SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of ground, in the southern part of Carlton. The University consists of a Council and Senate, and is incorporated and made a body politic with perpetual succession. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. The Council consists of twenty members elected by the Senate for a term of five years, together with three members appointed by the Governor in Council. It elects two of its members to be Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor respectively. The Senate consists of all male persons who have graduated doctor or master in the University. It elects a Warden annually from its members. Control and management are in the hands of the Council. Council and Senate conjointly make statutes and regulations. There is no religious test for admission. By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons, the Melbourne University does not, however, compare favorably with others. The Act of 1853 provides for an endowment of £9,000 annually for maintenance and management. Additional grants have been voted annually by Parliament for maintenance, and from time to time for building purposes. Since 1853 the total amount received from the Government was £784,967—£168,467 for building and apparatus, £500,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vict. 34, and £116,000 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. By Act No. 1926 of 1904 an additional endowment of £11,000 annually is provided for a period of ten years, conditionally on the University undertaking teaching in agriculture and mining, and granting a number of free scholarships to pupils from the primary schools; also £1,000 on condition that Evening Lectures are held at the University. In addition, the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. These are charged as follow:— The University of Melbourne.

For the degree of Bachelor of Arts, £12 12s. per annum.
For the degree of Bachelor of Science, £21 per annum.
For the degree of Bachelor of Laws, £12 12s. for each of the 1st and 2nd years; £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.
For the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, £22 per annum.
For the degree of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, Bachelor of Mining Engineering, Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, £18 18s. for the 1st year; £21 for the 2nd year; £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.

For the degree of Bachelor of Music and Diploma in Music, £12 12s. per annum.
For the degree of Bachelor of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
For the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery, fees are paid to the Australian College of Dentistry.
For the course for Diploma of Education, £6 6s. per annum for Students of the Education Department, and Special Fees for other Students, according to subjects taken.
For the Diploma of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
For the Diplomas in Mining and in Metallurgy, £18 18s. for the 1st year, £21 for the 2nd year, and £25 4s. for the 3rd year.
For the Diploma in Architecture, £12 12s. per annum.
For single subjects, special fees are charged, ranging from £3 3s. each annually for Art subjects to £21 for Science subjects, in which laboratory work plays a great part.
For admission to degrees, £7 7s. is payable by bachelors, £10 10s. by masters, £5 5s. for any *ad eundem* degree.
For any diploma, £3 3s. is the fee.
For certificates of matriculation, attendance upon lectures, &c., special small fees are charged.

Matriculation and attendance at lectures.

The number of students who presented themselves for the matriculation examination, the number that passed, as well as those matriculated, who entered the Melbourne University as undergraduates, and the number attending lectures, in each of the five years 1902 to 1906 were:—

MATRICULATION AND ATTENDANCE AT LECTURES, 1902 TO 1906.

Year	Number Presented for—		Students who passed the Matriculation Examination.		Number Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates.	Number attending Lectures.
	Matriculation Examination.	Less than Required number of Subjects.	Number.	Percentage.		
1902	1,415	368	490	46·8	124	621
1903	1,566	367	478	39·9	111	628
1904	1,532	370	490	42·2	131	615
1905	1,671	433	493	39·8	195	802
1906*	746	262	224	44·6	197	860

* May only.

In May, 1906, the last matriculation examination was held, and the new system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was introduced in December, 1906. Under the regulations, the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous matriculation examination were reserved, and at the December, 1906, examination, 70 candidates passed that examination.

For the junior public, junior commercial, and matriculation examinations, 1,179 presented themselves; of these, 914 attempted to pass the respective examinations in the required number of subjects, and 356, or 39 per cent., were successful.

For the senior public examination, 196 presented themselves; of these, 66 attempted to pass, and 33, or 50 per cent., were successful.

Of the 860 students who attended lectures in 1906, 194 attended in Arts, 74 in Laws, 63 in Engineering, 284 in Medicine,

34 in Science, 92 in Music, 55 in Education, 61 in Dentistry, one in Mining, one in Metallurgy, and one in Agriculture.

Degrees. The number of degrees taken in 1906 was 183, 166 of which were direct and 17 *ad eundem*, as against a total of 753 for the five preceding years, or an average of 150 per year. The direct graduates numbered 722, and the *ad eundem* degrees 31 in the five preceding years. Of the total number of 3,958 degrees conferred, 326 were conferred on women, 323 of which were direct and three *ad eundem;* and 160 of which were the degree of Bachelor of Arts, 74 Master of Arts, 38 Bachelor of Medicine, one Doctor of Medicine, 30 Bachelor of Surgery, two Bachelor of Laws, one Doctor of Science, eleven Bachelor of Science, eight Master of Science, and one Bachelor of Music. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1906—the years 1905 and 1906 being shown separately :—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

Degrees.	Prior to 1905.			During 1905.			During 1906.			Total.		
	Direct.	*Ad eundem.*	Total.	Direct.	*Ad eundem.*	Total.	Direct.	*Ad eundem.*	Total.	Direct.	*Ad eundem.*	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ...	823	107	930	18	...	18	26	3	29	867	110	977
Master of Arts ...	459	160	619	11	2	13	23	6	29	493	168	661
Bachelor of Medicine	635	14	649	27	1	28	38	...	38	700	15	715
Doctor of Medicine ...	99	100	199	9	...	9	11	7	18	119	107	226
Bachelor of Surgery	547	3	550	26	1	27	36	...	36	609	4	613
Master of Surgery ...	14	...	14	1	...	1	...	...	...	15	...	15
Bachelor of Laws ...	320	9	329	6	...	6	8	...	8	334	9	343
Master of Laws ...	60	3	63	2	...	2	4	...	4	66	3	69
Doctor of Laws ...	15	20	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	20	35
Bachelor of Engineering	127	2	129	5	...	5	6	...	6	138	2	140
Bachelor of Mining Engineering ...	3	...	3	...	...	...	4	...	4	7	...	7
Master of Engineering	67	...	67	...	...	...	1	...	1	68	...	68
Bachelor of Science ...	37	3	40	5	...	5	3	...	3	45	3	48
Master of Science ...	16	1	17	1	...	1	4	...	4	21	1	22
Doctor of Science .	2	4	6	1	2	3	1	1	2	4	7	11
Bachelor of Music ...	3	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
Doctor of Music ...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bachelor of Dental Surgery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	1
Total ...	3227	430	3657	112	6	118	166	17	183	3505	453	3958

Affiliated Colleges.

The affiliated colleges.

The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, and of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose, which are situated in the northern portion of the University grounds, fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. The Roman Catholic body has not yet erected a college upon its site in Madeline-street. In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated to the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognise the professional teaching of the College for the purpose of the newly-instituted Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

Trinity College.

The Anglican Church was the first to avail itself of the right. In 1869, Bishop Perry (then Lord Bishop of Melbourne), assisted by Professor Wilson and others, undertook to raise the funds required for the college buildings. Their efforts were crowned with success, and the building of Trinity was commenced in the following year. Its progress was remarkably rapid, and in 1877 it was found necessary to increase the accommodation for students. In 1883 the Clarke buildings were erected by Sir W. J. and Mr. Joseph Clarke, and additions have been repeatedly made since that time. In 1886, Trinity College Hostel, for resident women students of the college, was established by the present Warden, and was carried on until 1890 in houses rented by him. In 1890, mainly through the munificence of Janet Lady Clarke, the Hostel was supplied with permanent buildings erected within the College precincts, and named "The Janet Clarke Buildings." The Hostel forms an integral part of Trinity College, and the women students of the college consequently enjoy all its educational advantages on equal terms with the men students. The Hostel, like the College itself, is open to students of all religious denominations. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-rooms, libraries, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students. Fresh additions are now contemplated in consequence of the great increase in the number of students seeking admission, many of whom it is necessary to refuse each year. The Warden of the college is Dr. A. Leeper, M.A., LL.D., late of Trinity College, Dublin, and of St. John's College, Oxford, who is assisted by a staff of ten tutors and lecturers. The college annually holds, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions.

Ormond College.

In 1877, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria appointed a committee to take charge of the site in its

interests. Shortly afterwards it was resolved to raise subscriptions, to obtain the Crown grant for the land, and to proceed with the erection of a college. When £6,000 was subscribed for the purpose, Mr. Francis Ormond offered £10,000, provided that the Church obtained £10,000 from other sources, and in less than a year the Council were in a position to receive Mr. Ormond's subscription. The buildings were at once commenced, and the college opened in March, 1881. It was then announced that Mr. Ormond would bear the whole expense of the structural part of the building, so that the remaining subscriptions could be entirely devoted to payments for fittings, improvements, repairs, &c. In 1883 the buildings were enlarged. In 1887 Mr. Ormond erected the Victoria wing, in honour of the late Queen's Jubilee. The buildings comprise lecture and reading-rooms, common-room, and masters', tutors', and students' quarters. They form a college of residence for students attending the University of Melbourne in Arts, Science, Law, Medicine, Engineering, Mining, and Agriculture. The college is open to members of all religious denominations. In it are delivered the lectures of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for the training of ministers of that church. The theological course covers three years after a student has taken his B.A. degree in the University, and the lectures are given by a staff specially set apart for that purpose. Mr. Ormond's benefactions, amounting to £41,780 during his lifetime, were increased under his bequest to a sum which will ultimately amount to £100,000. The college bears the name of this generous donor. The master is Dr. J. H. MacFarland, M.A., LL.D.

Queen's College.

The Conference of the Wesleyan Church in Victoria, in 1878, appointed a committee to arrange for the building of a college. A request for donations met with a generous response, the first donor being Sir William McArthur, who made a gift of £1,000. The work of erecting the college was not, however, commenced until 1887. It was formally opened in March, 1888. The strenuous efforts of the Rev. W. A. Quick, in the establishment of the college, entitle him to the honour of being practically its founder. In 1889 large additions were made to the buildings, which now comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the master, tutors, and students. Further additions were made in 1905, and the college is now capable of holding about 50 students and tutors. The master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc.

University Extension.

University extension.

The system of local lectures and classes, known as University Extension, which has been in vogue in England for nearly 40 years, and has more lately been introduced into the countries of Europe and the United States, was organized in Victoria in 1891, under a board appointed by the Melbourne University. The system aims at bringing teaching of the scope and standard of that given at the University itself within the reach of the numerous and constantly growing class of people whose position in life prevents them from

attending lectures there, but who wish to devote their leisure to systematic reading and study. To these, material assistance is given by formal lectures, illustrated, where the subject requires it, by demonstrations and experiments, informal classes and discussions, checking written essays, and examinations, by men of special training. By thus systematizing the knowledge of the extension students, guiding their reading, and suggesting new methods and new directions of inquiry, the higher education is imparted to them. The lectures are not of the ordinary popular kind. Their primary object is education, they seek to instruct and stimulate rather than to entertain; at the same time, they endeavour to avoid pedantry and dullness. The lectures are delivered in courses, and thus fairly wide subjects may be treated with some approach to thoroughness. The work is carried on by local committees, both in Melbourne and suburbs, and in urban centres, acting in conjunction with the Central Board. This body supplies a list of suitable courses of lectures by competent and approved lecturers, and the local committee chooses the lecturer and subject. In 1904 there were eight centres, eight courses of lectures, and 950 students enrolled. In 1905 and 1906 respectively only five centres were active, and five courses of lectures were delivered.

The State Education System.

The education system of Victoria.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular" education came into operation on the 1st January, 1873, the Act having been passed the previous year, being subsequently, with two Amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889, consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn has been amended by Act No. 1777, passed in December, 1901, and Act No. 2005 passed in December, 1905. Before the inception of the present system, several different systems were tried. Prior to 1848 education was left to private enterprise; but in that year a denominational system was introduced and administered by a Board, subsidy being granted by the State. Under that system, religious as well as secular instruction was imparted by the teachers—the former being given according to the principles of the denomination to which the school was attached, the clergy of which also exercised control over the instruction imparted. On the separation of Port Phillip district from New South Wales in 1851, a Board of National Education was established in the new Colony of Victoria "for the formation and management of schools to be conducted under Lord Stanley's National System of Education, and for administering the funds in connexion therewith." There were thus two systems of education under separate boards in operation at the same time, which duplicate system continued in force until 1862, when it was abolished as being cumbrous and costly. The *Common Schools Act* 1862 transferred the powers of both boards to a single Board of Education, provided a limit to the distance between which schools might be established, and fixed a minimum of scholars a school must have in order to entitle it to State aid; it prescribed, moreover, that four hours each day must be set apart for secular instruction, and that no child be refused admission to

any school on account of its religious persuasion. Although this Act caused some improvement, it was not designed to abolish denominationalism, nor did it reduce the number of small schools to any appreciable extent. It continued in force, however, for ten years, when it was repealed by the present Act in 1872. Under these systems, a fee ranging from 6d. to 2s. 6d. weekly was charged to all children except those whose parents were in destitute circumstances. Under the Act of 1872, education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that, whether accepted or not, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State school building. Facilities are, however, afforded to the clergy of any denomination to assemble any of the children of the parents who desire it in a school-room and impart religious instruction.

