30,000 cwt., which would enable approximately 75,000 cwt. of last season's production to be exported to other States or oversea.

**Orchards.** The total number of persons in the State growing fruit for sale was 7,414 in 1924-25, as against 7,387 in 1923-24, 7,758 in 1922-23, 8,286 in 1921-22, and 7,705 in 1920-21. The area under orchards in each of those years was 83,369, 83,469, 83,880, 86,959, and 84,718 acres respectively. The orchards are distributed fairly evenly over the whole State. The counties having the largest

areas last season were as follows :—Mornington, 14,599 acres; Bourke, 13,259 acres; Evelyn, 13,206 acres; Rodney, 10,129 acres; Moira, 7,665 acres; Talbot, 3,981 acres; and Bendigo, 3,513 acres.

The following is a statement of the number of bearing and non-bearing fruit trees and plants for the seasons 1919-20 and 1922-23 :—

RETURN SHOWING THE NUMBER OF FRUIT TREES, PLANTS, ETC., IN ORCHARDS AND GARDENS WHERE FRUIT WAS GROWN FOR SALE, 1919-20 AND 1922-23.

| Fruit.                              | Number of Trees, Plants, &c. |           |           |              |           |           |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|
|                                     | 1919-20.                     |           |           | 1922-23.     |           |           |
|                                     | Not Bearing.                 | Bearing.  | Total.    | Not Bearing. | Bearing.  | Total.    |
| Apples ..                           | 1,006,728                    | 2,016,972 | 3,023,700 | 854,643      | 2,302,089 | 3,156,732 |
| Pears ..                            | 416,608                      | 660,913   | 1,077,521 | 360,403      | 729,775   | 1,090,178 |
| Quinces ..                          | 53,639                       | 76,377    | 130,016   | 33,041       | 72,316    | 105,357   |
| Plums ..                            | 184,909                      | 369,784   | 554,693   | 153,020      | 368,355   | 521,375   |
| Cherries ..                         | 45,742                       | 196,110   | 241,852   | 33,802       | 182,093   | 215,895   |
| Peaches ..                          | 332,001                      | 750,834   | 1,082,835 | 341,485      | 778,650   | 1,120,135 |
| Apricots ..                         | 121,995                      | 331,627   | 453,622   | 130,114      | 349,242   | 479,356   |
| Nectarines ..                       | 3,023                        | 15,698    | 18,721    | 1,645        | 15,295    | 16,940    |
| Oranges ..                          | 147,105                      | 240,297   | 387,402   | 224,117      | 279,146   | 503,263   |
| Lemons ..                           | 72,994                       | 82,472    | 155,466   | 96,207       | 100,544   | 196,751   |
| Loquats ..                          | 1,778                        | 4,202     | 5,980     | 1,138        | 3,337     | 4,475     |
| Medlars ..                          | 86                           | 106       | 192       | 27           | 55        | 82        |
| Figs ..                             | 14,663                       | 29,667    | 44,330    | 7,069        | 29,149    | 36,218    |
| Guavas ..                           | 61                           | 134       | 195       | 92           | 182       | 274       |
| Pomegranates ..                     | 39                           | 89        | 128       | 243          | 107       | 350       |
| Persimmons ..                       | 319                          | 403       | 722       | 427          | 384       | 811       |
| Total Large Fruits ..               | 2,401,690                    | 4,775,685 | 7,177,375 | 2,237,473    | 5,210,719 | 7,448,192 |
| Raspberries ..                      | ..                           | 316,498   | 316,498   | ..           | 308,647   | 308,647   |
| Loganberries ..                     | ..                           | 158,431   | 158,431   | ..           | 139,084   | 139,084   |
| Strawberries ..                     | ..                           | 2,148,044 | 2,148,044 | ..           | 2,432,038 | 2,432,038 |
| Gooseberries ..                     | ..                           | 323,037   | 323,037   | 29,418       | 185,922   | 215,340   |
| Mulberries ..                       | 326                          | 1,133     | 1,459     | 355          | 901       | 1,256     |
| Olives ..                           | 310                          | 2,372     | 2,682     | 208          | 1,577     | 1,785     |
| Currents (Red, White, and Black) .. | 9,033                        | 27,707    | 36,740    | 6,939        | 29,779    | 36,718    |
| Passion-fruit ..                    | 19,902                       | 26,969    | 46,871    | 27,133       | 41,148    | 68,281    |
| Almonds ..                          | 9,423                        | 20,378    | 29,801    | 9,792        | 21,987    | 31,779    |
| Walnuts ..                          | 7,812                        | 4,819     | 12,631    | 7,019        | 5,223     | 12,242    |
| Filberts ..                         | 288                          | 804       | 1,092     | 246          | 628       | 874       |
| Chestnuts ..                        | 269                          | 380       | 649       | 262          | 692       | 954       |
| Total Nuts ..                       | 17,792                       | 26,381    | 44,173    | 17,319       | 28,530    | 45,849    |

The area of orchards growing fruit for sale in 1924-25—83,369 acres—showed a reduction of 100 acres as compared with the area for the previous year. Details of the produce from such orchards in the last five years are given in the subjoined statement :—

**ORCHARDS GROWING FRUIT FOR SALE, 1920-21  
TO 1924-25.**

| Year ended March— | Number of Fruit-growers. | Area of Gardens and Orchards. | LARGE FRUITS GATHERED. |          |          |          |           |
|-------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                   |                          |                               | Apples.                | Pears.   | Quinces. | Plums.   | Cherries. |
|                   |                          | acres.                        | bushels.               | bushels. | bushels. | bushels. | bushels.  |
| 1921              | 7,705                    | 84,718                        | 1,451,069              | 759,148  | 63,194   | 297,055  | 81,619    |
| 1922              | 8,286                    | 86,959                        | 1,768,800              | 681,024  | 76,946   | 207,432  | 66,969    |
| 1923              | 7,758                    | 83,880                        | 2,089,017              | 666,631  | 63,837   | 258,117  | 92,407    |
| 1924              | 7,387                    | 83,469                        | 1,663,308              | 858,611  | 76,167   | 241,818  | 63,662    |
| 1925              | 7,414                    | 83,369                        | 2,233,230              | 910,915  | 81,160   | 308,638  | 51,299    |

*Large Fruits Gathered—continued.*

|      | Peaches. | Apricots. | Oranges. | Lemons.  | Figs.    | Nectarines. | Passion. | Other.   |
|------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|----------|----------|
|      | bushels. | bushels.  | bushels. | bushels. | bushels. | bushels.    | bushels. | bushels. |
| 1921 | 728,272  | 251,996   | 169,335  | 87,867   | 23,386   | 17,431      | 10,775   | 4,818    |
| 1922 | 905,477  | 208,215   | 237,949  | 103,127  | 22,359   | 20,047      | 16,759   | 7,091    |
| 1923 | 966,952  | 290,876   | 259,330  | 109,347  | 15,313   | 14,749      | 16,066   | 1,431    |
| 1924 | 938,908  | 352,604   | 210,595  | 95,443   | 27,772   | 14,649      | 15,986   | 3,942    |
| 1925 | 990,683  | 350,778   | *        | *        | 25,658   | 16,545      | 30,866   | 1,211    |

\* As the season for citrus fruits ends later than that for other fruits details are not yet available.

ORCHARDS GROWING FRUIT FOR SALE, 1920-21 TO 1924-25—  
continued.

| Year ended March— | SMALL FRUITS GATHERED. |                |                |                                |        | NUTS GATHERED. |          |           |             |
|-------------------|------------------------|----------------|----------------|--------------------------------|--------|----------------|----------|-----------|-------------|
|                   | Rasp-berries.          | Straw-berries. | Goose-berries. | Currants, Black, Red, & White. | Other  | Almonds.       | Walnuts. | Filberts. | Chest-nuts. |
|                   | cwt.                   | cwt.           | cwt.           | cwt.                           | cwt.   | lbs.           | lbs.     | lbs.      | lbs.        |
| 1921 ..           | 3,105                  | 3,024          | 6,388          | 399                            | 6,239  | 32,519         | 16,557   | 374       | 12,947      |
| 1922 ..           | 3,112                  | 2,784          | 5,543          | 378                            | 4,940  | 72,006         | 33,452   | 1,504     | 13,104      |
| 1923 ..           | 2,682                  | 3,321          | 5,243          | 401                            | 5,236  | 74,588         | 43,064   | 1,031     | 10,713      |
| 1924 ..           | 2,160                  | 3,831          | 3,657          | 283                            | 3,046  | 76,905         | 29,665   | 964       | 6,190       |
| 1925 ..           | 3,665                  | 5,856          | 4,281          | 355                            | 6,980* | 70,217         | 23,199   | 615       | 14,469      |

\* Including 4,527 cwt. of loganberries, and 2,262 cwt. of blackberries.

The following return shows the average produce per bearing tree for the seasons 1913-14, 1916-17, 1919-20, and 1922-23:—

PRODUCE OF FRUIT TREES.

| Fruit Trees.     | AVERAGE PER BEARING TREE. |          |          |          |
|------------------|---------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|                  | 1913-14.                  | 1916-17. | 1919-20. | 1922-23. |
|                  | bushels                   | bushels. | bushels. | bushels. |
| Apples ..        | 1·03                      | ·34      | 1·10     | ·91      |
| Pears ..         | 1·07                      | 1·14     | 1·10     | ·91      |
| Quinces ..       | 1·03                      | 1·11     | 1·26     | ·88      |
| Plums ..         | ·83                       | ·65      | ·74      | ·70      |
| Cherries ..      | ·80                       | ·17      | ·46      | ·51      |
| Peaches ..       | 1·02                      | 1·35     | 1·28     | 1·24     |
| Apricots ..      | 1·21                      | ·78      | ·91      | ·83      |
| Nectarines ..    | 1·18                      | 1·41     | 1·53     | ·96      |
| Oranges ..       | 1·16                      | ·59      | ·57      | ·93      |
| Lemons ..        | 1·49                      | 1·11     | ·90      | 1·09     |
| Loquats ..       | ·24                       | ·29      | ·52      | ·34      |
| Medlars ..       | ·29                       | ·07      | ·28      | ·20      |
| Figs ..          | ·85                       | ·87      | ·65      | ·53      |
| Passion Vines .. | ·75                       | ·44      | ·65      | ·39      |
| Guavas ..        | ·02                       | ·42      | ·24      | ·13      |
| Pomegranates ..  | ·54                       | ·32      | ·31      | ·17      |
| Persimmons ..    | ·68                       | ·82      | ·69      | ·61      |
|                  | lbs.                      | lbs.     | lbs.     | lbs.     |
| Almonds ..       | 4·87                      | 2·51     | 3·70     | 3·39     |
| Walnuts ..       | 5·35                      | 1·34     | 10·68    | 8·25     |
| Filberts ..      | ·56                       | 3·60     | 2·00     | 1·64     |
| Chestnuts ..     | 18·94                     | 26·66    | 33·45    | 15·48    |

In addition to the fruits shown, large quantities of melons, rhubarb, and tomatoes were produced in the orchards, the following being the quantities returned for 1924-25:—Melons, 3,436 cwt. ; rhubarb, 8,375 dozen bundles ; and tomatoes, 321,198 bushels. There were also 1,989

acres laid down in gardens growing fruit for private use; the value of the produce from these was estimated at about £10,000.

According to prices received by growers the value of fruit which reaches market was estimated to be £1,029,700 in 1920-21, £1,184,100 in 1921-22, £1,172,300 in 1922-23, £1,193,689 in 1923-24, and £1,091,508 in 1924-25. This, of course, does not represent the actual value of all the fruit grown, as large quantities are privately consumed in various ways. No very reliable estimate of the value of such fruit can be prepared, but it may be set down at about £40,000.

The area under market gardens in the year 1924-25 was 14,620 acres. As these gardens are generally situated near large centres of population, the producers are able to dispose of the bulk of their goods with a minimum loss from waste, &c. An average return of £50 per acre is regarded as a fair estimate of their value, and on this basis the total value of the produce may be given as £731,000. This does not include crops of one acre and over of potatoes, onions, mangel-wurzel, beet, carrots, parsnips, and turnips grown in market gardens, such crops being tabulated under their respective heads in the returns relating to agriculture.

The quantity of dried fruit (weight after drying) was first collected in 1895-6, when 179,460 lbs. were returned. During 1924-25 the quantity produced was 1,258,358 lbs., which was 36 per cent. more than the quantity for the previous year. The production of the various kinds of dried fruit, with the exception of raisins and currants, the particulars of which appear on page 528, is shown in the following statement for each of the last five seasons:—

#### DRIED FRUIT, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year ended<br>June— | Apples. | Prunes. | Peaches. | Apricots. | Figs.  | Pears.  | Nectarines. | Total.    |
|---------------------|---------|---------|----------|-----------|--------|---------|-------------|-----------|
|                     | lbs.    | lbs.    | lbs.     | lbs.      | lbs.   | lbs.    | lbs.        | lbs.      |
| 1921 ..             | 72,530  | 388,729 | 451,525  | 338,617   | 30,811 | 118,857 | 9,011       | 1,410,080 |
| 1922 ..             | 10,689  | 298,068 | 232,003  | 221,297   | 32,578 | 149,600 | 4,414       | 948,649   |
| 1923 ..             | 5,354   | 376,491 | 454,899  | 518,196   | 29,632 | 36,915  | 14,041      | 1,435,528 |
| 1924 ..             | 3,104   | 395,090 | 168,948  | 217,624   | 6,226  | 132,217 | 2,953       | 926,162   |
| 1925 ..             | 8,087   | 638,302 | 153,235  | 328,643   | 16,945 | 102,792 | 10,354      | 1,258,358 |

A striking feature of the returns for the last eight seasons is the regularity with which seasons of comparatively small production alternate with much more bountiful ones.

The following is a return of the minor crops for the last two seasons. The items do not in all cases represent the whole of the respective crops grown, but refer only to such as were taken cognisance of by the collectors. The return, therefore, indicates the nature of the crops rather than the full extent of their cultivation:—

MINOR CROPS, 1923-24 AND 1924-25.

| Crop.                               | 1923-24. |   | 1924-25. |   |
|-------------------------------------|----------|---|----------|---|
|                                     | Area.    | Produce.  | Area.    | Produce.  |
|                                     | acres.   |   | acres.   |   |
| Beans .. ..                         | 979      | 20,861 bushels  | 1,028    | 18,231 bushels  |
| Chicory .. ..                       | 608      | 690 tons (dry)  | 309      | 314 tons (dry)  |
| Flowers .. ..                       | 368      | ..  | 439      | ..  |
| Garlic .. ..                        | 3        | 9 tons  | 12       | 29 tons   |
| Herbs .. ..                         | 6        | ..  | 9        | ..  |
| Flax—New Zealand ..                 | 90       | *   | 90       | *   |
| Millet—Broom .. ..                  | 2,626    | { 14,480 cwt. fibre<br>15,340 cwt. seed }   | 531      | { 2,999 cwt. fibre<br>2,046 cwt. seed }   |
| „ Japanese .. ..                    | 2,142    | 15,100 „ „  | 220      | 1,130 „ „   |
| Nurseries .. ..                     | 985      | ..  | 742      | ..  |
| Pumpkins .. ..                      | 2,163    | 11,211 tons   | 1,691    | 7,100 tons  |
| Seeds—Agricultural and Garden .. .. | 88       | ..  | 34       | ..  |
| Sugar Beet .. ..                    | 1,937    | { 29,512 tons<br>clean beet, pro-<br>ducing 3,499<br>tons market-<br>able sugar } | 1,897    | { 24,468 tons<br>clean beet, pro-<br>ducing 3,017<br>tons market-<br>able sugar } |
| Sunflowers .. ..                    | 231      | 2,263 cwt.  | 46       | 478 cwt.  |
| Others .. ..                        | 11       | ..  | 4        | ..  |
| Total .. ..                         | 12,237   | ..  | 7,052    | ..  |

\* Only cut every third year.

The practice of fallowing has become very popular in recent years. This is no doubt due to the more enlightened methods adopted, especially in wheat farming, where results have justified the introduction of extensive fallowing in conjunction with heavy manuring. The acreage in fallow in the years 1901, 1906, 1911, 1916, and each of the last five years was as follows:—

LAND IN FALLOW.

| Year ended March— | Acres.    | Year ended March— | Acres.    |
|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|
| 1901 .. ..        | 602,870   | 1922 .. ..        | 2,052,964 |
| 1906 .. ..        | 1,049,915 | 1923 .. ..        | 2,186,881 |
| 1911 .. ..        | 1,434,177 | 1924 .. ..        | 2,294,297 |
| 1916 .. ..        | 1,358,343 | 1925 .. ..        | 2,215,270 |
| 1921 .. ..        | 1,935,747 |                   |           |

Nearly all of the fallowed area is devoted to wheat production. Of the 2,215,270 acres in fallow last season, 710,447 were in the Wimmera, 759,103 in the Mallee, and 544,673 in the Northern District. The total for these three districts represented, therefore, 91 per cent. of the land fallowed in the State.

The increase in the proportion of farmers using manure indicates the popularity and the value of this method of treating the soil. Last year the number of farmers who used manure was 39,393, as compared with 26,159 in 1911, 11,439 in 1901, and 7,318 in 1898. The following table shows the number of farmers using manure, and the quantity used, in 1901, 1906, 1911, and 1916, and each of the last four years:—

#### MANURE USED FOR FERTILIZATION, 1901 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    | Farmers using. | Area used on. | Manure used— |             |
|-------|----|----|----------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
|       |    |    |                |               | Natural.     | Artificial. |
|       |    |    |                | acres.        | tons.        | tons.       |
| 1901  | .. | .. | 11,439         | 556,777       | 153,611      | 23,535      |
| 1906  | .. | .. | 23,072         | 1,985,148     | 205,906      | 60,871      |
| 1911  | .. | .. | 26,159         | 2,676,408     | 205,739      | 82,581      |
| 1916  | .. | .. | 33,165         | 3,870,742     | 181,268      | 117,812     |
| 1921  | .. | .. | 37,835         | 3,848,184     | 161,683      | 150,012     |
| 1922  | .. | .. | 40,037         | 4,148,780     | 173,343      | 172,897     |
| 1923  | .. | .. | 39,749         | 4,113,640     | 163,843      | 178,621     |
| 1924  | .. | .. | 39,393         | 4,301,558     | 151,611      | 184,140     |

The area on which manure was used represented only 7 per cent. of that under crop in 1898, but since then the proportion manured has rapidly increased. In 1901, it was 19 per cent. ; in 1903, 36 per cent. ; in 1905, 56 per cent. ; in 1909, 66 per cent. ; in 1913, 77 per cent. ; and in 1924, 90 per cent. During 1924-25 the quantity of fertilizers imported into Victoria from oversea countries was 139,658 tons valued at £349,538. This included 88,053 tons of rock phosphates valued at £197,081, and 44,674 tons of guano valued at £98,515, all of which, except 10 tons of guano, came from the Pacific Islands.

**Persons  
employed on  
Farming,  
Dairying, and  
Pastoral  
Holdings.**

Information is obtained by the collectors of agricultural statistics each year as to the number of persons ordinarily employed upon the land occupied. For the last five years the numbers were as follows :—

**NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED UPON FARMING,  
DAIRYING, AND PASTORAL HOLDINGS. 1920 to 1924.**

| Year.      | Males.  | Females. | Total.  |
|------------|---------|----------|---------|
| 1920 .. .. | 100,236 | 51,014   | 151,250 |
| 1921 .. .. | 106,369 | 53,059   | 159,428 |
| 1922 .. .. | 107,872 | 48,978   | 156,850 |
| 1923 .. .. | 105,933 | 46,218   | 152,151 |
| 1924 .. .. | 103,013 | 33,954   | 136,967 |

Persons absent from their farms for the greater portion of the year following other occupations, as well as temporary hands engaged in harvesting, &c., are not included in the above tabulation, neither are domestic servants nor cooks; but females partly engaged in outdoor duties in connexion with the holdings are included therein. It is estimated that the temporary labour employed on farms and pastoral holdings is equivalent to about 30,000 men employed continuously throughout the year.

In the next return will be found particulars of the rates of wages paid (with rations) upon farms and pastoral holdings during 1924-25. The information has been furnished by the occupiers of holdings.

**WAGES, AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL, 1924-25.**

| Occupations.                      | Range.                     | Prevailing Rate.   |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|
| Ploughmen .. ..                   | 30s. to 80s. per week ..   | 50s. per week      |
| Farm labourers .. ..              | 25s. to 70s. per week ..   | 42s. 6d. per week  |
| Threshing machine hands .. ..     | 12d. to 18d. per hour ..   | 15d. per hour      |
| Harvest hands .. ..               | 10s. to 15s. per day ..    | 13s. per day       |
| Milkers .. ..                     | 25s. to 60s. per week ..   | 37s. 6d. per week  |
| Maize pickers (without rations)   | 6d. to 12d. per bag ..     | 8d. per bag        |
| Married couples .. ..             | 50s. to 80s. per week ..   | 60s. per week      |
| Female servants .. ..             | 15s. to 40s. per week ..   | 27s. 6d. per week  |
| Shearers, hand (without rations)  | 35s. to 40s. per 100 sheep | 40s. per 100 sheep |
| „ machine (without rations) .. .. | 35s. to 40s. per 100 sheep | 38s. per 100 sheep |
| Gardeners, market .. ..           | 30s. to 60s. per week ..   | 40s. per week      |
| „ orchard .. ..                   | 30s. to 70s. per week ..   | 40s. per week      |
| Vineyard hands .. ..              | 30s. to 80s. per week ..   | 40s. per week      |

**PASTORAL AND DAIRYING INDUSTRIES.**

**Live Stock.** The pastoral and dairying industries have always been important sources of wealth to the State, and their increasing value in recent years, despite the larger areas devoted to cultivation,



indicates that both pastures and stock are, on the whole, steadily improving. The progress of stock breeding is shown in the next table, which gives the numbers of horses, dairy cows, other cattle, sheep and pigs, and their numbers per head of population and per square mile, in each of the last seven census years, also in the year 1925.

### LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA, 1861 to 1925.

| Year.                          | Horses<br>(including<br>Foals). | Cattle—     |           | Sheep.     | Pigs.   |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|
|                                |                                 | Dairy Cows. | Other.    |            |         |
|                                | number.                         | number.     | number.   | number.    | number. |
| 1861 .. ..                     | 76,536                          | 197,332     | 525,000   | 5,780,896  | 61,259  |
| 1871 .. ..                     | 209,025                         | 212,193     | 564,534   | 10,477,976 | 180,109 |
| 1881 .. ..                     | 275,516                         | 329,198     | 957,069   | 10,360,285 | 241,936 |
| 1891 .. ..                     | 436,469                         | 395,192     | 1,387,689 | 12,692,843 | 282,457 |
| 1901 .. ..                     | 392,237                         | 521,612     | 1,080,772 | 10,841,790 | 350,370 |
| 1911 .. ..                     | 472,080                         | 668,777     | 878,792   | 12,882,665 | 333,281 |
| 1921 .. ..                     | 487,503                         | 620,005     | 955,154   | 12,171,084 | 175,275 |
| 1925 .. ..                     | 473,236                         | 760,207     | 845,347   | 12,649,898 | 288,509 |
| <i>Per Head of Population.</i> |                                 |             |           |            |         |
| 1861 .. ..                     | ·14                             | ·37         | ·97       | 10·70      | ·11     |
| 1871 .. ..                     | ·29                             | ·29         | ·77       | 14·32      | ·25     |
| 1881 .. ..                     | ·32                             | ·38         | 1·11      | 12·01      | ·28     |
| 1891 .. ..                     | ·38                             | ·35         | 1·22      | 11·13      | ·25     |
| 1901 .. ..                     | ·33                             | ·43         | ·90       | 9·03       | ·29     |
| 1911 .. ..                     | ·36                             | ·51         | ·67       | 9·79       | ·25     |
| 1921 .. ..                     | ·32                             | ·41         | ·63       | 7·99       | ·12     |
| 1925 .. ..                     | ·29                             | ·46         | ·51       | 7·63       | ·17     |
| <i>Per Square Mile.</i>        |                                 |             |           |            |         |
| 1861 .. ..                     | ·87                             | 2·25        | 5·97      | 65·78      | ·70     |
| 1871 .. ..                     | 2·38                            | 2·41        | 6·42      | 119·22     | 2·05    |
| 1881 .. ..                     | 3·14                            | 3·75        | 10·89     | 117·88     | 2·75    |
| 1891 .. ..                     | 4·97                            | 4·50        | 15·79     | 144·43     | 3·21    |
| 1901 .. ..                     | 4·46                            | 5·94        | 12·30     | 123·36     | 4·00    |
| 1911 .. ..                     | 5·37                            | 7·61        | 10·00     | 146·59     | 3·79    |
| 1921 .. ..                     | 5·55                            | 7·05        | 10·87     | 138·49     | 1·99    |
| 1925 .. ..                     | 5·38                            | 8·65        | 9·62      | 143·94     | 3·28    |

By reducing horses and cattle to an equivalent in sheep on the assumption that one of the former will eat as much as ten, and one of the latter as much as six sheep, interesting comparisons of the stock carried on the land at different periods may be instituted. Calculations made on this basis show that each square mile carried an equivalent of 307 sheep in 1925, as compared with 302 in 1921, 306 in 1911, and 237 in 1881.

Size of holdings, showing areas cultivated and grazed.

Information relating to land occupied and cultivation and live stock thereon was collected in March, 1925. The land privately owned was summarized according to different sized holdings, and in the instances where Crown lands were held in conjunction therewith these were, regardless of size, scheduled with the holdings to which they were attached. The details, as well as the particulars of the total holdings in which only Crown land was held, are given in the two succeeding tables:—

### SIZE OF HOLDINGS SHOWING AREAS UNDER CULTIVATION AND PASTURE, MARCH, 1925.

| Privately-owned Land.   |                     |                | Crown Land held in conjunction with that privately owned. | Total Area Occupied. | Area under—  |              |
|---|---------------------|----------------|---|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Size of Holdings.<br>(In Acres.)                                | Number of Holdings. | Area Occupied. |   |                      | Cultivation. | Pasture, &c. |
|   |                     | acres.         | acres.  | acres.               | acres.       | acres.       |
| 1 and under   | 5                   | 3,407          | 8,859   | 22,667               | 31,526       | 30,001       |
| 5 "   | 15                  | 6,604          | 59,434  | 13,990               | 73,424       | 55,480       |
| 15 "  | 30                  | 6,989          | 142,216   | 21,301               | 163,517      | 110,074      |
| 30 "  | 50                  | 5,083          | 195,146   | 121,019              | 316,165      | 259,345      |
| 50 "  | 100                 | 9,206          | 658,278   | 191,047              | 849,325      | 687,837      |
| 100 "   | 200                 | 12,058         | 1,712,358   | 307,996              | 2,020,354    | 1,681,319    |
| 200 "   | 300                 | 6,653          | 1,612,231   | 294,178              | 1,906,409    | 1,558,586    |
| 300 "   | 321                 | 3,007          | 943,427   | 96,038               | 1,039,465    | 793,793      |
| 321 "   | 400                 | 3,282          | 1,165,355   | 132,311              | 1,297,666    | 1,026,497    |
| 400 "   | 500                 | 3,482          | 1,544,119   | 323,060              | 1,867,179    | 1,457,490    |
| 500 "   | 600                 | 2,805          | 1,526,266   | 154,728              | 1,680,994    | 1,251,822    |
| 600 "   | 641                 | 2,328          | 1,778,202   | 261,906              | 2,040,108    | 1,307,340    |
| 641 "   | 700                 | 1,427          | 953,551   | 68,086               | 1,021,637    | 680,287      |
| 700 "   | 800                 | 2,445          | 1,823,713   | 205,736              | 2,029,449    | 1,473,493    |
| 800 "   | 900                 | 1,607          | 1,349,410   | 154,845              | 1,504,255    | 1,141,224    |
| 900 "   | 1,000               | 1,422          | 1,343,790   | 187,944              | 1,531,734    | 1,148,045    |
| 1,000 "   | 1,500               | 3,578          | 4,322,043   | 657,909              | 4,979,952    | 3,817,729    |
| 1,500 "   | 2,000               | 1,299          | 2,214,679   | 378,548              | 2,593,227    | 2,130,085    |
| 2,000 "   | 2,500               | 644            | 1,421,844   | 309,124              | 1,730,968    | 1,519,405    |
| 2,500 "   | 3,000               | 336            | 907,618   | 431,378              | 1,338,996    | 1,218,935    |
| 3,000 "   | 4,000               | 412            | 1,399,073   | 184,274              | 1,583,347    | 1,461,215    |
| 4,000 "   | 5,000               | 151            | 668,062   | 125,642              | 793,704      | 751,402      |
| 5,000 "   | 7,500               | 187            | 1,124,538   | 183,574              | 1,308,112    | 1,243,574    |
| 7,500 "   | 10,000              | 86             | 744,170   | 15,395               | 759,565      | 733,829      |
| 10,000 "  | 15,000              | 66             | 803,944   | 28,887               | 832,831      | 820,134      |
| 15,000 "  | 20,000              | 25             | 436,207   | 4,565                | 440,772      | 436,859      |
| 20,000 "  | 30,000              | 12             | 290,933   | 1,417                | 292,350      | 291,319      |
| 30,000 "  | 40,000              | ..             | ..  | ..                   | ..           | ..           |
| 40,000 "  | 50,000              | 1              | 45,858  | ..                   | 45,858       | 45,856       |
| Total Privately-owned Land ..                                   | 79,102              | 31,195,324     | 4,877,565   | 36,072,889           | 6,939,914    | 29,132,975   |
| Crown Land not held in conjunction with that privately owned .. | 935                 | ..             | 733,335   | 733,335              | 36,800       | 696,535      |
| Grand Total ..  | 80,037              | 31,195,324     | 5,610,900   | 36,806,224           | 6,976,714    | 29,829,510   |

Size of holdings and live stock thereon.

The last table shows the areas devoted to cultivation and grazing on different-sized holdings in March, 1925, whilst the next table gives the numbers of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs on these holdings, and the total numbers on Crown lands that are not held conjointly with privately-owned land, at the same date.

## SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND LIVE STOCK THEREON, MARCH, 1925.

| Size of Holdings.<br>(In Acres).                                      |        |    | Live Stock on Land Occupied. |                |                  |            |         |
|---|--------|----|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|------------|---------|
|   |        |    | Horses.                      | Cattle.        |                  | Sheep.     | Pigs.   |
|   |        |    |                              | Dairy<br>Cows. | Other<br>Cattle. |            |         |
| 1 and under   | 5      | .. | 3,034                        | 4,333          | 2,413            | 690        | 1,474   |
| 5   | 15     | .. | 8,507                        | 12,606         | 6,834            | 3,067      | 5,267   |
| 15  | 30     | .. | 11,629                       | 16,988         | 9,658            | 9,498      | 5,889   |
| 30  | 50     | .. | 11,359                       | 25,131         | 14,527           | 20,166     | 9,790   |
| 50  | 100    | .. | 27,238                       | 85,676         | 44,804           | 83,340     | 37,172  |
| 100   | 200    | .. | 47,200                       | 169,969        | 103,312          | 257,526    | 71,757  |
| 200   | 300    | .. | 34,323                       | 101,276        | 76,959           | 374,404    | 38,515  |
| 300   | 321    | .. | 18,075                       | 38,226         | 33,612           | 225,976    | 15,231  |
| 321   | 400    | .. | 21,317                       | 45,664         | 44,647           | 352,775    | 17,002  |
| 400   | 500    | .. | 25,800                       | 44,802         | 51,043           | 506,082    | 16,060  |
| 500   | 600    | .. | 22,463                       | 32,919         | 41,356           | 510,358    | 11,593  |
| 600   | 641    | .. | 26,103                       | 19,115         | 27,529           | 430,832    | 7,332   |
| 641   | 700    | .. | 12,896                       | 10,900         | 15,204           | 256,479    | 4,037   |
| 700   | 800    | .. | 21,344                       | 19,526         | 28,080           | 522,848    | 6,630   |
| 800   | 900    | .. | 15,375                       | 15,238         | 24,634           | 451,078    | 6,497   |
| 900   | 1,000  | .. | 15,063                       | 12,317         | 23,460           | 511,869    | 3,523   |
| 1,000   | 1,500  | .. | 44,641                       | 33,773         | 79,512           | 1,806,788  | 10,647  |
| 1,500   | 2,000  | .. | 18,074                       | 14,572         | 39,010           | 1,100,332  | 3,792   |
| 2,000   | 2,500  | .. | 9,434                        | 7,442          | 28,225           | 763,924    | 2,475   |
| 2,500   | 3,000  | .. | 5,063                        | 4,394          | 13,551           | 535,664    | 928     |
| 3,000   | 4,000  | .. | 6,539                        | 4,997          | 28,056           | 901,377    | 1,073   |
| 4,000   | 5,000  | .. | 2,755                        | 1,855          | 13,529           | 446,130    | 572     |
| 5,000   | 7,500  | .. | 4,636                        | 2,385          | 23,334           | 737,711    | 508     |
| 7,500   | 10,000 | .. | 2,257                        | 1,103          | 13,491           | 580,040    | 99      |
| 10,000  | 15,000 | .. | 2,520                        | 1,075          | 17,635           | 628,316    | 76      |
| 15,000  | 20,000 | .. | 824                          | 519            | 5,171            | 295,932    | 82      |
| 20,000  | 30,000 | .. | 689                          | 301            | 4,345            | 226,412    | 19      |
| 30,000  | 40,000 | .. | ..                           | ..             | ..               | ..         | ..      |
| 40,000  | 50,000 | .. | 126                          | 30             | 433              | 32,000     | 30      |
| Total on Privately-owned land .. ..                                   |        |    | 419,284                      | 727,132        | 814,364          | 12,571,614 | 278,070 |
| On Crown Land not held in conjunction with privately-owned land .. .. |        |    | 2,762                        | 3,783          | 5,508            | 51,401     | 2,031   |
| In towns and travelling .. ..   |        |    | ..                           | ..             | ..               | 26,883     | ..      |
| Grand Total .. ..   |        |    | 422,046                      | 730,915        | 819,872          | 12,649,898 | 280,101 |

The position disclosed was that 72,305 persons holding up to 1,000 acres each of private land occupied in the aggregate 16,816,355 acres of such land, as well as 2,556,852 acres of Crown land—a total of 19,373,207 acres, or 54 per cent. of the total area in occupation. Of the privately-owned land and Crown land held in conjunction therewith, these occupiers controlled 68 per cent. of the total cultivation and 50 per cent. of the pasture, and possessed 77 per cent. of the horses, 90 per cent. of the dairy cows, 67 per cent. of the other cattle, 93 per cent. of the pigs, and 36 per cent. of the sheep.