Main details of the system.

In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two hours of which are to be before, and two hours after, noon. Secular instruction, in the case of children over nine years of age, includes the teaching of some recognised lesson-books on the laws of health and lessons from some recognised temperance lesson-books.

Compulsory clauses.

Parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age (up to 31st December, 1905, the statutory age was from six to thirteen years), are required to cause such children to attend a State school for not less than eight half-days in any week, in which the school is open for ten (10) half-days. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the four following reasons:—(1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or (3) is twelve years of age, and has been educated up to the standard, or has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or (4) that there is no State school within one, two, two and a half, or three miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. In regard to the latter cause, however, in cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and under twelve who reside between two and a half and three miles from the nearest school, or 4d. per day for all children over six and under thirteen who reside three miles or over from the nearest school. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined 5s. for the first, and between 5s. and £1 for each subsequent offence, or in default seven days' imprisonment; and truant officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

Boards of Advice.

There are at present 369 school districts, in each of which a Board of Advice is elected every three years by the ratepayers in the district, the members of such boards being seven or five according to the size or importance of the district. The main functions of a Board of Advice are:—To report on the condition of schools and premises, whether new ones are required, and as to books, furniture, gymnastic appliances or other requirements; to suspend teachers for misconduct, and report cause to the Minister; to visit schools, record the number present, and its opinion as to the general condition and the management of the schools in the district; and to endeavour to induce parents to send their children regularly to school, to compare the attendance with the roll, and report names of parents who fail to comply with the compulsory clauses.

Free subjects.

The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, drill, singing, drawing, elementary science, manual training, gymnastics, and swimming where practicable; lessons on the laws of health and on temperance previously mentioned; and needlework, and, where practicable, cookery, and domestic economy for girls. Pupils buy their own books and material. To cover the cost of the latter for paper work and cardboard modelling, 1d. per week is charged, and for woodwork 2d. per week. For instruction in other branches, fees are charged to the parents, and the teacher is entitled to such fees if the inspector is satisfied with the instruction imparted.

New free subjects.

In the latter half of 1902, a revised programme of free instruction was issued, the provisions of which are such as to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants were also made such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for the new work. During the past few years hundreds of country teachers have been instructed, at the University and Training College, in such subjects as drawing, brushwork, paper-work, cardboard modelling, kindergarten, experimental science, and nature-study; while, at centres throughout the State, Saturday classes have been held in several of these subjects.

Drill, swimming, school gardens, &c.

There were, on the 30th June, 1906, 18 Sloyd centres in operation, having accommodation for 3,740 boys; and twelve cookery centres, having accommodation for 1,560 girls. Military drill receives a large share of attention, and the older boys of the larger schools are enrolled in corps and provided with light rifles. The teaching of swimming is organized when practicable, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at Melbourne and Geelong. The cultivation of school gardens and the study of the elements of agriculture are warmly encouraged by the Department's officers; and every facility is made for the celebration of arbor days.

Extra subjects.

The following are the extra subjects and the fees chargeable:—Latin, French, German, and painting, for which the fee must not

exceed one shilling weekly; natural science (other than that provided in the course of free instruction) Euclid, algebra, trigonometry, fancy work, elocution, shorthand, and typewriting, fee not exceeding sixpence weekly; and bookkeeping and calisthenics, fee not exceeding threepence weekly; and such other subjects as may be approved by the Director. The instruction in extra subjects must be given so as not to interfere with the ordinary free instruction.

Standard of education.

Yearly examinations are held to determine the quality of the work done by teachers, to award merit certificates, and to grant certificates of exemption from compulsory attendance to children who present themselves. The subjects of examination for the latter certificates are:—Reading, writing, spelling, composition, and arithmetic; and any child over 12 years of age who wishes exemption from further compulsory attendance may be so exempt on passing this test. Half-yearly examinations are also held for the examination of children not attending State schools who desire to prove that they are educated up to the standard.

Teachers' remuneration and classification.

Male teachers are divided into eight classes and female teachers into seven classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries for males, excluding junior teachers, range from £100 to £415, and those for females excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, from £80 to £200. The system of payments by way of results was finally abolished by Act No. 2006, which came into force on the 1st January, 1906. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are four classes of male and female junior teachers, with salaries ranging from £20 to £50 and from £16 to £40 respectively. Sewing mistresses receive £30 yearly.

State schools, teachers, and scholars, 1872 to 1906.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June, and those relating to the number of scholars to the financial year ended 30th June, for the last five years, and to the years ended 31st December for all previous returns:—

STATE SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1905-6.

Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
1872	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1898	1.877	4,618	238,357	134,976	212,164
1899	1,892	4,808	239,732	143,844	214,522
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1901-2	2,041	5,066	257,355	150,939	228,241
1902-3	1,988	5,037	251,655	150,268	224,178
1903-4	1,922	4,797	241,145	145,500	214,822
1904-5	1,935	4,689	234,614	143,362	210 200
1905-6	1,953	4,598*	229,179	142,216	203,119

In addition to these teachers, 166 were temporarily employed on the 30th June, 1906.

Fluctations in the number of schools and scholars.

The decrease in the number of schools and of scholars has arisen from several causes. Between 1890 and 1898, and between 1902 and 1904, many very small schools were closed or worked on the part-time system. In cases where the schools were closed, an allowance of 3d. to 4d. per day was made to enable parents to have the children of school age conveyed, where practicable, to neighbouring schools. The fluctuations in the enrolment and average attendance were due to such causes as sickness or variation in the birth rate, with consequent variation in the number of children of school age in any given year. In the year 1905-6, a considerable increase took place in the number of children enrolled at private schools.

Ages of State school scholars.

The following are particulars of the number and percentage of distinct children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year 1905-6:—

AGES OF DISTINCT CHILDREN.

Ages.	Distinct Children Attending—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	10,662	5·27	...	...	10,662	5·25
6 to 14 „ ...	169,609	83·86	...	...	169,609	83·50
14 years and upwards ...	21,972	10·87	876	100	22,848	11·25
Total	202,243	100·00	876	100	203,119	100·00

Net enrolment in Australia and New Zealand.

In the following return will be found a comparative statement for the year 1905, showing, for the various States of the Commonwealth and for New Zealand, the mean population, the net enrolment of children in State and private schools, and the percentage of such enrolment to the population. The percentage in the Commonwealth is 19.69 (16.15 per cent. in State, and 3.54 in private schools), and in New Zealand 18.30 (15.92 per cent. in State, and 2.38 in private schools). The highest enrolment in State and private schools is in Victoria, 20.89 per cent., New South Wales coming next with 20.21.

NET ENROLMENT OF SCHOLARS IN STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1905.

State.	Mean Population.	Net Enrolment of Scholars —all Ages.			Percentage of Population.		
		State Primary Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.	State Primary Schools.	Private Schools.	Total.
Victoria ..	1,212,517	210,200	43,014	253,214	17·34	3·55	20·89
New South Wales	1,474,313	238,629	59,275	297,904	16·19	4·02	20·21
Queensland ..	525,728	88,903	14,891	103,794	16·91	2·83	19·74
South Australia	374,742	59,135	9,357	68,492	15·78	2·50	18·28
Western Australia	250,207	27,978	7,353	35,331	11·18	2·94	14·12
Tasmania ..	179,259	24,082	8,323	32,405	13·43	4·64	18·07
Total Australia	4,016,766	648,927	142,213	791,140	16·15	3·54	19·69
New Zealand ..	870,000	138,471	20,699	159,170	15·92	2·38	18·30

The cost of primary instruction, including the expenditure on buildings, in the Commonwealth and in New Zealand for the year 1905, is set out below. The average cost per scholar in Australia is £4 19s. 10d., and in New Zealand £4 17s. 6d. The cost for 1904 was—Australia £4 18s. 2d.; New Zealand, £4 10s. 10d. Primary instruction cost per scholar.

COST OF PRIMARY INSTRUCTION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1905.

State.	Scholars in Average Attendance.	Expenditure— On Administration and Maintenance.	On Buildings.	Total.	Per Head of Scholars in Average Attendance. Including Buildings.	Excluding Buildings.
		£	£	£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Victoria	143,362	676,238	28,656	704,894	4 18 4	4 14 4
New South Wales ..	153,953	781,156	57,294	838,450	5 8 11	5 1 6
Queensland ..	68,780	281,575	11,584	293,159	4 5 3	4 1 11
South Australia ..	41,868	147,804	9,094	156,898	3 14 11	3 10 7
Western Australia ..	23,703	131,585	35,495	167,080	7 1 0	5 11 0
Tasmania ..	14,122	60,647	4,504	65,151	4 12 3	4 5 11
Total Australia	445,788	2,079,005	146,627	2,225,632	4 19 10	4 13 3
New Zealand ..	116,506	466,407	101,583	567,990	4 17 6	4 0 1

The items taken into consideration in compiling the expenditure are:—Instruction in day and night schools in primary subjects, as defined by Acts of Parliament, cost of training, cost of administration, cost of buildings, rent, and pensions and gratuities.

The number of private schools, instructors in same, and individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, for a number of subsequent years, and for the latest year available, was:— Private Schools 1872 to 1905-6.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1905-6.

Year. (4th Quarter.)	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Individual Scholars.
1872	888	1,841	24,781
1880	643	1,516	28,134
1890	791	2,037	40,181
1898	945	2,440	43,926
1899	901	2,417	48,854
1900	884	2,348	48,483
1901–2	872	2,379	43,182
1902–3	798	2,369	42,695
1903–4	787	2,360	42,214
1904–5	771	2,289	43,014
1905–6	757	2,397	48,732

Scholars attending State and private schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 19 per cent. of the scholars attending school during 1905-6 attended private schools, and the balance, 81 per cent., attended State schools.

Training College.

College for training teachers.

A State College for the training of teachers is situated in the corner of the University grounds, Carlton. It provides courses for Kindergarten or Infant schools, Primary or State schools, and Secondary schools. In connexion with the first two courses special certificates are issued, and in connexion with the third the University of Melbourne grants a special diploma. The course for the diploma is purely a University one, but the work in education, both theoretical and practical, is done by the Training College principal, assisted by the lecturers. Each of the above-named courses extends over two years. Lectures and lessons are given in education, kindergarten principles, psychology, English language and literature, British history, Latin, mathematics, science, nature-study, music, drawing, manual training, gifts and occupations, domestic economy, and gymnastics. Criticism lessons in connexion with all the courses are held weekly, and full opportunity is given to every student either at the practising or associated schools of gaining experience in the practical work of his profession. The majority of the students attending the Training College belong to the State schools. These have been either classified teachers or pupil teachers, and they hold studentships gained by competitive examination, which entitle them to free instruction. If they reside at the college they must pay £12 per annum towards the expense of their board and residence, but on the other hand they receive a grant of the same amount from the State each year; if they reside at home they are entitled to an allowance of £18 per annum towards board and residence. Holders of State school exhibitions may be granted a studentship for any two years during the currency of their exhibition, but without allowance for board and residence (other than that payable to them as exhibitioners). Studentships, not exceeding five in number in any one year, may be granted to persons who have passed the matriculation examination of the Melbourne University, or an approved equivalent, who are at least eighteen years of age, and who have been classed as meritorious in the competitive examination above mentioned. Such students will be entitled to tuition in the course of instruction at the College free of expense, but without any allowance for board and residence. Every student will be required to enter into an agreement, by himself and an approved surety, not to relinquish his course of training without the permission of the Minister, and for four years after the termination of his studentship to teach in any school to which he may be appointed. Visiting students other than above may, on payment of a fee of £10 per annum, be admitted to the course of instruction at the Training College; or, on payment of a fee of £4 4s. per annum, to the course of instruction in education only; or, on payment of a fee of £6 6s. per annum, to the course for the Kindergarten certificate. The fees for the Diploma of Education are payable to the University.

Scholarships and Exhibitions.

Scholarships and exhibitions.

Any person may collect, raise, or give a sum of money towards founding a scholarship or exhibition in connexion with any particular State school; and money or land, or both, may be bequeathed for that purpose. By an amended regulation of 13th December, 1904, the Minister of Public Instruction may annually award eighty scholarships, each tenable for three years. Of these, forty are open to State school pupils, for the purpose of facilitating their higher education in the general work of the University or the science work of the Technical school; and forty to pupils of State or other schools, to enable them to proceed to a diploma or degree in mining or agriculture at the University. The scholarship holders are to become students in a State continuation school, or an approved secondary school or college, and to obtain at the end of each year a satisfactory report of conduct and progress. Under specified conditions, cost of transit (not exceeding £5 per annum) may be allowed to a student who resides with his parents or guardians more than five miles from the school. Where it is impracticable for the student to reside with his parents or guardians, the Minister may make an allowance of £26 for board and residence, instead of the transit allowance. Scholars while attending approved secondary schools and colleges are granted an allowance of £8 per annum toward the expenses of their tuition. Holders of scholarships will be admitted free of cost as pupils in continuation schools, and receive instruction in such subjects as the Minister determines. The Minister may cancel any scholarship where the conditions are not observed, or where the scholar is guilty of disorderly or immoral conduct. Examinations were held in December last. Those candidates returned as meritorious will be permitted to make such arrangements as they please with the teachers of secondary schools, and with satisfactory progress reports and examinations, they will, in due course, be eligible to attend examination for an exhibition. The holders of scholarships whose age does not exceed seventeen years and six months who have attended regularly at an approved secondary school or college for the preceding two years, from the authorities of which good reports have been obtained, and who have passed the matriculation examination at the University, are eligible to compete for forty exhibitions annually awarded by the Department. The exhibitions are allotted on competitive examination conducted by the University authorities in four of the subjects prescribed for the Senior Public examination of the Melbourne University. Twenty of the exhibitions are of the annual value of £40, tenable for three years at technical schools, or for four years at the Melbourne University. The other twenty exhibitions entitle their holders to free tuition at the Melbourne University in the subjects prescribed for a degree or a diploma in Mining or in Agriculture. Such exhibitioners may also receive an allowance of £26 per annum, provided that the net income of their parents or guardians does not exceed £250 per annum.

Defective Children.

Defective children.

At the present time, the question of the education and training of defective and imbecile children is receiving considerable attention, both from philanthropic bodies as well as from the State. It is, however, felt that some legislative amendments will be necessary before anything like efficient administration can be secured. It must be pointed out that imbecile children are at present dealt with under the Lunacy Act, which makes no provision for the inspection and management of the high grade imbecile, just as in the same way it makes no provision for the borderline mental case. In fact, the Lunacy Act recognises nothing but sane or insane, idiot or normal child.

In England and in other countries there are separate enactments for imbeciles, providing for certification or notification of a far less elaborate character than that provided for the insane. In this State, too, a curious anomaly exists: if an imbecile child has been admitted to the Industrial Schools, and it is found necessary to transfer such child to the Idiot Asylum at Kew, the change is effected by a warrant from the Chief Secretary. The imbecile child becomes a criminal lunatic, and cannot be discharged unless the medical officers certify that the child is no longer a lunatic.

But, apart from these defects, legal powers are very necessary in order that the State may be able to take, maintain, and educate any backward, defective, or imbecile child. It must be recognised that the imbecile is a menace to the establishment of a healthy nation if efficient means are not taken to prevent the imbecile from reproducing his or her kind. To do this, it will be necessary to provide training and industrial colonies for such defectives, and the only defectives' institution in Victoria—the Kew Idiot Asylum—can do this in only a limited way. It deals principally with the lower grade of cases, such as are not at all likely to reproduce their kind; the larger portion of its population consists of small children, with an admixture of older imbeciles who have never advanced beyond their childlike or infantile condition of mind. The majority of these cases go on to the Hospitals for the Insane, and are lost in the chronic wards, and but a very small proportion improve so greatly as to go out into the world and to earn their own living. A certain proportion, however, make some lesser degree of improvement, and are capable of being almost self-supporting, if protected, guided, and controlled. The higher grade cases are those most needing advanced legislation and some protective accommodation; for it should be recognised as a certain fact that the higher grade of these cases and the more closely allied to the normal are the very cases which offer the greatest menace to the health and sanity of the population. Young females of this class when at large are more likely than any others to become mothers of illegitimate children, who will reproduce, probably in an accentuated form, the defects of their parents. The dangers from the unrestricted freedom of imbecile young men and boys are equally well recognised. In fact, preventive legislation is necessary to safeguard the reproduction of their

species by all inherited cases of insanity, epileptics, chronic inebriates, and imbeciles, for, without doubt, from these degenerates will spring numbers of the criminal class, as well as degenerates worse than their parents.

It will therefore be necessary to provide some place for the segregation of these persons, and modern authorities are agreed on the practical utility of the industrial and educational colony. As exemplifying the necessity for such a colony, as well as pointing out the part that alcohol plays in race deterioration, it will be as well to quote the figures given by Dr. Branthwaite in his annual report on the English Inebriates Act, which he administers. Of 1,873 cases admitted, he classifies as follows:—

1. Insane: certified and sent to asylums ...	48
2. Very defective: imbeciles, degenerates, and defectives	271
3. Defective, but less than above: silly, dull, eccentric, senile, &c.	857
4. Of average mental capacity	697
Total	1,873

It will be seen therefore than 63 per cent. of the admissions to the various Inebriate Retreats in England were defective in some greater or lesser degree.

The formation of Inebriate Retreats and Epileptic Colonies will do much to alleviate the condition of the sufferers from these disorders, but for the younger children, and the markedly defective imbecile and idiotic, there can be no place but the Idiot Asylum. Nothing can be more certain than the unwisdom of sending these cases into the wards provided for the chronic insane; so that, overcrowded as its wards are at present, it cannot be but recognised that the Idiot Asylum at Kew is doing a good work in maintaining these children and in educating them as far as possible. The following statement contains particulars of the numbers under treatment in this institution during the past two years:—

IDIOT ASYLUM AT KEW.

At end of Year 1905.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Patients in the Asylum	165	143	308
,, on trial leave	7	5	12
,, boarded out	2	2	4
Patients on Asylum books ...	174	150	324
During 1905—Admitted	13	20	33
,, Relieved	4	...	4
,, Died	20	9	29

IDIOT ASYLUM AT KEW—*continued.*

At end of Year 1906.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Patients in Asylum	170	145	315
,, on trial leave	13	7	20
,, boarded out	2	...	2
Patients on Asylum books ...	185	152	337
During 1906—Admitted	16	18	34
,, Relieved	1	1	2
,, Died	1	6	7

CENSUS RETURNS.

Education of the people, census 1901.

The following statement, taken from the returns of the census of 1901, shows the number and percentage of persons (excluding Chinese and aborigines) in the State at different ages who could read and write, who could read only, or who were unable to read :—

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE, 1901.

Ages.	Numbers in 1901.				Number in every 100 at each age in 1901.		
	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.	Total.	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.
Under 6 years ..	4,811	5,237	146,796	156,844	3·07	3·34	93·59
6 to 13 ,, ..	175,797	8,046	11,251	195,094	90·12	4·12	5·76
13 ,, 15 ,, ..	50,547	65	220	50,832	99·44	·13	·43
15 ,, 25 ,, ..	222,076	239	1,245	223,560	99·34	·10	·56
25 ,, 35 ,, ..	187,879	288	1,512	189,679	99·05	·15	·80
35 ,, 45 ,, ..	155,206	650	1,994	157,850	98·32	·41	1·27
45 ,, 55 ,, ..	76,480	1,120	2,350	79,950	95·66	1·40	2·94
55 ,, 65 ,, ..	52,808	1,986	2,994	57,788	91·38	3·44	5·18
65 years and upwards	54,809	3,776	4,865	63,450	86·38	5·95	7·67
Unspecified adults ..	1,647	27	45	1,719	95·81	1·57	2·62
All ages ..	982,060	21,434	173,272	1,176,766	83·46	1·82	14·72
15 years and upwards	750,905	8,086	15,005	773,996	97·02	1·04	1·94
21 ,, ,, ,,	613,018	7,936	14,335	635,289	96·49	1·25	2·26

The number of children from 6 to 13 years of age includes those children whose ages were not specified, the total figures exclude those whose educational attainments were not returned, and in the ages 15 years and upwards, and 21 years and upwards, are included the adults whose ages were unspecified.

The numbers of persons in every 10,000 of the population who could both read and write, and of those who were unable to read, at the last two enumerations, were as follow:— Education 1891 and 1901.

	In 1891.	In 1901.
At all ages	.. 8,318	.. 8,528 could read
„	.. 8,029	.. 8,346 could write
„	.. 1,682	.. 1,472 could not read
Between 6 and 13 (school age)	.. 9,389	.. 9,424 could read
„ „ „	.. 8,769	.. 9,012 could write
„ „ „	.. 611	.. 576 could not read
At 15 and upwards ..	.. 9,771	.. 9,806 could read
„ „ ..	.. 9,573	.. 9,702 could write
„ „ ..	.. 229	.. 194 could not read
At 21 and upwards ..	.. 9,728	.. 9,774 could read
„ „ ..	.. 9,491	.. 9,649 could write
„ „ ..	.. 272	.. 226 could not read

A marked improvement is noticeable at all ages, and in regard to children at school age the proportion entirely illiterate was only 576 per 10,000.

A comparison of the results of the censuses of 1891 and 1901 in every 10,000 children of school age, *i.e.*, between 6 and 13 years of age, indicates that the educational attainments of both boys and girls had materially improved, as there were proportionately more children able to read in 1901 than there were in 1891. This will be readily seen by an examination of the following figures:— Education of boys and girls, 1891 and 1901.

1891.			1901.	
Boys.	Girls.		Boys.	Girls.
9,357	9,421	..	9,398	9,454 could read
8,686	8,852	..	8,971	9,056 could write
643	579	..	602	546 could not read.

It is always a noticeable fact that in Victoria girls are much more forward in regard to the rudiments of education than are boys. Whether this is owing to a closer application to lessons, to less distractions caused by sports and games, or to quicker natural abilities, it is hard to determine. This relative backwardness of boys is not a condition peculiar to Victoria, but is just as noticeable in the other States.

Education of children of different sects.

The degree of education of children differs somewhat according to religious denomination, as will be seen by the following figures taken at the census of 1901 :—

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT DENOMINATIONS, 1901.

Religious Denominations.	Number aged 5 to 15 years.			Proportion per cent.		
	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.	Able to read and write.	Able to read only.	Unable to read.
Church of England ..	84,406	4,797	9,914	85·16	4·84	10·00
Presbyterian ..	36,808	2,032	4,232	85·46	4·72	9·82
Methodist	40,769	2,036	4,102	86·92	4·34	8·74
Other Protestants ..	18,022	858	2,028	86·20	4·10	9·70
Total Protestants	180,005	9,723	20,276	85·72	4·63	9·65
Roman Catholics ..	46,468	2,849	6,253	83·62	5·13	11·25
Jews	1,026	56	79	88·37	4·82	6·81
Residue	3,657	198	497	84·03	4·55	11·42
Total	231,156	12,826	27,105	85·27	4·73	10·00

In addition to these, there were 5,770 children between the ages of five and fifteen whose education was unstated.

Education of children at census, 1901.

At the census of 1901 the number of children at school age (over 6 and under 13 years) resident in Victoria was 197,704, and of these 184,200 were receiving instruction, whilst the balance, 13,504, were not under instruction nor receiving any education whatsoever. There were also 43,353 children either above or below the school age, making a total of 241,057 children under instruction. Of every 1,000 of these, 783 were educated at State schools, 33 at colleges and grammar schools, 72 at denominational schools, 63 at private schools, and 10 at unspecified schools, whilst the balance of 39 were educated at home. Of the 13,504 at school age who were returned as not receiving any instruction at all, 4,608 were in Melbourne and suburbs, 2,209 in country cities, towns, and boroughs, and 6,687 in rural districts. Of the children at school age resident in Melbourne and suburbs, 6·13 per cent., of those in the country towns, &c., 7·03 per cent., and of those in rural districts 7·34 per cent. were not receiving instruction.

Education of children. Progress and comparison with other States.