Size of holdings in 1913, 1919, and 1925.

Particulars of the size of holdings and cultivation thereon, together with the particulars of the total holdings in which only Crown land was held, are given in the following table for the years 1913, 1919, and 1925 :—

SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND CULTIVATION THEREON,  
1913, 1919, AND 1925.

| Privately-owned Land.  |       |                     |                | Crown Land held in conjunction with that privately owned. | Total Area Occupied. | Area under—  |              |
|--|-------|---------------------|----------------|---|----------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Size of Holdings.<br>(In acres.)                             | Year. | Number of Holdings. | Area Occupied. |   |                      | Cultivation. | Pasture, &c. |
|  |       |                     | acres.         | acres.  | acres.               | acres.       | acres.       |
| 1 and under 100  | 1913  | 26,113              | 915,493        | 374,511   | 1,290,004            | 245,498      | 1,044,506    |
|  | 1919  | 28,902              | 942,775        | 347,377   | 1,290,152            | 241,794      | 1,048,358    |
|  | 1925  | 31,289              | 1,063,933      | 370,024   | 1,433,957            | 291,220      | 1,142,737    |
| 100     "     321  | 1913  | 18,483              | 3,819,680      | 1,216,829   | 5,036,509            | 875,525      | 4,160,984    |
|  | 1919  | 19,930              | 3,967,377      | 840,116   | 4,807,493            | 807,434      | 4,000,059    |
|  | 1925  | 21,718              | 4,268,016      | 698,212   | 4,966,228            | 932,530      | 4,033,698    |
| 321     "     641  | 1913  | 11,212              | 5,475,942      | 1,191,890   | 6,667,832            | 1,424,020    | 5,243,812    |
|  | 1919  | 11,831              | 5,790,225      | 1,480,407   | 7,270,632            | 1,490,476    | 5,780,156    |
|  | 1925  | 12,397              | 6,013,942      | 872,005   | 6,885,947            | 1,842,798    | 5,043,149    |
| 641     "     1,000  | 1913  | 5,221               | 4,187,010      | 1,241,667   | 5,428,677            | 1,075,000    | 4,353,677    |
|  | 1919  | 5,709               | 4,523,331      | 1,071,162   | 5,594,493            | 1,105,867    | 4,488,626    |
|  | 1925  | 6,901               | 5,470,464      | 616,611   | 6,087,075            | 1,644,026    | 4,443,049    |
| 1,000     "     2,500  | 1913  | 4,544               | 6,748,985      | 1,852,529   | 8,601,514            | 1,546,611    | 7,054,903    |
|  | 1919  | 5,010               | 7,291,675      | 2,300,465   | 9,592,140            | 1,379,247    | 8,212,893    |
|  | 1925  | 5,521               | 7,958,566      | 1,345,581   | 9,304,147            | 1,836,928    | 7,467,219    |
| 2,500     "     5,000  | 1913  | 820                 | 2,803,419      | 1,085,769   | 3,889,188            | 352,258      | 3,536,930    |
|  | 1919  | 855                 | 2,825,855      | 716,245   | 3,542,100            | 270,426      | 3,271,674    |
|  | 1925  | 899                 | 2,974,753      | 741,294   | 3,716,047            | 284,495      | 3,431,552    |
| 5,000     "     10,000                                       | 1913  | 267                 | 1,825,862      | 342,848   | 2,168,710            | 111,910      | 2,056,800    |
|  | 1919  | 290                 | 1,996,606      | 378,877   | 2,375,483            | 93,014       | 2,292,469    |
|  | 1925  | 273                 | 1,868,708      | 198,969   | 2,067,677            | 90,274       | 1,977,403    |
| 10,000 and upwards   | 1913  | 151                 | 2,652,966      | 404,710   | 3,057,676            | 39,606       | 3,018,070    |
|  | 1919  | 152                 | 2,638,307      | 124,045   | 2,762,352            | 35,979       | 2,726,373    |
|  | 1925  | 104                 | 1,576,942      | 34,869  | 1,611,811            | 17,643       | 1,594,168    |
| Total of privately-owned land                                | 1913  | 66,811              | 28,429,357     | 7,710,753   | 36,140,110           | 5,670,428    | 30,469,682   |
|  | 1919  | 72,679              | 29,976,151     | 7,258,694   | 37,234,845           | 5,414,237    | 31,820,608   |
|  | 1925  | 79,102              | 31,195,324     | 4,877,565   | 36,072,889           | 6,939,914    | 29,132,975   |
| Crown Land not held in conjunction with that privately owned | 1913  | 1,892               | ..             | 1,078,688   | 1,078,688            | 36,151       | 1,042,537    |
|  | 1919  | 1,651               | ..             | 899,289   | 899,289              | 76,783       | 822,506      |
|  | 1925  | 935                 | ..             | 733,335   | 733,335              | 36,800       | 696,535      |
| Grand Total  | 1913  | 68,703              | 28,429,357     | 8,789,441   | 37,218,798           | 5,706,579    | 31,512,219   |
|  | 1919  | 74,330              | 29,976,151     | 8,157,983   | 38,134,134           | 5,491,020    | 32,643,114   |
|  | 1925  | 80,037              | 31,195,324     | 5,610,900   | 36,806,224           | 6,976,714    | 29,829,510   |

The number of holdings of privately-owned land of over 10,000 acres was 104 in 1925, as compared with 152 in 1919, 151 in 1913, 175 in 1910, and 195 in 1906, and the aggregate areas comprised therein in the corresponding years were 1,576,942 acres, 2,638,307 acres, 2,652,966 acres, 3,298,227 acres and 4,134,067 acres. The reduction in the period of nineteen years between March, 1906, and March, 1925, was equivalent to 47 per cent. in the number and 62 per cent. in the acreage of such estates. Subdivision of estates of over 10,000 acres was practically at a stand-still during the period between March, 1913, and March, 1919, but, since the latter date, such estates have declined by 32 per cent. in the number and 40 per cent. in the acreage. In all

other holdings of the sizes mentioned in the above table, excepting those between 5,000 and 10,000 acres, which declined in both numbers and acreage, between March, 1919, and March, 1925, there were increases in both numbers and acreage in the nineteen years referred to.

To illustrate the uses to which the land was applied in 1913, 1919, and 1925, various percentages relating to holdings of different sizes, of privately-owned land and Crown land held in conjunction therewith, are given for those years in the succeeding table, which also shows the live stock carried by the holdings, reduced to their equivalent in sheep:—

### SIZE OF HOLDINGS AND HOW UTILIZED, 1913, 1919, AND 1925.

| Size of Holdings of<br>Privately-owned Land.<br>(In Acres.) |              | Year.  | Percentage in each Division<br>to Total of — |                   |                            |                               |                                | Live Stock Grazed<br>reduced to equiva-<br>lent in Sheep. |  |
|---|--------------|--------|--|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
|   |              |        | Holdings.                                    | Area<br>Occupied. | Area under<br>Cultivation. | Area used for<br>Pasture, &c. | Equivalent in<br>Sheep Grazed. | Total.  | Per 100 Acres used<br>for Grazing, &c. |
| 1 and under   | 100 ..       | { 1913 | 39·08  | 3·57              | 4·33                       | 3·43                          | 7·08                           | 1,766,873   | 169                                    |
|   |              | { 1919 | 39·77  | 3·46              | 4·47                       | 3·29                          | 6·50                           | 1,909,552   | 182                                    |
|   |              | { 1925 | 39·56  | 3·97              | 4·20                       | 3·92                          | 7·97                           | 2,072,251   | 181                                    |
| 100   | ,, 321 ..    | { 1913 | 27·66  | 13·94             | 15·44                      | 13·66                         | 17·67                          | 4,410,283   | 106                                    |
|   |              | { 1919 | 27·42  | 12·91             | 14·91                      | 12·57                         | 17·40                          | 5,107,256   | 128                                    |
|   |              | { 1925 | 27·46  | 13·77             | 13·44                      | 13·85                         | 19·20                          | 4,994,010   | 124                                    |
| 321   | ,, 641 ..    | { 1913 | 16·78  | 18·45             | 25·12                      | 17·21                         | 17·14                          | 4,278,079   | 82                                     |
|   |              | { 1919 | 16·28  | 19·53             | 27·53                      | 18·17                         | 17·48                          | 5,132,920   | 89                                     |
|   |              | { 1925 | 15·67  | 19·09             | 26·55                      | 17·31                         | 17·68                          | 4,599,327   | 91                                     |
| 641   | ,, 1,000 ..  | { 1913 | 7·82   | 15·02             | 18·95                      | 14·29                         | 12·15                          | 3,031,015   | 70                                     |
|   |              | { 1919 | 7·85   | 15·03             | 20·43                      | 14·11                         | 12·37                          | 3,630,165   | 81                                     |
|   |              | { 1925 | 8·72   | 16·88             | 23·69                      | 15·25                         | 12·63                          | 3,285,208   | 74                                     |
| 1,000   | ,, 2,500 ..  | { 1913 | 6·80   | 23·80             | 27·27                      | 23·15                         | 20·34                          | 5,076,868   | 72                                     |
|   |              | { 1919 | 6·89   | 25·76             | 25·47                      | 25·81                         | 22·28                          | 6,539,378   | 80                                     |
|   |              | { 1925 | 6·98   | 25·79             | 26·47                      | 25·63                         | 21·55                          | 5,607,738   | 75                                     |
| 2,500   | ,, 5,000 ..  | { 1913 | 1·23   | 10·76             | 6·22                       | 11·61                         | 9·22                           | 2,300,276   | 65                                     |
|   |              | { 1919 | 1·18   | 9·51              | 5·00                       | 10·28                         | 8·84                           | 2,594,808   | 79                                     |
|   |              | { 1925 | 1·14   | 10·30             | 4·10                       | 11·78                         | 9·32                           | 2,425,033   | 71                                     |
| 5,000   | ,, 10,000 .. | { 1913 | ·40  | 6·00              | 1·98                       | 6·75                          | 6·95                           | 1,735,240   | 84                                     |
|   |              | { 1919 | ·40  | 6·38              | 1·53                       | 7·20                          | 6·85                           | 2,011,066   | 88                                     |
|   |              | { 1925 | ·34  | 5·73              | 1·30                       | 6·79                          | 6·26                           | 1,628,559   | 82                                     |
| 10,000 and upwards  | ..           | { 1913 | ·23  | 8·46              | ·69                        | 9·90                          | 9·45                           | 2,358,478   | 78                                     |
|   |              | { 1919 | ·21  | 7·42              | ·66                        | 8·57                          | 8·28                           | 2,431,720   | 89                                     |
|   |              | { 1925 | ·13  | 4·47              | ·25                        | 5·47                          | 5·39                           | 1,401,304   | 88                                     |
| Total   | .. ..        | { 1913 | 100·00                                       | 100·00            | 100·00                     | 100·00                        | 100·00                         | 24,957,112  | 82                                     |
|   |              | { 1919 | 100·00                                       | 100·00            | 100·00                     | 100·00                        | 100·00                         | 29,356,865  | 92                                     |
|   |              | { 1925 | 100·00                                       | 100·00            | 100·00                     | 100·00                        | 100·00                         | 26,013,430  | 89                                     |

In the above table horses and cattle have been reduced to an equivalent in sheep on the assumption that one head of the former will eat as much as ten, and one of the latter as much as six sheep. On this basis every 100 acres under pasture was carrying the equivalent of 89 sheep in 1925, as compared with 92 in 1919, 82 in 1913, and 78 in 1910. Dairying is carried on principally on the small holdings, and pigs are most numerous where dairying prevails. In 1925, 62

per cent. of the dairy cows and 67 per cent. of the pigs were on holdings of not more than 320 acres.

Persons wholly employed on privately-owned land, during the year ended 31st March, 1925, numbered 102,336 males and 33,752 females. Of these, 55,600 males and 20,122 females, or 54 per cent. and 60 per cent. respectively, were on holdings of less than 321 acres. On holdings of Crown land not held in conjunction with privately-owned land, 677 males and 202 females were employed.

The following tables show the area of, and the land in occupation, in March, 1925, in districts, and the uses to which the land was applied :—

AREA OF AND LAND IN OCCUPATION IN EACH DISTRICT OF VICTORIA, MARCH, 1925.

(Areas of 1 acre and upwards.)

| District.                                      | Area of District. | Number of Occupiers. | Acres Occupied.            |                                   |                  |                                  |            |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
|  |                   |                      | For Agricultural Purposes. | For Pasture.                      |                  | Other Purposes and Unproductive. | Total.     |
|  |                   |                      |                            | Sown Grasses, Clover, or Lucerne. | Natural Grasses. |                                  |            |
|  | acres.            |                      |                            |                                   |                  |                                  |            |
| Central ..                                     | 4,065,280         | 18,127               | 440,802                    | 186,916                           | 2,007,602        | 167,667                          | 2,802,987  |
| North-Central ..                               | 2,929,920         | 5,816                | 145,244                    | 10,596                            | 1,929,459        | 20,252                           | 2,105,551  |
| Western ..                                     | 8,775,040         | 13,194               | 366,841                    | 196,268                           | 5,754,465        | 401,154                          | 6,718,728  |
| Wimmera ..                                     | 7,394,560         | 6,646                | 1,749,743                  | 932                               | 4,058,855        | 150,392                          | 5,959,922  |
| Mallee ..                                      | 10,784,000        | 8,327                | 2,384,300                  | 11,042                            | 2,477,694        | 689,094                          | 5,562,130  |
| Northern ..                                    | 6,337,280         | 12,906               | 1,549,738                  | 92,063                            | 3,623,787        | 28,254                           | 5,293,842  |
| North-Eastern ..                               | 7,220,480         | 5,581                | 172,474                    | 5,709                             | 3,435,626        | 310,869                          | 3,924,678  |
| Gippsland ..                                   | 8,739,200         | 9,440                | 167,572                    | 440,813                           | 3,141,058        | 688,943                          | 4,438,386  |
| Total ..                                       | 56,245,760        | 80,037               | 6,976,714                  | 944,339                           | 26,428,546       | 2,456,625                        | 36,806,224 |
| PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL OCCUPIED IN EACH DISTRICT. |                   |                      |                            |                                   |                  |                                  |            |
| Central ..                                     | ..                | ..                   | 15.73                      | 6.67                              | 71.62            | 5.98                             | 100.00     |
| North-Central ..                               | ..                | ..                   | 6.90                       | 0.50                              | 91.64            | 0.96                             | 100.00     |
| Western ..                                     | ..                | ..                   | 5.46                       | 2.92                              | 85.65            | 5.97                             | 100.00     |
| Wimmera ..                                     | ..                | ..                   | 29.36                      | 0.02                              | 68.10            | 2.52                             | 100.00     |
| Mallee ..                                      | ..                | ..                   | 42.87                      | 0.20                              | 44.55            | 12.38                            | 100.00     |
| Northern ..                                    | ..                | ..                   | 29.28                      | 1.74                              | 68.45            | 0.53                             | 100.00     |
| North-Eastern ..                               | ..                | ..                   | 4.39                       | 0.15                              | 87.54            | 7.92                             | 100.00     |
| Gippsland ..                                   | ..                | ..                   | 3.78                       | 9.93                              | 70.77            | 15.52                            | 100.00     |
| Total ..                                       | ..                | ..                   | 18.95                      | 2.56                              | 71.80            | 6.69                             | 100.00     |
| PERCENTAGE IN EACH DISTRICT OF TOTAL IN STATE. |                   |                      |                            |                                   |                  |                                  |            |
| Central ..                                     | ..                | 22.65                | 6.32                       | 19.79                             | 7.60             | 6.83                             | 7.62       |
| North-Central ..                               | ..                | 7.27                 | 2.08                       | 1.12                              | 7.30             | 0.82                             | 5.72       |
| Western ..                                     | ..                | 16.49                | 5.26                       | 20.78                             | 21.77            | 16.33                            | 18.26      |
| Wimmera ..                                     | ..                | 8.30                 | 25.08                      | 0.10                              | 15.36            | 6.12                             | 16.19      |
| Mallee ..                                      | ..                | 10.40                | 34.18                      | 1.17                              | 9.37             | 28.05                            | 15.11      |
| Northern ..                                    | ..                | 16.12                | 22.21                      | 9.75                              | 13.71            | 1.15                             | 14.38      |
| North-Eastern ..                               | ..                | 6.97                 | 2.47                       | 0.61                              | 13.00            | 12.66                            | 10.66      |
| Gippsland ..                                   | ..                | 11.80                | 2.40                       | 46.68                             | 11.89            | 28.04                            | 12.06      |
| Total ..                                       | ..                | 100.00               | 100.00                     | 100.00                            | 100.00           | 100.00                           | 100.00     |

It will be seen from these tables that the largest areas under cultivation and the largest proportions of cultivation to land occupied are found in the Northern, Wimmera, and Mallee districts. Of the occupied land, 29 per cent. in the Northern, 43 per cent. in the Mallee, and 29 per cent. in the Wimmera district are devoted to agriculture, and these divisions supply 81 per cent. of the cultivation in Victoria. In the North-Central, Western, and North-Eastern districts the land occupied is largely devoted to grazing; in Gippsland considerable attention is given to the cultivation of grasses, 47 per cent. of all the sown grasses in the State being found in that district.

**Areas occupied and stock thereon, in districts.** The next table contains particulars of the distribution of horses, cattle, and sheep on agricultural and pastoral lands in March, 1925.

#### AREA OCCUPIED AND STOCK THEREON, 1925.

| District.        | Area Occupied for— |            | Number of— |           |            |
|------------------|--------------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
|                  | Agriculture.       | Pasture.   | Horses.    | Cattle.   | Sheep.     |
|                  | acres.             | acres.     |            |           |            |
| Central ..       | 440,802            | 2,194,518  | 94,593     | 267,210   | 1,002,627  |
| North-Central .. | 145,244            | 1,940,055  | 22,678     | 94,680    | 1,191,301  |
| Western ..       | 366,841            | 5,950,733  | 62,814     | 377,909   | 4,126,789  |
| Wimmera ..       | 1,749,743          | 4,059,787  | 66,141     | 50,467    | 2,126,938  |
| Mallee ..        | 2,384,300          | 2,488,736  | 63,906     | 43,273    | 668,466    |
| Northern ..      | 1,549,738          | 3,715,850  | 90,542     | 208,175   | 1,975,483  |
| North-Eastern .. | 172,474            | 3,441,335  | 31,229     | 217,025   | 866,584    |
| Gippsland ..     | 167,572            | 3,581,871  | 41,333     | 346,815   | 691,710    |
| Total ..         | 6,976,714          | 27,372,885 | 473,236    | 1,605,554 | 12,649,898 |

The area occupied does not include 2,456,625 acres which are mostly in an unproductive state. Compared with 1924, sheep increased by 14 per cent., and cattle by 1 per cent., while horses decreased by 2·6 per cent.

**Live stock in Victoria, 1921 to 1925.** The following return shows the live stock in Victoria in each of the last five years. Tables showing the stock classified in conjunction with holdings and sheep classified in different-sized flocks in March, 1925, are given on pages 551-553 of this volume.

#### LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA, 1921 to 1925.

| Live Stock.                 | 1921.      | 1922.      | 1923.      | 1924.      | 1925.      |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Horses (including foals) .. | 487,503    | 496,124    | 494,947    | 486,075    | 473,236    |
| Cattle—                     |            |            |            |            |            |
| Dairy Cows ..               | 620,005    | 719,473    | 794,898    | 738,149    | 760,207    |
| Other (including calves) .. | 955,154    | 1,030,896  | 990,762    | 853,218    | 845,347    |
| Sheep ..                    | 12,171,084 | 12,325,818 | 11,765,520 | 11,059,761 | 12,649,898 |
| Pigs ..                     | 175,275    | 230,770    | 294,962    | 259,795    | 288,509    |

Prices of  
Live Stock.

In the subjoined table will be found a statement of the average and the range of prices ruling in Melbourne during the years 1923-24 and 1924-25 for live stock. The information has been extracted from the Melbourne *Stock and Station Journal* :—

PRICES IN MELBOURNE OF LIVE STOCK, 1923-24 AND  
1924-25.

| Stock.                          | Prices in 1923-24. |         |            | Prices in 1924-25. |         |            |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------|------------|--------------------|---------|------------|
|                                 | Average.           | Range.  |            | Average.           | Range.  |            |
|                                 |                    | £ s. d. | £ s. d.    |                    | £ s. d. | £ s. d.    |
| <i>Horses.</i>                  |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra heavy draught             | 34 17 6            | 33 0 0  | to 37 0 0  | 38 19 0            | 37 0 0  | to 40 0 0  |
| Medium draught ..               | 26 7 6             | 25 10 0 | to 27 0 0  | 27 1 0             | 26 0 0  | to 28 10 0 |
| Delivery cart ..                | 18 2 6             | 17 0 0  | to 20 0 0  | 14 8 0             | 13 0 0  | to 16 0 0  |
| Indian Remounts ..              | 24 7 6             | 23 0 0  | to 26 0 0  | 22 8 0             | 22 0 0  | to 23 10 0 |
| Saddle and harness              | 5 0 0              | 4 10 0  | to 6 0 0   | 4 8 0              | 4 0 0   | to 5 0 0   |
| Ponies ..                       | 7 15 0             | 7 0 0   | to 9 0 0   | 7 3 0              | 6 10 0  | to 7 15 0  |
| Order cart ..                   | 9 10 0             | 9 0 0   | to 10 10 0 | 8 5 0              | 8 0 0   | to 9 0 0   |
| <i>Fat Cattle.</i>              |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| <i>Bullocks—</i>                |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra prime ..                  | 21 15 0            | 15 17 0 | to 33 12 0 | 15 16 0            | 14 12 0 | to 17 8 0  |
| Prime ..                        | 18 15 0            | 14 1 0  | to 28 17 6 | 14 2 0             | 13 2 6  | to 15 8 0  |
| Good ..                         | 15 8 0             | 11 19 0 | to 22 14 0 | 12 5 0             | 11 7 0  | to 13 12 0 |
| Good light and<br>handy weights | 11 12 0            | 9 7 6   | to 16 5 0  | 10 13 0            | 9 4 0   | to 11 17 6 |
| Second ..                       | 9 2 0              | 7 15 0  | to 11 15 0 | 8 15 0             | 7 15 0  | to 9 9 0   |
| <i>Cows—</i>                    |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Best ..                         | 12 2 0             | 9 12 6  | to 19 11 0 | 10 0 0             | 9 1 0   | to 11 3 0  |
| Others ..                       | 6 10 0             | 5 8 0   | to 9 19 0  | 7 16 0             | 6 15 0  | to 8 16 0  |
| <i>Dairy Cattle.</i>            |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Best milkers ..                 | 13 17 0            | 12 12 0 | to 15 14 0 | 13 18 0            | 11 7 0  | to 16 1 0  |
| Springers, best ..              | 10 10 6            | 8 15 0  | to 14 0 0  | 10 2 0             | 8 13 0  | to 12 15 0 |
| <i>Fat Sheep.</i>               |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| <i>Wethers (cross)—</i>         |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra prime ..                  | 2 6 5              | 1 14 4  | to 3 4 3   | 2 3 4              | 1 16 0  | to 2 13 2  |
| Prime ..                        | 2 2 3              | 1 11 6  | to 2 16 10 | 2 0 5              | 1 13 8  | to 2 10 0  |
| Good ..                         | 1 17 6             | 1 8 2   | to 2 8 8   | 1 16 7             | 1 9 5   | to 2 5 6   |
| <i>Ewes (cross)—</i>            |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra prime ..                  | 1 18 9             | 1 8 3   | to 2 14 2  | 1 18 1             | 1 12 7  | to 2 6 0   |
| Prime ..                        | 1 14 5             | 1 5 2   | to 2 6 1   | 1 15 4             | 1 9 10  | to 2 2 9   |
| Good ..                         | 1 9 4              | 1 1 2   | to 1 16 10 | 1 12 5             | 1 6 7   | to 1 18 4  |
| <i>Wethers (merino)—</i>        |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra prime ..                  | 2 5 4              | 1 10 2  | to 3 7 5   | 2 3 1              | 1 15 4  | to 2 11 9  |
| Prime ..                        | 2 0 7              | 1 9 2   | to 2 14 6  | 2 0 1              | 1 13 0  | to 2 8 9   |
| Good ..                         | 1 14 9             | 1 5 10  | to 2 1 0   | 1 16 5             | 1 9 1   | to 2 5 8   |
| Ewes (merino) best              | 1 13 2             | 1 4 0   | to 2 0 2   | 1 13 6             | 1 7 11  | to 2 1 9   |
| <i>Fat Lambs.</i>               |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra prime ..                  | 1 16 4             | 1 9 5   | to 2 15 1  | 1 14 11            | 1 13 2  | to 1 17 7  |
| Prime ..                        | 1 11 7             | 1 6 8   | to 1 18 11 | 1 12 2             | 1 9 5   | to 1 14 5  |
| Good ..                         | 1 7 11             | 1 3 6   | to 1 12 6  | 1 8 7              | 1 5 6   | to 1 10 11 |
| Second ..                       | 1 3 10             | 0 19 8  | to 1 9 0   | 1 4 8              | 1 1 3   | to 1 5 10  |
| <i>Pigs.</i>                    |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| <i>Back Fattens—</i>            |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra heavy prime               | 11 2 6             | 9 19 0  | to 12 7 0  | 11 5 0             | 8 16 0  | to 14 2 0  |
| Extra prime and<br>weighty ..   | 8 0 0              | 6 7 0   | to 9 7 6   | 7 14 0             | 5 13 0  | to 9 13 0  |
| <i>Baconers—</i>                |                    |         |            |                    |         |            |
| Extra prime ..                  | 6 3 0              | 5 10 0  | to 6 18 0  | 5 8 0              | 4 15 0  | to 6 0 0   |
| Prime ..                        | 5 4 0              | 4 14 0  | to 5 17 0  | 4 13 0             | 4 2 0   | to 5 7 0   |
| Porkers ..                      | 2 19 6             | 2 15 3  | to 3 5 0   | 2 16 0             | 2 10 0  | to 3 4 0   |



**Stock Slaughtered.** The following is a statement of the stock slaughtered on farms and stations, as well as in municipal abattoirs, during each of the last five years :—

### STOCK SLAUGHTERED, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    | Number Slaughtered. |         |         |
|-------|----|----|---------------------|---------|---------|
|       |    |    | Sheep and Lambs.    | Cattle. | Pigs.   |
| 1920  | .. | .. | 4,244,798           | 374,545 | 240,557 |
| 1921  | .. | .. | 4,005,587           | 331,707 | 239,638 |
| 1922  | .. | .. | 5,863,195           | 424,199 | 308,172 |
| 1923  | .. | .. | 4,078,273           | 461,958 | 373,609 |
| 1924  | .. | .. | 3,591,219           | 499,840 | 368,918 |

The purposes for which the slaughtered animals were used were as follows :—

### PURPOSES FOR WHICH STOCK WERE SLAUGHTERED, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    | For Butcher and Private Use.* |         |         | For Export. |         |       |
|-------|----|----|-------------------------------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|-------|
|       |    |    | Sheep.                        | Cattle. | Pigs.   | Sheep.      | Cattle. | Pigs. |
| 1920  | .. | .. | 1,835,419                     | 353,429 | 82,315  | 2,385,966   | 14,912  | 5,465 |
| 1921  | .. | .. | 2,794,790                     | 310,428 | 55,521  | 1,186,704   | 16,694  | 7,335 |
| 1922  | .. | .. | 3,184,411                     | 413,650 | 107,022 | 2,657,515   | 4,251   | ..    |
| 1923  | .. | .. | 3,372,722                     | 449,101 | 139,405 | 691,630     | 4,011   | ..    |
| 1924  | .. | .. | 2,548,327                     | 484,244 | 139,808 | 1,035,799   | 7,391   | ..    |

  

| Year. |    |    | For Preserving and Salting. |         |         | For Boiling Down. |         |       |
|-------|----|----|-----------------------------|---------|---------|-------------------|---------|-------|
|       |    |    | Sheep.                      | Cattle. | Pigs.   | Sheep.            | Cattle. | Pigs. |
| 1920  | .. | .. | 2,067                       | 1,133   | 152,556 | 21,346            | 5,071   | 221   |
| 1921  | .. | .. | 20,622                      | 2,740   | 176,451 | 3,471             | 1,845   | 331   |
| 1922  | .. | .. | 9,763                       | 2,955   | 200,901 | 11,506            | 3,343   | 249   |
| 1923  | .. | .. | 2,632                       | 2,519   | 232,914 | 11,289            | 6,327   | 290   |
| 1924  | .. | .. | 4,452                       | 4,323   | 228,869 | 2,641             | 3,882   | 241   |

\* Including carcasses held in Cool Stores at end of year.

Of the 3,591,219 sheep and lambs slaughtered in Victoria in 1924, 1,035,799, or 29 per cent., were frozen, as compared with 691,630, or 17 per cent., in 1923, and 2,657,515, or 45 per cent., in 1922. In 1924-25 the oversea exports included 33,448,426 lbs. of mutton and lamb, valued at £1,000,765.

**Mutton and  
Lamb frozen  
for Export.**

The soil and climate of Victoria are well suited to the economical production of both mutton and lamb, and, as there is practically no limit to the demand for these products in Europe, the possibilities for those engaged in raising sheep for export are very great, especially as the number of sheep in the world is not keeping pace with the increase in population. The importance of this export trade to Victorian sheep owners is evidenced by the figures in the appended statement showing the numbers of carcasses exported in each of the last eleven years. In the four years 1915-16 to 1918-19 the quantity exported was small in comparison with earlier years. The chief reasons for this were, in 1915-16, a drought in the preceding year, and, in the three following years, the lack of shipping space. In the year 1919-20 the exports were much greater than in any previous year, due mainly to the accumulations of the previous three years. The quantities exported in 1920-21 were below the average, owing to the dry condition which had prevailed in the previous year. After a world-wide fall in values, the season 1922-23 was marked by exceptionally heavy exports of both mutton and lamb at improved prices. In the 1923-24 season the export of mutton practically ceased, while the number of lambs exported was only about 40 per cent. of that for the previous year. The abnormal activity in 1922-23 was, to some extent, responsible for the great reduction in exports in 1923-24. Other reasons were a tendency among owners to retain their flocks in expectation of high prices for wool, and the demand for breeding ewes from New South Wales, where a drought had depleted the flocks. Compared with the previous season a slight improvement was manifested in 1924-25.

### FROZEN MUTTON AND LAMB EXPORTED.

| Year (ended June). | Number of Carcasses Exported. |           |           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
|                    | Mutton.                       | Lamb.     | Total.    |
| 1914-15 .. ..      | 653,329                       | 1,056,823 | 1,710,152 |
| 1915-16 .. ..      | ..                            | 47,546    | 47,546    |
| 1916-17 .. ..      | 52,724                        | 365,694   | 418,418   |
| 1917-18 .. ..      | 66,730                        | 129,537   | 196,267   |
| 1918-19 .. ..      | 401,382                       | 267,588   | 668,970   |
| 1919-20 .. ..      | 2,468,090                     | 1,533,410 | 4,001,500 |
| 1920-21 .. ..      | 288,190                       | 497,896   | 786,086   |
| 1921-22 .. ..      | 314,564                       | 872,140   | 1,186,704 |
| 1922-23 .. ..      | 989,456                       | 1,668,059 | 2,657,515 |
| 1923-24 .. ..      | 12,945                        | 678,685   | 691,630   |
| 1924-25 .. ..      | 87,767                        | 948,032   | 1,035,799 |

**Dairying.** The dairying industry is one of the principal sources of the wealth of the community. The value of dairy produce in 1925 was £10,381,175, as compared with £10,561,940 in 1924, £10,381,310 in 1923, £9,512,980 in 1922, and £11,816,670 in 1921. The following table shows the numbers of cowkeepers and cows at the end of, and the total production of butter and cheese, in each of the last five years :—

DAIRYING, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year ended March— |    |    | Number of Cow-keepers. | Number of Dairy Cows. | Butter made.* | Cheese made.* |
|-------------------|----|----|------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|
|                   |    |    |                        |                       | lbs.          | lbs.          |
| 1921              | .. | .. | 58,117                 | 620,005               | 64,938,458    | 3,636,571     |
| 1922              | .. | .. | 60,882                 | 719,473               | 82,981,570    | 5,675,909     |
| 1923              | .. | .. | 62,424                 | 794,898               | 84,355,939    | 3,754,958     |
| 1924              | .. | .. | 61,685                 | 738,149               | 86,888,723    | 7,216,938     |
| 1925              | .. | .. | 61,549                 | 760,207               | 100,849,382   | 6,193,135     |

\* Year ended 30th June.