As a measure of the progress of education under the free, compulsory, and secular system, it may be mentioned that 90·12 per cent. of children of school age (6 to 13 years) at the census of 1901 were able to read and write, as against 87·69 at that of 1891, 81·70 in 1881, and 65·60 in 1871, just before the introduction of the system. The percentage just mentioned as being able to read and write at the census of 1901 (viz., 90·12) is considerably higher than that in any other State in the Commonwealth, the percentage being, at the 1901 census, 84·42 in Queensland (Australian born children only), 82·05 in Western Australia, 82·00 in South Australia, 80·35 in New South Wales, and 78·77 in Tasmania.

Cadets.

At a conference of the Premiers of the several States of the Commonwealth held in Hobart in February, 1905, the then Minister of State for Defence submitted a scheme which aimed at— Cadets.

(*a*) The formation of Classes of Instruction in all the Schools of the Commonwealth in "Physical Training," "Elementary Drill," "Handling of Arms," and "Musketry," at which attendance of boys over twelve years of age attending such schools shall be compulsory.

(*b*) Compulsory training for all male teachers (physically fit) in State Schools and the compulsory provision of a teacher qualified to instruct in the subjects referred to in (*a*) in all private schools in the Commonwealth.

Before these principles could be established on a practical basis, however, legislative action by both the Commonwealth Parliament and the Parliaments of the several States would have been necessary. A change of Ministry in the Commonwealth having occurred, it was considered by the new Minister of State for Defence that something should be done at once to secure uniformity in and extend the existing Cadet movement in the respective States. Acting on his representations, a conference representative of the Education Departments of the States and of the Commonwealth Defence Department, was held in Sydney in November, 1905. The recommendations of this conference were acquiesced in by the State Governments and adopted in their entirety by the Commonwealth Government, and provided for a force of approximately 20,000 Cadets and 3,000 Senior Cadets. Of these numbers, 6,108 Cadets and 1,020 Senior Cadets were allotted to Victoria.

Instructional Staff Officers and Non-commissioned Officers were appointed after competitive examination. Uniforms of a separate pattern in each State have been approved by the Military Board. The proposal to arm the bigger boys with M.E. rifles, and the remainder with Westley-Richards and Francotte rifles, is being gradually carried out.

Senior Cadet Corps consist principally of boys who have left school but who are not old enough to join the Militia and Volunteer Forces, and enable the boys who have commenced their training in the school Cadet Corps to continue their military training until such time as they may be able to join the citizen forces. Cadets consist of boys over twelve years of age who are attending school.

A further conference has since been held, at which it was decided to recommend a considerable addition to the number of Cadets, viz. :—Senior Cadets, 1,212; Cadets, 2,545; thereby making a total of 4,062 Senior Cadets and 23,414 Cadets throughout the Commonwealth, and also provide for miniature rifle ranges as far as possible in each school where a Cadet Corps has been formed.

Standard of Education.

Signing with marks.

The proportion of either sex who showed their want of elementary education, by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing, is given in the following table for each fifth year from 1875, and for the years 1898 to 1906:—

Signing the Marriage Register with Marks, 1875 to 1906.

Year.	Men.	Women.	Mean.
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
1875	5·48	9·43	7·46
1880	4·18	4·09	4·13
1885	2·56	2·62	2·59
1890	1·50	1·53	1·52
1895	·89	·67	·78
1898	·73	·62	·67
1899	·85	·68	·76
1900	·66	·85	·76
1901	·56	·50	·53
1902	·67	·54	·60
1903	·69	·50	·59
1904	·65	·40	·52
1905	·50	·38	·44
1906	·43	·44	·43

Increased numbers signing in writing.

It will be observed that in proportion to the total numbers married, a very satisfactory increase has taken place during the 20 years ended with 1895 in the numbers of both sexes signing the marriage register in writing, in that nearly every year, as compared with its predecessor, a smaller proportion of persons signed with their marks. From 1895 to 1900 this proportion remained at a somewhat uniform level, but since the latter year the improvement is marked. It is probable, however, that the irreducible minimum has almost now been reached, for a certain residuum of the proportion will remain illiterate even under the compulsory system of education which prevails in Victoria. This is confirmed by the results of the census of 1901, which show that the percentage of males aged 21 years and upwards (exclusive of Chinese and aborigines) who could not write was 3·18, and that of females aged 15 years and upwards, 3·23; whereas at the age groups fifteen to twenty, immediately following the school period, the percentage was ·81 for males and ·45 for females, so that the persons at all ages now marrying in Victoria are not only far better instructed than the general population, but are quite as well educated as those who have just completed their school life.

Compared with England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, where the proportions signing with marks were 1.84, 2.01, and 8.78 respectively, the elementary educational standard is very high in this State, which, in this respect, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1901:— Religions of the people.

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1901.

Religion.	Number.	Per cent. of Population.
Protestant Churches—		
Church of England (including Protestant, so stated)	432,704	36·52
Presbyterian Church of Victoria	190,725	16·09
Free Presbyterian	778	·07
Methodist	180,272	15·21
Independent or Congregational	17,141	1·45
Baptist	32,648	2·75
Evangelical Lutheran	13,935	1·18
Unitarian	788	·07
Church of Christ	10,682	·90
Welsh Calvinistic Methodist	1,257	·11
Society of Friends	251	·02
United Brethren or Moravian	144	·01
Australian Church	964	·08
Seventh Day Adventists	1,086	·09
Free Christian Church	71	·01
Other Protestant Churches	12,658	1·06
Total Protestant Churches	896,104	75·62
Roman Catholic Church	263,710	22·26
Other Denominations—		
New Church (or Swedenborgian)	146	·01
Catholic Apostolic Church	460	·04
Christian Israelites	258	·02
Spiritualists	913	·08
Salvation Army	8,830	·74
Greek Orthodox Church	367	·03
Jews	5,907	·50
Other Religions	3,293	·28
Sceptics	4,969	·42
Total specified	1,184,957	100·00
Unspecified	16,384	..
Grand Total	1,201,341	..

The total number of Protestants of all denominations in 1901 was 896,104, as against 836,857 in 1891. In 1901 the Roman Catholics numbered 263,710; in 1891, 248,591. The rate of increase of each of these bodies in the ten years was, therefore, about the same as that of the population. Protestants and Roman Catholics.

The Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists have improved their positions relatively to the total population since 1891. The proportion of members of the Church of England has remained almost stationary. The Independents have decreased from 22,100 to 17,141. Protestant sects.

In 1891 the adherents of the Salvation Army were enumerated at 13,521, but they numbered only 8,830 in 1901. Salvation Army.

Ministers and Churches.

At the end of 1906, there were 2,740 regular churches and chapels, and 1,865 other buildings, where religious services were held—a total of 4,605 places of public worship throughout the State —attended by 1,743 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars of the different denominations:—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1906.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ...	321	589	587	1,176
Presbyterian Church of Victoria	211	478	398	876
Free Presbyterian ...	2	12	3	15
Methodist	218	809	463	1,272
Independent or Congregational	51	60	30	90
Baptist	84	98	83	181
Other Protestant ...	70	132	66	198
Roman Catholic Church ...	236	475	126	601
New Church (or Swedenborgian)	1	2	...	2
Catholic Apostolic Church ...	3	1	...	1
Spiritualists	4	...	3	3
Salvation Army	523	74	100	174
Greek Orthodox Church ...	2	2	...	2
Jews	8	6	4	10
Re-organized Church of Latter Day Saints	9	2	2	4
Total	1,743	2,740	1,865	4,605

Sunday Schools.

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,917; the teachers, 20,439; and the number of scholars on the rolls, 209,790—93,139 males and 116,651 females.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

Technical education, Royal Commission on.

In June, 1899, a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the mining, agricultural, trades, and art schools of the State, and to report as to the best methods of carrying on technical instruction in such schools; to consider the advisability of the affiliation of the mining schools with the University; to report as to the adoption in the State schools of elementary instruction in sciences pertaining to mining, agricultural, dairying, and manufacturing pursuits; and generally to recommend what means should be adopted for the better provision of a systematic course of technical instruction. The Commission was under the presidency of the Hon. Theodore Fink, M.L.A. Many sittings were held, and, after the issue of five progress reports, the final report was presented in August, 1901. This report dealt fully with the strides made in technical education in

Germany and the principal European countries, and contained a survey of the systems in force in those countries, in the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Japan, the Australian States, and New Zealand. A synopsis, historical and general, was also given of the system in vogue in Victoria. Some of the principal recommendations made by the Commission were: — The establishment of State continuation schools, in view of the need for some form of preparatory education bridging the gap between the State and technical schools, the abolition of the existing local councils of technical schools, and the substitution of committees representative of the best educational thought of the localities—such committees to be represented on a General Council of Education; the establishment in the suburbs of Melbourne of classes to afford working tradesmen a knowledge of drawing, geometry, and other subjects applied to their trades; a liberal provision for scholarships; the introduction of legislation for fixing the period of apprenticeship in different trades, and for affording facilities for attending technical classes during the earlier years of apprenticeship; the appointment of skilled tradesmen to supervise and report upon the instruction afforded in trade subjects; the establishment of a Central Technical Art School to afford instruction having the widest application to the various industries of the country, and of a Technical Art Museum in connexion therewith; the establishment of systematic courses in commercial education, and of a School of Domestic Economy at the Working Men's College, and the encouragement of science teaching by the secondary schools. With reference to the work of this Commission, the paragraphs dealing with the University and the State Education System, and the special article on Technical Schools by the late Mr. Dennant, Science Inspector, Technical Schools, show the progress made in the bringing into operation of its recommendations.

Technical Schools.

Technical schools.

All the technical schools, under which name are included the Schools of Mines, Working Men's Colleges, and Schools of Art and Design, are managed by local councils elected by subscribers. The Education Department, however, retains the general direction of technical education, and decides when schools are to be opened. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. In the schools of art and design, the subjects taught comprise practical geometry, mechanical and architectural drawing, perspective, model, and freehand drawing. The schools of mines, which have been established at the principal mining centres, provide both theoretical and practical instruction, not only in all the subjects in any way connected with mining pursuits, but also in the arts and sciences generally; whilst a wide range of subjects is taught at the working men's and other colleges. In 1905-6, there were altogether 17 technical schools in the State. Eight of these afforded instruction in science, art, and trade subjects; two

in art and science; five in art and trade; while two schools confined their teaching to art. Five schools, viz., the Working Men's College, Melbourne, and the Schools of Mines at Ballarat, Bendigo, Bairnsdale, and Stawell, are classed as certified science schools, and are eligible to receive State school exhibitioners. The schools, as a whole had, during 1905-6, an average enrolment of 3,506 pupils for each term; whilst the fees per term ranged in the different schools from 3s. to £8 15s. The Government expenditure on all the institutions in 1905-6 amounted to £21,444. Of this, £7,536 was paid to the Working Men's College, Melbourne, £3,226 to the Ballarat School of Mines and £2,651 to the Bendigo School of Mines. The students paid in fees £11,753 during the year.

The following is a statement showing the Government expenditure on each technical school during the financial year 1905-6:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1905-6.

Name.	Amount.
Schools of Mines and Technical Schools.	£
Bairnsdale	1,188
Ballarat	3,226
Bendigo	2,651
Castlemaine	579
Daylesford	425
Maryborough	781
Stawell	712
Kyneton	200
Sale	601
Schools of Art.	
Ballarat East	450
Echuca	360
Warrnambool	125
Nhill	198
Ballarat West	701
Gordon Technical College, Geelong ..	500
Working Men's Colleges.	
Melbourne	7,536
Horsham	300
Miscellaneous Expenditure ..	911
Total	21,444

SCHOOLS OF MINES AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Bairnsdale District.

The Bairnsdale District School of Mines was founded in 1890 for the purpose of giving instruction in such subjects as pertained to local industries. With this object in view, classes in Chemistry, the Principles of Agriculture, Metallurgical and Mining subjects, as well as drawing classes for artisans, were established. It was soon

found that the metallurgical industry needed the greatest attention. The ores in the neighbourhood of Omeo were complex, and yielded but little of their gold to ordinary methods of treatment. A well-equipped metallurgical plant was erected at the school. It soon justified its existence by the successful treatment of ore which was previously looked upon as valueless. One result has been that mines in North Gippsland, having refractory gold ores, are now profitably dealt with. In addition to this work, experimental work on parcels of from one ton to five ton samples of complex ore from various States have been dealt with in order to demonstrate particular methods of treatment.

Amongst the lots treated were sulphide ores containing oxide of tin, separation of heavy mineral sands, such as zircons from oxide of tin, separation of zinc, lead and copper from a complex sulphide ore, separation of zinc, and other sulphides, according to Potter's process.