**Dairy Cow's Record.** An interesting example of the possibilities of dairying and of the value of selective breeding, combined with scientific feeding, is furnished by the following authenticated record (supplied by the Department of Agriculture, Victoria), over a period of three years, of a Jersey cow.

Jersey cow, born 27th August, 1919.

| Calved.              | Days in Milk. | Total Milk. | Average Test. | Total Butter-fat. | Milk Yield on last day of Test. |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|
|                      |               | lbs.        | per cent.     | lbs.              | lbs.                            |
| 22nd September, 1921 | 273           | 6,827       | 5·08          | 347               | 19½                             |
| 8th February, 1923   | 273           | 11,185      | 5·16          | 578               | 40½                             |
| 25th March, 1924 ..  | 273           | 15,799      | 5·34          | 843½              | 42                              |

|  | £  | s. | d. |
|--|----|----|----|
| • 1924.—15,799 lbs. of milk=843½ lbs. of butter-fat at 1s. 5d. | 59 | 14 | 7  |
| 1,495 gallons of skim milk at 2d. .. ..                        | 12 | 9  | 2  |
| Total return (excluding value of offspring) ..                 | 72 | 3  | 9  |
| Cost of feeding (including grazing) .. ..                      | 21 | 16 | 6  |
| Credit balance for nine months .. ..                           | 50 | 7  | 3  |

Butter and  
cheese made  
on farms.

The next table shows the quantities of butter and cheese made on farms in the last five years :—

BUTTER AND CHEESE MADE ON FARMS, 1920-21 to  
1924-25.

| Year ended June— |    |    |    |    | Butter.   | Cheese. |
|------------------|----|----|----|----|-----------|---------|
|                  |    |    |    |    | lbs.      | lbs.    |
| 1921             | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,086,723 | 492,952 |
| 1922             | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,480,421 | 316,249 |
| 1923             | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,582,469 | 418,873 |
| 1924             | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,597,128 | 420,552 |
| 1925             | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,395,087 | 228,779 |

Butter and  
cheese made  
in factories.

The quantities of butter, cheese, and concentrated, condensed, and powdered milk made, and of cream sold, in factories during the last five years were as follows :—

BUTTER, CHEESE, ETC., MADE IN FACTORIES, 1920-21 to  
1924-25.

| Year<br>ended<br>June— | Butter made. | Cream sold. | Cheese made. | Concentrated,<br>Condensed,<br>and<br>Powdered Milk<br>made. | Casein.   | Milk Sugar. |
|------------------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--|-----------|-------------|
|                        | lbs.         | gallons.    | lbs.         | lbs.   | lbs.      | lbs.        |
| 1921                   | 59,851,735   | 153,124     | 3,143,619    | 42,643,871   | 1,873,815 | 338,592     |
| 1922                   | 77,501,149   | 160,490     | 5,359,660    | 48,354,210   | 2,022,192 | 276,786     |
| 1923                   | 78,773,470   | 213,170     | 3,336,085    | 38,314,261   | 2,639,240 | 410,155     |
| 1924                   | 81,291,595   | 373,236     | 6,796,386    | 49,099,632   | 2,946,346 | 445,430     |
| 1925                   | 95,454,295   | 495,458     | 5,964,356    | 45,693,120   | 2,716,042 | 415,753     |

The quantities of milk, in gallons, received at factories and creameries were 154,042,550 in 1920-21, 193,507,110 in 1921-22, 196,171,380 in 1922-23, 206,915,177 in 1923-24, and 294,764,870 in 1924-25.

**Exports of  
butter and  
cheese.**

In 1924-25 there were exported from Victoria to countries outside Australia 53,731,160 lbs. of butter, valued at £4,051,632, all of which was Australian produce. The quantity sent to the United Kingdom was 45,943,632 lbs., valued at £3,442,588. The quantity of cheese exported to overseas countries was 1,785,613 lbs., and the value thereof, £65,130.

**Wool  
production.**

Information relating to the wool clip is obtained direct from the growers, and an allowance is made for the wool on Victorian skins, both stripped and exported. On this basis the production of wool in 1924-25 and earlier seasons was as follows :—

### VICTORIAN WOOL CLIP AND ESTIMATED TOTAL PRODUCTION.

| District.   |    | Wool Clip, 1924-25. |             |            |             |
|---|----|---------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
|   |    | Sheep.              | Lambs.      | Total.     |             |
|   |    | lbs.                | lbs.        | lbs.       |             |
| Central .. ..   | .. | 5,854,579           | 519,743     | 6,374,322  |             |
| North-Central ..  | .. | 7,836,866           | 692,757     | 8,529,623  |             |
| Western .. ..   | .. | 29,583,240          | 2,192,774   | 31,776,014 |             |
| Wimmera .. ..   | .. | 15,338,852          | 1,108,816   | 16,447,668 |             |
| Mallee .. ..  | .. | 4,308,292           | 290,483     | 4,598,775  |             |
| Northern .. ..  | .. | 12,024,672          | 1,190,470   | 13,215,142 |             |
| North-Eastern ..  | .. | 5,072,096           | 496,822     | 5,568,918  |             |
| Gippsland .. ..   | .. | 3,914,102           | 327,299     | 4,241,401  |             |
| Total Clip {  |    | 1924-25             | 83,932,699  | 6,819,164  | 90,751,863  |
|   |    | 1923-24             | 63,806,820  | 3,519,735  | 67,326,555  |
|   |    | 1922-23             | 71,088,919  | 5,105,031  | 76,193,950  |
|   |    | 1921-22             | 72,829,509  | 5,365,837  | 78,195,346  |
|   |    | 1920-21             | 67,617,476  | 3,532,465  | 71,149,941  |
| —   |    | 1921-22.            | 1922-23.    | 1923-24.   | 1924-25.    |
|   |    | lbs.                | lbs.        | lbs.       | lbs.        |
| Wool clip .. ..   | .. | 78,195,346          | 76,193,950  | 67,326,555 | 90,751,863  |
| Wool stripped from Victorian skins and on Victorian skins exported (estimated) .. | .. | 25,317,431          | 26,274,000  | 15,186,806 | 16,036,034  |
| Total production ..   | .. | 103,512,777         | 102,467,950 | 82,513,361 | 106,787,897 |
| Total value ..  | .. | £4,662,750          | £6,380,600  | £7,695,000 | £11,444,240 |

In 1924-25 there were 9,803,371 sheep and 2,790,054 lambs shorn, as compared with 9,463,675 sheep and 1,614,147 lambs in 1923-24, 9,920,239 sheep and 2,278,303 lambs in 1922-23, 10,072,358 sheep and 2,471,431 lambs in 1921-22, and 10,595,458 sheep and 1,725,305 lambs in 1920-21.

Weight of  
a fleece.

The next table shows the production of wool per sheep and per lamb shorn in each of the last five years :—

WEIGHT OF A FLEECE, 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Year.           | Weight of a Fleece. |        |                           |
|-----------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------------|
|                 | Sheep.              | Lambs. | Sheep and Lambs combined. |
|                 | lbs.                | lbs.   | lbs.                      |
| 1920-21 .. .. . | 6·38                | 2·05   | 5·77                      |
| 1921-22 .. .. . | 7·23                | 2·17   | 6·23                      |
| 1922-23 .. .. . | 7·17                | 2·25   | 6·25                      |
| 1923-24 .. .. . | 6·74                | 2·18   | 6·08                      |
| 1924-25 .. .. . | 8·56                | 2·44   | 7·21                      |

The production of wool in Victoria, the quantity and value of that used locally for manufacturing purposes, and the balance available for export, in each of the last five years, were as follows :—

WOOL PRODUCTION : HOME CONSUMPTION AND EXPORTABLE BALANCE; 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Production. |            | Used in Manufactures. |           | Available for Export. |           |
|---------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|
|         | Quantity.   | Value.     | Quantity.             | Value.    | Quantity.             | Value.    |
|         | lbs.        | £          | lbs.                  | £         | lbs.                  | £         |
| 1920-21 | 90,250,571  | 4,729,400  | 12,799,590            | 639,980   | 77,450,981            | 4,089,420 |
| 1921-22 | 103,512,777 | 4,662,750  | 13,293,010            | 553,875   | 90,219,767            | 4,108,875 |
| 1922-23 | 102,467,950 | 6,380,600  | 15,926,225            | 995,389   | 86,541,725            | 5,385,211 |
| 1923-24 | 82,513,361  | 7,695,000  | 13,068,648            | 1,218,500 | 69,444,713            | 6,476,500 |
| 1924-25 | 106,787,897 | 11,444,240 | 14,420,497            | 1,644,500 | 92,367,400            | 9,799,740 |

The following information as to the average prices of wool per lb. which have prevailed during the last three seasons has been obtained from Melbourne wool brokers :—

## PRICES OF WOOL, 1922-23 to 1924-25.

| Class of Wool.                       | Average Price per lb. in— |              |              |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
|                                      | 1922-23.                  | 1923-24.     | 1924-25.     |
| <b>GREASY MERINO.</b>                |                           |              |              |
| Extra Super (Western District)       | 34d. to 36d.              | 43d. to 44d. | 38d. to 41d. |
| Super .. ..                          | 27d. to 30d.              | 34d. to 38d. | 31d. to 34d. |
| Good .. ..                           | 23d. to 25d.              | 27d. to 28d. | 25d. to 27d. |
| Average .. ..                        | 18d. to 20d.              | 24d. to 26d. | 22d. to 24d. |
| Wasty and Inferior .. ..             | 14d. to 16d.              | 19d. to 21d. | 16d. to 18d. |
| Extra Super Lambs .. ..              | 28d. to 30d.              | 32d. to 34d. | 28d. to 30d. |
| Super Lambs .. ..                    | 20d. to 22d.              | 24d. to 27d. | 21d. to 23d. |
| Good Lambs .. ..                     | 16d. to 17d.              | 18d. to 20d. | 16d. to 18d. |
| Average Lambs .. ..                  | 13d. to 14d.              | 15d. to 18d. | 13d. to 15d. |
| Inferior Lambs .. ..                 | 6d. to 9d.                | 10d. to 12d. | 7d. to 10d.  |
| <b>GREASY CROSSBRED.</b>             |                           |              |              |
| Extra Super Comebacks .. ..          | 29d. to 31d.              | 37d. to 40d. | 32d. to 34d. |
| Super Comebacks .. ..                | 24d. to 26d.              | 30d. to 34d. | 27d. to 30d. |
| Fine Crossbred .. ..                 | 18d. to 20d.              | 24d. to 26d. | 21d. to 23d. |
| Medium Crossbred .. ..               | 14d. to 16d.              | 18d. to 19d. | 17d. to 18d. |
| Coarse Crossbred and Lincoln .. ..   | 7d. to 9d.                | 11d. to 13d. | 12d. to 14d. |
| Super Fine Crossbred Lambs .. ..     | 20d. to 22d.              | 22d. to 24d. | 20d. to 22d. |
| Good Crossbred Lambs .. ..           | 12d. to 14d.              | 16d. to 18d. | 15d. to 17d. |
| Coarse and Lincoln Lambs .. ..       | 8d. to 10d.               | 10d. to 12d. | 11d. to 13d. |
| <b>SCOURED.</b>                      |                           |              |              |
| Extra Super Fleece .. ..             | 46d. to 50d.              | 58d. to 62d. | 50d. to 54d. |
| Super Fleece .. ..                   | 40d. to 44d.              | 54d. to 56d. | 45d. to 47d. |
| Good Fleece .. ..                    | 32d. to 36d.              | 46d. to 50d. | 38d. to 40d. |
| Average Fleece .. ..                 | 24d. to 26d.              | 36d. to 44d. | 29d. to 34d. |
| <b>RECORD PRICES FOR THE SEASON.</b> |                           |              |              |
| Greasy Merino Fleece .. ..           | 40½d.                     | 46½d.        | 53½d.        |
| „ Comeback Fleece .. ..              | 38½d.                     | 42½d.        | 50½d.        |
| „ Merino Lambs .. ..                 | 41½d.                     | 43½d.        | 48½d.        |
| „ Comeback Lambs .. ..               | 28d.                      | 37d.         | 41½d.        |
| Scoured Fleece .. ..                 | 57½d.                     | 64d.         | 61d.         |

Flocks of  
sheep in  
districts.

Returns which were collected in March, 1925, give full information in regard to the flocks of sheep in Victoria. The numbers of flocks and of sheep at that time in the different districts were as follows :—

NUMBERS OF FLOCKS AND OF SHEEP IN DISTRICTS, 1925.

| District.           | Number of— |            | Average<br>Number<br>of Sheep<br>to a<br>Flock. | Percentage of— |        |
|---------------------|------------|------------|---|----------------|--------|
|                     | Flocks.    | Sheep.     |   | Flocks.        | Sheep. |
| Central .. ..       | 2,291      | 990,194    | 432   | 9·66           | 7·84   |
| North-Central .. .. | 2,098      | 1,190,606  | 567   | 8·84           | 9·43   |
| Western .. ..       | 5,003      | 4,122,779  | 824   | 21·08          | 32·66  |
| Wimmera .. ..       | 4,220      | 2,125,327  | 504   | 17·78          | 16·84  |
| Mallee .. ..        | 1,849      | 665,674    | 360   | 7·79           | 5·27   |
| Northern .. ..      | 4,647      | 1,971,660  | 424   | 19·58          | 15·62  |
| North-Eastern .. .. | 2,073      | 865,435    | 417   | 8·74           | 6·86   |
| Gippsland .. ..     | 1,550      | 691,340    | 446   | 6·53           | 5·48   |
| Total .. ..         | 23,731     | 12,623,015 | 532   | 100·00         | 100·00 |

The figures do not include 26,883 sheep which were travelling on roads or were located in cities and towns. Flocks were fewer in number in all districts, except the Mallee, in 1925 than in 1919. In the six years referred to the number of flocks decreased by 93 in the Central, 336 in the North-Central, 1,077 in the Western, 62 in the Wimmera, 639 in the Northern, 376 in the North-Eastern, and 1,359 in the Gippsland district, and increased by 335 in the Mallee, the total decrease for the State being 4,607, or 16 per cent. The average number of sheep to a flock showed a very marked decrease in the Mallee, and decreases less pronounced in the Wimmera, Northern, North-Eastern, and Gippsland districts, while in the Central, North-Central, and Western districts there were slight increases. The average number of sheep in a flock was 532 in 1925, as compared with 555 in 1919, 477 in 1917,



478 in 1913, 531 in 1910, 642 in 1908, and 706 in 1906. The number of sheep in the State decreased from 15,773,902 in 1919 to 12,649,898 in 1925. All divisions of the State showed substantial decreases during the six years under review.

Sizes of  
flocks.

Excluding sheep travelling and those in cities and towns, the following table contains a classification for the whole State of sheep according to sizes of flocks :—

### SHEEP ACCORDING TO SIZES OF FLOCKS, 1925.

| Size of Flocks.        | Number of— |            | Percentage of— |        |
|------------------------|------------|------------|----------------|--------|
|                        | Flocks.    | Sheep.     | Flocks.        | Sheep. |
| Under 500 .. ..        | 17,187     | 2,939,575  | 72·42          | 23·29  |
| 500 and under 1,000 .. | 3,692      | 2,519,857  | 15·56          | 19·96  |
| 1,000 „ 2,000 ..       | 1,725      | 2,317,968  | 7·27           | 18·36  |
| 2,000 „ 5,000 ..       | 851        | 2,428,522  | 3·59           | 19·24  |
| 5,000 „ 10,000 ..      | 207        | 1,399,428  | ·87            | 11·09  |
| 10,000 „ 20,000 ..     | 62         | 824,643    | ·26            | 6·53   |
| 20,000 and upwards ..  | 7          | 193,022    | ·03            | 1·53   |
| Total .. ..            | 23,731     | 12,623,015 | 100·00         | 100·00 |

A comparison of the above figures with those for 1919 shows that flocks of less than 500 sheep had decreased by 3,243, those of 500 to 1,000 by 647, 1,000 to 2,000 by 508, 2,000 to 5,000 by 104, 5,000 to 10,000 by 40, 10,000 to 20,000 by 49, and those of over 20,000 by 16. The decrease in the number of sheep in the whole State in the same period was 20 per cent. Six of the 7 largest, 42 of the 62 second largest flocks, and 130 of the 207 flocks of between 5,000 to 10,000 sheep in 1925 were in the Western District.

Areas of holdings and numbers and sizes of flocks of sheep.

The numbers and sizes of flocks of sheep on holdings of various areas, including those on Crown land not held conjointly with that privately owned, in March, 1925, are given in the next table. Although only 6,969 flocks, or 29 per cent. of the total number, were depastured on holdings of 900 acres and over, these accounted for 8,607,471 sheep, or 68 per cent. of the total.

# AREAS OF HOLDINGS AND NUMBERS AND SIZES OF FLOCKS THEREON, 1925.

| Area of Holdings.<br>(Acres). |     | Number and Size of Flocks. |                  |                      |                  |                        |                  |                        |                  |                         |                  |                          |                  |                     |                  | Total.            |                  |
|-------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|------------------|----------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                               |     | Under 500.                 |                  | 500 and under 1,000. |                  | 1,000 and under 2,000. |                  | 2,000 and under 5,000. |                  | 5,000 and under 10,000. |                  | 10,000 and under 20,000. |                  | 20,000 and upwards. |                  |                   |                  |
|                               |     | Number of Flocks.          | Number of Sheep. | Number of Flocks.    | Number of Sheep. | Number of Flocks.      | Number of Sheep. | Number of Flocks.      | Number of Sheep. | Number of Flocks.       | Number of Sheep. | Number of Flocks.        | Number of Sheep. | Number of Flocks.   | Number of Sheep. | Number of Flocks. | Number of Sheep. |
| 1 and under                   | 200 | 3,663                      | 298,499          | 69                   | 43,539           | 14                     | 17,657           | 3                      | 7,781            | 1                       | 7,800            | ..                       | ..               | ..                  | ..               | 3,750             | 375,276          |
| 200                           | 321 | 3,162                      | 457,305          | 161                  | 101,294          | 25                     | 30,769           | 5                      | 13,022           | ..                      | ..               | ..                       | ..               | ..                  | ..               | 3,353             | 602,390          |
| 321                           | "   | 3,111                      | 574,331          | 326                  | 209,522          | 38                     | 45,313           | 4                      | 9,820            | 1                       | 7,160            | 1                        | 13,102           | ..                  | ..               | 3,481             | 859,248          |
| 500                           | 641 | 2,526                      | 496,909          | 507                  | 330,298          | 70                     | 86,091           | 12                     | 32,507           | ..                      | ..               | ..                       | ..               | ..                  | ..               | 3,115             | 945,805          |
| 641                           | "   | 2,108                      | 466,885          | 787                  | 530,157          | 152                    | 188,145          | 14                     | 36,168           | 2                       | 11,470           | ..                       | ..               | ..                  | ..               | 3,063             | 1,232,825        |
| 900                           | "   | 2,049                      | 494,290          | 1,242                | 867,638          | 578                    | 746,369          | 82                     | 201,935          | 3                       | 18,061           | ..                       | ..               | ..                  | ..               | 3,954             | 2,328,293        |
| 1,500                         | "   | 479                        | 125,962          | 487                  | 356,025          | 584                    | 809,394          | 214                    | 547,658          | 6                       | 38,791           | ..                       | ..               | ..                  | ..               | 1,770             | 1,877,830        |
| 2,500                         | "   | 79                         | 22,459           | 106                  | 76,677           | 236                    | 352,652          | 405                    | 1,204,758        | 33                      | 192,386          | 1                        | 10,063           | 1                   | 29,000           | 861               | 1,887,995        |
| 5,000                         | "   | 10                         | 2,935            | 6                    | 4,207            | 26                     | 39,508           | 106                    | 354,864          | 120                     | 802,244          | 11                       | 125,435          | ..                  | ..               | 279               | 1,329,193        |
| 10,000 and upwards            | ..  | ..                         | ..               | 1                    | 500              | 2                      | 2,070            | 6                      | 20,009           | 41                      | 321,516          | 49                       | 676,043          | 6                   | 164,022          | 105               | 1,184,160        |
| Total                         | ..  | 17,187                     | 2,939,575        | 3,692                | 2,519,857        | 1,725                  | 2,317,968        | 851                    | 2,428,522        | 207                     | 1,399,428        | 62                       | 824,643          | 7                   | 193,022          | 23,731            | 12,623,015       |

NOTE.—Where Crown land is held in conjunction with privately-owned land, the holding is classified according to the area privately owned.

Production.

Live Stock  
in Australia  
and  
New Zealand.

In the following statement are given the numbers of horses, cattle, sheep and pigs in the various Australian States and New Zealand, according to returns dated June, 1924, for the Federal Capital Territory; June, 1925, for New South Wales; March, 1925, for Victoria and Tasmania; January, 1925, for Queensland and New Zealand; and December, 1924, for South Australia, Western Australia, and the Northern Territory:—

### LIVE STOCK IN AUSTRALASIA.

| State, &c.                      | Horses. | Cattle.     |           | Sheep.     | Pigs.   |
|---------------------------------|---------|-------------|-----------|------------|---------|
|                                 |         | Dairy Cows. | Other.    |            |         |
| Victoria .. ..                  | 473,236 | 760,207     | 845,347   | 12,649,898 | 288,509 |
| New South Wales ..              | 647,503 | 982,850     | 1,893,404 | 42,925,177 | 339,669 |
| Federal Capital Territory .. .. | 1,433   | 6,085       |           | 132,400    | 434     |
| Queensland .. ..                | 660,093 | 584,886     | 5,869,767 | 19,028,252 | 156,163 |
| South Australia ..              | 255,022 | 163,407     | 237,016   | 6,359,240  | 80,988  |
| Northern Territory              | 44,420  | 851,351     |           | 6,194      | 609     |
| Western Australia ..            | 175,116 | 60,882      | 830,682   | 6,396,564  | 66,375  |
| Tasmania .. ..                  | 37,091  | 70,073      | 155,667   | 1,614,085  | 47,305  |
| New Zealand .. ..               | 326,830 | 1,323,432   | 2,180,312 | 24,547,955 | 440,115 |

#### Bee-keeping.

The returns for 1924-25 show that there were in that year 3,483 bee-keepers, who owned 63,515 frame and 8,403 box hives, producing 3,951,439 lbs. and 103,536 lbs. of honey respectively, and 47,117 lbs. of beeswax. The number of bee-keepers owning 20 hives and upwards was 785, as compared with 668 in the previous season. In 1924-25, the quantity of honey produced in the Wimmera district was 1,257,850 lbs., in the North-Eastern district, 861,386 lbs., and in the Northern district, 841,057 lbs. The more important particulars of the industry for the last five years are given below.

### BEE-KEEPING, 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Season ended May— |  |  | Number of<br>Bee-keepers. | Number of<br>Hives. | Honey<br>produced. | Beeswax<br>produced. |
|-------------------|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
|                   |  |  |                           |                     | lbs.               | lbs.                 |
| 1921 .. ..        |  |  | 3,408                     | 37,075              | 1,724,942          | 24,222               |
| 1922 .. ..        |  |  | 4,046                     | 50,147              | 2,712,675          | 32,737               |
| 1923 .. ..        |  |  | 3,756                     | 52,060              | 2,285,000          | 27,182               |
| 1924 .. ..        |  |  | 3,535                     | 60,760              | 2,110,713          | 25,371               |
| 1925 .. ..        |  |  | 3,483                     | 71,918              | 4,054,975          | 47,117               |

Active operations for the destruction of rabbits, &c., on Crown lands were first undertaken by the Government in 1880, and from that date to 30th June, 1925, sums amounting to £1,136,207 had been expended in connexion therewith, including subsidies to Shire Councils for the destruction of wild animals. The following are the amounts spent since 1879 :—

## EXPENDITURE ON DESTRUCTION OF RABBITS, ETC.

|                        | £       |            | £      |
|------------------------|---------|------------|--------|
| 1879-80 to 1888-9 ..   | 142,963 | 1920-21 .. | 36,158 |
| 1889-90 to 1898-9 ..   | 208,638 | 1921-22 .. | 40,766 |
| 1899-1900 to 1908-9 .. | 170,050 | 1922-23 .. | 47,410 |
| 1909-10 to 1918-19 ..  | 283,693 | 1923-24 .. | 85,489 |
| 1919-20 ..             | 36,672  | 1924-25 .. | 84,368 |

In addition to the expenditure of £1,136,207 referred to above, sums have frequently been advanced from Loan Funds for the purchase of wire netting for supply to municipalities and land owners. The amounts of these advances in the last five years were as follows :—£44,380 in 1920-21, £15,447 in 1921-22, £23,731 in 1922-23, £26,275 in 1923-24, and £32,399 in 1924-25. A complete system, administered by an officer called the Chief Inspector under the Vermin Destruction Act, exists for effectually keeping the rabbits under control.

The quantity of rabbits, hares, and wild-fowl sold at the Melbourne Fish Market in each of the last five years was as shown in the following statement :—

## RABBITS, HARES, AND WILD-FOWL SOLD AT THE MELBOURNE FISH MARKET, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year ended June. | Rabbits. | Hares. | Wild-fowl. |
|------------------|----------|--------|------------|
|                  | pairs.   | brace. | brace.     |
| 1920-21 .. .. .  | 405,564  | 40     | 7,158      |
| 1921-22 .. .. .  | 429,372  | 8      | 21,708     |
| 1922-23 .. .. .  | 431,196  | 21     | 16,428     |
| 1923-24 .. .. .  | 448,656  | 42     | 8,148      |
| 1924-25 .. .. .  | 937,704  | 74     | 11,640     |

Large quantities of frozen rabbits and hares and of rabbit and hare skins have been exported to overseas countries, the numbers and values for each of the last five years being as follows :—

## RABBITS AND HARES AND RABBIT AND HARE SKINS EXPORTED OVERSEA, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year ended June. | Frozen Rabbits and Hares. |         | Rabbit and Hare Skins. |         |
|------------------|---------------------------|---------|------------------------|---------|
|                  | Quantity.                 | Value.  | Quantity.              | Value.  |
|                  | pairs.                    | £       | lbs.                   | £       |
| 1920-21 .. .. .  | 1,094,689                 | 131,130 | 1,893,827              | 326,681 |
| 1921-22 .. .. .  | 454,052                   | 35,385  | 2,623,228              | 201,921 |
| 1922-23 .. .. .  | 141,312                   | 10,176  | 2,140,915              | 237,853 |
| 1923-24 .. .. .  | 80,499                    | 8,477   | 2,073,613              | 282,266 |
| 1924-25 .. .. .  | 54,174                    | 5,196   | 2,020,070              | 349,956 |

## FISHERIES.

The numbers of men and boats engaged in the fishing industry at the different fishing stations throughout the State are given in the following table for the year 1924-25:—

## VICTORIAN FISHERIES—MEN AND BOATS EMPLOYED, 1924-25.

| Fishing Stations.  | Number of Men. | Boats.  |        | Value of Nets and other Plant. |
|--|----------------|---------|--------|--------------------------------|
|  |                | Number. | Value. |                                |
| Anderson's Inlet .. .. .   | 11             | 7       | £ 365  | £ 160                          |
| Anglesea River .. .. .   | 2              | 2       | 40     | 25                             |
| Barwon Heads and Ocean Grove ..  | 9              | 5       | 850    | 115                            |
| Brighton .. .. .   | 6              | 5       | 98     | 94                             |
| Corner Inlet, Welshpool, Toora, and Port Franklin .. .. .                    | 79             | 56      | 6,987  | 2,623                          |
| Dromana .. .. .  | 36             | 24      | 1,275  | 450                            |
| Frankston .. .. .  | 10             | 10      | 244    | 278                            |
| Geelong .. .. .  | 55             | 29      | 3,008  | 974                            |
| Gippsland Lakes .. .. .  | 208            | 146     | 13,509 | 5,306                          |
| Kerang .. .. .   | 3              | 3       | 31     | 75                             |
| Lake Boga .. .. .  | 3              | 3       | 30     | 36                             |
| Lorne .. .. .  | 2              | 1       | 50     | 100                            |
| Lindsay R. .. .. .   | 9              | 8       | 76     | 185                            |
| Mallacoota .. .. .   | 5              | 3       | 225    | 97                             |
| Mentone .. .. .  | 17             | 11      | 642    | 167                            |
| Mordialloc, Chelsea, and Carrum ..   | 54             | 43      | 2,152  | 544                            |
| Mornington .. .. .   | 47             | 32      | 2,200  | 658                            |
| Portarlington and St. Leonards ..  | 91             | 57      | 4,092  | 1,668                          |
| Portland .. .. .   | 49             | 31      | 4,123  | 522                            |
| Port Albert .. .. .  | 57             | 37      | 3,850  | 1,201                          |
| Port Campbell .. .. .  | 2              | 2       | 120    | 25                             |
| Port Fairy .. .. .   | 44             | 30      | 5,850  | 372                            |
| Port Melbourne .. .. .   | 47             | 31      | 3,261  | 487                            |
| Queenscliff .. .. .  | 123            | 67      | 14,302 | 859                            |
| Rainbow .. .. .  | 3              | 3       | 60     | 20                             |
| Sandringham .. .. .  | 54             | 32      | 3,458  | 442                            |
| Sorrento, Portsea, and Rye .. ..   | 50             | 30      | 2,659  | 565                            |
| St. Kilda .. .. .  | 16             | 10      | 328    | 154                            |
| Torquay .. .. .  | 6              | 3       | 60     | 65                             |
| Warrnambool .. .. .  | 9              | 8       | 520    | 66                             |
| Werribee .. .. .   | 8              | 5       | 320    | 177                            |
| Waranga Basin .. .. .  | 10             | 8       | 94     | 92                             |
| Western Port (Cowes, Hastings, Grantville, Flinders, San Remo, and Tooradin) | 109            | 89      | 10,450 | 2,115                          |
| Williamstown .. .. .   | 29             | 23      | 1,689  | 666                            |
| Wonthaggi .. .. .  | 4              | 3       | 232    | 25                             |
| Total .. .. .  | 1,267          | 857     | 87,250 | 21,408                         |

**Melbourne Fish Market.** The quantities and values of fish sold in the Melbourne Fish Market during each of the years 1923-24 and 1924-25 were as shown in the next table.

FISH SOLD IN THE MELBOURNE FISH MARKET,  
1923-24 AND 1924-25.

|                                 |      | 1923-24.  |           | 1924-25.  |           |
|---------------------------------|------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                 |      | Quantity. | Value.    | Quantity. | Value.    |
| Fresh Fish (Victorian)          | lbs. | 8,174,520 | £ 133,517 | 9,326,775 | £ 133,295 |
| Crayfish .. ..                  | doz. | 33,105    | 29,795    | 46,414    | 41,773    |
| Imported Fish (fresh or frozen) | lbs. | 3,382,348 | 84,558    | 3,080,818 | 77,020    |
| Oysters .. ..                   | bags | 9,803     | 37,606    | 12,022    | 43,886    |
| Total .. ..                     |      | ..        | 285,476   | ..        | 295,974   |

In addition to the above, 11,003 cwt. of smoked fish, and 883 baskets of prawns were sold in this market in 1924-25.

**Victorian fish sold.** The quantity and value of fish caught in Victorian waters and sold in the Melbourne and Ballarat markets and elsewhere in 1924-25 were as follows :—

VICTORIAN FISH SOLD IN 1924-25.

| Markets.        |  |  | Quantity.  |           | Value.  |           |
|-----------------|--|--|------------|-----------|---------|-----------|
|                 |  |  | Fish.      | Crayfish. | Fish.   | Crayfish. |
|                 |  |  | lbs.       | doz.      | £       | £         |
| Melbourne .. .. |  |  | 9,326,775  | 19,194    | 133,295 | 17,275    |
| Ballarat .. ..  |  |  | 480,065    | 659       | 7,283   | 513       |
| Other .. ..     |  |  | 280,172    | 974       | 4,004   | 876       |
| Total .. ..     |  |  | 10,087,012 | 20,827    | 144,582 | 18,664    |

**Fish imported.** In connexion with this subject, the quantities and values of the different classes of fish imported are of interest. Particulars of imports from oversea countries in each of the last two years are given in the following statement :—

FISH IMPORTED, 1923-24 AND 1924-25.

|                                |      |           |         | 1923-24.  |         | 1924-25.  |        |
|--------------------------------|------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|-----------|--------|
|                                |      |           |         | Quantity. | Value.  | Quantity. | Value. |
| Fish—                          |      |           |         |           | £       |           | £      |
| Fresh or Frozen .. ..          | lbs. | 2,169,942 | 61,739  | 2,619,729 | 74,091  |           |        |
| Smoked .. ..                   | ..   | 54,681    | 3,862   | 32,000    | 2,873   |           |        |
| Fresh Oysters .. ..            | cwt. | 368       | 269     | 1,646     | 1,222   |           |        |
| Potted or Concentrated, &c. .. | ..   | ..        | 17,264  | ..        | 17,914  |           |        |
| Preserved in tins, &c. ..      | lbs. | 7,229,629 | 317,182 | 7,614,873 | 332,298 |           |        |
| N.E.I. .. ..                   | cwt. | 2,516     | 7,934   | 3,043     | 9,043   |           |        |
| Total .. ..                    |      | ..        | 408,250 | ..        | 437,441 |           |        |

The most important item in this table is fish preserved in tins and other air-tight vessels, of which 3,533,729 lbs. came from Canada,

1,526,633 lbs. from Norway, 1,210,982 lbs. from the United Kingdom, and 1,092,925 lbs. from the United States of America, in 1924-25.