The students do all the work, including battery treatment, amalgamation roasting, retorting, cyaniding, chlorinating, and smelting, and thus get an actual insight into their duties.

The courses for mining and metallurgy have been drawn up by the Education Department, and are the same for all approved Schools of Mines. The time taken is from three to four years. After passing the necessary examinations, and having had a year's practical experience, diplomas are granted by the Government of Victoria. Owing to the demand made for mining and metallurgical teaching, the classes in agriculture had to be temporarily discontinued, and although it is not possible to give the same courses as in mining subjects, yet on account of the local importance of the industry, the School Council has obtained the assistance of the Agricultural Department in providing for a winter course of lectures and demonstrations by the various experts in that Department. This course will be continuous for about three months. In addition to the regular courses, separate subjects may be taken up during day and evening, including engineering, drawing, and various science and art subjects of technical importance. The students from the school have been very successful in after life. Many are now engaged in professional work in Victoria, others in New South Wales, Western Australia, Tasmania, and South Africa.

Ballarat.

This is the oldest established School of Mines in Australasia, having been founded in 1870 "to impart instruction in the various branches of science relating to mining." It was established on the initiative of the public spirited and enlightened mining men of Ballarat—the resolution of the Mining Board dating from 6th October, 1869. After consultation with Sir Roderick Murchison—at that time of the Royal School of Mines, London—and other educational and mining authorities, the plan was decided upon which the institution was to be modelled. With the old court-house rented from the Government as a building nucleus (to which laboratories were immediately afterwards added, supported by public subscription, and assisted by a modest Government grant), the first classes assembled on 23rd January, 1871, and the school was launched upon its

career. Since that date, its income, which has steadily increased, has been drawn from students' fees, public subscriptions and donations, private bequests, and an annual grant from the Government. The four-acre block which the school already possesses, centrally situated as it is, constitutes an ideal site for a mining institution. From west to east it has a fall of 60 feet, well adapted for the battery and concentration plants, whilst one corner of the ground is within a few yards of the creek, allowing of the easy disposal of tailings. The general efficiency and usefulness of the school have recently been greatly promoted by extensive additions to the buildings and plant, and numerous improvements in the chemical, metallurgical, engineering, and mining departments. In the chemical laboratories —of which there are four—provision is made for upwards of 200 students. The assay laboratory, to which four weighing rooms are attached, contains upwards of thirty furnaces. The engineering department is well supplied with theodolites, levels, and a quantity of other surveying apparatus, and the engineering laboratory has been fitted with an experimental steam-engine and boiler, and other apparatus of the most modern form. The extensive new buildings erected as a mining laboratory continue to prove of eminent value to the school, where the most advanced systems of treating free and refractory gold ores have been introduced. The primary object of this laboratory is for the instruction of students in the large scale treatment and for testing parcels of ore for the public. This department contains a furnace for roasting pyrites and provision for milling, concentrating, chlorinating, and cyaniding, and a model mine with ample equipment. There is also a model 40-head battery with pumping, driving, and hauling engines for class purposes. In the department of geology and mineralogy, the students have the advantage of a well supplied lecture and demonstration room, where the determination of minerals by blowpipe tests, and the examination of rocks and minerals by microscopical tests, are made. The school has always concentrated its resources and energies upon mining education, aiming to do this one thing well rather than to risk loss of efficiency through diffuseness of effort. The aim is to make the instruction eminently practical, and so to train up the young mine managers and metallurgists that by the time they leave the school they shall be prepared at all points to complete their education at the mine and metallurgical works, and thus become, with the least possible delay, capable and trusted metallurgists and mine managers. The school has, in addition, since its commencement, acted the part of an information bureau upon subjects connected with mining, and is at present freely consulted upon questions associated with mining engineering, metallurgy, mining, geology, electrical technology, and similar subjects. It is greatly aided in this work by its being situated not only in a thriving city, but in the centre of a large mining and agricultural district, and of an interesting geological area full of varied and instructive features. Many mining claims are within sight of the buildings, and the deep alluvial fields of Allendale and Loddon are near at hand. Quartz vein mining, shallow and deep alluvial—illustrating a wide range of

treatment from primitive methods up to the most approved processes —dredging plants, chlorination and cyanide works of latest patterns, besides foundries and engineering works, are all within easy reach. Regular visits of inspection are made to these and other objects of scientific interest by the school classes. These inspections are supplemented by holiday excursions much further afield. The directorates, mine managers, and works superintendents of the district greatly assist by affording ready facilities for the inspection of their works and mines, and by engaging students who are required to complete a prescribed course of practical work—one or two years as the case may be—before they can obtain their diplomas.

The entire mining district, with its mines and works, thus constitute one vast permanent object lesson for the school's use, and an ever active source of inspiration to the student. Practice in the laboratories and workshops of the school is made a special feature of the instruction, every candidate being required to pass an appointed time in one or more of these laboratories, according to the diploma or certificate he seeks.

The school draws its students from every Australian State, and from countries beyond the boundaries of the Commonwealth, whilst its associates and certificated students are to be found occupying important and lucrative positions in most of the mining fields of the world. A very pleasing feature is the readiness with which students obtain suitable employment in mines and metallurgical works, either as chemists, metallurgists, mining engineers, assayers, officers in charge of cyanide plants, or mining managers. The school offers instruction to all persons who shall have entered their names and paid the prescribed fees, and these persons are admitted to examination in any particular subject. The diploma of associate of the school is issued in mining engineering, metallurgy, geology, and electrical engineering, and for certificates as mine manager and as assayer. Classes are also organized for candidates preparing for the Victorian Government examinations just instituted for certificates as cyanide, chlorination, and battery managers, underground foremen, and mining manager. In the case of students taking single subjects, or such courses as that for certificate as mine manager, or for a certificate as assayer, no entrance examination is required. Students desirous of qualifying for one or more of the associated courses are expected to have a preliminary education up to matriculation standard, and to attend all the prescribed courses of instruction, unless they can produce to the satisfaction of the Board of Examiners evidence of having attained elsewhere the degree of proficiency required in any subject or subjects. In such cases students may be excused from attendance or examination, or from both, in such subject or subjects, on a certificate from the Board of Examiners. The number of associate students—those taking a three or four years' course of special training—has been well maintained. Besides these, there are a number who have taken the assayers' course, which includes chemistry, assaying, metallurgy, and mineralogy, and is usually taken by those who cannot afford the time necessary to compete for a full associateship, or who desire to specialize in assaying.

The total fees for lectures and practical work for an associate course is one hundred guineas, payable in yearly, half-yearly, or quarterly instalments.

Weekly lectures on electricity and magnetism are given gratuitously to the senior scholars of State schools. Members of these classes, on passing a satisfactory examination, are admitted to the ordinary lecture classes of the school at a much reduced fee. The Council have now adopted a scheme suggested by the Director of Education, to train 150 of the senior boys from the local State schools.

The museum, library, and reading rooms are necessary adjuncts, and are open daily to the public. The museum, rich as it is in geological and mineralogical specimens, is of great aid to the students and to those interested in these and cognate branches of science.

The Scientific and Literary Society holds regularly, at the school, their fortnightly meetings, when highly interesting and instructive papers are read and much information given. That such a society is needed is shown by the large attendance at meetings and the interest displayed.

The Ironworkers' Association continues to hold its meetings at the school. Lectures are delivered weekly to its members and the public, and its library, containing upwards of 2,000 books, all of a scientific and technical character, is recognised as being one of the best selected scientific libraries in the State.

Bendigo.

The school was established in 1873, as an adjunct of the local Mechanics' Institute, but in 1904 the council of the school took over the management of the parent institute. The aim of the school has been to improve those engaged in technical operations, and consequently the various branches of science and art are fundamentally taught. Special attention is paid to the conditions of mining which exist on the field. Mines are in active operation at great depths all around the school, and students are taken out and given oral demonstrations in mining surveying, mining, and such problems as will enable them to thoroughly grasp the theoretical part of their work. Attention is also paid to methods of ventilation on the field, and to problems relating to the economic handling of ores. With regard to metallurgy, efforts are being made to give the students the up-to-date methods employed in other places—and a testing plant has been erected which will be worked mainly by themselves. An assay plant has been established at the school, and minerals are identified, named, and information given to miners and prospectors as to their commercial value—free of charge. Analyses, assays, and metallurgical tests on a large scale are carried on according to the prospectus. The vital subject of applied electricity is also fully dealt with and provision made for a three years' course. The local Bendigo Electrical Supply Company takes "in pupils" for a three years' practical training, and stipulates that such pupils shall attend the School of Mines classes. Technical work, such as turning and fitting, mechanical and freehand drawing, architectural drawing and architecture is given full attention. Courses for two or three years are established in these subjects, and a certificate

is given for each. Diplomas are given for three and four year courses in mining engineering, metallurgy, and electrical engineering. Facilities are afforded to students by the mining companies to acquire the necessary practical work after they pass through the school.

Castlemaine

In October 1887, a School of Mines was established in a building which was granted for the purpose by the Government of the day. Classes in art subjects, chemistry, assaying, telegraphy, carpentry, languages, mathematics, and botany, were at once commenced in a temporary school. In 1890 the permanent building was opened. Classes are now held in mining, metallurgy, surveying, chemistry, assaying, geology, mineralogy, electricity, engineering drawing, building construction, architecture and clay modelling, and the instruction in art subjects has been amplified and extended. Scholarships have been founded by local residents and institutions, and are of great aid to the students. A complete cyanide plant has been installed, and instruction in cyaniding has been added to the programme. A branch School of Mines has also been formed at Maldon, where, during the year 1906, a laboratory was erected, the funds being obtained by local subscriptions supplemented by a Government grant. Classes are held there in mining and metallurgical subjects, the instruction being given by the staff of the head school at Castlemaine.

Daylesford.

The Daylesford Technical School was founded in 1889, with the object of providing facilities for students to continue their school education, and removing the difficulties experienced by young miners in getting technical instruction in the various branches of their occupation. The borough council gave a building for the institution, where a commencement was at once made, a substantial new building taking the place of the old one in the course of the following year. The objects are defined as follow:—To foster and develop a knowledge of handicrafts, arts, and sciences, and all subjects related directly and indirectly to scientific education, by the establishment of classes, workshops, laboratories, and museums. By this means the higher education is attainable in the district at a comparatively small cost.

Maryborough

The Maryborough Technical School was established in 1888. The present building was opened in 1891. The average number of students attending during 1906 was 94. On the science side, classes are open in all branches of chemistry, metallurgy, mathematics, geology, and kindred subjects, and students enter for special courses in assaying, metallurgy, and electrical engineering. The art curriculum deals mainly with the technical side of art, and includes freehand drawing in all its branches, wood carving, modelling, machine and architectural drawing, design, &c. The school is managed by a local council, elected by subscribers.

Stawell.

The Stawell School of Mines had its origin in 1882, when a School of Design was established by a number of citizens of Stawell enthusiastically working together and obtaining assistance from those anxious to have such an institution. The first classes were held in the Mechanics' Institute, and it was not until 1890 that the present buildings were occupied. During the interim the School of Design

had been superseded by the School of Mines, in consequence of a greater demand for instruction in things appertaining to mining. Since that time there have been great alterations both in the school itself and its constitution, its work, and its success. For a number of years following 1890 it was prosperous, but when the mining industry waned the school began to lose touch with the people. It is now, however, recovering from its long quiescence, and the efforts that have been made of late years to revive the interest of the people have at last had the effect, it is hoped, of placing the school on a sound basis. The school is primarily intended to give thorough training in mining engineering and metallurgical work.

During 1905, a large increase in numbers took place, and the school is gradually assuming the more active state which was looked for so earnestly. The total number attending on the science side for the year 1906 was upwards of 50, and on the art side there were a similar number of students.

As Stawell is essentially a mining town, this institution is of inestimable value to the people. Like other mining towns in Victoria, it is capable of much further development in regard to mining operations; and it is only by higher training in such subjects as are taught in schools of mines that hope for improvement in the direction of up-to-date methods of mining can be entertained. The Stawell School of Mines is one of the five certified schools of the State.