The figures relating to agriculture and live stock in Victoria and Great Britain in 1924 are, for comparative purposes, placed side by side in the table which follows :—

### AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA AND GREAT BRITAIN, 1924.

|                    |    |    |    |         | Victoria.  | Great Britain. |
|--------------------|----|----|----|---------|------------|----------------|
| Area               | .. | .. | .. | acres   | 56,245,760 | 56,208,959     |
| Wheat              | .. | .. | .. | bushels | 47,364,495 | 52,714,667     |
| Oats               | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 9,572,003  | 123,200,000    |
| Barley             | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 1,444,823  | 51,206,400     |
| Peas               | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 256,160    | 2,994,992      |
| Potatoes           | .. | .. | .. | tons    | 139,043    | 3,541,000      |
| Turnips and swedes | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 1,847*     | 18,290,000     |
| Mangolds           | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 10,022     | 7,845,700      |
| Hay                | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 1,492,588  | 8,973,000      |
| Horses             | .. | .. | .. | No.     | 473,236    | 1,189,884      |
| Cattle             | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 1,605,554  | 7,058,726      |
| Sheep              | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 12,649,898 | 21,729,347     |
| Pigs               | .. | .. | .. | ..      | 288,509    | 3,427,166      |

\* Includes beet, carrots, and parsnips.

### MINING.

The supervision of mining and the inspection of mines are regulated by Act of Parliament. Authority for all mining operations, whether on Crown or private lands, must be obtained in the prescribed manner, and mining leases giving the right to enter on private land for mining purposes may be issued to another than the owner.

**Miners' Rights.** The taking out of a "miner's right" entitles the holder to prospect for gold on Crown lands. The right may be had on payment of a sum of 2s. 6d. per annum and remains in force for any number of years not exceeding fifteen. The holder is entitled to take possession for mining purposes of a defined parcel of Crown lands, which is called a "claim." The revenue in 1924-25 from miners' rights was £2,100.

**Mining Leases.** Leases for the purpose of mining for gold are granted for a term not exceeding fifteen years at a yearly rental of 2s. 6d. per acre. For mining leases of land to be worked by means of dredging or hydraulic sluicing the yearly rent is 5s. per acre. Other mineral and coal mining leases are also issued at varying rates. The revenue from these sources in 1924-25 was £3,750.

The area of Crown and private lands under occupation for mining purposes on 31st December, 1924, was 43,216 acres. The subjoined table shows the area being worked for different minerals :—

AREA UNDER OCCUPATION FOR MINING PURPOSES,  
31ST DECEMBER, 1924 (CROWN LAND AND PRIVATE  
LAND).

| Nature of Mineral, &c.          |    |    |    |    |    | Area.  |
|---------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|--------|
|                                 |    |    |    |    |    | acres. |
| Gold                            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 28,867 |
| Coal (ordinary)                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 4,447  |
| Coal (brown)                    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 759    |
| Aluminium                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 37     |
| Bismuth Wolfram and Molybdenite | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 29     |
| Bluestone                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 22     |
| Clay Slum                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 101    |
| Copper                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 99     |
| Copper and Silver               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 71     |
| Dolomite and Clay               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1      |
| Granite                         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 28     |
| Gypsum                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,259  |
| Hematite and Iron Ores          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8      |
| Infusorial Earth                | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9      |
| Iron                            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 315    |
| Kaolin                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 69     |
| Lead                            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 80     |
| Limestone                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 160    |
| Limestone and Clay              | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 27     |
| Magnesite                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 126    |
| Manganese                       | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 2,069  |
| Manganese and Cobalt            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 19     |
| Marble                          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 6      |
| Molybdenite                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 336    |
| Molybdenite, Copper, and Silver | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 29     |
| Oil                             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 537    |
| Oil and Gas                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 268    |
| Pigments                        | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5      |
| Pigments and Clay               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 21     |
| Pigments and Limestone          | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 43     |
| Quicksilver                     | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 55     |
| Salt                            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 45     |
| Sand                            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 49     |
| Silicate of Alumina             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 71     |
| Silver and Gold                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 129    |
| Silver and Lead                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 196    |
| Slate                           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 55     |
| Sulphates and Oil               | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 224    |
| Tin                             | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,536  |
| Wolfram                         | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 9      |
| Wolfram and Tin                 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 454    |
| Water-right Licences            | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 546    |
| Total                           | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 43,216 |



**Mining development.** The mining industry has been well fostered by the Government, not only in the way of financial assistance but also by means of geological surveys and boring. Apart from the annual expenditure of the Mines Department from consolidated revenue, of which a statement is appended, loan moneys amounting to £520,421 (including £249,399 expended on the State Coal Mine), and portions of surplus revenues of past years amounting to £85,000, had been expended or advanced for developmental purposes from 1st July, 1899, to 30th June, 1925.

### STATE EXPENDITURE ON MINING, 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Item.   | Expenditure from Consolidated Revenue. |                |                |                |                |
|---|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
|   | 1920-21.                               | 1921-22.       | 1922-23.       | 1923-24.       | 1924-25.       |
|   | £                                      | £              | £              | £              | £              |
| Mines Department .. ..                                    | 27,359                                 | 26,785         | 27,085         | 26,176         | 24,567         |
| State Coal Mine .. ..                                     | 385,105                                | 499,076        | 436,753        | 519,536        | 458,380        |
| Brown Coal Mine .. ..                                     | 75,186                                 | 44,426         | 48,886         | 45,830         | *              |
| Coal Mines Regulation—Sinking Fund and Depreciation Fund  | 22,419                                 | 82,786         | 22,342         | 39,628         | 37,002         |
| Diamond drills for prospecting ..                         | 10,992                                 | 9,809          | 9,411          | 10,597         | 12,476         |
| Testing plants .. ..                                      | 4,643                                  | 3,212          | 3,148          | 3,499          | 3,571          |
| Geological and underground surveys of mines .. ..         | 2,443                                  | 2,506          | 3,071          | 3,436          | 3,591          |
| Mining Development—                                       |  |                |                |                |                |
| Advances to companies, &c., boring for gold, coal, &c. .. | 9,006                                  | 8,161          | 6,963          | 6,711          | 8,739          |
| Miscellaneous .. ..                                       | 1,702                                  | 2,024          | 1,806          | 2,107          | 2,431          |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>  | <b>538,855</b>                         | <b>678,785</b> | <b>559,465</b> | <b>657,520</b> | <b>550,757</b> |

\* The control of the Brown Coal Mine was transferred to the Electricity Commissioners on 1st April, 1924.

Yearly grants are also made to Schools of Mines, particulars of which will be found on page 355 of this work. Since 1st July, 1899, £520,421 has been apportioned from loan receipts and expended on mining development; details of this expenditure appear in the next statement:—

### LOAN MONEY EXPENDED ON MINING DEVELOPMENT.

|   | £              |
|---|----------------|
| Advances to companies—Development of mining ..          | 62,740         |
| „ „ Boring for gold and coal, &c. ..                    | 62,532         |
| Construction of roads and tracks for mining purposes .. | 57,579         |
| Plant for testing metalliferous material .. ..          | 12,357         |
| Construction of races and dams .. ..                    | 8,260          |
| Advances to miners for prospecting .. ..                | 27,839         |
| Purchase of cyanide process patent rights .. ..         | 20,000         |
| Equipping Schools of Mines with mining appliances ..    | 9,975          |
| State Coal Mine .. ..                                   | 249,399        |
| Miscellaneous .. ..                                     | 9,740          |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>                                      | <b>520,421</b> |

The advances from loan moneys and revenue to mining companies to 30th June, 1925, for the development of mining, totalled £262,292, of which sum £40,630 had up to that date been repaid, £50,732 realized, and £143,358 written off, leaving £27,572 outstanding. Interest received during 1924-25 amounted to £348, and interest outstanding on 30th June, 1925, to £2,513.

The mineral production of the State is summarized in the subjoined statement, which contains particulars of the recorded production of all metals and minerals up to the end of the year 1924.

## TOTAL MINERAL PRODUCTION TO 31st DECEMBER 1924.

| Metals and Minerals.                   | Recorded prior to 1924. |             | Recorded during 1924. |           | Total Recorded to end of 1924. |             |
|--|-------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------|
|  | Quantity.               | Value.      | Quantity.             | Value.    | Quantity.                      | Value.      |
|  | Fine ozs.               | £           | Fine ozs.             | £         | Fine ozs.                      | £           |
| Gold ...                               | 71,062,534              | 301,853,680 | 67,167                | 285,316   | 71,129,701                     | 302,138,996 |
| Silver ..                              | 1,455,137               | 221,349     | 4,216                 | 645       | 1,459,353*                     | 221,994     |
| Platinum ..                            | 30,577                  | 7,880       | ..                    | ..        | 30,577                         | 7,880       |
|  | 311                     | 1,671       | ..                    | ..        | 311                            | 1,671       |
| Coal, black ..                         | tons. 10,206,735        | 6,804,598   | tons. 518,315         | 569,555   | tons. 10,725,050               | 7,374,153   |
| " brown ..                             | 760,831                 | 256,172     | 127,490               | 41,116    | 878,321                        | 297,288     |
| Ore—copper ..                          | 18,730                  | 218,590     | ..                    | ..        | 18,730                         | 218,590     |
| " tin ..                               | 16,788                  | 925,965     | 38                    | 6,056     | 16,826                         | 932,021     |
| " antimony ..                          | 104,754                 | 592,133     | 827                   | 14,522    | 105,581                        | 606,655     |
| " silver-lead ..                       | 793                     | 5,760       | ..                    | ..        | 793                            | 5,760       |
| " iron ..                              | 5,434                   | 12,540      | ..                    | ..        | 5,434                          | 12,540      |
| " manganese ..                         | 407                     | 1,949       | ..                    | ..        | 407                            | 1,949       |
| Wolfram ..                             | 118                     | 11,785      | ..                    | ..        | 118                            | 11,785      |
| Diamonds ..                            | ..                      | 128         | ..                    | ..        | ..                             | 128         |
| Sapphires, &c. ..                      | ..                      | 630         | ..                    | ..        | ..                             | 630         |
| Gypsum ..                              | 63,470                  | 45,933      | 13,268                | 11,818    | 76,738                         | 57,751      |
| Magnesite ..                           | 1,566                   | 4,716       | 76                    | 228       | 1,632                          | 4,944       |
| Kaolin ..                              | 24,865                  | 31,617      | 1,741                 | 2,683     | 26,606                         | 34,300      |
| Diatomaceous earth ..                  | 8,057                   | 33,137      | ..                    | ..        | 8,057                          | 33,137      |
| Pigment clays ..                       | 1,770                   | 2,694       | 76                    | 514       | 1,846                          | 3,208       |
| Phosphate rock ..                      | 12,648                  | 13,631      | 532                   | 532       | 13,180                         | 14,163      |
| Molybdenite ..                         | 750                     | 13,166      | 42                    | 4,850     | 792†                           | 18,016      |
| Fluorspar ..                           | 623                     | 1,888       | ..                    | ..        | 623                            | 1,888       |
| Bluestone, freestone, granite, &c.‡ .. | ..                      | 7,435,661   | ..                    | 530,820   | ..                             | 7,966,481   |
| Limestone, &c.§ ..                     | ..                      | ..          | ..                    | ..        | ..                             | ..          |
| Total ..                               | ..                      | 318,497,273 | ..                    | 1,468,655 | ..                             | 319,965,928 |

\* Extracted from gold at the Melbourne Mint. † Concentrates. ‡ From 1866 only.  
§ Record from 1900.

NOTE.—The value of gold as shown above is based on the average value of Victorian gold received at the Melbourne Mint.

**Gold mining.** Gold was first found in Victoria in 1849 in the Pyrenees Ranges, but it was not until 1851 that the first discovery of any importance took place. In the latter part of that year the Clunes, Anderson's Creek, Ballarat, and Bendigo fields were successively discovered, and over 200,000 ounces of gold were produced. Next year the gold rush took place, and it is estimated that, in 1852, 40,000 men were camped at Ballarat, 25,000 at Castlemaine, and 40,000 at Bendigo. The production of gold in 1852 amounted to 2,286,535 ounces, and in the ten years 1852-1861 it totalled over 25,000,000 ounces. The largest quantity produced in any one year was 3,053,744 ounces in 1856. The annual value of the output for the ten years 1852-1861 averaged over £10,000,000 sterling. The estimated value of the gold produced from 1851 to 1924 was £302,138,996, as shown in the preceding statement.

**Gold raised in Victoria.** The quantities of gold raised in Victoria in different periods are shown in the next table:—

#### GOLD RAISED IN VICTORIA, 1851 TO 1924.

| Period.         | Quantity<br>(Fine ozs.). | Period.       | Quantity<br>(Fine ozs.). |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| 1851-60 .. ..   | 23,334,263*              | 1911-15 .. .. | 2,161,349                |
| 1861-70 .. ..   | 16,276,566*              | 1916-20 .. .. | 905,561                  |
| 1871-80 .. ..   | 10,156,297*              | 1921 .. ..    | 104,512                  |
| 1881-90 .. ..   | 7,103,448*               | 1922 .. ..    | 106,872                  |
| 1891-1900 .. .. | 7,476,038*               | 1923 .. ..    | 95,403                   |
| 1901-10 .. ..   | 7,095,061                | 1924 .. ..    | 67,167                   |

\* Gross ozs.

The yield has been on the down grade since 1906, the return for the State for 1924 having been the lowest since 1851. The quantities raised in the other principal gold-producing States in 1924 were 485,035 ounces in Western Australia, 98,841 ounces in Queensland, and 18,685 ounces in New South Wales. The total production of gold in the world in 1923, as shown in the United States Mint Report, was 17,750,765 ounces.

**Mining district gold yields.** The yield of gold for the last two years in each mining district of the State, as estimated by the mining registrars, is shown in the following table. The quantities represented by the aggregate figures, which are given in gross

ounces, exceed the total output of 1923 by 84 ounces, and that of 1924 by 480 ounces :—

DISTRICT YIELDS OF GOLD, ALLUVIAL AND QUARTZ,  
1923 AND 1924.

| Mining District.      | 1923.     |         |         | 1924.     |         |        |
|-----------------------|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|
|                       | Alluvial. | Quartz. | Total.  | Alluvial. | Quartz. | Total. |
|                       | OZS.      | OZS.    | OZS.    | OZS.      | OZS.    | OZS.   |
| Ararat and Stawell .. | 4,647     | 516     | 5,163   | 2,839     | 32      | 2,871  |
| Ballarat ..           | 1,007     | 785     | 1,792   | 1,216     | 904     | 2,120  |
| Beechworth ..         | 7,871     | 25,067  | 32,938  | 4,762     | 20,716  | 25,478 |
| Bendigo ..            | 361       | 44,896  | 45,257  | 440       | 28,097  | 28,537 |
| Castlemaine ..        | 1,763     | 15,751  | 17,514  | 1,544     | 12,007  | 13,551 |
| Gippsland ..          | 1,198     | 469     | 1,667   | 654       | 724     | 1,378  |
| Maryborough ..        | 387       | 477     | 864     | 351       | 832     | 1,183  |
| Total ..              | 17,234    | 87,961  | 105,195 | 11,806    | 63,312  | 75,118 |

The amount of the dividends declared in each of the last five years by gold-mining companies operating in each mining district of the State was as follows :—

DIVIDENDS PAID BY GOLD MINING COMPANIES IN EACH  
MINING DISTRICT, 1920 to 1924.

| Mining District.      | Amount Distributed. |        |        |        |        |
|-----------------------|---------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
|                       | 1920.               | 1921.  | 1922.  | 1923.  | 1924.  |
|                       | £                   | £      | £      | £      | £      |
| Ararat and Stawell .. | ..                  | ..     | ..     | ..     | ..     |
| Ballarat ..           | ..                  | 13     | ..     | 1,635  | 475    |
| Beechworth ..         | 36,690              | 13,455 | 18,450 | 9,000  | ..     |
| Bendigo ..            | 44,226              | 6,750  | 20,250 | 37,872 | 13,500 |
| Castlemaine ..        | 11,595              | 5,830  | 17,883 | 12,459 | ..     |
| Gippsland ..          | 2,668               | 1,096  | ..     | ..     | ..     |
| Maryborough ..        | ..                  | ..     | ..     | ..     | ..     |
| Total ..              | 95,179              | 27,144 | 56,583 | 60,966 | 13,975 |

The average number of men employed in gold mining is **Gold miners.** estimated annually by the Mines Department. The figures for the last five years are given below :—

#### NUMBER OF MEN EMPLOYED IN GOLD MINING, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    |    | Alluvial Miners. | Quartz Miners. | Total. |
|-------|----|----|----|------------------|----------------|--------|
| 1920  | .. | .. | .. | 1,138            | 2,604          | 3,742  |
| 1921  | .. | .. | .. | 1,073            | 1,977          | 3,050  |
| 1922  | .. | .. | .. | 1,048            | 2,262          | 3,310  |
| 1923  | .. | .. | .. | 770              | 2,212          | 2,982  |
| 1924  | .. | .. | .. | 816              | 1,835          | 2,651  |

The number of men employed in each mining district in 1924 was as follows :—Ararat and Stawell, 156 ; Ballarat, 69 ; Bendigo, 1,085 ; Beechworth, 696 ; Castlemaine, 330 ; Gippsland, 150 ; and Maryborough, 115.

The value of the mining plants employed in alluvial and quartz mining during each of the last five years was **Value of machinery on gold-fields.** as shown hereunder :—

#### VALUE OF MACHINERY ON GOLD-FIELDS, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    |    | Approximate Value of Machinery Employed in— |                |         |
|-------|----|----|----|---|----------------|---------|
|       |    |    |    | Alluvial Mining.                            | Quartz Mining. | Total.  |
|       |    |    |    | £   | £              | £       |
| 1920  | .. | .. | .. | 181,400                                     | 703,416        | 884,816 |
| 1921  | .. | .. | .. | 156,642                                     | 508,643        | 665,285 |
| 1922  | .. | .. | .. | 135,295                                     | 508,630        | 643,925 |
| 1923  | .. | .. | .. | 133,200                                     | 486,300        | 619,500 |
| 1924  | .. | .. | .. | 95,777                                      | 381,050        | 476,827 |

A feature of alluvial mining in Victoria for the last **Dredging and sluicing.** twenty-three years has been the treatment in bulk of low-grade auriferous alluvial deposits and their overburden by bucket dredges and pump hydraulic sluicing plants on barges. In 1924,

the number of pump hydraulic sluices at work was 3, in addition to which 11 jet elevators and 3 gravitation plants were operating. Particulars relating to these dredging and sluicing plants for the last five years are as follows :—

## DREDGING AND SLUICING, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    | Number of Plants. | Area Worked. | Quantity of Material Treated. | Gold Obtained. | Tin Obtained. |
|-------|----|----|-------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
|       |    |    |                   | acres.       | cub. yds.                     | ozs.           | tons.         |
| 1920  | .. | .. | 43                | 130          | 4,179,778                     | 19,855         | 78            |
| 1921  | .. | .. | 42                | 99           | 3,554,674                     | 15,734         | 78            |
| 1922  | .. | .. | 32                | 41           | 1,736,735                     | 11,939         | 115           |
| 1923  | .. | .. | 24                | 27           | 1,294,300                     | 9,017          | 77            |
| 1924  | .. | .. | 17                | 13           | 1,198,900                     | 5,260          | 38            |

These plants employed 139 men in 1924. The yield of gold in that year per cubic yard of material was 2·1 grains. Since the inception of dredge mining 1,880,357 ounces of gold and 1,579 tons of tin have been won by this system.

**Cyanidation.** The quantity of tailings treated at old lode and alluvial mines by the cyanide process and the yield of gold therefrom are shown in the subjoined table for the last five years :—

## CYANIDATION, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    |    | Number of Plants. | Quantity of Tailings Treated. | Yield of Gold. | Value of Yield. |
|-------|----|----|----|-------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|
|       |    |    |    |                   | tons.                         | ozs.           | £               |
| 1920  | .. | .. | .. | 28                | 37,596                        | 4,226          | 16,216          |
| 1921  | .. | .. | .. | 20                | 39,937                        | 5,326          | 17,212          |
| 1922  | .. | .. | .. | 12                | 41,163                        | 5,847          | 22,654          |
| 1923  | .. | .. | .. | 14                | 18,644                        | 3,415          | 13,445          |
| 1924  | .. | .. | .. | 14                | 12,108                        | 2,052          | 7,637           |

Records show that the total amount of tailings which have been treated by the cyanide and other processes is 15,994,539 tons, and that the gold which has been won thereby amounts to 1,280,758 ounces, which is equal to an average yield of 1 dwt. 14 grs. per ton.

A Sludge Abatement Board, appointed by the Government, is intrusted with the duty of regulating the disposal of mining sludge, and preventing the silting of streams and injury to lands by battery sand and infertile debris.

**Government batteries.** Batteries for testing small quantities of ore for prospectors have been erected by the Government in various mining districts. The number of these plants and their operations in the last five years were as follows :—

## GOVERNMENT BATTERIES, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year. |    |    |    |    | Number of Batteries. | Quantity of Ore Treated. | Yield of Gold. |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----------------------|--------------------------|----------------|
|       |    |    |    |    |                      | tons.                    | ozs.           |
| 1920  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 33                   | 2,664                    | 2,849          |
| 1921  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 34                   | 1,748                    | 1,367          |
| 1922  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 34                   | 1,286                    | 1,424          |
| 1923  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 34                   | 1,000                    | 649            |
| 1924  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 31                   | 895                      | 776            |

Since 1897, the year in which the first battery was erected, 74,085 tons of ore have been crushed for 51,575 ounces of gold.

**Coal mining.** Bituminous coal is found in three main areas in the southern portion of the State, viz., the Wannon, the Otway, and South Gippsland. The Wannon area is comparatively unprospected, owing to almost the whole of the land having been sold. In the Otway area bores have been sunk without disclosing seams of payable thickness. The South Gippsland area occupies about 2,000 square miles, and coal mining is being carried on at Wonthaggi, Kilcunda, Outtrim, Jumbunna, and Korumburra.

**Brown coal.** The brown coal beds of Victoria have an approximate area of 1,200 square miles, and are reputed to be the thickest known. At Morwell, 780 feet of coal were passed through in a bore 1,010 feet deep. It is estimated that the average thickness of the coal in the deposits at Morwell, Alberton, and Altona is 50 feet, and that the total deposits in the State amount to 11,000,000,000 tons. These deposits are practically untouched, as the total output of brown coal for all years has been only 878,321 tons (valued at £297,288), of which 127,490 tons were obtained in 1924. Of the total output for that year 126,028 tons valued at £40,251 were obtained from the State Brown Coal Mine at Morwell.

**The State coal-field.** The State coal mine at Wonthaggi, on the Powlett River, was opened in November, 1909. In June, 1911, the control of the mine was transferred to the Railways Commissioners. The area reserved for mining is about 17 square miles. Boring has

proved that about 28,000,000 tons of coal existed in the central area of 5 square miles. The output of coal for the year ended 31st December, 1924, was 452,032 tons, valued at £487,235. The total output up to the end of 1924 was 6,451,435 tons, valued at £4,695,961. The average number of men employed at the mine throughout the year ended 30th June, 1925, was 1,688.

The quantity of coal, exclusive of brown coal, raised in Victoria up to the end of 1924 was 10,725,050 tons, valued at £7,374,153. The total quantity raised prior to 1892, the average annual production for different periods from 1892 to 1920, and the production for each of the years 1921 to 1924, together with the value per ton at the pit's mouth, are given in the following table :—

COAL PRODUCTION AND VALUE PER TON.

| Period.       |    |    |    | Average Annual Production. | Average Annual Value per ton at pit's mouth. |
|---------------|----|----|----|----------------------------|--|
|               |    |    |    | tons.                      | s. d.  |
| Prior to 1892 | .. | .. | .. | *77,914                    | 18 8   |
| 1892-1900     | .. | .. | .. | 184,517                    | 9 11   |
| 1901-10       | .. | .. | .. | 168,548                    | 11 8   |
| 1911-15       | .. | .. | .. | 608,512                    | 9 2  |
| 1916-20       | .. | .. | .. | 437,833                    | 15 11  |
| 1921          | .. | .. | .. | 514,859                    | 23 5   |
| 1922          | .. | .. | .. | 559,284                    | 23 9   |
| 1923          | .. | .. | .. | 476,823                    | 22 0   |
| 1924          | .. | .. | .. | 518,315                    | 22 0   |

\* Total production up to date mentioned.

The quantities of coal produced in the other States in 1924 were as follows :—New South Wales, 11,618,216 tons; Queensland, 1,123,117 tons; Western Australia, 421,864 tons; and Tasmania, 75,988 tons.



The numbers of fatal and non-fatal accidents in gold and coal mines during the last five years are shown below. Only those non-fatal accidents have been recorded which rendered the injured unfit for work for a period of at least fourteen days.

## MINING ACCIDENTS, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year.      | Gold Mines.      |                 |                  | Coal Mines.      |                 |                  |
|------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
|            | Miners Employed. | Persons Killed. | Persons Injured. | Miners Employed. | Persons Killed. | Persons Injured. |
| 1920 .. .. | 3,724            | 3               | 13               | 2,011            | 1               | 5                |
| 1921 .. .. | 3,050            | 5               | 2                | 1,994            | 5               | 11               |
| 1922 .. .. | 3,310            | ..              | 4                | 1,953            | ..              | 11               |
| 1923 .. .. | 2,982            | 1               | 6                | 2,131            | 1               | 11               |
| 1924 .. .. | 2,651            | ..              | 2                | 2,289            | 3               | 17               |

As a result of gold mining accidents during the last five years 9 persons were killed and 27 were injured and rendered unfit for work for a period of at least fourteen days. These numbers were equivalent to annual rates of 0·57 and 1·72 respectively per 1,000 employed. Coal mining accidents during the same period accounted for 10 deaths and 55 injuries resulting in disablement for at least fourteen days, these being equal to yearly rates of 0·96 and 5·30 respectively per 1,000 employees.

The record of boring operations conducted by the Boring for gold and coal. Mines Department during the last five years is as follows :—

## GOVERNMENT BORING OPERATIONS, 1920 TO 1924.

| Year.      | Drills worked by— |              | Bores put down for— |       |        | Total Depth Bored. |
|------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------------|-------|--------|--------------------|
|            | Steam.            | Other Power. | Gold.               | Coal. | Total. |                    |
| 1920 .. .. | 2                 | 13           | 5                   | 358   | 363    | feet.              |
| 1921 .. .. | 1                 | 14           | 20                  | 400   | 420    | 37,957             |
| 1922 .. .. | 1                 | 14           | 6                   | 182   | 188    | 40,000             |
| 1923 .. .. | ..                | 12           | 4                   | 67    | 71     | 25,200             |
| 1924 .. .. | 1                 | 12           | 16                  | 74    | 90     | 19,270             |
|            |                   |              |                     |       |        | 34,000             |

**Antimony.** Up to the end of 1924 the quantity of antimony ore produced in Victoria was 105,581 tons valued at £606,655. Nearly the whole of it was obtained at Costerfield. The production for 1924 yielded 276 tons of concentrates valued at £14,522. For the previous year the yield was 822 tons of concentrates valued at £14,112.

**Tin.** The production of tin ore in the State up to the end of 1924 was 16,826 tons, valued at £932,021. In the year 1924 the quantity produced was 38 tons, as against 78 tons in the preceding year, and 115 tons in 1922. Of the tin won during the last five years nearly the whole was obtained in the Beechworth district.

**Gypsum.** The quantity of gypsum produced in the State in 1924 was 13,268 tons, all of which was obtained at Waitchie, Lake Boga, Bolton, Boort, and Cowangie. The output for the previous year was 12,761 tons, which was obtained almost entirely at Lake Boga, Bolton, and Waitchie. Up to the end of 1924 the quantity raised in Victoria was 76,738 tons, valued at £57,751.

**Kaolin.** The quantity of kaolin produced in 1924 was 1,741 tons, and in the previous year, 2,307 tons. Up to the end of 1924 the total output was 26,606 tons, valued at £34,300.

**Molybdenite.** The total value of molybdenite produced in the State up to the end of 1924 was £18,016. In the year 1924 the output was valued at £4,850, as against £6,250 in 1923. The whole of the output was obtained at Everton, near Beechworth.

**Quarries.** The quantity and value of stone raised from Victorian quarries during the last five years were as set forth in the following table :—

QUARRIES, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year ended June— | Number of Quarries. | Quantity of Stone Operated on— |             |          |            | Approximate Value of Stone Raised. |
|------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|------------|------------------------------------|
|                  |                     | Bluestone.                     | Free-stone. | Granite. | Limestone. |                                    |
|                  |                     | c. yds.                        | c. yds.     | c. yds.  | c. yds.    | £                                  |
| 1921 ..          | 105                 | 1,068,131                      | 417         | 1,485    | 56,031     | 340,450                            |
| 1922 ..          | 112                 | 1,212,637                      | 4,437       | 1,515    | 58,073     | 369,030                            |
| 1923 ..          | 106                 | 1,244,262                      | 10,776      | 1,775    | 73,448     | 384,510                            |
| 1924 ..          | 105                 | 1,429,719                      | 2,536       | 2,242    | 74,474     | 436,175                            |
| 1925 ..          | 117                 | 1,504,093                      | 1,926       | 2,387    | 61,171     | 497,270                            |

In 1924-25 the number of persons employed in quarries was 2,405, and the wages paid amounted to £492,119. These figures include the employees and wages connected with stone-breaking and tar-paving works, most of which are carried on in conjunction with quarries and cannot be separated therefrom.

**MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.****Industrial progress.**

The earliest year for which there are statistical records of the factories of the State is 1850, at which date the number of manufacturing establishments is shown to have been 68. Subsequently fair and regular progress was made in the industry until in 1900, the year before Federation, there were 3,097 factories working. The years immediately following Federation were marked by increased industrial activity, which was well maintained in later years. During the last ten years nearly all existing lines of manufacture have shown a notable expansion, and many industries new to the State have been firmly established. Since 1915 the number of factories has increased by 37 per cent., the number of persons employed by 35 per cent., the amount of salaries and wages paid by 163 per cent., the value of output by 130 per cent., the value of machinery and plant and premises by 171 per cent., and the engine power of factories by 218 per cent. The difference between the cost of materials used and the value of the output was equivalent to an added value of £343 12s. 5d. per person employed in 1924-25, as compared with £182 3s. 5d. in 1915. This favorable economic result coincides with a larger proportion of establishments using mechanical power in 1924-25, when 83 per cent. were so equipped, as against 76 per cent. in 1915, and with the increased aggregate engine power of factories previously referred to. The increase in the added value relatively to employees, the larger proportion of factories using power, and the higher aggregate power of establishments as a whole are indications of increasing industrial efficiency. The proportion of children employed in factories to total employees decreased from 5·12 per cent. in 1915 to 4·94 per cent. in 1924-25.

Since 1915 the number of factories employing over 100 hands has increased by 23·4 per cent., and the number of hands employed by such factories has increased by 27·7 per cent. While factories of this size formed only 3·1 per cent. of the total number in the State in 1924-25, they employed 41·4 per cent. of the total number of hands. The figures relating to distinct industries show that steady progress has been maintained in almost every class of factory during recent years. This is most noticeable in industries associated with the manufacture of clothing and textile fabrics (including boots) and with the preparation of food, &c.

The appended table summarizes the position of the industries at various stages since 1871, but, except for the period 1911 to 1924-25, the information for different years is not strictly comparable, for the reason that it has not been compiled upon the same basis throughout.

### GROWTH IN THE MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES.

| Year.       | Number of Factories. | Number of Persons employed. | Amount of Salaries and Wages paid. | Value of Plant, Machinery, Land, and Buildings. | Value of Output. |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|---|------------------|
|             |                      |                             | £                                  | £   | £                |
| 1871 ..     | 1,740                | 19,468                      | *                                  | 4,725,125                                       | *                |
| 1881 ..     | 2,488                | 43,209                      | *                                  | 8,044,296                                       | †13,370,836      |
| 1891 ..     | 3,141                | 52,225                      | *                                  | 16,472,859                                      | ‡22,390,251      |
| 1901 ..     | 3,249                | 66,529                      | *                                  | 12,298,500                                      | \$19,478,780     |
| 1911 ..     | 5,126                | 111,948                     | 8,911,019                          | 18,257,889                                      | 41,747,863       |
| 1912 ..     | 5,263                | 116,108                     | 10,102,244                         | 19,457,795                                      | 45,410,773       |
| 1913 ..     | 5,613                | 118,744                     | 10,714,336                         | 20,775,738                                      | 47,936,647       |
| 1914 ..     | 5,650                | 118,399                     | 11,099,940                         | 21,975,646                                      | 49,439,985       |
| 1915 ..     | 5,413                | 113,834                     | 11,036,345                         | 22,529,072                                      | 51,466,093       |
| 1916-17 ..  | 5,445                | 116,970                     | 11,833,517                         | 23,784,289                                      | 60,047,284       |
| 1917-18 ..  | 5,627                | 118,241                     | 12,502,601                         | 25,460,282                                      | 67,066,715       |
| 1918-19 ..  | 5,720                | 122,349                     | 14,080,403                         | 27,318,735                                      | 80,195,677       |
| 1919-20 ..  | 6,038                | 136,522                     | 17,702,173                         | 30,804,520                                      | 101,475,363      |
| 1920-21 ..  | 6,532                | 140,743                     | 21,377,216                         | 35,492,735                                      | 106,008,294      |
| 1921-22 ... | 6,753                | 144,876                     | 23,846,495                         | 40,992,280                                      | 106,243,181      |
| 1922-23 ..  | 7,096                | 152,625                     | 25,547,192                         | 46,423,240                                      | 111,286,343      |
| 1923-24 ..  | 7,289                | 156,162                     | 27,472,084                         | 53,196,475                                      | 113,921,927      |
| 1924-25 ..  | 7,425                | 154,158                     | 29,057,052                         | 61,031,975                                      | 118,177,398      |

\* Particulars not available.

† 1880.

‡ 1890.

\$ 1900.

NOTE.—Up to the year 1915 inclusive the statistics relate to the calendar year ; for subsequent years they relate to the year ending 30th June.

The first Factories Act in Victoria was passed in 1873, and since that year many other Acts dealing with the subject have been placed upon the statute-book. The *Factories and Shops Act* 1915 (No. 2650) consolidated all Acts passed prior to that date. The general provisions of factory legislation, including "Wages Boards," are fully dealt with in Part "Social Condition" of this work.

In the year 1902 the classification of industries for statistical purposes, as shown in the next table, was adopted by the Statisticians of Australia. A factory was defined as an establishment employing on the average four persons or more, or an establishment employing less than four persons where machinery is worked by other than manual power, whether the business carried on is that of making or repairing for the trade (wholesale or retail) or for export. The table shows for the year 1924-25 the number of factories in each industry, the power used, the number of persons employed, the wages paid, the values of materials and fuel and light used, and the value of articles produced or work done :—

**Factories and Wages Board Legislation.**

**Production of different industries, 1924-25.**

# FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1924-25.

| Nature of Industry.   | Number of Manufactories. | Actual Horse-power of Engines used. | Average Number of Persons Employed. |            |                      |            | Value of—   |                      |                 |                                 |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
|   |                          |                                     | Males.                              |            | Females.             |            | Wages paid. | Fuel and Light used. | Materials used. | Articles Produced or Work Done. |
|   |                          |                                     | Working Proprietors.                | Employees. | Working Proprietors. | Employees. |             |                      |                 |                                 |
| <i>Class I.—Treating Raw Material the product of Pastoral Pursuits, or Vegetable Products, not otherwise classed.</i> |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            | £           | £                    | £               | £                               |
| Boiling down .. .. .  | 9                        | 180                                 | 10                                  | 143        | ..                   | ..         | 41,463      | 7,072                | 190,487         | 266,762                         |
| Bone milling .. .. .  | 15                       | 755                                 | 15                                  | 106        | ..                   | 4          | 28,227      | 14,857               | 51,044          | 141,443                         |
| Tanning .. .. .   | 47                       | 4,365                               | 67                                  | 2,269      | ..                   | 20         | 559,822     | 47,261               | 1,677,544       | 2,673,149                       |
| Fellmongering .. .. .   | 29                       | 1,555                               | 32                                  | 423        | ..                   | 4          | 101,813     | 25,456               | 1,778,843       | 2,020,893                       |
| Chaffcutting and grain crushing ..  | 166                      | 2,702                               | 150                                 | 639        | ..                   | 13         | 89,892      | 13,533               | 773,520         | 954,934                         |
| Other .. .. .   | 8                        | 52                                  | 4                                   | 178        | ..                   | ..         | 47,599      | 625                  | 114,942         | 205,941                         |
| Total .. .. .   | 274                      | 9,609                               | 278                                 | 3,758      | ..                   | 41         | 868,816     | 108,804              | 4,586,380       | 6,263,122                       |
| <i>Class II.—Oils and Fats, Animal and Vegetable.</i>   |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            |             |                      |                 |                                 |
| Oil, grease, glue .. .. .   | 10                       | 260                                 | 4                                   | 205        | ..                   | 27         | 56,784      | 11,829               | 399,699         | 547,777                         |
| Soap and candle .. .. .   | 17                       | 806                                 | 13                                  | 554        | ..                   | 147        | 143,779     | 27,877               | 735,210         | 1,176,919                       |
| Total .. .. .   | 27                       | 1,066                               | 17                                  | 759        | ..                   | 174        | 200,563     | 39,706               | 1,134,909       | 1,724,696                       |

*Class III.—Processes relating to  
Stone, Clay, Glass, &c.*

|                                   |     |        |     |       |    |     |           |         |         |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--------|-----|-------|----|-----|-----------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Brick, pottery, &c. ..            | 102 | 8,740  | 72  | 2,845 | 2  | 150 | 655,034   | 232,258 | 91,016  | 1,337,595 |
| Cement, including cement pipes .. | 31  | 3,151  | 14  | 759   | .. | 4   | 194,838   | 111,593 | 236,372 | 942,034   |
| Glass, including bottles ..       | 5   | 1,560  | 11  | 810   | .. | 12  | 211,080   | 73,747  | 93,664  | 530,588   |
| Glass bevelling ..                | 27  | 108    | 20  | 255   | .. | 4   | 63,443    | 1,340   | 96,000  | 199,473   |
| Marble and stone dressing ..      | 43  | 532    | 57  | 401   | .. | 7   | 120,454   | 3,615   | 77,873  | 266,199   |
| Modelling ..                      | 35  | 492    | 46  | 424   | 1  | 10  | 108,383   | 4,754   | 146,357 | 334,114   |
| Other ..                          | 18  | 372    | 10  | 265   | .. | 2   | 60,305    | 25,459  | 21,835  | 116,704   |
| Total ..                          | 261 | 14,955 | 230 | 5,759 | 3  | 189 | 1,413,537 | 452,766 | 763,117 | 3,726,707 |

*Class IV.—Working in Wood.*

|                               |     |        |     |       |    |     |           |        |           |           |
|-------------------------------|-----|--------|-----|-------|----|-----|-----------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Cooperage ..                  | 9   | 298    | 6   | 234   | .. | ..  | 69,669    | 1,998  | 41,929    | 145,241   |
| Saw-milling (forest) ..       | 234 | 5,123  | 305 | 3,002 | .. | 11  | 667,684   | 6,054  | 1,782     | 1,146,877 |
| Saw-milling, moulding, &c. .. | 425 | 13,606 | 396 | 5,518 | 2  | 101 | 1,370,699 | 46,005 | 2,286,476 | 4,315,583 |
| Mantelpiece ..                | 9   | 83     | 9   | 172   | .. | 3   | 40,763    | 628    | 33,971    | 89,467    |
| Wood carving, turning ..      | 20  | 457    | 21  | 246   | 1  | 7   | 64,722    | 2,366  | 56,557    | 152,257   |
| Other ..                      | 8   | 155    | 8   | 122   | .. | 34  | 33,369    | 1,399  | 44,220    | 96,051    |
| Total ..                      | 705 | 19,722 | 745 | 9,294 | 3  | 156 | 2,246,906 | 58,450 | 2,464,935 | 5,945,476 |

*Class V.—Metal Works, Machinery, &c.*

|                                   |     |        |     |        |    |     |           |         |           |            |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--------|-----|--------|----|-----|-----------|---------|-----------|------------|
| Agricultural implement ..         | 61  | 2,389  | 60  | 2,996  | .. | 104 | 730,219   | 46,501  | 785,247   | 1,822,006  |
| Engineering, iron foundry, &c. .. | 530 | 12,335 | 599 | 9,821  | 4  | 170 | 2,389,329 | 164,768 | 2,393,110 | 6,051,309  |
| Railway workshop ..               | 18  | 4,156  | ..  | 5,882  | .. | 6   | 1,289,834 | 34,510  | 1,557,517 | 3,254,715  |
| Nail ..                           | 9   | 439    | 5   | 181    | .. | 3   | 38,572    | 2,427   | 164,137   | 222,277    |
| Sheet-iron, tin, &c. ..           | 103 | 914    | 86  | 1,794  | 2  | 253 | 395,586   | 16,007  | 647,726   | 1,286,779  |
| Brass, copper smithing ..         | 99  | 848    | 117 | 1,096  | .. | 52  | 276,097   | 14,458  | 232,021   | 639,236    |
| Wireworking ..                    | 26  | 488    | 29  | 348    | .. | 23  | 90,764    | 3,034   | 209,182   | 378,302    |
| Metallurgical, &c., cyanide ..    | 8   | 57     | 12  | 58     | .. | 1   | 16,559    | 2,544   | 112,857   | 149,563    |
| Oven, range ..                    | 19  | 137    | 24  | 180    | .. | ..  | 50,883    | 2,470   | 41,158    | 114,934    |
| Other ..                          | 50  | 877    | 47  | 500    | 1  | 10  | 122,038   | 11,171  | 210,605   | 447,477    |
| Total ..                          | 923 | 22,640 | 979 | 22,856 | 7  | 622 | 5,399,881 | 297,890 | 6,353,560 | 14,366,598 |

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1924-25—continued.

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Victorian Year-Book, 1924-25.

| Nature of Industry.                                     | Number of Manufactories. | Actual Horse-power of Engines used. | Average Number of Persons Employed. |            |                      |            | Value of—   |                      |                 |                                 |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
|   |                          |                                     | Males.                              |            | Females.             |            | Wages paid. | Fuel and Light used. | Materials used. | Articles Produced or Work Done. |
|   |                          |                                     | Working Proprietors.                | Employees. | Working Proprietors. | Employees. |             |                      |                 |                                 |
|   |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            | £           | £                    | £               | £                               |
| <i>Class VI.—Connected with Food and Drink, &amp;c.</i> |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            |             |                      |                 |                                 |
| Bacon curing .. ..                                      | 21                       | 1,542                               | 27                                  | 485        | ..                   | 19         | 129,474     | 20,539               | 1,257,862       | 1,571,357                       |
| Butter, cheese, butterine .. ..                         | 192                      | 5,713                               | 32                                  | 2,196      | ..                   | 254        | 578,728     | 161,848              | 6,953,033       | 8,394,238                       |
| Meat freezing, preserving .. ..                         | 13                       | 5,039                               | 2                                   | 1,021      | ..                   | 31         | 196,869     | 31,908               | 1,768,735       | 2,188,859                       |
| Biscuit .. ..   | 8                        | 533                                 | 4                                   | 803        | ..                   | 633        | 224,179     | 22,964               | 671,272         | 1,134,206                       |
| Flourmilling .. ..                                      | 46                       | 5,363                               | 33                                  | 1,008      | ..                   | 23         | 267,034     | 58,196               | 5,363,466       | 6,218,248                       |
| Jam, sauce, &c. .. ..                                   | 52                       | 1,161                               | 27                                  | 1,439      | 4                    | 1,031      | 419,295     | 30,948               | 1,227,953       | 2,090,690                       |
| Oatmeal, starch, &c. .. ..                              | 38                       | 2,071                               | 22                                  | 379        | ..                   | 351        | 133,177     | 21,220               | 824,387         | 1,192,273                       |
| Sugar, confectionery, &c. .. ..                         | 119                      | 9,321                               | 100                                 | 2,267      | 22                   | 1,909      | 779,113     | 145,073              | 4,651,513       | 6,647,402                       |
| Aerated water, cordial, &c. .. ..                       | 112                      | 507                                 | 115                                 | 777        | 8                    | 85         | 196,191     | 7,563                | 292,002         | 705,197                         |
| Malt .. ..  | 22                       | 452                                 | 12                                  | 266        | 2                    | 2          | 77,082      | 17,929               | 469,967         | 687,673                         |
| Brewing .. ..   | 14                       | 5,204                               | 6                                   | 1,256      | ..                   | 1          | 344,348     | 80,406               | 1,061,574       | 2,479,619                       |
| Distilling .. ..  | 10                       | 572                                 | 1                                   | 112        | ..                   | 4          | 28,333      | 8,987                | 54,085          | 129,655                         |
| Condiments, coffee, cocoa, &c. .. ..                    | 15                       | 817                                 | 8                                   | 224        | ..                   | 109        | 67,166      | 8,027                | 439,754         | 625,997                         |
| Tobacco, &c. .. ..                                      | 13                       | 711                                 | 17                                  | 1,156      | ..                   | 645        | 348,792     | 6,483                | 1,312,182       | 2,200,459                       |
| Other .. ..   | 46                       | 3,910                               | 35                                  | 345        | 3                    | 33         | 95,609      | 34,757               | 58,883          | 295,026                         |
| Total .. ..   | 721                      | 42,916                              | 441                                 | 13,734     | 39                   | 5,130      | 3,885,390   | 656,848              | 26,406,668      | 36,560,899                      |

*Class VII.—Clothing and Textile  
Fabrics, and Fibrous Material.*

|                                 |              |               |              |               |            |               |                  |                |                   |                   |
|---------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Woollen mill .. ..              | 28           | 10,778        | 22           | 2,202         | ..         | 2,853         | 727,092          | 103,532        | 2,173,423         | 3,433,231         |
| Clothing, tailoring, &c. ..     | 534          | 608           | 503          | 1,718         | 35         | 7,597         | 1,310,790        | 22,778         | 2,081,605         | 3,965,405         |
| Dressmaking and millinery ..    | 492          | 473           | 144          | 279           | 322        | 7,594         | 877,470          | 12,895         | 1,713,614         | 3,047,653         |
| Underclothing, shirt ..         | 170          | 898           | 88           | 342           | 75         | 5,034         | 647,507          | 13,898         | 1,525,949         | 2,636,628         |
| Hat, cap .. ..                  | 55           | 839           | 49           | 643           | 5          | 999           | 305,743          | 16,252         | 447,012           | 952,486           |
| Hosiery .. ..                   | 172          | 1,164         | 99           | 549           | 88         | 3,691         | 506,631          | 19,135         | 1,236,374         | 2,275,145         |
| Oilskin, waterproof clothing .. | 8            | 50            | 7            | 66            | ..         | 188           | 42,411           | 1,132          | 106,555           | 180,631           |
| Boot, shoe .. ..                | 430          | 3,249         | 492          | 6,455         | 19         | 5,133         | 2,054,563        | 41,029         | 2,913,105         | 5,832,625         |
| Fur .. ..                       | 45           | 121           | 43           | 141           | 15         | 302           | 76,306           | 1,541          | 231,303           | 361,257           |
| Rope, twine, &c. ..             | 7            | 1,557         | 10           | 491           | ..         | 390           | 149,068          | 13,173         | 371,140           | 662,598           |
| Sail, tent, &c. ..              | 19           | 39            | 21           | 113           | ..         | 102           | 43,772           | 605            | 165,498           | 253,188           |
| Other .. ..                     | 40           | 313           | 33           | 224           | 10         | 447           | 101,523          | 7,348          | 216,296           | 389,965           |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>              | <b>2,000</b> | <b>20,089</b> | <b>1,511</b> | <b>13,223</b> | <b>569</b> | <b>34,330</b> | <b>6,842,876</b> | <b>253,318</b> | <b>13,181,874</b> | <b>23,990,812</b> |

*Class VIII.—Books, Paper, Printing,  
Engraving, &c.*

|                                  |            |              |            |              |           |              |                  |                |                  |                  |
|----------------------------------|------------|--------------|------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| Printing .. ..                   | 431        | 6,137        | 507        | 5,902        | 12        | 1,652        | 1,825,147        | 50,570         | 1,656,452        | 4,433,726        |
| Account-book, stationery, &c. .. | 34         | 666          | 37         | 668          | 2         | 617          | 213,833          | 5,838          | 299,311          | 645,723          |
| Fancy box .. ..                  | 38         | 508          | 30         | 287          | 8         | 817          | 167,010          | 4,030          | 315,648          | 600,444          |
| Die sinking, engraving, &c. ..   | 21         | 144          | 25         | 213          | ..        | 24           | 49,975           | 1,390          | 36,531           | 118,096          |
| Other .. ..                      | 32         | 2,443        | 35         | 704          | 2         | 161          | 200,620          | 55,278         | 280,843          | 726,065          |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>               | <b>556</b> | <b>9,898</b> | <b>634</b> | <b>7,774</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>3,271</b> | <b>2,456,585</b> | <b>117,106</b> | <b>2,588,785</b> | <b>6,524,054</b> |

*Class IX.—Musical Instruments*

|  |    |     |    |     |    |    |         |       |         |         |
|--|----|-----|----|-----|----|----|---------|-------|---------|---------|
|  | 20 | 356 | 12 | 439 | .. | 16 | 107,289 | 2,652 | 120,132 | 280,812 |
|--|----|-----|----|-----|----|----|---------|-------|---------|---------|

*Class X.—Arms and Explosives*

|  |   |     |   |     |    |     |        |        |         |         |
|--|---|-----|---|-----|----|-----|--------|--------|---------|---------|
|  | 9 | 664 | 1 | 265 | .. | 162 | 89,774 | 12,900 | 176,109 | 361,712 |
|--|---|-----|---|-----|----|-----|--------|--------|---------|---------|

*Production.*



FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1924-25—continued.

| Nature of Industry.  | Number of Manufactories. | Actual Horse-power of Engines used. | Average Number of Persons Employed. |            |                      |            | Value of—   |                      |                 |                                 |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
|  |                          |                                     | Males.                              |            | Females.             |            | Wages paid. | Fuel and Light used. | Materials used. | Articles Produced or Work Done. |
|  |                          |                                     | Working Proprietors.                | Employees. | Working Proprietors. | Employees. |             |                      |                 |                                 |
|  |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            | £           | £                    | £               | £                               |
| <i>Class XI.—Vehicles and Fittings, Saddlery, Harness, &amp;c.</i> |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            |             |                      |                 |                                 |
| Coachbuilding .. ..  | 286                      | 1,287                               | 333                                 | 2,217      | ..                   | 25         | 499,528     | 15,110               | 451,815         | 1,152,252                       |
| Motor, Cycle, &c. .. ..  | 505                      | 1,768                               | 397                                 | 3,383      | ..                   | 87         | 756,762     | 25,016               | 467,711         | 1,625,386                       |
| Saddle, harness .. ..  | 35                       | 26                                  | 37                                  | 233        | ..                   | 47         | 59,929      | 480                  | 79,251          | 162,565                         |
| Other .. ..  | 20                       | 88                                  | 29                                  | 184        | ..                   | 12         | 40,969      | 914                  | 48,703          | 121,413                         |
| Total .. ..  | 846                      | 3,169                               | 796                                 | 6,017      | ..                   | 171        | 1,357,188   | 41,520               | 1,047,480       | 3,061,616                       |
| <i>Class XII.—Shipbuilding, Fitting, &amp;c.</i>                   | 11                       | 1,383                               | 9                                   | 421        | ..                   | 2          | 105,763     | 5,001                | 26,423          | 163,696                         |
| <i>Class XIII.—Furniture, Bedding, &amp;c.</i>                     |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            |             |                      |                 |                                 |
| Upholstery, bedding, &c. ..  | 74                       | 597                                 | 47                                  | 641        | 4                    | 374        | 186,968     | 5,808                | 455,503         | 768,978                         |
| Cabinet, including billiard table ..                               | 324                      | 2,672                               | 408                                 | 2,904      | 4                    | 112        | 677,777     | 17,344               | 724,344         | 1,707,373                       |
| Picture frame .. ..  | 18                       | 51                                  | 18                                  | 67         | ..                   | 10         | 18,837      | 408                  | 25,141          | 53,299                          |
| Other .. ..  | 9                        | 123                                 | 5                                   | 163        | 1                    | 24         | 38,207      | 2,461                | 72,248          | 131,171                         |
| Total .. ..  | 425                      | 3,443                               | 478                                 | 3,775      | 9                    | 520        | 921,789     | 26,021               | 1,277,236       | 2,660,821                       |

*Class XIV.—Drugs, Chemicals, and By-products.*

|                             |     |       |    |       |    |     |         |        |           |           |
|-----------------------------|-----|-------|----|-------|----|-----|---------|--------|-----------|-----------|
| Blacking, blue, &c. .. ..   | 23  | 175   | 16 | 165   | .. | 159 | 59,273  | 2,298  | 255,083   | 406,648   |
| Chemicals, drugs, &c. .. .. | 52  | 1,553 | 24 | 652   | 1  | 578 | 240,267 | 25,518 | 462,695   | 969,851   |
| Fertilizers .. ..           | 8   | 1,795 | 1  | 876   | .. | 10  | 226,929 | 40,675 | 834,806   | 1,442,984 |
| Other .. ..                 | 48  | 399   | 34 | 238   | 1  | 19  | 45,544  | 2,223  | 105,818   | 193,671   |
| Total .. ..                 | 131 | 3,922 | 75 | 1,931 | 2  | 766 | 572,013 | 70,714 | 1,658,402 | 3,013,154 |

*Class XV.—Surgical and Scientific Appliances .. ..*

|    |    |    |     |   |    |        |       |        |         |
|----|----|----|-----|---|----|--------|-------|--------|---------|
| 37 | 95 | 31 | 187 | 2 | 16 | 45,789 | 1,179 | 32,852 | 108,657 |
|----|----|----|-----|---|----|--------|-------|--------|---------|

*Class XVI.—Timepieces, Jewellery, and Plated-ware .. ..*

|     |     |     |     |   |     |         |       |         |         |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|---------|-------|---------|---------|
| 111 | 581 | 113 | 846 | 3 | 107 | 227,504 | 7,554 | 248,748 | 600,070 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|-----|---------|-------|---------|---------|

*Class XVII.—Heat, Light, and Energy.*

|                          |     |         |    |       |    |     |           |         |           |           |
|--------------------------|-----|---------|----|-------|----|-----|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|
| Electric apparatus .. .. | 84  | 578     | 84 | 747   | .. | 57  | 167,547   | 5,674   | 211,969   | 494,011   |
| Electric light .. ..     | 84  | 205,777 | 5  | 1,926 | .. | 80  | 549,849   | 684,785 | ..        | 2,382,582 |
| Gas, coke .. ..          | 45  | 2,009   | 3  | 2,342 | .. | 119 | 668,006   | 10,622  | 779,709   | 2,087,358 |
| Other .. ..              | 9   | 3,638   | 3  | 482   | .. | 463 | 160,148   | 20,498  | 495,670   | 914,104   |
| Total .. ..              | 222 | 212,002 | 95 | 5,497 | .. | 719 | 1,545,550 | 721,579 | 1,487,348 | 5,878,055 |

*Class XVIII.—Leatherware (except Saddlery and Harness) .. ..*

|    |     |    |     |   |     |         |       |         |         |
|----|-----|----|-----|---|-----|---------|-------|---------|---------|
| 59 | 513 | 59 | 516 | 1 | 364 | 154,966 | 4,042 | 326,785 | 569,910 |
|----|-----|----|-----|---|-----|---------|-------|---------|---------|

FACTORIES—POWER, WORKERS, WAGES, ETC., AND PRODUCTION, 1924-25—*continued.*

578

| Nature of Industry.                              | Number of Manufactories. | Actual Horse-power of Engines used. | Average Number of Persons Employed. |            |                      |            | Value of—   |                      |                 |                                 |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------|----------------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
|  |                          |                                     | Males.                              |            | Females.             |            | Wages paid. | Fuel and Light used. | Materials used. | Articles Produced or Work Done. |
|  |                          |                                     | Working Proprietors.                | Employees. | Working Proprietors. | Employees. |             |                      |                 |                                 |
| <i>Class XIX.—Wares, not elsewhere included.</i> |                          |                                     |                                     |            |                      |            | £           | £                    | £               | £                               |
| Umbrella .. ..                                   | 7                        | 12                                  | 5                                   | 58         | ..                   | 151        | 26,894      | 317                  | 84,102          | 134,294                         |
| Rubber goods .. ..                               | 38                       | 6,834                               | 37                                  | 1,868      | ..                   | 536        | 499,552     | 84,536               | 1,123,441       | 1,989,793                       |
| Brush, broom .. ..                               | 15                       | 156                                 | 15                                  | 214        | 1                    | 67         | 52,566      | 1,437                | 81,581          | 174,997                         |
| Basket, wickerware .. ..                         | 27                       | 39                                  | 31                                  | 201        | ..                   | 1          | 35,861      | 295                  | 34,366          | 77,453                          |
| Total .. ..                                      | 87                       | 7,041                               | 88                                  | 2,341      | 1                    | 755        | 614,873     | 86,585               | 1,323,490       | 2,376,531                       |
| Grand Total .. ..                                | 7,425                    | 374,064                             | 6,592                               | 99,392     | 663                  | 47,511     | 29,057,052  | 2,964,635            | 65,205,233      | 118,177,398                     |

*Victorian Year-Book, 1924-25.*

Increase in value of output of certain industries, 1919-20 and 1924-25.

Most of the more important manufacturing industries in the State have shown a substantial increase in the value of output in the last five years. The output for the years 1919-20 and 1924-25 of a number of leading industries is shown in the following table, the industries being arranged in order of increase in value:—

OUTPUT OF INDUSTRIES, 1919-20 AND 1924-25.

| Industry.                            | Value of Output. |           | Increase in Five Years. |           |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------|
|                                      | 1919-20.         | 1924-25.  | Value.                  | Per cent. |
|                                      | £                | £         | £                       |           |
| Sugar, confectionery, &c. ..         | 4,200,738        | 6,647,402 | 2,446,664               | 58·2      |
| Engineering, iron foundries, &c. ..  | 4,220,094        | 6,051,309 | 1,831,215               | 43·4      |
| Sawmills, moulding, &c. ..           | 3,631,453        | 5,462,460 | 1,831,007               | 50·4      |
| Butter, cheese, &c. ..               | 6,755,140        | 8,394,238 | 1,639,098               | 24·3      |
| Railway workshop ..                  | 1,784,163        | 3,254,715 | 1,470,552               | 82·4      |
| Woollen mills ..                     | 1,976,428        | 3,433,231 | 1,456,803               | 73·7      |
| Electric light and power ..          | 953,039          | 2,382,582 | 1,429,543               | 150·0     |
| Bicycle, motor, &c. ..               | 1,618,178        | 2,777,638 | 1,159,460               | 71·7      |
| Hosiery ..                           | 1,149,272        | 2,275,145 | 1,125,873               | 98·0      |
| Agricultural implements ..           | 757,062          | 1,822,006 | 1,064,944               | 140·7     |
| Printing ..                          | 3,438,247        | 4,433,726 | 995,479                 | 29·0      |
| Cement and cement goods ..           | 238,342          | 942,034   | 703,692                 | 295·2     |
| Brick, pottery, &c. ..               | 674,774          | 1,337,595 | 662,821                 | 98·2      |
| Breweries ..                         | 1,830,548        | 2,479,619 | 649,071                 | 35·5      |
| Gasworks ..                          | 1,447,702        | 2,087,358 | 639,656                 | 44·2      |
| Cabinet, including billiard table .. | 1,088,862        | 1,707,373 | 618,511                 | 56·8      |
| Fertilizers ..                       | 1,007,189        | 1,442,984 | 435,795                 | 43·3      |
| Rubber goods ..                      | 1,632,488        | 1,989,793 | 357,305                 | 21·9      |
| Bedding, upholstery, &c. ..          | 420,930          | 768,978   | 348,048                 | 82·7      |
| Electric apparatus ..                | 175,396          | 494,011   | 318,615                 | 181·7     |
| Chemicals, drugs, &c. ..             | 664,111          | 969,851   | 305,740                 | 46·0      |
| Clothing, tailoring, &c. ..          | 3,662,152        | 3,965,405 | 303,253                 | 8·3       |
| Modelling in plaster, cement, &c. .. | 54,470           | 334,114   | 279,644                 | 513·4     |
| Match ..                             | 234,335          | 504,091   | 269,756                 | 115·1     |
| Underclothing ..                     | 2,374,591        | 2,636,628 | 262,037                 | 11·0      |
| Oil, grease, glue, &c. ..            | 291,402          | 547,777   | 256,375                 | 88·0      |
| Brass, copper ..                     | 431,078          | 639,236   | 208,158                 | 48·3      |
| Paper ..                             | 311,164          | 506,471   | 195,307                 | 62·8      |
| Wireworking ..                       | 185,900          | 378,302   | 192,402                 | 103·5     |
| Fancy box, paper bag ..              | 408,044          | 600,444   | 192,400                 | 47·2      |
| Oatmeal, starch, &c. ..              | 1,002,165        | 1,192,273 | 190,108                 | 19·0      |
| Bacon curing ..                      | 1,384,351        | 1,571,357 | 187,006                 | 13·5      |
| Dressmaking and millinery ..         | 2,863,889        | 3,047,653 | 183,764                 | 6·4       |
| Fur ..                               | 192,049          | 361,257   | 169,208                 | 88·1      |
| Musical Instruments ..               | 111,987          | 280,812   | 168,825                 | 150·8     |
| Glass, including bottles ..          | 383,337          | 530,588   | 147,251                 | 38·4      |
| Marble and stone dressing ..         | 127,290          | 266,199   | 138,909                 | 109·1     |

## INDIVIDUAL INDUSTRIES.

The salient features in connexion with the chief industries are set forth in the succeeding pages.

The development of the tanning and fellmongering industry during the past ten years is shown by the particulars contained in the next two tables :—

## TANNERIES, ETC., 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.         | Number of Establishments. | Horse-power of Engines. | Value of Machinery and Plant in Use. | Number of Employees. | Number of Working Proprietors | Amount of Wages Paid. |
|---------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
|               |                           |                         | £                                    |                      |                               | £                     |
| 1915 .. ..    | 82                        | 2,510                   | 193,350                              | 2,165                | 97                            | 268,884               |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 74                        | 3,187                   | 214,896                              | 2,362                | 82                            | 300,796               |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 76                        | 3,476                   | 271,120                              | 2,485                | 69                            | 347,753               |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 81                        | 4,035                   | 370,765                              | 2,984                | 74                            | 455,548               |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 86                        | 4,631                   | 400,110                              | 3,299                | 85                            | 631,920               |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 80                        | 4,707                   | 436,395                              | 2,764                | 87                            | 575,132               |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 78                        | 5,341                   | 504,355                              | 2,902                | 93                            | 625,443               |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 79                        | 5,530                   | 518,815                              | 2,947                | 105                           | 658,026               |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 80                        | 5,850                   | 557,930                              | 2,821                | 108                           | 646,015               |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 76                        | 5,920                   | 567,315                              | 2,716                | 99                            | *661,635              |

\* Including £43,386 drawn by working proprietors.

The quantity of bark used in connexion with tanning operations in 1924-25 was 12,085 tons. The output of tanneries for each of the last ten years was as follows :—

## OUTPUT OF TANNERIES, ETC., 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.         | Number Tanned— |             |                        | Sheep Skins Stripped. | Wool Washed (weight after washing). | Value of Articles produced or Work done. |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
|               | Hides.         | Calf Skins. | Sheep and other Skins. |                       |                                     |  |
|               |                |             |                        | number                | lbs.                                | £  |
| 1915 .. ..    | 765,088        | 166,197     | 1,150,449              | 1,463,775             | 12,224,184                          | 3,201,455                                |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 722,649        | 230,380     | 1,027,847              | 1,538,178             | 13,843,439                          | 3,962,202                                |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 601,950        | 217,605     | 1,418,595              | 1,641,000             | 24,560,590                          | 5,061,236                                |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 670,956        | 234,548     | 1,742,388              | 2,354,487             | 34,483,316                          | 6,918,270                                |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 738,907        | 251,973     | 2,780,017              | 5,030,438             | 38,191,912                          | 8,896,091                                |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 694,322        | 308,542     | 1,406,472              | 2,604,413             | 14,619,948                          | 4,200,077                                |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 792,974        | 512,515     | 2,042,817              | 2,214,980             | 17,453,847                          | 3,953,049                                |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 789,221        | 663,813     | 2,403,940              | 2,407,830             | 19,939,785                          | 4,577,664                                |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 788,942        | 526,818     | 2,387,235              | 971,559               | 12,885,685                          | 4,675,911                                |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 783,115        | 557,354     | 1,849,575              | 1,225,616             | 9,741,373                           | 4,694,042                                |

The value of the leather, &c., imported into Victoria from oversea countries during the year ended 30th June, 1925, was £156,389.