Kyneton. This school was established in 1888 by a few of the principal townsmen, who were influenced by the then prevailing wave of feeling with regard to the useful influence of technical education, and who desired to offer the younger members of the community some of the advantages which had hitherto been one of the attractions of the metropolis. They more especially desired to encourage an appreciation and cultivation of the arts and crafts; but science, trade, and other classes have also received due attention. A large proportion of the youth of both sexes has passed through the school, and its influence has been marked in many ways. Some of the students have been enabled to occupy positions of importance where knowledge, art, and science are requisite. In the trade classes valuable work has been achieved, more especially in the engine-driving class, which has been very successful. The work of the school has always been as practical as possible, such subjects as the drawing and projection of plans of all kinds, modelling and casting, wood carving, and the necessary designing have been the most prominent in the art section. Mining men have been the principal science students, and, together with factory hands, have chiefly constituted the engine-driving class. Altogether over 100 pupils have passed through the various courses. In consequence of the report of the Education Department that the building occupied was unsuitable, the council took into consideration the advisability of erecting a new structure. For this purpose, £500 was locally raised by means of a bazaar, which was supplemented by £500 from the Government. With these funds in hand, a handsome building has been erected, which will meet all requirements.

A School of Design was in existence in 1885, but the institution was projected on its present basis in 1889 under the title of School of Mines, Art, and Technology, which four years ago was changed to "Technical School." From its inception the management has been in the hands of the Mechanics' Institute committee, and two-thirds of the present building is used by the school classes, the remaining third being the institute proper. The old Mechanics' Institute, in which instruction was first given, was quite unfitted for the purpose in view, and in 1889 the committee resolved that an effort should be made to erect a suitable building. At a public meeting held that year, an appeal for funds resulted in a collection of £100. Induced by the interest shown, and by the promise of a subsidy from the Government, the committee erected the present commodious buildings in York-street at an ultimate cost, including site, of £5,000. To meet this outlay, the Government has contributed a building grant of £2,634, and the public, by bazaars, donations, &c., the remainder, and the building is now free of debt. The object of the school is to facilitate the attainment of a knowledge of the various handicrafts, arts, and sciences, and especially to improve the education of craftsmen and craftswomen by the establishment of classes, workrooms, laboratories, libraries, and museums. The classes are open to all who pay the prescribed fees, and pledge themselves to obey the rules of the institution. Sale.

During the year, the Education Department announced that the science side of the school in its present form would definitely cease in December on account of low attendances, and proposed to establish an Agricultural High School in its place on certain conditions. The School Council on their part agreed to give the Department the free use of all the rooms of the building used for the Sale Technical School, together with plant, so long as the Department carries on a Technical or Agricultural High School in the building, while it was further enacted by the Department that £150 should be raised locally to defray half the cost of alterations necessary to the building; that 20 acres of land should be placed at the disposal of the school, and promises to attend the courses obtained from 50 pupils. The Art side of the school was not to be interfered with, as it had more than justified its existence.

The help of various outside bodies was sought to accomplish these objects, and by their means promises from 30 full-course students have been received. The local Agricultural Society gave a cheque for £68, and the Department has now agreed to open the new school at as early a date as possible.

The school, it appears, will generally be conducted on the same lines as the Continuation School in Melbourne, but with the teaching tending in the direction of agriculture. One-third of the students' time will be devoted to field work, one-third to the laboratory, and one-third to ordinary education. There will be cookery classes for girls, and single subjects can be taken up.

Schools of Art.

Ballarat East. This school, which is governed by the Council of the Ballarat Public Library, has progressed satisfactorily. The school was represented at the State Schools' Exhibition held in Melbourne, where a fine display of students' work was made, which was of a very high standard and educational value. The total number of individual students for the year was 269.

Echuca. This school was originated for the purpose of educating the working classes in the various handicrafts, and in art; no record of the successes of the school has been retained, but many of its pupils have been enabled, through the instruction which has been imparted, to obtain positions of trust and responsibility. The following subjects are taught:—Drawing, painting, geometry, building construction, architectural drawing, engineering drawing, sign writing, coach trimming, modelling, repousse work, and poker work. A drawing centre has been established in connexion with the school, which is open to all *bonâ fide* State school teachers free of charge. Mr. F. P. Vize is the director and instructor.

Warrnambool. The Warrnambool School of Art was opened in 1883. The subjects taught are drawing, wood-carving, modelling, and life study. During the year, 85 students passed through the school, and their examination results were very satisfactory. The school is of value to the State school teachers of the district, who attend on Saturdays. Several of the students have been successful in the matriculation examination of the Melbourne University.

Nhill. The Nhill School of Art and Technical College was formed, about twelve years ago, by leading residents of the district, to impart instruction in the art of drawing, painting, practical geometry, building and engineering, drawing and construction, and general designing, &c., to those far removed from centres where these very necessary subjects were taught. On an average 45 students have annually availed themselves of the benefits of the institution. In addition, the State school teachers of the district have, in recent years, been afforded special facilities of free instruction by an accredited art instructor in the subjects they are required to teach in the State schools. Amongst the local craftsmen in the building and iron-workers' trades, carriage builders, smithwrights, mill hands, signwriters, painters and decorators, &c., are many former students. Some of these are now in positions of responsibility and trust, and carrying out the practical work which they had been taught in the school. A few are in business for themselves, and are still attending the school.

The usefulness of the institution is now further enhanced by the introduction of carpentry, joiners' and cabinet-makers' work, detailing drawings, and mensuration of quantities, modelling and carving, decoration in all branches, and designing for practical purposes.

During 1905 the council of the school purchased the Masonic Buildings, formerly rented, and made such alterations, improvements, and general equipments as were necessary to bring the school up-to-date. The Government generously contributed one-half (£200) towards the purchase and a two-thirds grant towards the

improvements, &c. The technical classes particularly have been well attended this year, and have been forward in competitions, &c. The work exhibited at the State School and Technical Schools' Exhibition, held in September, 1906, was well reported upon, as also some designing executed by the students. Other students have advanced their interests in life owing to the information gained at the school.

Ballarat West.

In December, 1887, proposals were submitted for the establishment of a central art training school in connexion with the Public Art Gallery. Premises were secured by the council of the Art Gallery Association in 1891, and suitably equipped with funds provided by the Government. Mr. P. M. Carew-Smyth, who had received his training at South Kensington, was appointed director, a position which he retained till 1898, when he was appointed Government art inspector of Victoria. Under his supervision the school was opened in 1891, with an attendance of 19 students, which increased so rapidly that in 1893 larger premises had to be secured. Comprised in the school equipment is an extensive and costly collection of casts, both ornament and figure, including examples of the Elgin marbles, and many full-length antiques—works of the Italian Renaissance by Michael Angelo and Donatello; Gothic and French work, &c.; a good collection of still-life properties, weapons and draperies, the nucleus of a collection of costumes of various historic periods, and every requisite for the most elementary or advanced study. A special and—in Victoria—unique adjunct of the school is its art library and reading-room, containing the standard and latest works on architecture and technology, drawing and painting, sculpture and modelling, applied art and decoration, with the leading English and American monthly magazines devoted to these subjects. Many of these works being beyond the means of the average individual student, the facilities thus afforded for their perusal are invaluable. As showing their appreciation, it may be added that, except for some little outside assistance, the library is the result of the combined efforts of the students themselves.

Enrolments for the year in the State School Teachers' Drawing Centre numbered 298; the free instruction given them from 9.30 to 12.30 being supplemented, in numerous cases, by their attendance at the day or evening classes during the week as paying students.

The Working Men's College, Melbourne.

Working Men's College, Melbourne.

The Working Men's College is a technical institution and school of mines, founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and supplies high-class instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Fees.

All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed. Students under 18 years of age, and those under 21 in receipt of less wages than 25s. per week, and indentured apprentices, are admitted at reduced fees to many of the evening classes. Examinations are

held in July and December, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances.

Fees Payable.

Full Day Course.	Fee.
Mechanical, Electrical, Municipal, Marine, and Mining Engineering—	
First year ...	£5 per term
Second year	£6 ,,
Third year	£8 ,,
Metallurgy—	
First year ...	£5 ,,
Second year	£6 ,,
Third year	£8 ,,
Applied Chemistry —	
First year ...	£5 ,,
Second year	£6 ,,
Third year	£7 ,,
Fourth year	£8 ,,
Building and Contracting—	
First year	£4 ,,
Second year	£5 ,,
Third year	£6 ,,

Evening Classes.

Arithmetic, Algebra, Practical Geometry, Freehand Drawing, Painting, Modelling, Applied Mechanics, Applied Electricity, Architecture, Building Construction, Woolsorting, Chemistry, Cookery, Millinery, Dressmaking, Mechanical Drawing, Photography, Science, Art, Trade, Commercial, and Mining, and numerous other Subjects	Various amounts ranging from 3s. upwards per term.

Prizes.

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. The Magee prize is of the annual value of £3, and is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, and is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the Council at the beginning of each year. The Turri prizes, awarded for original inventions of students, consist of one prize of £10 10s., two prizes of £5 5s., and five prizes of £1 1s. each. The Government grant in 1906 was £5,000, together with a sum of £64 towards inspection, examination, apparatus, &c.

By F. A. Campbell, Esq., M.C.E., Director.

Over 100 classes are held in the following departments:—Commerical, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Photography, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, Household Economy, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day courses the lower technical school prepares for the higher technical school, and also gives boys after they have left school a course of practical training, fitting them to enter intelligently on any line of industrial work. The higher technical school prepares students for the higher positions of industrial life, and has the following complete courses:—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Marine Engineering, (4) Mining Engineering, (5) Sanitary Engineering, (6) Municipal Engineering, (7) Building and Contracting, (8) Metallurgy, and (9) Applied Chemistry. To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued.

In the evening school, the following courses are in operation for Experts' Certificates:—(A) carpenters, (B) fitters and machinists, (BA) marine engineers, (C) cabinet-makers, (D) plumbers, (E) house decorators, (F) modellers and terra cotta workers, (G) lithographic artists and draughtsmen, (H) photographers, (I) electricians, (J) assayers, (K) geologists, (L) metallurgists, (M) municipal engineers, (N) commercial, (O) wool. The following figures indicate the comparative amount of work done at the college during the years 1902 to 1906:—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1902 TO 1906.

——	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.	1906.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,364	2,182	2,239	2,313	2,276
Males over 21	455	437	417	363	377
„ under 21—Apprentices	147	145	150	195	334
„ „ Others ..	1,164	1,135	1,198	1,325	1,184
Females	598	465	474	430	381
Fees received during the year £	7,485	7,105	7,296	7,475	7,528
Average fee per student ..	63s. 4d.	65s. 1d.	65s. 2d.	64s. 8d.	66s. 2d.
Number of classes	161	163	166	168	169
„ instructors ..	53	55	60	62	66
Salaries paid instructors £	7,413	7,223	7,533	8,163	8,528

HORSHAM WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE.

Horsham Working Men's College.

This college was founded in 1890, and met first in the State school, and afterwards in the hall at the Mechanics' Institute. In 1894 the present building—a roomy wooden structure—was erected at a cost of £820, £200 of which was raised locally. In addition to the main building, there is an outer building, containing the carpenter's workshop, a potters' kiln, gas generating plant and apparatus.

The late Dr. Young, who was for years president, was untiring in his efforts to promote the welfare of the college, which he liberally supported. From the time of its initiation until his death he conducted the chemistry classes. When the college was first inaugurated, classes were held in arithmetic, bookkeeping, botany, chemistry, French, German, music, pottery, shorthand and telegraphy, in addition to the science subjects. The latter were abandoned when the subsidy for science subjects was withdrawn by the Government. The present director is Mr. Ernest E. Barker.

There are now over 100 students on the rolls, and the subjects taught include geometry, perspective, freehand and model drawing, painting in oil and water colours, modelling, moulding, and casting, *repoussée* work, wood carving, architectural and mechanical drawing, and drawing in black and white for reproduction. In addition to these, there are classes in typewriting and shorthand, carpentry, dressmaking, cooking, bookkeeping, and wood-turning, all well attended. A photographic club is attached to the college, and demonstrations in printing, toning, and enlarging are given, and are well attended. A teachers' drawing class is held on Saturdays, which any teachers in the district may attend free of charge.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.

By the late J. Dennant, Science Inspector, Technical Schools.

Before describing the separate technical schools in the State, I propose to remark briefly upon the subjects included in their curriculum of work. At the Working Men's College, the whole of the Department's programme is practically covered, but in country schools classes are only established in subjects which are considered suitable to the particular locality. The syllabuses in force are drawn up at conferences held between the Departmental officers and representatives of the principal schools. This plan works well, and no difficulty is experienced in adapting the programme of work to the needs of the community.

The subjects of instruction are classified in four groups, viz., science, art, trade, commercial, and my observations will be conveniently arranged under those heads.

Science.