Particulars in regard to the soap and candle works in the State for the past ten years are given below :—

SOAP AND CANDLE WORKS, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Number of Establishments. | Value of Machinery and Plant in Use. | Number of Employees. | Amount of Wages Paid. | Products. |          | Value of Output. |
|---------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|------------------|
|         |                           |                                      |                      |                       | Soap.*    | Candles. |                  |
|         |                           | £                                    |                      | £                     | cwt.      | cwt.     | £                |
| 1915 .. | 17                        | 121,946                              | 627                  | 71,282                | 267,426   | 41,031   | 721,845          |
| 1916-17 | 18                        | 128,100                              | 670                  | 84,036                | 214,526   | 38,746   | 802,179          |
| 1917-18 | 17                        | 130,795                              | 756                  | 91,604                | 228,310   | 37,290   | 951,114          |
| 1918-19 | 15                        | 140,600                              | 669                  | 92,663                | 206,429   | 39,680   | 957,295          |
| 1919-20 | 16                        | 143,310                              | 725                  | 103,333               | 243,156   | 40,908   | 1,321,112        |
| 1920-21 | 16                        | 164,110                              | 696                  | 115,749               | 225,748   | 32,662   | 1,134,820        |
| 1921-22 | 17                        | 174,460                              | 726                  | 139,519               | 267,858   | 31,613   | 1,096,955        |
| 1922-23 | 19                        | 196,355                              | 756                  | 142,685               | 296,888   | 39,519   | 1,152,270        |
| 1923-24 | 17                        | 210,270                              | 730                  | 147,124               | 289,364   | 34,424   | 937,148          |
| 1924-25 | 17                        | 201,400                              | 701                  | 143,779†              | 295,672   | 29,415   | 1,176,919        |

\* Not including soap made in small soap works not classified as factories, viz., 1,664 cwt. in 1915, 927 cwt. in 1916-17, 1,134 cwt. in 1917-18, 1,054 cwt. in 1918-19, 907 cwt. in 1919-20, 996 cwt. in 1920-21, 859 cwt. in 1921-22, 1,316 cwt. in 1922-23, 1,258 cwt. in 1923-24, and 736 cwt. in 1924-25.

† Including £1,941 drawn by working proprietors.

The quantity of tallow used in 1924-25 in the manufacture of soap and candles was 182,074 cwt. in factories, and 303 cwt. in minor works.

The imports from oversea countries in 1924-25 included 358,170 lbs. of soap valued at £24,413, and 25,790 lbs. of candles valued at £1,955.

Particulars relating to brickyards and potteries for the ten years 1915 to 1924-25 are shown in the following statement. The value of the land, plant, buildings, &c., used in connexion with such works in 1924-25 was £1,062,870 :—

### BRICKS, POTTERY, PIPES, AND TILES, 1915 TO 1924-25.

| Year.      | Number of Establishments. | Number of Employees. | Amount of Wages Paid | Number of Bricks Made.* | Value of—        |          |
|------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|----------|
|            |                           |                      |                      |                         | Pipes and Tiles. | Pottery. |
|            |                           |                      | £                    |                         | £                | £        |
| 1915 ..    | 89                        | 1,839                | 230,969              | 142,601,000             | 134,623          | 52,732   |
| 1916-17 .. | 79                        | 1,636                | 200,781              | 108,444,000             | 147,840          | 57,266   |
| 1917-18 .. | 78                        | 1,842                | 231,090              | 107,139,000             | 171,836          | 73,398   |
| 1918-19 .. | 84                        | 2,296                | 314,452              | 133,176,000             | 246,763          | 121,286  |
| 1919-20 .. | 93                        | 2,504                | 336,295              | 119,142,000             | 255,562          | 97,844   |
| 1920-21 .. | 92                        | 2,729                | 481,352              | 203,425,000             | 362,495          | 177,410  |
| 1921-22 .. | 93                        | 2,583                | 495,288              | 169,715,000             | 355,784          | 185,293  |
| 1922-23 .. | 92                        | 3,136                | 631,454              | 227,183,000             | 439,159          | 203,828  |
| 1923-24 .. | 104                       | 3,467                | 735,719              | 247,598,000             | 541,796          | 241,821  |
| 1924-25 .. | 102                       | 2,995                | 655,034†             | 201,440,000             | 427,522          | 296,551  |

\* In addition, there are bricks made in small brickyards not tabulated as factories.

† Including £16,069 drawn by working proprietors.

The estimated value of bricks made in 1924-25 was £613,552, being a decrease of £171,193 on the value of those made in the preceding year.

Detailed information in regard to the forest saw-mills of the State for the ten years 1915 to 1924-25 is given in the table which follows :—

### FOREST SAW-MILLS, 1915 TO 1924-25.

| Year.      | Number of Mills. | Value of Machinery and Plant in Use. | Number of Employees. | Amount of Wages Paid. | Victorian Timber Sawn. |         |
|------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------|
|            |                  |                                      |                      |                       | Quantity.              | Value.  |
|            |                  | £                                    |                      | £                     | super ft.              | £       |
| 1915 ..    | 138              | 233,343                              | 1,564                | 169,027               | 62,589,000             | 234,710 |
| 1916-17 .. | 151              | 235,140                              | 1,678                | 206,709               | 70,038,000             | 297,663 |
| 1917-18 .. | 162              | 260,280                              | 1,935                | 248,940               | 78,984,000             | 355,430 |
| 1918-19 .. | 187              | 315,670                              | 2,278                | 319,547               | 91,540,000             | 503,470 |
| 1919-20 .. | 203              | 366,355                              | 2,627                | 405,335               | 99,142,000             | 693,995 |
| 1920-21 .. | 246              | 473,275                              | 3,181                | 563,627               | 113,215,000            | 905,720 |
| 1921-22 .. | 239              | 517,725                              | 3,014                | 627,432               | 112,008,000            | 896,070 |
| 1922-23 .. | 227              | 516,800                              | 2,910                | 616,680               | 118,366,000            | 946,930 |
| 1923-24 .. | 241              | 624,590                              | 3,272                | 686,419               | 134,639,000            | 942,476 |
| 1924-25 .. | 234              | 559,450                              | 3,013                | 667,684*              | 114,705,000            | 745,582 |

\* Including £51,604 drawn by working proprietors.

In addition to the forest saw-mills there were 471 other factories working in wood. Particulars relating to these for the year 1924-25 are given on page 573.

**Firewood, &c.** It is estimated that the approximate value of the production of firewood for consumption in the year 1924-25 was £1,053,870. In addition, there were supplies of railway sleepers, piles, posts and rails, shingles, and timber for mines obtained from the forests, but it has been found impossible to procure reliable information as to their value.

**Engineering, Iron Foundry, &c.** During the past decade there has been a very marked expansion in engineering works and iron foundries. Since 1915 the number of factories has increased by 46 per cent., the number of persons employed therein by 23 per cent., the amount of wages paid by 126 per cent., the value of machinery and plant by 102 per cent., the value of materials used by 77 per cent., and the value of the output by 100 per cent. The chief particulars of the industry for the years 1915 to 1924-25 are given in the next table :—

## ENGINEERING, IRON FOUNDRY, ETC., 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Number of Factories. | Horse-power of Engines. | Value of Machinery and Plant. | Number of Employees. | Amount of Wages Paid. | Value of—       |                      |           |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------|
|         |                      |                         |                               |                      |                       | Materials Used. | Fuel and Light Used. | Output.   |
|         |                      |                         | £                             |                      | £                     | £               | £                    | £         |
| 1915 .. | 364                  | 7,999                   | 784,447                       | 8,138                | 1,056,075             | 1,349,270       | 106,483              | 3,029,713 |
| 1916-17 | 364                  | 7,964                   | 809,940                       | 7,327                | 1,008,627             | 1,365,280       | 104,334              | 2,936,342 |
| 1917-18 | 388                  | 8,045                   | 844,350                       | 6,931                | 1,011,930             | 1,414,060       | 110,900              | 3,096,090 |
| 1918-19 | 402                  | 8,694                   | 903,110                       | 7,113                | 1,077,726             | 1,578,990       | 134,440              | 3,359,580 |
| 1919-20 | 441                  | 10,795                  | 1,023,395                     | 8,564                | 1,395,379             | 1,917,877       | 128,435              | 4,220,094 |
| 1920-21 | 510                  | 11,567                  | 1,207,630                     | 10,265               | 1,984,834             | 2,882,847       | 206,806              | 6,206,289 |
| 1921-22 | 517                  | 11,872                  | 1,325,500                     | 9,632                | 2,067,009             | 2,511,800       | 196,239              | 5,897,158 |
| 1922-23 | 531                  | 12,934                  | 1,389,075                     | 9,707                | 2,055,596             | 2,482,822       | 179,372              | 5,809,039 |
| 1923-24 | 516                  | 12,917                  | 1,445,840                     | 10,305               | 2,288,499             | 2,501,025       | 183,953              | 6,087,049 |
| 1924-25 | 530                  | 12,335                  | 1,584,565                     | 9,991                | 2,389,329*            | 2,393,110       | 164,768              | 6,051,309 |

\* Including £143,488 drawn by working proprietors.

The above figures are exclusive of railway workshops, which in 1924-25 numbered 18, and gave employment to 5,888 hands who were paid £1,289,834; the value of the materials dealt with by such workshops in that year was £1,557,517, and the value of the output was £3,254,715, of which 66 per cent. was from the Newport Workshops.



**Agricultural  
Implement  
works.**

The subjoined statement contains the leading particulars relating to agricultural implement works for the last ten years :—

**AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKS, 1915 to 1924-25.**

| Year.      | No. of<br>Factories. | No. of<br>Employees. | Wages Paid. | Value of—           |                    |           |
|------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|-----------|
|            |                      |                      |             | Fuel, &c.,<br>Used. | Materials<br>Used. | Output.   |
|            |                      |                      | £           | £                   | £                  | £         |
| 1915 ..    | 64                   | 1,678                | 206,764     | 15,337              | 213,257            | 526,756   |
| 1916-17 .. | 63                   | 1,832                | 250,450     | 18,666              | 359,342            | 743,196   |
| 1917-18 .. | 62                   | 1,904                | 261,045     | 20,911              | 435,665            | 830,876   |
| 1918-19 .. | 60                   | 1,628                | 249,360     | 18,100              | 337,730            | 702,870   |
| 1919-20 .. | 61                   | 1,701                | 272,262     | 20,001              | 349,555            | 757,062   |
| 1920-21 .. | 60                   | 2,641                | 512,363     | 42,193              | 756,204            | 1,750,704 |
| 1921-22 .. | 58                   | 2,851                | 643,874     | 43,794              | 806,066            | 1,567,843 |
| 1922-23 .. | 61                   | 2,589                | 555,394     | 36,935              | 626,561            | 1,511,724 |
| 1923-24 .. | 61                   | 3,144                | 688,229     | 44,171              | 713,637            | 1,690,645 |
| 1924-25 .. | 61                   | 3,100                | 730,219*    | 46,501              | 785,247            | 1,822,006 |

\* Including £10,226 drawn by working proprietors.

The wages averaged £123 4s. 5d. for each employee in 1915, and £232 5s. 1d. in 1924-25. The stripper-harvester, which is a Victorian invention, is one of the principal implements manufactured.

In the following table particulars of bacon and ham curing establishments are given for the ten years 1915 to 1924-25. The value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings in connexion with these establishments was £152,879 in 1915 and £270,060 in 1924-25.

**BACON CURING, 1915 to 1924-25.**

| Year.      | Number<br>of<br>Establish-<br>ments. | Number<br>of<br>Employees. | Amount<br>of<br>Wages<br>Paid. | Pigs<br>Slaughtered<br>for Curing. | Weight<br>of Bacon and<br>Hams Cured. | Value<br>of<br>Output. |
|------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
|            |                                      |                            | £                              | number                             | lbs.                                  | £                      |
| 1915 ..    | 25                                   | 362                        | 49,672                         | 129,259                            | 11,451,031                            | 767,778                |
| 1916-17 .. | 23                                   | 405                        | 58,191                         | 167,003                            | 15,376,600                            | 972,477                |
| 1917-18 .. | 21                                   | 433                        | 65,870                         | 197,880                            | 17,908,100                            | 1,084,440              |
| 1918-19 .. | 21                                   | 482                        | 76,308                         | 201,770                            | 18,343,400                            | 1,107,910              |
| 1919-20 .. | 21                                   | 529                        | 99,736                         | 182,320                            | 16,675,090                            | 1,384,351              |
| 1920-21 .. | 22                                   | 421                        | 90,394                         | 139,881                            | 13,369,107                            | 1,335,186              |
| 1921-22 .. | 22                                   | 445                        | 103,783                        | 163,917                            | 15,583,960                            | 1,366,832              |
| 1922-23 .. | 24                                   | 462                        | 104,841                        | 186,524                            | 17,293,395                            | 1,289,267              |
| 1923-24 .. | 24                                   | 502                        | 118,751                        | 217,847                            | 20,458,243                            | 1,602,615              |
| 1924-25 .. | 21                                   | 504                        | 129,474*                       | 218,158                            | 20,431,914                            | 1,571,357              |

\* Including £6,174 drawn by working proprietors.

This table does not include particulars relating to pigs slaughtered for curing, or to bacon and hams cured in small curing works; the pigs so slaughtered numbered 439 in 1915, 379 in 1916-17, 140 in 1917-18, 130 in 1918-19, 145 in 1919-20, 150 in 1920-21, 164 in 1921-22, 116 in 1922-23, 95 in 1923-24, and none in 1924-25; the quantity (in pounds) of bacon and hams cured in these works was 45,030 in 1915, 31,300 in 1916-17, 12,970 in 1917-18, 9,790 in 1918-19, 11,500 in 1919-20, 14,000 in 1920-21, 12,010 in 1921-22, 9,690 in 1922-23, and 9,025 in 1923-24.

In addition, the following quantities of bacon and hams were returned as having been cured on farms:—2,208,943 lbs. in 1915, 2,738,428 lbs. in 1916-17, 3,403,776 lbs. in 1917-18, 3,859,205 lbs. in 1918-19, 2,698,919 lbs. in 1919-20, 1,755,993 lbs. in 1920-21, 1,812,838 lbs. in 1921-22, 1,975,729 lbs. in 1922-23, 2,082,731 lbs. in 1923-24, and 1,561,955 lbs. in 1924-25. The total quantity of bacon and hams cured in 1924-25 was thus 21,993,869 lbs.—a decrease of 547,105 lbs. as compared with 1923-24.

The number of butter, cheese, and kindred factories in 1924-25 was 186. Of these 149 were making butter, 31 cheese, 3 concentrated milk, 3 condensed milk, 12 powdered milk, 12 casein, 1 milk sugar, and 1 milk jelly. There were also 26 creameries attached to the factories. The number of factories and the value of machinery, plant, land and buildings, the number of employees and the amount of their wages, and the total value of the output for the ten years 1915 to 1924-25 were as follows:—

#### BUTTER AND CHEESE FACTORIES, 1915 TO 1924-25.

| Year.         | Number of Factories. | Value of Machinery, Plant, Land, and Buildings. | Number of Employees. | Amount of Wages Paid. | Value of Output. |
|---------------|----------------------|---|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|               |                      | £   |                      | £                     | £                |
| 1915 .. ..    | 190                  | 644,960   | 1,145                | 139,543               | 2,715,784        |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 182                  | 647,128   | 1,398                | 185,024               | 4,815,833        |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 181                  | 683,140   | 1,642                | 226,050               | 5,086,238        |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 180                  | 786,275   | 1,885                | 273,335               | 6,056,342        |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 181                  | 1,025,325                                       | 2,026                | 338,507               | 6,365,927        |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 184                  | 1,238,745                                       | 2,093                | 414,420               | 9,194,654        |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 188                  | 1,395,425                                       | 2,293                | 492,446               | 7,115,642        |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 182                  | 1,509,545                                       | 2,188                | 497,816               | 7,899,377        |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 184                  | 1,685,530                                       | 2,186                | 511,001               | 7,974,676        |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 186                  | 1,812,525                                       | 2,398                | 565,422*              | 8,212,788        |

\* Including £5,469 drawn by working proprietors.

Further particulars relating to butter and cheese factories will be found under the heading of Dairying on page 546.

Meat freezing and preserving works numbered thirteen in 1924-25, and gave employment to 1,052 hands and 2 working proprietors, the wages amounting to £196,869.

The approximate value of machinery, plant, land and buildings in that year was £1,301,420. The output for each of the last ten years is given in the following table:—

### MEAT FREEZING AND PRESERVING, 1915 TO 1924-25.

| Year.         | Frozen. |           |           |          |
|---------------|---------|-----------|-----------|----------|
|               | Cattle. | Sheep.    | Rabbits.  | Poultry. |
|               | qrs.    | number.   | number.   | number.  |
| 1915 .. ..    | ..      | 47,546    | 3,584,388 | 8,652    |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 28,492  | 418,418   | 2,846,904 | 4,900    |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 3,832   | 196,267   | 7,394,140 | 4,620    |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 8,640   | 668,970   | 2,335,990 | 2,700    |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 177,230 | 4,001,500 | 5,385,854 | 2,736    |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 49,372  | 786,086   | 2,189,378 | 9,468    |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 55,355  | 1,186,704 | 903,400   | 8,856    |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 17,006  | 2,657,515 | 282,624   | 5,284    |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 16,044  | 691,630   | 160,998   | 6,776    |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 25,690  | 1,035,799 | 108,338   | 6,386    |

  

| Year.         | Preserved. |         |          |                  |
|---------------|------------|---------|----------|------------------|
|               | Beef.      | Mutton. | Rabbits. | Other Meats, &c. |
|               | cwt.       | cwt.    | cwt.     | cwt.             |
| 1915 .. ..    | 38,835     | 2,092   | 422      | 3,448            |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 15,591     | 4,484   | 5,245    | 2,693            |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 17,810     | 28,530  | 9,530    | 15,110           |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 75,790     | 118,520 | 9,625    | 9,850            |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 104,725    | 60,850  | 7,580    | 1,860            |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 3,641      | 443     | 1        | 764              |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 8,808      | 4,419   | 29       | 30               |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 9,500      | 2,092   | 16       | 3,925            |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 8,098      | 564     | 32       | 1,411            |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 13,895     | 954     | 4        | 1,467            |

NOTE.—In addition to the above, there were treated at freezing works 3,072 hares in 1915; 1,120 calves, 156 pigs, and 6,872 hares in 1916-17; 166 calves, 971 pigs, and 9,180 hares in 1917-18; 1,360 calves, 615 pigs, and 16,220 hares in 1918-19; 130 calves, 1,000 pigs, and 65,530 hares in 1919-20; 2,569 calves and 5,465 pigs in 1920-21; 2,855 calves and 7,335 pigs in 1921-22; 98 calves and 121 pigs in 1923-24; and 969 calves and 272 pigs in 1924-25.

Imports and  
exports of  
meats.

The following statement shows the imports from and exports to oversea countries of frozen and preserved meats, other than bacon and ham, during the year ended 30th June, 1925 :—

## MEATS IMPORTED AND EXPORTED OVERSEA, 1924-25.

| Meats.                     | Imports.     |         | Exports.       |           |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------|----------------|-----------|
|                            | Quantity.    | Value.  | Quantity.      | Value.    |
|                            |              | £       |                | £         |
| Frozen—                    |              |         |                |           |
| Mutton .. ..               | 9,320 lbs.   | 248     | 4,483,111 lbs. | 95,022    |
| Lamb .. ..                 |              |         | 28,965,315 „   | 955,276   |
| Reef .. ..                 | 40 lbs.      | 1       | 4,548,388 „    | 61,829    |
| Pork .. ..                 | 112,957 lbs. | 4,833   | 555 „          | 22        |
| Rabbits and Hares ..       | ..           | ..      | 54,174 prs.    | 5,196     |
| Poultry .. ..              | 12 lbs.      | 1       | 3,193 „        | 1,959     |
| Game .. ..                 | 3,720 lbs.   | 298     | 2,946 lbs.     | 55        |
| Potted and Concentrated .. | ..           | 45,080  | ..             | 1,710     |
| Preserved in tins ..       | ..           | 11,003  | 1,162,341 lbs. | 33,011    |
| Sausage Casings.. ..       | ..           | 72,551  | 2,533 cwt.     | 49,952    |
| Not elsewhere included ..  | ..           | 251     | ..             | 4,883     |
| Total value ..             | ..           | 134,266 | ..             | 1,208,915 |

The value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings used in connexion with flour mills was estimated at £461,801 in 1915, and at £826,595 in 1924-25. Particulars of the industry for the ten years 1915 to 1924-25 are as follows :—

## FLOUR MILLS, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.      | Number of Mills. | Number of Employees. | Amount of Wages Paid. | Wheat Ground into Flour. | Flour Made. | Value of Total Output. |
|------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
|            |                  |                      | £                     | bushels.                 | tons.       | £                      |
| 1915 ..    | 51               | 608                  | 70,982                | 6,574,753                | 134,401     | 2,739,730              |
| 1916-17 .. | 54               | 857                  | 126,280               | 12,483,990               | 263,095     | 3,458,633              |
| 1917-18 .. | 55               | 988                  | 155,330               | 15,034,990               | 311,450     | 3,989,510              |
| 1918-19 .. | 53               | 1,029                | 169,233               | 16,621,290               | 347,840     | 4,656,403              |
| 1919-20 .. | 51               | 1,028                | 189,224               | 16,920,890               | 353,683     | 6,082,741              |
| 1920-21 .. | 51               | 911                  | 191,688               | 12,387,960               | 260,032     | 5,745,507              |
| 1921-22 .. | 45               | 963                  | 228,195               | 14,697,290               | 308,532     | 5,759,281              |
| 1922-23 .. | 47               | 1,058                | 244,436               | 16,601,530               | 352,002     | 5,415,067              |
| 1923-24 .. | 47               | 1,082                | 266,540               | 18,552,540               | 382,204     | 5,495,110              |
| 1924-25 .. | 46               | 1,031                | 267,034*              | 17,165,253               | 359,597     | 6,218,248              |

\* Including £9,451 drawn by working proprietors.

In addition to the flour made, the wheat ground in 1924-25 produced 7,746,014 bushels of bran and 7,293,760 bushels of pollard. Other grain operated on amounted to 43,618 bushels in 1915, 44,150 bushels in 1916-17, 31,960 bushels in 1917-18, 40,113 bushels in 1918-19, 39,235 bushels in 1919-20, 40,094 bushels in 1920-21, 65,788 bushels in 1921-22, 44,363 bushels in 1922-23, 34,283 bushels in 1923-24, and 59,825 bushels in 1924-25.

**Exports of  
bread stuffs.**

During the year 1924-25, 1,902,596 lbs. of biscuits valued at £61,807, and 177,778 tons of flour valued at £2,408,542, were exported from Victoria to countries beyond Australia.

**Jam, pickle,  
and sauce  
works.**

In 1924-25 there were 52 establishments in which the manufacture of jams, pickles, and sauces was carried on, and the number of persons employed therein was 2,501, of whom 31 were working proprietors. The wages paid amounted to £419,295, and the value of machinery, plant, land and buildings was £555,905. The quantities of fruit and sugar used and the output for each of the last ten years were as shown below :—

**JAM, PICKLE, AND SAUCE WORKS, 1915 to 1924-25.**

| Year.     | Fruit<br>Used. | Sugar<br>Used. | Jams and<br>Jellies<br>Made. | Fruit<br>Preserved. | Fruit<br>Pulped. | Sauce<br>Made. | Pickles<br>Made. |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|
|           | cwt.           | cwt.           | cwt.                         | cwt.                | cwt.             | pints.         | pints.           |
| 1915 ..   | 300,861        | 193,243        | 305,445                      | 52,939              | 40,993           | 5,827,176      | 1,285,476        |
| 1916-17.. | 372,424        | 257,481        | 347,152                      | 60,419              | 132,182          | 6,433,032      | 1,803,408        |
| 1917-18.. | 497,650        | 286,860        | 398,500                      | 115,589             | 94,810           | 7,064,520      | 1,972,320        |
| 1918-19.. | 496,690        | 314,645        | 495,575                      | 133,230             | 91,550           | 4,913,050      | 2,137,730        |
| 1919-20.. | 628,721        | 262,585        | 323,452                      | 181,562             | 225,522          | 6,546,610      | 1,874,240        |
| 1920-21.. | 465,349        | 171,706        | 231,297                      | 61,542              | 178,786          | 6,601,330      | 1,239,250        |
| 1921-22.. | 384,214        | 148,886        | 157,712                      | 239,656             | 100,317          | 6,600,530      | 1,056,430        |
| 1922-23.. | 450,199        | 177,334        | 206,966                      | 221,157             | 114,615          | 8,439,440      | 2,106,950        |
| 1923-24.. | 552,262        | 191,216        | 197,850                      | 239,077             | 208,688          | 10,696,190     | 2,361,250        |
| 1924-25.. | 537,246        | 190,675        | 220,174                      | 282,360             | 151,416          | 7,893,760      | 2,057,480        |

Some of these establishments also candied fruit peel, the quantities being 4,628 cwt. in 1915, 3,360 cwt. in 1916-17, 9,330 cwt. in 1917-18, 8,449 cwt. in 1918-19, 10,466 cwt. in 1919-20, 13,306 cwt. in 1920-21, 10,743 cwt. in 1921-22, 6,831 cwt. in 1922-23, 3,820 cwt. in 1923-24, and 7,263 cwt. in 1924-25. The value of the output in 1924-25 of the whole of the establishments whose produce is shown in the above table was £2,090,690.

In 1896 Parliament made available £62,000 to assist in the establishment of the beet sugar industry at Maffra, in Gippsland. On receiving a guarantee that 1,500 acres of beet would be sown by local land-holders, a company erected a large building and plant, and operated for two seasons. Although a good quality of sugar was produced, various climatic, financial, and

**Beet Sugar  
Industry.**

other difficulties compelled the company to close down the works, and the Government, as chief creditor, took control.

In 1910 a definite campaign to revive the industry was commenced, and the mill was re-opened; since that time it has operated from year to year. Estates were purchased by the Government at Boisdale and Kilmany, and land was allotted to settlers, subject to the proviso that each would grow a certain quantity of beet. The compulsory system of securing acreage was not found satisfactory, and all crops are now grown voluntarily. Recently the financial results have been sufficiently favorable to more than compensate for all losses; the by-products have been found to be of great value to the dairying industry, and the sugar has become a most important item of Gippsland's food supply. The Government decided to remodel the plant, and a sum of £65,000 has been voted for the purpose. An American engineer has been appointed to proceed with the work, which is now well under way.

The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission have advanced their irrigation scheme on the Macalister River, which will provide water for part of the district this season and subsequently for the whole district. Under irrigation it is anticipated that the beet supply will at least double itself, and that the industry will expand on more favorable and economical lines than in the past.

The following particulars summarize the results of the industry for the last ten seasons:—

| Season. |    |    |    | Area<br>Harvested. | Sugar Beet<br>Harvested. | Sugar<br>Produced. |
|---------|----|----|----|--------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
|         |    |    |    | acres.             | tons.                    | tons.              |
| 1915-16 | .. | .. | .. | 461                | 4,928                    | 560                |
| 1916-17 | .. | .. | .. | 1,320              | 15,159                   | 1,948              |
| 1917-18 | .. | .. | .. | 1,200              | 14,487                   | 1,650              |
| 1918-19 | .. | .. | .. | 1,009              | 12,289                   | 1,263              |
| 1919-20 | .. | .. | .. | 1,080              | 13,084                   | 1,551              |
| 1920-21 | .. | .. | .. | 1,180              | 7,147                    | 833                |
| 1921-22 | .. | .. | .. | 1,602              | 16,578                   | 1,872              |
| 1922-23 | .. | .. | .. | 2,045              | 20,444                   | 2,784              |
| 1923-24 | .. | .. | .. | 1,937              | 29,512                   | 3,499              |
| 1924-25 | .. | .. | .. | 1,897              | 24,468                   | 3,017              |

The last season was a normal one. Growers were paid 40s. a ton for their beets, and a net profit of £23,142 was realized.

**Breweries.** Particulars regarding breweries for the ten years 1915 to 1924-25 are set forth in the next table. Machinery and plant were valued at £419,896 in 1915 and at £722,440 in 1924-25, whilst land and buildings were valued at £434,295 and £568,335 respectively in those years. The wages paid in 1924-25 amounted to £344,348.

### BREWERIES, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Number of Breweries. | Number of Employees. | Materials Used— |          |         | Beer Made. | Value of Output. |
|---------|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------|----------|---------|------------|------------------|
|         |                      |                      | Sugar.          | Malt.    | Hops.   |            |                  |
|         |                      |                      | cwt.            | bushels. | lbs.    | gallons.   | £                |
| 1915 .. | 22                   | 893                  | 111,363         | 600,333  | 661,299 | 20,340,000 | 1,061,196        |
| 1916-17 | 19                   | 857                  | 105,238         | 616,630  | 710,470 | 20,112,000 | 1,118,288        |
| 1917-18 | 18                   | 866                  | 109,640         | 650,500  | 748,840 | 21,021,000 | 1,334,344        |
| 1918-19 | 17                   | 932                  | 112,080         | 625,770  | 722,590 | 20,963,000 | 1,476,335        |
| 1919-20 | 17                   | 1,008                | 110,020         | 720,515  | 769,765 | 22,610,000 | 1,830,548        |
| 1920-21 | 16                   | 1,048                | 104,140         | 753,260  | 736,580 | 22,257,000 | 2,098,720        |
| 1921-22 | 15                   | 1,047                | 107,160         | 688,090  | 717,950 | 22,388,000 | 2,200,882        |
| 1922-23 | 14                   | 1,086                | 110,051         | 723,511  | 768,870 | 23,212,000 | 2,322,814        |
| 1923-24 | 14                   | 1,180                | 112,840         | 743,131  | 796,769 | 23,907,000 | 2,412,387        |
| 1924-25 | 14                   | 1,257                | 113,729         | 744,048  | 784,080 | 23,286,000 | 2,479,619        |

**Distilleries.** The number of distilleries working in 1924-25 was 10, and the persons employed numbered 117, of whom one was a working proprietor. The estimated value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings was £276,590. The quantities of materials used in manufacture and of spirits distilled in each of the last ten years were as follows:—

### DISTILLERIES, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Materials Used. |          |              |           | Spirits Distilled. |
|---------|-----------------|----------|--------------|-----------|--------------------|
|         | Wine.           | Malt.    | Other Grain. | Molasses. |                    |
|         | gallons.        | bushels. | bushels.     | lbs.      | proof gal.         |
| 1915 .. | 984,817         | 34,896   | 118          | 1,592,640 | 386,152            |
| 1916-17 | 1,452,048       | 176,472  | 170          | 1,093,120 | 658,357            |
| 1917-18 | 1,137,640       | 376,830  | ..           | 3,962,560 | 1,150,091          |
| 1918-19 | 1,206,530       | 385,690  | 397          | 5,604,480 | 1,185,629          |
| 1919-20 | 1,524,860       | 180,306  | ..           | 3,230,080 | 702,586            |
| 1920-21 | 1,041,890       | 125,414  | 1,422        | 2,682,960 | 572,671            |
| 1921-22 | 671,162         | 58,848   | ..           | 1,167,600 | 390,840            |
| 1922-23 | 1,100,568       | 77,717   | ..           | 85,120    | 473,152            |
| 1923-24 | 1,114,590       | 121,691  | ..           | 2,350,880 | 730,158            |
| 1924-25 | 1,117,370       | 92,124   | ..           | 2,727,650 | 561,153            |

Spirits made by vine-growers for fortifying wine are not included in the foregoing table. The following quantities were distilled in vineyards for that purpose during the last ten years:—9,955 gallons in 1915, 9,937 gallons in 1916-17, 5,134 gallons in 1917-18, 2,232 gallons in 1918-19, 5,141 gallons in 1919-20, 15,486 gallons in 1920-21, 23,020 gallons in 1921-22, 14,930 gallons in 1922-23, 13,792 gallons in 1923-24, and 19,245 gallons in 1924-25.

**Tobacco factories.** The number of tobacco, cigar, and cigarette factories licensed in 1924-25 was twenty-nine, of which sixteen were too small to be classified as ordinary factories and were consequently not included in the statistical tabulation on page 574. In the year mentioned the remaining thirteen gave employment to 1,818 persons who were paid £348,792 in wages, and used machinery, plant, land and buildings valued at £405,955. The subjoined table shows the quantity of tobacco leaf used by and the output of the full number of licensed establishments for the last ten years:—

TOBACCO FACTORIES, 1915 TO 1924-25.

| Year.      | Unmanufactured Leaf Operated on. |           | Quantity Manufactured. |        |            |             |
|------------|----------------------------------|-----------|------------------------|--------|------------|-------------|
|            | Australian.                      | Imported. | Tobacco.               | Snuff. | Cigars.    | Cigarettes. |
|            | lbs.                             | lbs.      | lbs.                   | lbs.   | number.    | number.     |
| 1915 ..    | 515,969                          | 4,414,921 | 5,022,910              | 565    | 22,676,586 | 138,111,000 |
| 1916-17 .. | 656,320                          | 5,254,110 | 6,089,929              | 446    | 26,268,733 | 123,480,200 |
| 1917-18 .. | 558,278                          | 4,598,364 | 5,479,191              | 313    | 27,920,180 | 126,883,970 |
| 1918-19 .. | 405,625                          | 5,096,176 | 5,842,142              | 1,049  | 27,973,908 | 125,372,900 |
| 1919-20 .. | 573,932                          | 5,189,098 | 6,164,126              | 426    | 35,232,399 | 143,374,400 |
| 1920-21 .. | 751,137                          | 5,290,854 | 6,443,480              | 228    | 35,549,722 | 109,686,950 |
| 1921-22 .. | 535,590                          | 5,250,641 | 6,345,508              | 232    | 33,893,695 | 152,908,600 |
| 1922-23 .. | 540,322                          | 5,628,555 | 6,709,060              | 231    | 32,699,019 | 99,771,650  |
| 1923-24 .. | 471,862                          | 4,998,680 | 5,833,903              | 99     | 29,244,981 | 87,896,350  |
| 1924-25 .. | 427,152                          | 5,222,496 | 5,998,437              | 50     | 30,794,864 | 77,840,200  |

**Woollen mills.** There were twenty-eight woollen mills working in 1924-25, and the number of persons employed therein was 5,077, of whom twenty-two were working proprietors. The wages paid amounted to £727,092, and the approximate value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings was £3,246,745. The value of the raw materials used during the year was £2,173,423, and that of the goods manufactured in the same period, £3,433,231.



The quantities of wool and cotton used and of goods manufactured in each of the last ten years were as follows :—

### WOOLLEN MILLS, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Quantity of Scoured Wool Used. | Quantity of Cotton Used. | Goods Manufactured— |           |           |                  | Value of Output. |
|---------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|------------------|
|         |                                |                          | Tweed and Cloth.    | Flannel.  | Blankets. | Shawls and Rugs. |                  |
|         | lbs.                           | lbs.                     | yards.              | yards.    | pairs.    | number           | £                |
| 1915    | 6,521,130                      | 702,653                  | 1,331,137           | 5,136,258 | 347,988   | 6,418            | 931,774          |
| 1916-17 | 5,114,320                      | 599,288                  | 1,238,363           | 5,250,093 | 259,080   | 3,661            | 1,006,635        |
| 1917-18 | 4,332,420                      | 832,400                  | 1,429,050           | 5,411,990 | 214,410   | 8,560            | 1,036,081        |
| 1918-19 | 4,614,585                      | 513,800                  | 1,429,200           | 5,047,490 | 191,130   | 19,430           | 1,126,119        |
| 1919-20 | 7,285,570                      | 578,542                  | 2,212,202           | 3,667,816 | 165,794   | 51,637           | 1,976,428        |
| 1920-21 | 7,702,055                      | 553,282                  | 2,509,198           | 4,035,298 | 224,745   | 47,179           | 2,397,610        |
| 1921-22 | 8,015,650                      | 586,836                  | 1,872,512           | 5,759,987 | 297,700   | 51,598           | 2,482,761        |
| 1922-23 | 9,640,760                      | 621,490                  | 1,714,460           | 6,622,350 | 314,803   | 71,073           | 3,264,025        |
| 1923-24 | 7,936,456                      | 848,812                  | 1,927,298           | 6,095,442 | 377,354   | 115,443          | 3,561,480        |
| 1924-25 | 8,782,203                      | 544,364                  | 1,898,647           | 3,594,427 | 319,026   | 130,094          | 3,433,231        |

During the period 1915 to 1924-25 the value of the output of woollen mills increased by 268 per cent. The articles manufactured showed an increase in quantity in the case of tweed, cloth, shawls and rugs, and a decrease in flannel and blankets in the ten-year period.

**Boot factories.**

The development which has taken place in the boot industry in recent years is exhibited in the following tables :—

### BOOT FACTORIES, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Number of Factories. | Persons Employed. | Value of Machinery, Plant, Land, and Buildings. | Wages Paid. |
|---------|----------------------|-------------------|---|-------------|
|         |                      |                   | £   | £           |
| 1915    | 174                  | 6,847             | 483,683   | 625,886     |
| 1916-17 | 201                  | 8,494             | 529,950   | 843,772     |
| 1917-18 | 231                  | 8,565             | 577,125   | 858,874     |
| 1918-19 | 238                  | 8,961             | 627,770   | 987,203     |
| 1919-20 | 264                  | 10,357            | 716,305   | 1,252,004   |
| 1920-21 | 304                  | 9,212             | 927,310   | 1,208,760   |
| 1921-22 | 334                  | 11,714            | 1,130,425                                       | 1,760,589   |
| 1922-23 | 371                  | 12,434            | 1,338,555                                       | 1,922,345   |
| 1923-24 | 400                  | 12,434            | 1,529,615                                       | 1,941,075   |
| 1924-25 | 430                  | 12,099            | 1,748,815                                       | 2,054,563*  |

\* Including £168,445 drawn by working proprietors.

## OUTPUT OF BOOT FACTORIES, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.         | Goods Manufactured— |            | Value of Materials Used. | Value of Output. |
|---------------|---------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|               | Boots and Shoes.    | Slippers.* |                          |                  |
|               | pairs.              | pairs.     | £                        | £                |
| 1915 .. ..    | 5,257,415           | 191,044    | 1,502,285                | 2,436,673        |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 6,210,866           | 212,582    | 2,171,812                | 3,460,404        |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 6,049,510           | 205,614    | 2,093,803                | 3,442,302        |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 6,073,117           | 243,383    | 2,563,423                | 4,040,550        |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 6,774,267           | 552,652    | 3,909,570                | 5,996,639        |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 5,447,504           | 559,213    | 2,911,852                | 4,964,462        |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 7,571,231           | 903,992    | 3,109,863                | 6,043,172        |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 7,591,946           | 851,239    | 3,059,769                | 6,157,132        |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 7,063,385           | 1,107,257  | 2,879,194                | 5,888,699        |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 7,496,004           | 1,167,581  | 2,913,105                | 5,832,625        |

\* Includes canvas shoes and house-boots.

The value of the output of establishments connected with the manufacture of dress, i.e., clothing, tailoring, dressmaking, millinery, underclothing, hats and caps, &c., but exclusive of boots and shoes, was £13,584,190 in 1924-25, as compared with £5,901,238 in 1915. During the period 1915 to 1924-25 the persons employed increased by 11 per cent., the wages paid by 147 per cent., the value of materials used by 124 per cent., and the value of the output by 130 per cent. Particulars of the industry for each of the last ten years are as follows :—

## DRESS (EXCLUSIVE OF BOOT) FACTORIES, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Number of Factories. | Number of Persons Employed. |          |        | Amount of Wages Paid. | Value of Materials Used. | Value of Output. |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------------------|----------|--------|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|         |                      | Males.                      | Females. | Total. |                       |                          |                  |
|         |                      |                             |          |        | £                     | £                        | £                |
| 1915 .. | 1,198                | 3,833                       | 24,126   | 27,959 | 1,554,921             | 3,295,009                | 5,901,238        |
| 1916-17 | 1,196                | 3,744                       | 25,739   | 29,483 | 1,747,478             | 3,919,333                | 6,765,326        |
| 1917-18 | 1,209                | 3,730                       | 24,630   | 28,360 | 1,788,136             | 4,512,648                | 7,674,705        |
| 1918-19 | 1,210                | 3,776                       | 23,505   | 27,281 | 1,915,096             | 5,205,460                | 8,599,603        |
| 1919-20 | 1,252                | 4,123                       | 25,490   | 29,613 | 2,490,549             | 6,628,276                | 11,407,324       |
| 1920-21 | 1,346                | 4,383                       | 25,980   | 30,363 | 2,872,171             | 7,804,264                | 12,994,011       |
| 1921-22 | 1,424                | 4,674                       | 27,370   | 32,044 | 3,328,326             | 7,689,101                | 13,429,230       |
| 1922-23 | 1,526                | 4,951                       | 28,595   | 33,546 | 3,554,303             | 7,456,539                | 13,354,238       |
| 1923-24 | 1,501                | 4,751                       | 26,772   | 31,523 | 3,574,059             | 7,181,020                | 13,118,477       |
| 1924-25 | 1,500                | 4,823                       | 26,295   | 31,118 | 3,837,919*            | 7,388,950                | 13,584,190       |

\* Including £271,400 drawn by working proprietors.

**Electric light and power works.** Particulars relating to the electric light and power works of the State are given in the next table:—

### ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER WORKS, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.   | Number of Stations. | Horse-power of Machinery. | Value of Machinery and Plant. | Persons Employed. | Wages Paid. | Electricity Supplied. | Value of Output. |
|---------|---------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------------|------------------|
|         |                     |                           | £                             |                   | £           | British units.        | £                |
| 1915 .. | 63                  | 33,127                    | 1,569,553                     | 957               | 135,045     | 53,210,000            | 536,251          |
| 1916-17 | 74                  | 42,144                    | 1,787,477                     | 1,144             | 178,430     | 71,622,000            | 673,769          |
| 1917-18 | 75                  | 48,526                    | 1,889,550                     | 1,167             | 183,948     | 79,486,000            | 760,117          |
| 1918-19 | 77                  | 48,777                    | 2,135,310                     | 1,149             | 190,280     | 83,778,000            | 835,190          |
| 1919-20 | 78                  | 49,241                    | 2,632,665                     | 1,215             | 217,995     | 100,838,000           | 953,039          |
| 1920-21 | 79                  | 54,189                    | 2,660,945                     | 1,242             | 283,309     | 115,105,000           | 1,131,331        |
| 1921-22 | 84                  | 57,481                    | 3,166,750                     | 1,350             | 334,805     | 136,021,000           | 1,407,268        |
| 1922-23 | 88                  | 72,106                    | 4,042,910                     | 1,451             | 377,048     | 157,728,000           | 1,614,139        |
| 1923-24 | 90                  | 154,622                   | 5,864,065                     | 1,752             | 462,172     | 405,108,000           | 2,176,551        |
| 1924-25 | 84                  | 205,777                   | 7,900,455                     | 2,011             | 549,849     | 413,556,000           | 2,382,582        |

The electricity supplied in 1924-25 represented an increase of 677 per cent. on that supplied in 1915.

The particulars relating to the power houses at Newport under the control of the Victorian Railways Commissioners and the State Electricity Commission are included in the figures for 1923-24 and 1924-25 which appear in the above table. This largely accounts for the seeming discrepancy between the quantity and value of the output for the years mentioned. The quantity of electricity generated in these power houses in 1924-25 was 298,505,000 units; the value of this has been estimated at bulk rates by the respective departments.

### STATE ELECTRICITY COMMISSION ACTS 1918 AND 1920.

When it was first appointed in 1919, the operations of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria were carried on under the provisions of the *Electricity Commissioners' Act* 1918, which provided for the appointment by the Governor in Council of three Commissioners to administer the Act. By an amending Act of the 24th December, 1920, the name of the Act was changed to the *State Electricity Commission Act* 1918, and provision was made, *inter alia*, for the appointment of four Commissioners for a period of seven years, one of whom would devote the whole of his time to the Commission's works as permanent chairman. In addition to the Acts mentioned above, the Commission administers the *Electric Light and Power Act* 1915, the provisions of which give it control over all electrical undertakings in the State.

The duties of the Commission include the following:—

- (1) To inquire into and report to the Government as to the steps which should be taken to co-ordinate and concentrate all electrical undertakings in Victoria, and to secure the efficient inter-connexion of such undertakings by the adoption of the necessary standards of plant, pressure, &c.
- (2) To encourage and promote the use of electricity for industrial and manufacturing purposes, and to report to the Govern-

ment on the prospects of establishing new industries in Victoria requiring large quantities of electrical energy.

- (3) To carry out investigations of coal deposits or of water power in connexion with the generation of electricity.

The Commission is vested with the following powers in relation to electrical undertakings :—

- (1) To erect and operate electrical undertakings.
- (2) To supply electricity in bulk to any corporation.
- (3) To supply electricity to any person outside any area in which there is an existing undertaking.
- (4) To carry on any business associated with an electric undertaking.
- (5) To make regulations as to precautions to be adopted in the use of electricity, and to arrange for the licensing of electric wiremen.

Authority is also given to the Commission to establish and operate State Coal Mines.

The Commission has complete control over all officers and employees required for the carrying out of the provisions of the Act.

In accordance with the instructions contained in the Act, the Commission has constructed a coal winning plant and an electric generating station in the neighbourhood of Morwell, for the purpose of utilizing the practically unlimited supplies of brown coal in that area. The scheme provides for the winning of coal on the open cut system by means of mechanical appliances, for the erection of a power station close to the site of the open cut, having an initial capacity of 50,000 kilowatts, with provision for triplication, and for the erection at Yarraville of a receiving station with the necessary switch and transforming gear. Both stations are now complete and in operation, as is also the initial installation of briquetting plant at Yallourn, which produces, approximately, 100,000 tons of brown coal briquettes annually.

The Commission has also installed at Newport a station with an initial capacity of 14,000 kilowatts. This station, which was built mainly to meet the urgent need for electricity pending the completion of the Yallourn plant, is now regarded as a peak load station.

Supply of electricity from the Commission's temporary station at Yallourn is already being given to the following towns in the Gippsland district (in addition to the Commission's township of Yallourn) :—Morwell, Traralgon, Moe, Trafalgar, Yarragon, Maffra, Sale, Tyers, Heyfield, Mirboo North, Drouin, Korumburra, Leongatha, Cowwarr, and Boolarra. Ultimately, supply will be given to other towns throughout Gippsland and on the route of the main transmission line.

A transmission line has been built from Geelong, stretching through the south-western district of Victoria to the town of Warrnambool (a distance of 117 miles), giving supply to the latter town and to the following towns *en route* :—Colac, Camperdown, Terang, Mortlake, Warrior, Beac, Cobden, Ncorat, Alvie, Allansford, Winchelsea and Birregurra. This transmission line (operating at 44,000 volts) is believed to be among the longest in the British Empire.

Supply has also been given to the towns of Point Lonsdale, Queenscliff, Portarlington, Drysdale, Ocean Grove, and Barwon Heads, by another transmission line from Geelong.

The energy is generated at the Melbourne Electric Supply Company's Power House at Geelong under an agreement between that body and the Electricity Commission until such time as energy is available from the Commission's main power station at Yallourn.

The Commission is supplying energy in bulk to the Melbourne City Council, the Melbourne Electric Supply Company, the municipalities of Brunswick, Coburg, Williamstown, and Footscray, and the shires of Braybrook and Lilydale, and has built a subsidiary line, operating at 22,000 volts, from Brunswick sub-station, which encircles the eastern half of the outer metropolitan area, passing through and giving service to Ringwood, Dandenong, Frankston, and the Mornington Peninsula. It has also taken over the supply and retail distribution of energy to Dandenong, Werribee, and Essendon—Flemington. At the 30th June, 1925, the Commission was supplying, either in retail or in bulk, 62 towns or centres throughout Victoria.

The Commission is empowered to develop hydro-electric resources, and with this object to maintain survey parties constantly in the field for the purpose of obtaining data relative to stream flow, volume, &c.

Plans are complete for the building of hydro-power stations at Royston, Rubicon, Rubicon Lower, Snobbs Creek and Sugarloaf—all to feed into a common sub-station about eight miles from Sugarloaf. The total capacity of hydraulic turbines to be installed in these stations is 25,800 brake horse-power. The construction of the transmission line from Sugarloaf to Thomastown, and from Sugarloaf to Albury and Corowa (New South Wales), via Benalla and Wangaratta, is nearly complete, and, pending completion of the hydro-electric plant, supply will be given to the north-eastern portions of the State over the transmission line from Yallourn, via Yarraville and Thomastown terminal stations.

The approximate value of the machinery, plant, land and buildings connected with gasworks in Victoria was £1,819,657 in 1915, and £2,436,215 in 1924-25. The gas made in the latter year was 37 per cent. in excess of that made in 1915. Particulars in regard to these works are given below.

#### GASWORKS, 1915 to 1924-25.

| Year.      | Number<br>of<br>Works.* | Persons<br>Employed. | Wages<br>Paid. | Coal<br>Used. | Gas Made.     | Coke<br>Produced. | Value of<br>Output. |
|------------|-------------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|---------------------|
|            |                         |                      | £              | tons.         | cubic feet.   | tons.             | £                   |
| 1915 ..    | 47                      | 2,175                | 347,434        | 307,902       | 4,107,578,000 | 204,957           | 1,035,941           |
| 1916-17 .. | 47                      | 2,093                | 365,777        | 317,450       | 4,449,230,000 | 200,673           | 1,181,096           |
| 1917-18 .. | 47                      | 2,089                | 375,181        | 318,560       | 4,505,847,000 | 200,660           | 1,263,030           |
| 1918-19 .. | 46                      | 2,270                | 420,597        | 353,584       | 4,904,351,000 | 220,287           | 1,373,603           |
| 1919-20 .. | 45                      | 2,267                | 472,855        | 331,149       | 4,592,305,000 | 206,245           | 1,395,320           |
| 1920-21 .. | 45                      | 2,213                | 576,515        | 339,250       | 4,499,088,000 | 216,771           | 1,608,999           |
| 1921-22 .. | 45                      | 2,309                | 609,600        | 383,092       | 5,151,380,000 | 239,755           | 1,953,936           |
| 1922-23 .. | 45                      | 2,444                | 639,954        | 402,537       | 5,443,993,000 | 260,526           | 1,941,808           |
| 1923-24 .. | 45                      | 2,561                | 699,173        | 410,517       | 5,407,962,000 | 259,080           | 2,098,571           |
| 1924-25 .. | 45                      | 2,464                | 668,006        | 406,868       | 5,608,313,000 | 226,436           | 2,087,358           |

\* Including one establishment manufacturing coke only, which has not worked since 1919-20.

Oil was used as well as coal in the manufacture of gas, the number of gallons consumed each year being 328,230 in 1915, 345,272 in 1916-17, 396,717 in 1917-18, 355,933 in 1918-19, 343,764 in 1919-20, 360,876 in 1920-21, 300,188 in 1921-22, 248,481 in 1922-23, 223,986 in 1923-24, and 175,127 in 1924-25.

The facilities afforded in the metropolitan area have had the effect of bringing within that area the more important of the manufactories. The distribution of factories by classes between the metropolis and the remainder of the State, for 1915 and each of the last three years, is exhibited in the following statement:—

### NUMBER AND LOCATION OF FACTORIES.

| Class of Industry.   | Number of Factories. |          |          |          |                     |          |          |          |
|--|----------------------|----------|----------|----------|---------------------|----------|----------|----------|
|  | Metropolis.          |          |          |          | Remainder of State. |          |          |          |
|  | 1915.                | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. | 1915.               | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
| Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. . . | 77                   | 87       | 84       | 83       | 245                 | 208      | 204      | 191      |
| Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. . .           | 14                   | 21       | 19       | 18       | 11                  | 9        | 9        | 9        |
| Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. . .                     | 96                   | 140      | 149      | 151      | 93                  | 91       | 103      | 110      |
| Working in wood . .  | 194                  | 289      | 336      | 356      | 216                 | 324      | 355      | 349      |
| Metal works, machinery, &c. . .                              | 507                  | 705      | 696      | 707      | 224                 | 213      | 212      | 216      |
| Connected with food and drink, &c. . .                       | 201                  | 289      | 277      | 267      | 430                 | 442      | 443      | 454      |
| Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. . .                        | 1,100                | 1,589    | 1,594    | 1,627    | 315                 | 370      | 373      | 373      |
| Books, paper, printing, &c. . .                              | 283                  | 356      | 367      | 380      | 160                 | 161      | 170      | 176      |
| Musical instruments, &c. . .                                 | 5                    | 17       | 19       | 19       | ..                  | 1        | 1        | 1        |
| Arms and explosives  | 8                    | 9        | 9        | 8        | 4                   | 1        | 1        | 1        |
| Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. . .                         | 249                  | 371      | 413      | 427      | 280                 | 379      | 417      | 419      |
| Ship and boat building and repairing . .                     | 11                   | 10       | 11       | 10       | 1                   | 1        | 1        | 1        |
| Furniture, upholstery and bedding . .                        | 239                  | 367      | 370      | 387      | 26                  | 30       | 36       | 38       |
| Drugs, chemicals, and by-products . .                        | 53                   | 91       | 90       | 93       | 26                  | 31       | 31       | 38       |
| Surgical and other scientific appliances                     | 22                   | 36       | 34       | 35       | 1                   | 2        | 2        | 2        |
| Jewellery, time-pieces and plated-ware . .                   | 89                   | 105      | 104      | 106      | 5                   | 6        | 7        | 5        |
| Heat, light, and power . .                                   | 46                   | 88       | 95       | 102      | 96                  | 121      | 124      | 120      |
| Leatherware, n.e.i. . .                                      | 33                   | 61       | 59       | 56       | ..                  | 3        | 3        | 3        |
| Minor wares, n.e.i. . .                                      | 51                   | 68       | 62       | 75       | 2                   | 4        | 9        | 12       |
| Total . .  | 3,278                | 4,699    | 4,788    | 4,907    | 2,135               | 2,397    | 2,501    | 2,518    |

Since 1915 the number of factories in the State has increased by 2,012, the greatest numerical increase in the classes being that

of the clothing and textile factories, of which there were 585 more in 1924-25 than in 1915.

The employment afforded in each class of industry is set forth in the next statement:—

### AVERAGE NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

| Class of Industry.   | 1915.   | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
|--|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Treating raw materials, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. .. | 3,345   | 4,329    | 4,488    | 4,276    | 4,077    |
| Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. ..            | 740     | 880      | 915      | 920      | 950      |
| Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. ..                      | 3,822   | 5,391    | 6,059    | 6,661    | 6,181    |
| Working in wood ..   | 6,345   | 9,537    | 9,939    | 10,825   | 10,198   |
| Metal works, machinery, &c. ..                               | 19,217  | 22,868   | 23,406   | 24,978   | 24,464   |
| Connected with food and drink, &c. ..                        | 13,778  | 17,974   | 19,037   | 19,199   | 19,344   |
| Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. ..                         | 38,041  | 48,844   | 51,898   | 50,248   | 49,633   |
| Books, paper, printing, &c. ..                               | 8,881   | 10,465   | 11,307   | 12,098   | 11,703   |
| Musical instruments, &c. ..                                  | 145     | 390      | 444      | 498      | 467      |
| Arms and explosives ..                                       | 1,324   | 756      | 406      | 423      | 428      |
| Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. ..                          | 4,589   | 6,173    | 6,407    | 7,028    | 6,984    |
| Ship and boat building and repairing ..                      | 1,085   | 684      | 618      | 392      | 432      |
| Furniture, bedding, and upholstery ..                        | 2,689   | 3,709    | 4,392    | 4,629    | 4,782    |
| Drugs, chemicals, and by-products ..                         | 1,860   | 2,465    | 2,511    | 2,699    | 2,774    |
| Surgical and other scientific appliances ..                  | 115     | 203      | 203      | 195      | 236      |
| Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware ..                   | 825     | 1,183    | 1,151    | 1,110    | 1,069    |
| Heat, light, and power ..                                    | 4,012   | 5,090    | 5,364    | 5,879    | 6,311    |
| Leatherware, n.e.i. ..                                       | 604     | 1,065    | 1,123    | 1,071    | 940      |
| Minor wares, n.e.i. ..                                       | 2,417   | 2,870    | 2,957    | 3,033    | 3,185    |
| Total ..   | 113,834 | 144,876  | 152,625  | 156,162  | 154,158  |

The total increase in the number of hands employed during the period covered by the above table was 40,324, which represented an advance of about 35 per cent. The greatest development had taken place in clothing factories, industries connected with food, drink, &c., and metal works, which showed increases of 11,592, 5,566, and 5,247 respectively in the number of persons employed in 1924-25 as compared with the number in 1915.

**Size of factories.** An examination of the figures relating to the number of factories in 1915 and in 1924-25 shows that percentage increases were more pronounced in the smallest sized factories and in those employing from 21 to 50 hands and from 51 to 100 hands. In the case of persons employed, the largest percentage increases were in the groups 51 to 100 hands, under 4 hands, and 21 to 50 hands respectively. Particulars of factories of different sizes in 1915 and 1924-25 are given in the next two tables:—

### FACTORIES ACCORDING TO NUMBER OF HANDS EMPLOYED.

| Size of Factory. | Number of Factories. |          |           | Average Number of Persons Employed. |          |           |
|------------------|----------------------|----------|-----------|-------------------------------------|----------|-----------|
|                  | 1915.                | 1924-25. | Increase. | 1915.                               | 1924-25. | Increase. |
|                  |                      |          | %         |                                     |          | %         |
| Under 4 hands..  | 1,147                | 1,787    | 55·80     | 2,631                               | 3,872    | 47·17     |
| 4 " ..           | 624                  | 764      | 22·44     | 2,496                               | 3,056    | 22·44     |
| 5 to 10 " ..     | 1,805                | 2,259    | 25·15     | 12,390                              | 15,706   | 26·76     |
| 11 to 20 " ..    | 827                  | 1,169    | 41·35     | 12,011                              | 17,068   | 42·10     |
| 21 to 50 " ..    | 608                  | 902      | 48·36     | 19,621                              | 28,661   | 46·07     |
| 51 to 100 " ..   | 214                  | 312      | 45·79     | 14,693                              | 21,960   | 49·46     |
| Over 100 " ..    | 188                  | 232      | 23·40     | 49,992                              | 63,835   | 27·69     |
| Total ..         | 5,413                | 7,425    | 37·17     | 113,834                             | 154,158  | 35·42     |

### PROPORTION OF FACTORIES OF DIFFERENT SIZES.

| Size of Factory. |    |    |  | Percentage to Total. |          |                   |          |
|------------------|----|----|--|----------------------|----------|-------------------|----------|
|                  |    |    |  | Factories.           |          | Persons Employed. |          |
|                  |    |    |  | 1915.                | 1924-25. | 1915.             | 1924-25. |
| Under 4 hands    | .. | .. |  | 21·19                | 24·07    | 2·31              | 2·51     |
| 4                | .. | .. |  | 11·53                | 10·29    | 2·19              | 1·98     |
| 5 to 10          | .. | .. |  | 33·34                | 30·43    | 10·89             | 10·19    |
| 11 to 20         | .. | .. |  | 15·29                | 15·74    | 10·55             | 11·07    |
| 21 to 50         | .. | .. |  | 11·23                | 12·15    | 17·24             | 18·59    |
| 51 to 100        | .. | .. |  | 3·95                 | 4·20     | 12·90             | 14·25    |
| Over 100         | .. | .. |  | 3·47                 | 3·12     | 43·92             | 41·41    |
| Total            | .. | .. |  | 100·00               | 100·00   | 100·00            | 100·00   |



**Occupations  
in factories.**

In the following table the persons employed in factories are grouped according to their occupational status :—

### OCCUPATIONS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

| Occupations.                         | 1915.          | 1920-21.       | 1921-22.       | 1922-23.       | 1923-24.       | 1924-25.       |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Working proprietors ..               | 5,366          | 6,645          | 6,904          | 7,296          | 7,500          | 7,255          |
| Managers, overseers ..               | 3,347          | 4,354          | 4,454          | 4,673          | 4,929          | 5,043          |
| Accountants, clerks ..               | 4,062          | 6,106          | 6,307          | 6,582          | 6,966          | 6,827          |
| Engine-drivers, firemen              | 1,685          | 2,108          | 2,156          | 2,106          | 2,197          | 2,142          |
| Workers in factory or<br>works .. .. | 94,338         | 116,650        | 119,598        | 126,791        | 129,617        | 128,706        |
| Outworkers .. ..                     | 1,473          | 1,151          | 1,476          | 1,228          | 870            | 728            |
| Carters, messengers ..               | 2,657          | 2,964          | 3,115          | 3,316          | 3,378          | 2,766          |
| Others .. ..                         | 906            | 765            | 866            | 633            | 705            | 691            |
| <b>Total ..</b>                      | <b>113,834</b> | <b>140,743</b> | <b>144,876</b> | <b>152,625</b> | <b>156,162</b> | <b>154,158</b> |

**Outworkers.** The term "outworker" used in the above table relates to factory workers working in their own homes, but does not include individuals working for themselves. The employment of outworkers is regulated by a special provision of the Factories and Shops Act. They are required to register their names and addresses with the Chief Inspector of Factories, and factory proprietors are forbidden to give work to those who are not registered.

**Sex distribution in factories.** The average numbers of males and females employed in factories and their proportions to the male and female populations, for the years 1915 to 1924-25, were as follows :—

### EMPLOYMENT OF MALES AND FEMALES IN FACTORIES.

| Year.      | Males.  |  | Females. |  | Total.  |   |
|------------|---------|--|----------|--|---------|---|
|            | Number. | Average per 10,000 of Male Population. | Number.  | Average per 10,000 of Female Population. | Number. | Average per 10,000 of Total Population. |
| 1915 ..    | 75,971  | 1,097                                  | 37,863   | 522                                      | 113,834 | 798                                     |
| 1916-17 .. | 74,924  | 1,123                                  | 42,046   | 574                                      | 116,970 | 836.                                    |
| 1917-18 .. | 76,654  | 1,142                                  | 41,587   | 562                                      | 118,241 | 838                                     |
| 1918-19 .. | 81,357  | 1,188                                  | 40,992   | 550                                      | 122,349 | 855                                     |
| 1919-20 .. | 92,101  | 1,243                                  | 44,421   | 588                                      | 136,522 | 913                                     |
| 1920-21 .. | 96,379  | 1,277                                  | 44,364   | 580                                      | 140,743 | 926                                     |
| 1921-22 .. | 97,789  | 1,279                                  | 47,087   | 599                                      | 144,876 | 934                                     |
| 1922-23 .. | 103,092 | 1,307                                  | 49,533   | 618                                      | 152,625 | 960                                     |
| 1923-24 .. | 107,578 | 1,334                                  | 48,584   | 593                                      | 156,162 | 961                                     |
| 1924-25 .. | 105,984 | 1,286                                  | 48,174   | 578                                      | 154,158 | 930                                     |

Males formed 66·7 per cent. in 1915 and 68·8 per cent. in 1924-25 of the total persons employed. The increase during the period 1915 to 1924-25 in the number of males employed was 30,013, or 39·5 per cent., and in the number of females employed, 10,311 or 27·2 per cent.

Of the total females in factories 72·4 per cent. are engaged in the textile and clothing industries, and 10·7 per cent. in the preparation of food and drink. The extent of female employment in certain industries is shown in the next table :—

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT IN FACTORIES, 1924-25.

| Industry.                            | Number Employed. |          | Females per 100 Males. |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|----------|------------------------|
|                                      | Males.           | Females. |                        |
| Oatmeal, &c. .. .. .                 | 401              | 351      | 87·53                  |
| Biscuit .. .. .                      | 807              | 633      | 78·44                  |
| Jam, pickle, and sauce .. .. .       | 1,466            | 1,035    | 70·60                  |
| Confectionery .. .. .                | 1,910            | 1,877    | 98·27                  |
| Tobacco, &c. .. .. .                 | 1,173            | 645      | 55·00                  |
| Woollen mills .. .. .                | 2,224            | 2,853    | 128·29                 |
| Clothing, tailoring, &c. .. .. .     | 2,221            | 7,632    | 343·63                 |
| Dressmaking, millinery .. .. .       | 423              | 7,916    | 1,871·39               |
| Underclothing .. .. .                | 430              | 5,109    | 1,188·14               |
| Hats, caps, &c. .. .. .              | 692              | 1,004    | 145·09                 |
| Hosiery .. .. .                      | 648              | 3,779    | 583·18                 |
| Waterproof clothing .. .. .          | 73               | 188      | 257·53                 |
| Boots and shoes .. .. .              | 6,947            | 5,152    | 74·16                  |
| Printing, &c. .. .. .                | 6,409            | 1,664    | 25·96                  |
| Bookbinding, stationery, &c. .. .. . | 705              | 619      | 87·80                  |
| Fancybox, &c. .. .. .                | 317              | 825      | 260·25                 |
| Rope, twine .. .. .                  | 501              | 390      | 77·84                  |
| Sail, tent .. .. .                   | 134              | 102      | 76·12                  |
| Ammunition .. .. .                   | 86               | 66       | 76·74                  |
| Match .. .. .                        | 196              | 463      | 236·22                 |
| Fancy leather .. .. .                | 466              | 346      | 74·25                  |
| Rubber goods .. .. .                 | 1,905            | 536      | 28·14                  |
| All other factories .. .. .          | 75,850           | 4,989    | 6·58                   |
| Total .. .. .                        | 105,984          | 48,174   | 45·45                  |

A favorable feature of factory statistics has been the small proportion of children engaged in factories. Of the male and female employees, boys and girls under 16 constituted 4·05 and 6·78 per cent. respectively in 1924-25, as against 4·71 and 5·89 per cent. in 1915. The number of children

employed in factories and their proportions to the total employees are given in the subjoined table for the years 1915 to 1924-25 :—

### CHILDREN EMPLOYED IN FACTORIES.

| Year.      | Boys<br>under 16. | Girls<br>under 16. | Total<br>Children. | Proportion per cent. of—      |                                  |                                    |
|------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|            |                   |                    |                    | Boys to<br>Male<br>Employees. | Girls to<br>Female<br>Employees. | Children<br>to Total<br>Employees. |
| 1915 ..    | 3,355             | 2,197              | 5,552              | 4·71                          | 5·89                             | 5·12                               |
| 1916-17 .. | 3,072             | 2,301              | 5,373              | 4·37                          | 5·55                             | 4·81                               |
| 1917-18 .. | 3,195             | 2,447              | 5,642              | 4·45                          | 5·97                             | 5·00                               |
| 1918-19 .. | 3,137             | 2,389              | 5,526              | 4·15                          | 5·90                             | 4·73                               |
| 1919-20 .. | 3,721             | 2,872              | 6,593              | 4·04                          | 6·47                             | 4·83                               |
| 1920-21 .. | 3,715             | 2,798              | 6,513              | 4·11                          | 6·39                             | 4·86                               |
| 1921-22 .. | 3,780             | 3,120              | 6,900              | 4·13                          | 6·71                             | 5·00                               |
| 1922-23 .. | 4,031             | 3,163              | 7,194              | 4·18                          | 6·48                             | 4·95                               |
| 1923-24 .. | 4,057             | 3,422              | 7,479              | 4·03                          | 7·15                             | 5·03                               |
| 1924-25 .. | 4,027             | 3,223              | 7,250              | 4·05                          | 6·78                             | 4·94                               |

**Machinery  
in factories.**

In the following table are shown the number of factories using mechanical power, the total horse-power of the engines used, and the value of the machinery and plant for the ten years 1915 to 1924-25 :—

### MACHINERY IN FACTORIES.

| Year.         | Number of Factories<br>equipped with<br>Machinery. | Value of<br>Machinery and<br>Plant. | Horse-power<br>of<br>Engines. |
|---------------|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|               |  | £                                   |                               |
| 1915 .. ..    | 4,089  | 11,068,949                          | 117,815                       |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 4,226  | 11,732,062                          | 136,985                       |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 4,371  | 12,612,797                          | 149,095                       |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 4,470  | 13,645,220                          | 153,408                       |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 4,737  | 15,846,935                          | 166,803                       |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 5,161  | 18,179,385                          | 182,143                       |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 5,473  | 21,182,110                          | 191,881                       |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 5,762  | 23,994,715                          | 216,427                       |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 6,030  | 28,223,915                          | 314,561                       |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 6,168  | 32,563,815                          | 374,064                       |

The nature of the power used and the capacity of the machinery in the factories of the State are set out in the next table. Establishments using more than one kind of mechanical power are included once only in the first portion, usually under the power which is principally used. The second portion shows the total horse-power of engines used.