Since it is desired to make the science teaching in technical schools thoroughly practical, instructors are, as far as possible, selected from those who, in addition to teaching ability, have had considerable practical experience. To this end also a plentiful supply of fittings and apparatus is essential. In the country schools the principal development has been on the mining side, and the provision of the necessary laboratories has from the first been pressed upon the Department. In effect, these schools have been called upon to justify their existence by the success with which they prepared men for work on the mining fields. The high reputation enjoyed by the Ballarat school is certainly due to the pains taken by its managers to provide a thoroughly efficient mining education for the students. So also

the Stawell and Bairnsdale schools were early stamped by the public as successful institutions, because it was found that the students sent out annually from them obtained, as a rule, responsible and lucrative employment on the mines of Victoria and the adjoining States.

In addition to the furnaces and other appliances of the metallurgical laboratory, the three schools mentioned above are equipped with milling plants, consisting of battery, roasting furnace, chlorinating and cyaniding vats, &c. A special sum of £12,000 was granted by Parliament out of loan funds for these plants, the erection of which was intrusted to the Mining Department. A fourth plant has just been erected at Bendigo. The question has often been raised as to the necessity for milling plants at Schools of Mines. Those opposed to their erection say that the actual battery work can be learned on the mine itself after the student has finished his course. To a certain extent this is true, battery feeding, filling, and emptying cyanide or chlorination vats, &c., demanding only practice. The foreman, however, and he is really the man whom technical schools profess to train, has to mix the cyanide solutions and judge as to the proper roasting of pyritic ores. Moreover, he must be familiar with the machinery usual in battery rooms, and be able to direct the workmen. The mine manager will not care to employ a man who has only theoretical knowledge to offer, but wants some one who can go straight to work. The student who is trained on the school plant has thus an overwhelming advantage over his theoretically taught comrade, as he is capable of managing a battery directly he leaves the school, instead of waiting to master the mechanical difficulties in the best way he can. As cases in point, two lads of my acquaintance, educated at considerable expense by their parents for mining pursuits, but unfortunately where no opportunity of acquiring practical experience existed, found, on the completion of their course, that no one desired their services. As they were strong plucky young men, they engaged on the mines as ordinary unskilled workmen, and for some years had a rough time. Ultimately they succeeded in remedying the defects of their education, and both are now in very fair positions, one in South Africa, and the other in New South Wales. As a contrast to this state of affairs, two of the leading mining schools in this State constantly exercise their students on the milling plant provided, with the result that they are commonly sought after by employers before their term of study is complete.

The first school to erect a mining plant on the premises was Ballarat, and doubtless it owes much of its popularity to the practical training thus afforded to its students. The plants mentioned at Ballarat, Bairnsdale, and Stawell, are worked commercially, or, in other words, so that the receipts may at least equal the expenditure. Either a charge is made to mining companies for treating ore, or the school itself purchases, on assay, tailings or concentrates offered, and then disposes of the recovered gold, just as an ordinary company or private individual would do. The alternative course would be for the school to buy ore at the price placed on it by the proprietors,

simply for the sake of affording practice in its treatment to the students. Experience has shown that the price thus paid for ores, which is usually much above its market value, together with the expense of cartage, renders this a most unprofitable business, and the school has to be content with very small supplies. In fact, such a method of working a plant is little more than playing at ore treatment, whereas by making a strictly commercial affair of it, all concerned, that is, the council, the director, and the students, must do their best to get the last grain of gold out of the material. The plants referred to are all for the recovery of gold from quartz, pyrites, or tailings. In Victoria, mining is almost confined to gold, and though in the adjoining States, silver, lead, tin, copper are obtained, the metals are, for the most part, reduced at large continental works. Students are, of course, fully instructed in the methods of assaying for these and other metals, but metallurgical plants for the treatment on the large scale of ores containing them are wanting.

That there is a demand for mining education in Australia is shown by the increasing number of Schools of Mines in the different States. Within the past few years, schools on the lines of those in Victoria have been established at Perth and Kalgoorlie, in Western Australia, at Charters Towers, in Queensland, and at Zeehan, in Tasmania. In New South Wales and South Australia the existing schools have steadily improved in efficiency, as well as in the number of students on the rolls. In our own State the Melbourne University has at last taken up mining education in earnest, and commodious laboratories have been lately erected. Through the liberality of the Government free scholarships, tenable at the University for three years, are now provided annually for a number of boys from the primary schools of the State. An excellent feature in connexion with these scholarships is that the lads gaining them get a preliminary training in mathematics and elementary science at a Continuation school, so that they will be able to take full advantage of the University teaching. It is further proposed to bring the University into close touch with technical schools. Their lectures and laboratory work will be recognised, while those technical school students who desire to attend the examination for the University diploma or degree, will be allowed to do so by simply paying a moderate examination fee.

Amongst the sciences studied in technical schools, chemistry necessarily takes the first place. It is the preliminary subject for metallurgy and mining engineering, and is thus taken up by almost every science student at a School of Mines. To the agriculturist and manufacturer it is also important, but as the results are not so immediate as in the case of mining, fewer classes exist, and these even are but poorly attended. At the Working Men's College classes have been formed for purely technical chemistry, that is, as applied to tanning, brewing, dyeing, &c., but they are small; in other schools occasional students present themselves for examination in one of the nine groups into which the subject is divided. Though in the aggregate there are numerous manufactories in Melbourne, they

are all on a very small scale. There is no predominating one, with a large number of employés. The consequence is that men attend in twos or threes to study the chemistry of their own particular occupation. Then, again, a man must know a good deal of chemistry before he can apply it to the complex processes of the arts, and unless he is prepared to spend three or four years in the laboratory he will derive but scant benefit. Less time than this will suffice for the farmer, who can gain a sufficient knowledge of agricultural chemistry in two years, or if he is very diligent, perhaps in one. Certainly there is no need for him to become an analyst. To enable the farmer to analyze the soil of his farm, or the manures he buys, would necessitate a tedious course in analytical chemistry, extending over three or four years. Then, on leaving the college and commencing for himself, he would require a precision balance, a full supply of apparatus and chemicals, and also a laboratory in which to carry on his researches. The absurdity of such an equipment for the work of any ordinary farm is patent. As a fact, any analyses desired must be left to the specialist, and all that the farmer really needs is sufficient technical knowledge to enable him to understand the reports he receives.

Electricity and electrical engineering are very popular subjects in the schools, but it is found that though a large number of students join the elementary classes, comparatively few of them advance further. Two reasons may be assigned for this. The first is that grave difficulties are met with in making the work of the higher grades sufficiently practical. The applications of electricity are becoming so numerous that the apparatus necessary for teaching, expensive enough at the outset, has to be constantly added to, and the proper equipment of an electrical laboratory makes constant and serious demands upon the school funds. The student may, of course, be occasionally taken to see electrical works, but this is not enough; he must actually use the machinery himself, which must therefore be in the laboratory connected with the school. It is only, therefore, in large institutions which can afford to provide the elaborate machinery necessary that advanced work should be attempted. Secondly, the measurements and calculations in electricity have, with the advance of the science, attained a high degree of precision, and now demand more mathematics than the average technical school student possesses. The consequence is that he finds himself incapable of following the second year lectures, and perforce drops out of the classes.

The Department's syllabus in mathematics is, in reality, a very modest one, but, unfortunately, only a small proportion of even full course students persevere through it. Course students either start at matriculation standard in mathematics, or reach it by the end of their first year, but there many of them are content to stop. The Department has, to some extent, improved matters by requiring the completion of the second grade mathematics before a diploma in metallurgy or mining engineering is issued. Properly all the pure mathematics should be done in the first year, so that the student may derive full advantage from the lectures in applied science of the second and third years.

The elements of sound and light, of dynamics and heat, together with the first grade of electricity, complete the physics course. The second of these forms the introduction to applied mechanics, which, together with engineering drawing, is the leading subject of the engineering course. In addition to the ordinary lectures, students at the Working Men's College spend a certain amount of time in the fitting and turning workshop. At Ballarat, in addition to a number of lathes and other machines, a special steam engine for testing purposes has been erected in the engineering laboratory.

The next classes to be noticed are those for geology, mineralogy, and petrology. Of the two main branches of geology, viz., the petrological and the stratigraphical, it is the former which chiefly concerns technical school students. They have not the time to study the details of palæontology; nor, indeed, would they derive great practical benefit by doing so. Still, it is essential that they should have a general acquaintance with the sequence of Australian sedimentary rocks, and to secure this students in the elementary grade are required to recognise certain characteristic fossils present in Victorian strata. The advanced grade is termed mining geology, and deals with the occurrence of ores, faulting of lodes, and particularly of the dynamics of the auriferous quartz veins of Australia. For those whose inclinations lead them to study the historical side of geology, a special year's course in Australian palæontology is provided.

The number of students who present themselves for examination in mineralogy, is year by year increasing. The subject is taken up by some on account of its connexion with metallurgy, and by others as a preliminary to the study of petrology. A remarkable advance has been made of late years in the science of mineralogy, and this is mainly due to the precision with which the optical characters of minerals, as revealed by the microscope, have been worked out. Now, the interpretation of these characters demands an intimate knowledge of the symmetry or form of crystals, and the study of crystallography, as this division of mineralogy is called, becomes of primary importance. In the latest text books published, considerable stress is laid upon the accurate measurement of the angles of crystals as the basis of all subsequent calculations. Delicate instruments for this purpose have been devised, but the young student should first of all practice with the hand goniometer upon large crystals, or, in their absence, upon well constructed models. Having obtained the angles, he can then advance, just as far as his mathematical attainments permit.

Petrology is specially concerned with the optical characters of crystals, as these serve to elucidate the structure of massive rocks. The subject is provided for in the principal schools, and some work in it is almost invariably done. It is true that only a small proportion of the students advance as far as the highest grade, but the training given in the second or intermediate grade should be sufficient to equip a man for independent work. He is taught how to use the petrological microscope, and the method of preparing rock slides, and is also furnished with data for determining the leading rock forming minerals. With the aid of a petrological microscope he

can apply this knowledge to the solution of most of the problems that he is likely to meet with.

The remaining subjects of the science programme are—Land and mine surveying, mining, steam and gas engines, botany, and agriculture.

The Land Surveyors' Board has lately decided to recognise the work done in Technical Schools as a portion of the qualification for the surveying certificate, provided that there are competent instructors, and that the students pass an approved examination.

Mine surveying is a one year's course only, and is designed for mine managers, and also for students preparing for the diploma in mining engineering. The classes held at Ballarat and Bendigo are well attended by the mining managers of the respective districts.

Mining, as a special subject, deals with operations underground, as blasting, timbering, &c., and with ventilation, lighting of mines, winding, and other matters connected with the working of a mine. The theoretical instruction is given by the professional teacher, and the practical by an underground manager, or other intelligent miner.

The steam and gas engines syllabus is intended for engine drivers and others employed in the engine rooms of mines, factories, &c. It is framed so as to be well within the reach of the non-mathematical student.

The only students in botany are those preparing for the pharmacy examinations, and a few who are engaged in nurseries. Some years ago the subject was much more popular, and weekly botanical excursions were a feature in several of the schools. The reason for the present neglect of botany in our schools is not clear. The native flora is rich and varied in most localities, the love of gardening is general, while great interest is professedly taken in nature study, and yet with all these inducements, no technical school in the State can muster a decent class in botany.

Classes in Agricultural Chemistry, with practical work on experimental plots for the second year, have been commenced in earnest at the Working Men's College, the necessary land having been secured at Kew. A theoretical course in Agriculture, drawn up for the Technical Schools by Mr. Pearson, was for years a dead letter, but it is now covered in one or two of the schools, the students being chiefly State School teachers who wish to qualify for positions in the Agricultural High Schools. The establishment of such High Schools in agricultural centres is undoubtedly a step in the right direction. It must, in fact, be patent to all that a real live interest is now taken in all matters connected with agriculture, and more especially in agricultural education. A commencement is made in the State School, and in an essentially practical manner, by means of the school garden. Following this are the High Schools just mentioned, the agricultural and viticultural colleges at Dookie and Rutherglen, and finally the University, with its Chair of Agriculture. For the farmer who cannot spare time for a lengthened course, some provision is also made at the periodical classes in country districts, where lectures and demonstrations are given by the officers of the Agricultural Department.

Art.