## POWER USED IN FACTORIES, 1915 TO 1924-25.

| Year.         | Number of Factories using— |      |              |      |                                  |                   |
|---------------|----------------------------|------|--------------|------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
|               | Steam.                     | Gas. | Electricity. | Oil. | Water,<br>Wind,<br>or<br>Horses. | Manual<br>Labour. |
| 1915 .. ..    | 961                        | 824  | 1,915        | 330  | 59                               | 1,324             |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 931                        | 800  | 2,142        | 311  | 42                               | 1,219             |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 896                        | 784  | 2,365        | 285  | 41                               | 1,256             |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 875                        | 782  | 2,481        | 297  | 35                               | 1,250             |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 910                        | 761  | 2,712        | 315  | 39                               | 1,301             |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 941                        | 705  | 3,128        | 360  | 27                               | 1,371             |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 935                        | 666  | 3,474        | 364  | 34                               | 1,280             |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 910                        | 655  | 3,795        | 372  | 30                               | 1,334             |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 885                        | 540  | 4,174        | 402  | 29                               | 1,259             |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 812                        | 476  | 4,448        | 403  | 29                               | 1,257             |

| Year.         | Actual Horse-power of Engines. |        |              |       |         |
|---------------|--------------------------------|--------|--------------|-------|---------|
|               | Steam.                         | Gas.   | Electricity. | Oil.  | Total.  |
| 1915 .. ..    | 71,223                         | 17,935 | 26,385       | 2,272 | 117,815 |
| 1916-17 .. .. | 81,611                         | 18,651 | 34,348       | 2,375 | 136,985 |
| 1917-18 .. .. | 89,561                         | 19,045 | 38,246       | 2,243 | 149,095 |
| 1918-19 .. .. | 91,245                         | 18,929 | 40,791       | 2,443 | 153,408 |
| 1919-20 .. .. | 95,747                         | 19,183 | 48,814       | 3,059 | 166,803 |
| 1920-21 .. .. | 103,048                        | 19,331 | 56,602       | 3,162 | 182,143 |
| 1921-22 .. .. | 106,882                        | 19,327 | 62,663       | 3,009 | 191,881 |
| 1922-23 .. .. | 112,547                        | 18,968 | 81,679       | 3,233 | 216,427 |
| 1923-24 .. .. | 195,744                        | 18,394 | 95,340       | 5,083 | 314,561 |
| 1924-25 .. .. | 233,290                        | 17,869 | 117,525      | 5,380 | 374,064 |

Although steam is the principal motive power, and was used to supply 62 per cent. of the total mechanical power employed in factories in 1924-25, a remarkable development is shown in the use of electricity, which in 1915 was used by 1,915, and in 1924-25 by 4,448 factories, the actual horse-power increasing from 26,385 to 117,525 in the same period.

Wages in  
factories.

The total amount and the average amount of salaries and wages paid to male and female employees in factories are given in the following table:—

### SALARIES AND WAGES PAID IN FACTORIES.

| Year.   | Salaries paid to Managers and Clerks. |          | Wages paid to Factory Workers. |           | Average Salary of Managers and Clerks. |          | Average Wage of Factory Workers. |          |
|---------|---------------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-----------|--|----------|----------------------------------|----------|
|         | Males.                                | Females. | Males.                         | Females.  | Males.                                 | Females. | Males.                           | Females. |
|         | £                                     | £        | £                              | £         | £ s. d.                                | £ s. d.  | £ s. d.                          | £ s. d.  |
| 1915 .. | 1,232,981                             | 133,362  | 7,928,871                      | 1,741,131 | 205 10 7                               | 94 11 8  | 121 13 9                         | 48 10 0  |
| 1916-17 | 1,364,269                             | 171,675  | 8,226,582                      | 2,070,991 | 220 3 0                                | 97 3 1   | 128 7 8                          | 52 2 7   |
| 1917-18 | 1,462,220                             | 190,707  | 8,679,530                      | 2,170,144 | 231 4 4                                | 99 15 11 | 132 8 6                          | 55 10 1  |
| 1918-19 | 1,625,584                             | 208,524  | 9,906,082                      | 2,340,213 | 244 5 4                                | 101 7 5  | 141 19 8                         | 60 19 0  |
| 1919-20 | 1,937,959                             | 270,875  | 12,515,207                     | 2,948,132 | 264 8 1                                | 118 6 9  | 157 16 8                         | 70 17 5  |
| 1920-21 | 2,384,372                             | 310,024  | 15,284,545                     | 3,398,275 | 298 19 7                               | 124 15 2 | 185 12 4                         | 82 5 11  |
| 1921-22 | 2,563,467                             | 357,691  | 16,933,984                     | 3,991,353 | 316 18 11                              | 133 16 4 | 202 19 11                        | 91 2 11  |
| 1922-23 | 2,761,045                             | 394,366  | 18,038,101                     | 4,353,650 | 331 10 9                               | 134 14 8 | 204 12 2                         | 94 16 5  |
| 1923-24 | 3,003,855                             | 436,425  | 19,577,822                     | 4,453,982 | 339 19 1                               | 142 13 5 | 212 19 0                         | 99 7 1   |
| 1924-25 | 3,055,257                             | 443,678  | 19,460,304                     | 4,484,904 | 347 18 0                               | 143 13 7 | 214 15 5                         | 109 1 3  |

The particulars appearing in the above table reveal a steady increase in the average earnings of males and females, this being shown both in the salaries of managers, overseers, and clerks, and in the wages of factory workers generally. The amounts drawn regularly by working proprietors (exclusive of profits) amounted to £1,538,868 for males and £74,043 for females, or an average for the former of £233 8s. 11d., and for the latter £111 13s. 7d.

The amount of wages paid during the year 1924-25, £29,057,052, represented an average payment for all persons of £188 9s. 9d., which was an increase of £3 13s. 10d. on the average wage for 1923-24, of £12 14s. on that for 1922-23, of £15 13s. on that for 1921-22, of £29 1s. 5d. on that for 1920-21, of £52 19s. 4d. on that for 1919-20, of £68 0s. 4d. on that for 1918-19, of £77 14s. 5d. on that for 1917-18, of £82 12s. 3d. on that for 1916-17, and of £86 14s. 9d. on that for 1915. Concurrent with this increase there was a slight change in the relative proportions of male and female workers during the ten years, the percentages of male to total employees being 69 in 1920-21 and 1924-25, 68 in 1915, 1919-20, 1921-22, 1922-23, and 1923-24, 67 in 1918-19, 65 in 1917-18, and 64 in 1916-17. The above average wage for 1924-25 (£188 9s. 9d.) was probably below the average according to the determinations of Wages Boards. This is mainly accounted for by the fact that the former sum is based on the actual payments to workers, while the latter represents the average of the sums to which they would have been entitled if they had worked throughout the whole year. There is, of necessity, a difference between the two averages, as all hands are not continuously employed, nor are all factories working throughout the whole year.

The cost of production and the value of the output in each class of manufacturing industry during the year 1924-25 are given in the subjoined statement :—

FACTORY COSTS AND OUTPUT, 1924-25.

| Class of Industry.  | Cost of—            |                              |                          | Value of Output. |
|---|---------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
|   | Raw Materials Used. | Fuel, Light, and Power Used. | Salaries and Wages Paid. |                  |
|   | £                   | £                            | £                        | £                |
| Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. .. | 4,586,380           | 108,804                      | 868,816                  | 6,263,122        |
| Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. ..           | 1,134,909           | 39,706                       | 200,563                  | 1,724,696        |
| Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. ..                     | 763,117             | 452,766                      | 1,413,537                | 3,726,707        |
| Working in wood ..  | 2,464,935           | 58,450                       | 2,246,906                | 5,945,476        |
| Metal works, machinery, &c. ..                              | 6,353,560           | 297,890                      | 5,399,881                | 14,366,598       |
| Connected with food and drink, &c. ..                       | 26,406,668          | 656,848                      | 3,885,390                | 36,560,899       |
| Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. ..                        | 13,181,874          | 253,318                      | 6,842,876                | 23,990,812       |
| Books, paper, printing, &c. ..                              | 2,588,785           | 117,106                      | 2,456,585                | 6,524,054        |
| Musical instruments, &c. ..                                 | 120,132             | 2,652                        | 107,289                  | 280,812          |
| Arms and explosives ..                                      | 176,109             | 12,900                       | 89,774                   | 361,712          |
| Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. ..                         | 1,047,480           | 41,520                       | 1,357,188                | 3,061,616        |
| Ship and boat building and repairing ..                     | 26,423              | 5,001                        | 105,763                  | 163,696          |
| Furniture, upholstery, and bedding ..                       | 1,277,236           | 26,021                       | 921,789                  | 2,660,821        |
| Drugs, chemicals, and by-products ..                        | 1,658,402           | 70,714                       | 572,013                  | 3,013,154        |
| Surgical and other scientific instruments ..                | 32,852              | 1,179                        | 45,789                   | 108,657          |
| Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware ..                  | 248,748             | 7,554                        | 227,504                  | 600,070          |
| Heat, light, and power ..                                   | 1,487,348           | 721,579                      | 1,545,550                | 5,878,055        |
| Leatherware, n.e.i. ..                                      | 326,785             | 4,042                        | 154,966                  | 569,910          |
| Minor wares, n.e.i. ..                                      | 1,323,490           | 86,585                       | 614,873                  | 2,376,531        |
| Total ..  | 65,205,233          | 2,964,635                    | 29,057,052               | 118,177,398      |

The difference between the sum of the first three columns and the last column represents the amount available for miscellaneous expenses, interest, and profit. The proportions which this margin and the chief items of the cost of production bear to the total value

of production in each class of industry are shown in the following table :—

PROPORTIONATE VALUE OF COSTS, ETC., TO PRODUCTION  
IN FACTORIES, 1924-25.

| Class of Industry.   | Percentage of Costs, &c., to Total Value of Production. |                  |        |  |
|--|---|------------------|--------|--|
|  | Materials.  | Fuel, Light, &c. | Wages. | All other Expenditure, Interest, and Profit. |
|  | %   | %                | %      | %  |
| Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. . . . . | 73·2  | 1·7              | 13·9   | 11·2   |
| Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. . . . .           | 65·8  | 2·3              | 11·6   | 20·3   |
| Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. . . . .                     | 20·5  | 12·2             | 37·9   | 29·4   |
| Working in wood . . . . .  | 41·4  | 1·0              | 37·8   | 19·8   |
| Metal works, machinery, &c. . . . .                              | 44·2  | 2·1              | 37·6   | 16·1   |
| Connected with food and drink, &c. . . . .                       | 72·2  | 1·8              | 10·6   | 15·4   |
| Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. . . . .                        | 54·9  | 1·1              | 28·5   | 15·5   |
| Books, paper, printing, &c. . . . .                              | 39·7  | 1·8              | 37·6   | 20·9   |
| Musical instruments, &c. . . . .                                 | 42·8  | 0·9              | 38·2   | 18·1   |
| Arms and explosives . . . . .                                    | 48·7  | 3·6              | 24·8   | 22·9   |
| Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. . . . .                         | 34·2  | 1·4              | 44·3   | 20·1   |
| Ship and boat building and repairing . . . . .                   | 16·1  | 3·1              | 64·6   | 16·2   |
| Furniture, upholstery, and bedding . . . . .                     | 48·0  | 1·0              | 34·6   | 16·4   |
| Drugs, chemicals, and by-products . . . . .                      | 55·0  | 2·3              | 19·0   | 23·7   |
| Surgical and other scientific instruments . . . . .              | 30·2  | 1·1              | 42·1   | 26·6   |
| Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware . . . . .                | 41·4  | 1·3              | 37·9   | 19·4   |
| Heat, light, and power . . . . .                                 | 25·3  | 12·3             | 26·3   | 36·1   |
| Leatherware, n.e.i. . . . .                                      | 57·3  | 0·7              | 27·2   | 14·8   |
| Minor wares, n.e.i. . . . .                                      | 55·7  | 3·6              | 25·9   | 14·8   |
| Total . . . . .  | 55·2  | 2·5              | 24·6   | 17·7   |

There are considerable variations in the proportions which the cost of materials and the expenditure on wages bear to the value of the output in the different classes of industries. These are, of course, due to the difference in the treatment required to present the raw material in its manufactured form. Thus in brickworks, &c., the sum paid in wages represents 38 per cent. and the cost of raw materials 20 per cent. of the value of the finished article, whilst in the industries connected with food and drink the expenditure on wages amounts to 11 per cent. and that on raw materials to over 72 per cent. of the value of the output.

Cost of  
production,  
1915 to  
1924-25.

In the next table the cost of production, the value of the output of factories, and the balance available for profit and miscellaneous expenses are compared for the years 1915 to 1924-25 :—

**COST OF PRODUCTION AND VALUE OF OUTPUT OF  
FACTORIES, 1915 TO 1924-25.**

| Year.      | Cost of Production. |                               |                           |   | Total Value<br>of<br>Output. |
|------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|------------------------------|
|            | Materials.          | Fuel, Light,<br>and<br>Power. | Salaries<br>and<br>Wages. | All other<br>Expenditure,<br>Interest, and<br>Profit. |                              |
|            | £                   | £                             | £                         | £   | £                            |
| 1915 .. .. | 30,728,743          | 834,966                       | 11,036,345                | 8,866,039   | 51,466,093                   |
| 1916-17 .. | 37,103,750          | 1,024,156                     | 11,833,517                | 10,085,861  | 60,047,284                   |
| 1917-18 .. | 42,133,636          | 1,248,186                     | 12,502,601                | 11,182,292  | 67,066,715                   |
| 1918-19 .. | 52,098,737          | 1,457,124                     | 14,080,403                | 12,559,413  | 80,195,677                   |
| 1919-20 .. | 65,563,104          | 1,723,220                     | 17,702,173                | 16,486,866  | 101,475,363                  |
| 1920-21 .. | 65,401,425          | 2,184,096                     | 21,377,216                | 17,045,557  | 106,008,294                  |
| 1921-22 .. | 60,352,561          | 2,329,760                     | 23,846,495                | 19,714,365  | 106,243,181                  |
| 1922-23 .. | 62,658,163          | 2,443,681                     | 25,547,192                | 20,637,307  | 111,286,343                  |
| 1923-24 .. | 62,217,874          | 2,803,239                     | 27,472,084                | 21,428,730  | 113,921,927                  |
| 1924-25 .. | 65,205,233          | 2,964,635                     | 29,057,052                | 20,950,478  | 118,177,398                  |

These figures are reduced in the appended statement to their proportionate value of the total output.

**PROPORTION OF OUTLAY TO OUTPUT OF FACTORIES,  
1915 TO 1924-25.**

| Year.      | Proportion of Outlay to Output. |                               |                           |   | Total. |
|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------|---|--------|
|            | Materials.                      | Fuel,<br>Light, and<br>Power. | Salaries<br>and<br>Wages. | Other<br>Expenditure,<br>Interest, and<br>Profit. |        |
|            | %                               | %                             | %                         | %   | %      |
| 1915 .. .. | 59·7                            | 1·6                           | 21·5                      | 17·2  | 100·0  |
| 1916-17 .. | 61·8                            | 1·7                           | 19·7                      | 16·8  | 100·0  |
| 1917-18 .. | 62·8                            | 1·9                           | 18·6                      | 16·7  | 100·0  |
| 1918-19 .. | 65·0                            | 1·8                           | 17·5                      | 15·7  | 100·0  |
| 1919-20 .. | 64·6                            | 1·7                           | 17·4                      | 16·3  | 100·0  |
| 1920-21 .. | 61·7                            | 2·0                           | 20·2                      | 16·1  | 100·0  |
| 1921-22 .. | 56·8                            | 2·2                           | 22·4                      | 18·6  | 100·0  |
| 1922-23 .. | 56·3                            | 2·2                           | 23·0                      | 18·5  | 100·0  |
| 1923-24 .. | 54·6                            | 2·5                           | 24·1                      | 18·8  | 100·0  |
| 1924-25 .. | 55·2                            | 2·5                           | 24·6                      | 17·7  | 100·0  |

The apparent decrease for 1924-25 in the balance available for profit and miscellaneous expenses, as shown in the two preceding tables, is due to the fact that the amount of salaries and wages includes for the first time the sums drawn regularly by working proprietors (£1,612,911).



The ratio of salaries and wages to the value of the output of factories was 22·9 per cent. on the average of the last five years, as against 18·6 per cent. in the period 1915 to 1919-20. The cost of materials was 56·8 per cent. of the value of output in the period 1920-21 to 1924-25, as compared with 63·2 per cent. in the years 1915 to 1919-20. The proportionate outlay on fuel, light, and power has remained fairly uniform during the past ten years. The balance available for miscellaneous expenses, rent, interest, and manufacturers' profit was £17 19s. 2d. in every £100 of the total output value in the period 1920-21 to 1924-25, as compared with £16 8s. 7d. in the preceding five-year period.

Capital  
invested in  
manufacturing  
plant and  
premises.

In the following statement the amount of capital invested in machinery and plant and land and buildings used in connexion with the various classes of manufacturing industries is shown for the year 1924-25 :—

### MACHINERY, PLANT, LAND AND BUILDINGS USED IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, 1924-25.

| Class of Industry.   | Value of<br>Machinery and<br>Plant. | Value of Land<br>and Buildings. |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
|  | £                                   | £                               |
| Treating raw material, product of pastoral pursuits, &c. . . . . | 735,715                             | 932,750                         |
| Treating oils and fats, animal, vegetable, &c. . . . .           | 263,325                             | 221,105                         |
| Processes in stone, clay, glass, &c. . . . .                     | 1,217,620                           | 1,129,700                       |
| Working in wood . . . . .  | 1,201,440                           | 1,046,340                       |
| Metal works, machinery, &c. . . . .                              | 3,260,495                           | 3,389,340                       |
| Connected with food and drink, &c. . . . .                       | 5,448,321                           | 5,253,495                       |
| Clothing and textile fabrics, &c. . . . .                        | 4,172,360                           | 6,449,935                       |
| Books, paper, printing, &c. . . . .                              | 2,625,065                           | 2,497,240                       |
| Musical instruments, &c. . . . .                                 | 41,110                              | 145,960                         |
| Arms and explosives . . . . .                                    | 268,395                             | 263,460                         |
| Vehicles, saddlery, harness, &c. . . . .                         | 412,240                             | 1,562,780                       |
| Ship and boat building and repairing . . . . .                   | 85,025                              | 272,875                         |
| Furniture, upholstery, and bedding . . . . .                     | 222,660                             | 918,215                         |
| Drugs, chemicals, and by-products . . . . .                      | 726,325                             | 642,420                         |
| Surgical and other scientific instruments . . . . .              | 15,125                              | 75,810                          |
| Jewellery, time-pieces, and plated-ware . . . . .                | 68,045                              | 257,555                         |
| Heat, light, and power . . . . .                                 | 10,965,390                          | 2,713,840                       |
| Leatherware, n.e.i. . . . .                                      | 44,735                              | 163,690                         |
| Minor wares, n.e.i. . . . .                                      | 787,425                             | 531,650                         |
| Total . . . . .  | 32,563,815                          | 28,468,160                      |

The capital invested in plant, buildings, &c., used in connexion with three classes of industries—food and drink ; clothing and textile fabrics ; and heat, light and power—amounted, in the year under review, to £35,001,340, or more than one-half of the total for all manufacturing industries.

The values of machinery and plant and of land and buildings used in connexion with manufacturing industries are shown in the next table for the years 1915 to 1924-25 :—

**MACHINERY, PLANT, LAND AND BUILDINGS USED IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES, 1915 to 1924-25.**

| Year.   |    |    |    |    |    | Value of Machinery and Plant. | Value of Land and Buildings. |
|---------|----|----|----|----|----|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
|         |    |    |    |    |    | £                             | £                            |
| 1915    | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11,068,949                    | 11,460,123                   |
| 1916-17 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11,732,062                    | 12,052,227                   |
| 1917-18 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 12,612,797                    | 12,847,485                   |
| 1918-19 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 13,645,220                    | 13,673,515                   |
| 1919-20 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 15,846,935                    | 14,957,585                   |
| 1920-21 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 18,179,385                    | 17,313,350                   |
| 1921-22 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 21,182,110                    | 19,810,170                   |
| 1922-23 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 23,994,715                    | 22,428,525                   |
| 1923-24 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 28,223,915                    | 24,972,560                   |
| 1924-25 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 32,563,815                    | 28,468,160                   |

It will be seen from these figures that the values of machinery and plant and land and buildings increased by 171 per cent. between 1915 and 1924-25.

In the appended table the number of accidents in factories is given for the last ten years. The particulars in the table relate to establishments which came within the scope of the Factories Acts in force in the years specified, and not to those classified for statistical purposes in the preceding tables.

The large increase shown in the number of accidents since 1919 is mainly attributable to an amendment of the law, which made compulsory the reporting of accidents. Previously, only those of a serious nature were reported.

**ACCIDENTS IN FACTORIES, 1915 to 1924.**

| Year. |    |    |    |    | Number of Employees. | Number of Accidents. | Percentage of Accidents to Number of Employees. |
|-------|----|----|----|----|----------------------|----------------------|---|
| 1915  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 91,888               | 464                  | ·505  |
| 1916  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 92,320               | 503                  | ·544  |
| 1917  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 97,561               | 442                  | ·453  |
| 1918  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 104,242              | 459                  | ·440  |
| 1919  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 116,369              | 362                  | ·311  |
| 1920  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 116,846              | 862                  | ·737  |
| 1921  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 117,633              | 830                  | ·705  |
| 1922  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 126,630              | 787                  | ·621  |
| 1923  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 128,915              | 1,034                | ·802  |
| 1924  | .. | .. | .. | .. | 129,147              | 1,052                | ·814  |

**Manufactures—** The foregoing tables do not include particulars relating to  
**Penal** work of various kinds done by the Penal Department at  
**Department** Pentridge and the Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind.  
**and Blind**  
**Institute.**

At the former establishment the manufacture of wire netting, clothing, brushware, boots, mats, blankets, flannel, underclothing, bread, and printing are carried on. The estimated value of the output for 1924-25 was £47,058, and of the materials used, £36,345. The articles produced are used principally by Government Departments. The work carried on by the latter is the manufacture of brooms, brushware, wickerware, and coir mats and matting, and gives employment to 139 persons (117 males and 22 females). The value of the work turned out for the period under review was £26,568.

**Value of** The value of all articles produced or manufactured in  
**Victorian** Victoria has been compiled from actual returns or esti-  
**production.** mates in the office of the Government Statist, and the results are set forth in the following table :—

### VALUE OF VICTORIAN PRODUCTION, 1920-21 to 1924-25.

| Produce.             | Value in—         |                   |                   |                   |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
|                      | 1920-21.          | 1921-22.          | 1922-23.          | 1923-24.          | 1924-25.          |
| <i>Cultivation.</i>  | £                 | £                 | £                 | £                 | £                 |
| Wheat .. ..          | 14,307,277        | 10,509,945        | 8,031,875         | 8,189,069         | 11,993,546        |
| Oats .. ..           | 1,295,229         | 931,346           | 1,416,355         | 1,455,331         | 934,538           |
| Barley, malting ..   | 263,963           | 221,757           | 298,792           | 195,545           | 258,263           |
| " other .. ..        | 183,389           | 179,843           | 137,445           | 66,665            | 95,743            |
| Maize .. ..          | 186,529           | 194,358           | 205,314           | 253,276           | 137,948           |
| Other Cereals ..     | 49,532            | 66,537            | 75,553            | 71,173            | 53,227            |
| Grass and Clover     |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| Seed .. ..           | 8,570             | 6,113             | 3,537             | 3,880             | 3,886             |
| Potatoes .. ..       | 586,458           | 555,111           | 1,040,662         | 701,229           | 682,878           |
| Onions .. ..         | 131,104           | 157,930           | 139,888           | 215,444           | 209,803           |
| Other Root Crops ..  | 13,151            | 11,259            | 11,800            | 15,032            | 12,340            |
| Hay .. ..            | 5,259,863         | 4,413,091         | 6,327,338         | 5,229,162         | 3,639,496         |
| Straw .. ..          | 75,015            | 66,164            | 76,644            | 66,677            | 66,920            |
| Green Forage* ..     | 397,620           | 447,050           | 512,255           | 536,855           | 497,655           |
| Tobacco .. ..        | 3,800             | 24,160            | 35,600            | 41,880            | 49,120            |
| Grapes, not made     |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| into wine, raisins,  |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| &c. .. ..            | 21,010            | 39,978            | 71,793            | 45,589            | 45,372            |
| Raisins, ordinary .. | 84,533            | 125,154           | 132,308           | 27,420            | 57,867            |
| " sultanas ..        | 263,772           | 445,319           | 555,059           | 122,775           | 733,919           |
| Currants .. ..       | 157,298           | 187,805           | 171,642           | 57,027            | 110,099           |
| Wine .. ..           | 333,346           | 166,883           | 171,749           | 217,713           | 153,986           |
| Hops .. ..           | 14,988            | 22,650            | 23,195            | 29,772            | 53,000            |
| Other Crops .. ..    | 57,027            | 68,536            | 81,447            | 104,066           | 78,848            |
| Fruit grown for sale |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| in orchards and      |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| gardens .. ..        | 1,054,491         | 1,184,069         | 1,172,325         | 1,193,689         | 1,091,508         |
| Fruit in private     |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| orchards and gar-    |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |
| dens .. ..           | 15,250            | 12,660            | 10,670            | 10,505            | 9,945             |
| Market Gardens ..    | 427,035           | 500,640           | 493,780           | 810,600           | 731,000           |
| Less Deductions ..   | ..                | ..                | ..                | ..                | -3,535,135        |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>   | <b>25,190,350</b> | <b>20,538,158</b> | <b>21,197,026</b> | <b>19,660,374</b> | <b>18,165,772</b> |

\* Exclusive of area under sown grasses.

## VALUE OF VICTORIAN PRODUCTION, 1920-21 TO 1924-25—continued.

| Produce.   | Value in—  |            |             |             |             |
|--|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | 1920-21.   | 1921-22.   | 1922-23.    | 1923-24.    | 1924-25.    |
| <i>Dairying and Pastoral.</i>                    | £          | £          | £           | £           | £           |
| Milk consumed in natural state ..                | 2,622,010  | 2,027,040  | 1,995,280   | 2,130,345   | 1,784,590   |
| Butter made ..                                   | 7,043,950  | 5,127,570  | 6,660,600   | 6,491,310   | 6,618,240   |
| Cheese made ..                                   | 189,070    | 203,620    | 163,180     | 253,795     | 204,890     |
| Cream made (not for butter) ..                   | 76,560     | 80,130     | 127,530     | 177,090     | 190,540     |
| Condensed, .. Concentrated, and Powdered Milk .. | 1,885,080  | 2,074,620  | 1,434,720   | 1,509,400   | 1,582,915   |
| Horses ..  | ..         | 71,800     | ..          | ..          | ..          |
| Cattle ..  | 5,269,650  | 3,099,300  | 3,384,270   | 1,413,310   | 3,588,240   |
| Pigs ..  | 1,260,680  | 1,277,730  | 1,280,040   | 1,507,600   | 1,588,620   |
| Sheep (without wool) ..                          | 1,750,220  | 1,991,600  | 3,752,260   | 2,600,450   | 4,390,880   |
| Wool ..  | 4,729,400  | 4,662,750  | 6,380,600   | 7,695,000   | 11,440,240  |
| Less Deductions ..                               | ..         | ..         | ..          | ..          | -1,723,178  |
| Total ..   | 24,816,620 | 20,616,160 | 25,178,480  | 23,778,300  | 29,615,977  |
| <i>Mining.</i>                                   |            |            |             |             |             |
| Gold ..  | 648,969    | 443,938    | 453,962     | 405,245     | 285,316     |
| Coal ..  | 528,919    | 634,397    | 695,480     | 563,239     | 610,671     |
| Stone from Quarries (including limestone) ..     | 383,002    | 434,520    | 468,468     | 518,064     | 530,820     |
| Other Metals and Minerals ..                     | 46,755     | 30,299     | 48,021      | 45,829      | 41,848      |
| Total ..   | 1,607,645  | 1,543,154  | 1,665,881   | 1,532,427   | 1,468,655   |
| <i>Forest Produce.</i>                           |            |            |             |             |             |
| Timber (Forest Saw-mills only) ..                | 905,720    | 896,070    | 946,930     | 942,480     | 745,580     |
| Firewood (estimated) ..                          | 923,200    | 918,550    | 927,860     | 1,033,700   | 1,053,870   |
| Bark for Tanning ..                              | 125,830    | 138,520    | 136,830     | 130,660     | 132,935     |
| Total ..   | 1,954,750  | 1,953,140  | 2,011,620   | 2,106,840   | 1,932,385   |
| <i>Miscellaneous.</i>                            |            |            |             |             |             |
| Honey and Beeswax ..                             | 45,346     | 48,075     | 40,122      | 45,559      | 78,981      |
| Poultry production (estimated) ..                | 4,545,620  | 4,406,750  | 4,315,810   | 4,587,560   | 4,443,200   |
| Rabbits and Hares ..                             | 401,690    | 238,632    | 266,478     | 310,930     | 403,680     |
| Fish ..  | 167,340    | 149,400    | 160,151     | 161,905     | 164,296     |
| Total ..   | 5,159,996  | 4,842,857  | 4,782,561   | 5,105,954   | 5,090,157   |
| Total Value of Primary Products ..               | 58,729,361 | 49,493,469 | 54,835,568  | 52,183,895  | 56,272,946  |
| Manufacturing—Added Value* ..                    | 38,330,232 | 43,592,856 | 46,355,804  | 49,141,526  | 45,271,348  |
| Grand Total ..                                   | 97,059,593 | 93,086,325 | 101,191,372 | 101,325,421 | 101,544,294 |

\* Exclusive of value of output of butter and cheese factories, and forest saw-mills (as regards Victorian timber), which is included above under the headings "Dairying and Pastoral" and "Forest Produce," respectively.

The figures in the above table under the headings "Cultivation" and "Dairying and Pastoral" are not strictly comparable with those of previous years owing to certain deductions (in addition to freight and

handling charges) having been made for the first time this year, consisting chiefly of cost of bags, cases, seed, manure, spraying material, and produce used in the production of crops in the former, and of hay, bran and pollard, green fodder, and root crops used as fodder in the case of the latter.

Similarly the value added to material during the process of manufacture has been estimated on a somewhat different basis to that adopted in previous years, the cost of fuel and light, tools replaced, repairs and depreciation, having been taken into account for the first time. This explains the apparent decrease in value under that head.

The values of different kinds of production per head of the total population in each of the last five years were as follows:—

**VALUE OF PRODUCTION PER HEAD OF POPULATION,  
1920-21 to 1924-25.**

| Produce.                 | Value of Produce per head in— |          |          |          |          |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
|                          | 1920-21.                      | 1921-22. | 1922-23. | 1923-24. | 1924-25. |
|                          | £ s. d.                       | £ s. d.  | £ s. d.  | £ s. d.  | £ s. d.  |
| Cultivation ..           | 16 11 6                       | 13 4 10  | 13 6 7   | 12 1 11  | 10 19 3  |
| Dairying and Pastoral    | 16 6 7                        | 13 5 10  | 15 16 8  | 14 12 7  | 17 17 5  |
| Mining ..                | 1 1 2                         | 0 19 11  | 1 0 11   | 0 18 10  | 0 17 9   |
| Forest ..                | 1 5 9                         | 1 5 2    | 1 5 4    | 1 5 11   | 1 3 4    |
| Miscellaneous ..         | 3 7 10                        | 3 2 5    | 3 0 2    | 3 2 10   | 3 1 5    |
| Total Primary Production | 38 12 10                      | 31 18 2  | 34 9 8   | 32 2 1   | 33 19 2  |
| Manufactures ..          | 25 4 5                        | 28 2 2   | 29 3 0   | 30 4 8   | 27 6 5   |
| Grand Total              | 63 17 3                       | 60 0 4   | 63 12 8  | 62 6 9   | 61 5 7   |