Since this branch of technical school work does not come directly under my cognizance, the remarks made upon it will be very brief. Suffice it to say that applied art is the particular province of the technical school. Stress is laid upon geometry, plane and solid, mechanical drawing, building construction, house decoration, architecture, and the application of art to the affairs of every-day life. Students in trade classes, and also those in the science division of the school, are encouraged to learn freehand and model drawing, so that they may acquire the power of sketching the machines or structures they describe. Judging from the poor efforts made by students, when asked to illustrate by sketches their answers in geology, mineralogy, and other sciences, there is great need for set training in ordinary freehand drawing. In addition to the classes named, there are others for the study of art proper, but these are not discussed in the present article.

Trade.

Subjects coming under this head, form the principal feature of the work done at the Working Men's College, Melbourne. Trade classes exist also at Geelong, but they are on a much smaller scale.

The fitting and turning classes at the Working Men's College, though provided with large and commodious premises, are filled to overflowing, and the accommodation must soon be still further increased. The chief object aimed at by the council of the college is to give lads and young men in the trade the opportunity of supplementing the practice they get in the shops and also of acquiring a certain amount of theoretical knowledge. The students are also taught engineering drawing, though in a separate class. It must be understood that the college authorities do not profess to teach the trade, which, in the limited time available, would not, of course, be possible. In addition to the evening classes referred to there are others in the day time for students taking courses in engineering, &c. Their aims being different, they do not require the same extended practice as those actually in the trade.

Another important class at the college is that for blacksmithing. Here again there are both lecturing and practice. It is proposed later on to specialize in different branches of blacksmithing, under the heads of coach, engineering, and art blacksmithing. For the latter, the students will be required to go through a course of drawing side by side with the practice at the forge.

One of the busiest scenes at the college may be witnessed almost any evening in the plumbing workshop, where a host of young men and lads are at work under the superintendence of an experienced plumber and his assistants. The workshops, which have not been long completed, afford ample opportunity for practice in every department of the trade. The master plumbers of Victoria take an active interest in the class, and, at the request of the Government, annually nominate examiners from amongst their number.

Classes in woodwork, viz., manual training, carpentry, and coachbuilding are also held. Though there is a good attendance in the workshops, the number of entries for examination do not correspond. An effort has been made to interest the coachbuilding employers in the college classes, but so far without a satisfactory response. At

Geelong the carpentry class is successful, as is also a fair sized class in plumbing. Moreover, the entries for examination at this college include almost every student on the rolls.

The attendance in the wool classing rooms of the Working Men's College, and of Gordon College, Geelong, is steadily increasing, and extensions of the existing accommodation are required in both institutions. The standard of instruction has been still further raised by adding an expert grade to the two ordinary ones. The test applied is severe, but it is optional for men to submit to it, the certificate being still granted at the end of the second year's work. The Department's certificates in wool sorting are eagerly sought after by the students, who inform me that they obtain employment on the stations by presenting these documents. Wool sorting classes are practically self supporting, the fee paid per term being fairly high.

Efforts have been made, for some years past, to raise the standard of the photographic classes at the Working Men's College. A new syllabus, covering all the recent improvements in the art, was first issued, and then a year or two afterwards a studio, specially designed for photographic work, was included in the last addition to the college buildings. The results have scarcely realized expectations. Very little desire is shown to study photo-mechanical work, but on the other hand, retouching, amateur, and portrait classes, for which of course, the Department's syllabus does not provide, are popular enough.

The printing classes at the same institution are divided into composing and machine printing. Assistance is obtained from the Printers' Association in supervising these classes, and the examiners are nominated annually from amongst its members.

Though classes for girls, especially in needlework, dressmaking, and cookery are increasing rapidly in the State, there is a dearth of thoroughly qualified teachers. In England and America, colleges have been founded, mainly at least for the purpose of training teachers to give instruction in the various branches of domestic economy. The need for a similar institution certainly exists in Victoria. The managers of technical schools complain of the difficulty experienced in obtaining suitable teachers for either dressmaking or cookery, while young women, who would gladly fit themselves as teachers, know of no means of obtaining the necessary training. The Domestic Economy College, which was established in October, 1906, bids fair to overtake this want. The Cookery classes are filled, while a fair number of students seek instruction in Laundry and Household work. The classes in Dressmaking and Millinery commenced recently.

Commercial.—The State pays no subsidy for the teaching of commercial subjects in technical schools. Classes for writing, bookkeeping, shorthand, typewriting, French, German, &c., &c., are held at the Working Men's College, but the Department insists that they shall be self-supporting and in no way a charge upon the subsidy paid for technical education. There are solid reasons for

this decision. Soon after the Education Department took the control of technical schools, in 1890, a report was obtained upon the work carried on at such schools. In one or two cases science, drawing, and trade classes were found in operation, but they were sometimes quite subsidiary, and the main business of the school consisted in teaching shorthand, bookkeeping, &c., or in preparing candidates for Public Service Examinations. In one school, which received £600 a year as maintenance, there was not a single technical subject taught, but a flourishing Public Service class existed, where the pupils worked at arithmetic, grammar, dictation, and composition. Moreover, applications were coming in freely for similar schools in various places, and certainly if one locality had this kind of teaching why should it not be made common all over the State? It was then decided that technical schools must confine themselves to the purpose for which they were founded, viz., to give instruction in strictly technical subjects, or in other words, in those arts and sciences which have a direct bearing upon the development of the natural resources of the country. A school, then, to be of any service, must seek to foster the industries special to the locality. In mining districts, for example, a real tangible industry exists, which is benefited by the attention given to metallurgy and chemistry in the local school. Trade schools, again, are necessary in industrial centres like Melbourne and Geelong.

The bulk of the commercial classes were discontinued, or where they remained open the teachers engaged received only the actual fees paid by the pupils, less, of course, an amount sufficient to cover the expense of lighting, cleaning, &c. This is the case at the Working Men's College, as well as with a few small classes elsewhere. From returns annually received, it is clearly shown that the purely commercial classes still held in certain technical schools are not in any way a charge upon the State.

Examinations. — An examination of the schools in every subject of the Department's curriculum is held in November and December of each year. A midwinter examination in wool sorting and dressmaking, and sometimes also in science subjects, is, in addition, held in June. The examiners are selected from persons having a practical acquaintance with their subject. At present 34 examiners are thus engaged. The objects of the examination are twofold—first, to ascertain whether the grants to the schools are warranted by the character of the instruction given; and second, to test the proficiency of candidates, with a view to the award of diplomas or certificates to those who reach the prescribed standard. It is an encouraging circumstance that the percentage of passes tends to increase year by year, and this while the standard set is fully maintained. In 1906 an important alteration was made in the allotment of marks at these examinations. Acting on a resolution at a Conference between the Department's officers and representatives of the principal schools, it was decided to allow the schools to allot one-third of the total marks on the result of their first three term examinations, the remaining two-thirds being awarded by the outside

examiner. It is perhaps too early to say how the scheme will ultimately work out, but the results obtained at the close of 1906, the only examination yet held on the new basis, did not differ appreciably from those which in former years depended entirely on the outside examiners' awards.

Constitution and Government.—The schools are managed by local councils, the members of which are elected by the subscribers to the funds. A set of regulations is issued by the Department, dealing with the conduct of the schools under the heads of—(1) Conditions under which the government grants for maintenance, buildings, or apparatus, may be claimed; (2) the subjects of instruction prescribed, and the methods of holding examinations; (3) diplomas and certificates awarded; (4) mode of keeping rolls and the presentment of balance sheets; (5) general. The instructors are appointed by the councils, the Department reserving, however, the right of veto.

Schools.—Of the seventeen technical schools, five are termed certified science schools, viz., Ballarat, Bairnsdale, Bendigo, Stawell, and Melbourne. In these, day courses, extending over three years, are instituted for diplomas in metallurgy, mining engineering &c. In the same schools the usual evening classes for single subjects are also held. The following brief remarks are made upon the separate schools:—

Ballarat.—This is the oldest School of Mines in Australia, having been founded in 1870. It was commenced on a modest scale, but during the last sixteen years has made remarkable progress. It was the first to institute day courses, and these have been so successful that large numbers of its students are drawn from other States. It possesses some commodious class rooms, but for assaying, electrical, and chemical teaching better accommodation is wanted. A large milling plant is attached to the school, where students are practised in handling ore. The success of the school is due to the thoroughness of the teaching, and to the care taken to provide a sound training, both practical and theoretical, for its students. Undoubtedly the Ballarat School of Mines has made its influence felt throughout the Commonwealth, and its graduates may be found in responsible positions on every mining field of note.

Bairnsdale.—When a grant was first made in 1890 for a School of Mines at Bairnsdale, there was no building, and there appeared but slender prospects of obtaining students. Through the energy of the council and the director, Mr. Clark, the primary difficulties were surmounted, and a commodious building was erected. A few years later the Mines Department added to the school buildings a well equipped milling plant, with battery, roasting furnace, and chlorinating apparatus. Last year the lecture and demonstration rooms were enlarged for the second time since their erection, in order to accommodate the increased number of students. Bairnsdale is the centre of an extensive mining field, the resources of which are only partially developed, and certainly much of the pioneer work done in

it during past years is the outcome of the mining education given at the district school.

Stawell.—This school was opened in 1890 in the local market buildings, which were granted for the purpose by the Borough Council. Subsequently the Government added a large assaying laboratory and other rooms. A milling plant, capable of doing work for the public, was also placed on the school grounds by the Mines Department. The first instructor was Mr. W. E. Matthews, and under his energetic management the school prospered greatly. The various local mines sent their employés to the school, and though these young men had only a moderate preliminary education, they benefited in a remarkable degree by the school training in metallurgy. Of late years, chiefly owing to the decay of mining in the district, the school has suffered, and the number of students has considerably diminished. At the beginning of 1905 the art side of the school, which had been closed for many years, was re-opened.

Bendigo.—There are extensive and convenient buildings at this centre for science, art, and trade teaching. It is now provided with a reducing plant, and the number of mining students may be expected to increase. So far as the proficiency of examinees in the various science subjects is concerned, the Bendigo candidates give a good account of themselves.

Working Men's College, Melbourne.—There are as many students in this institution as in all the other schools put together. Like Ballarat, Bairnsdale, &c., courses are arranged for in metallurgy and mining engineering, as well as in applied chemistry and civil engineering. The college was at first open in the evenings only, but a few years ago, day classes were commenced in some subjects, and have been gradually extended to others. As might be expected in an industrial centre like Melbourne, the principal teaching is connected with the trades and manufactures of the city. Fine workshops for fitting and turning, plumbing, blacksmithing, and carpentry have been built, all of which are filled with students. A preparatory year for lads wishing to enter these classes has been lately arranged, where the elements of geometry, &c., are taught. The Railway Department also sends the lads in its employ to the college for certain hours per week, paying their fees, and offering also the inducement of extended tuition in enginering to the most deserving.

Maryborough.—This school is concerned with mining, and also with art subjects. Until lately it was in a depressed condition, but with a change of management has been worked up into an efficient and prosperous school.

Castlemaine.—In connexion with this school there is now a branch at Maldon. A large amount of cyaniding is there carried on, and the men engaged wish to study both the assaying and chemistry necessary for their operations. A Government grant, supplemented by money collected locally, has been spent in erecting laboratories and

purchasing apparatus. The instructors from Castlemaine visit Maldon once or twice a week, and some of the students attend as well the lectures at the principal school. In addition to the metallurgical work, there are at both places classes in mine surveying, which are well attended by mine managers and others. The classes on the art side are also highly successful.

Sale.—There is an excellent art school here, but on the science side the classes have been for years in such a languishing condition that it was finally decided to close them. The laboratories and lecture rooms were handed over to the Education Department to be used by the Sale Agricultural High School, which was opened in April last. Situated, as this school is, in the midst of a thriving farming community, there is every prospect of its becoming a successful institution.

Daylesford.—At its inauguration the Daylesford school promised well. After a lull in mining for a time, the re-opening of the North Cornish mine, and the breaking of fresh ground in the neighbourhood improved mining prospects, and the school ought soon to show signs of renewed vigour.

Geelong.—The work done at this centre includes science, art, and trade work. For plumbing, carpentry, and wool sorting, good accommodation is provided, and the classes are conducted in a thoroughly satisfactory manner. The school has a well appointed chemical laboratory, where instruction is given in agricultural chemistry and the chemistry of manufactures to a few students. Under the energetic rule of Mr. King, the registrar, this school has, during the last few years, made great progress.

At the remaining schools, art subjects are almost exclusively studied.

LIBRARIES.

Public Library of Victoria.

Public Library of Victoria.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £229,382. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance, amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,173,971. At the end of 1906 the Reference library contained 168,079 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year by 350,851 persons. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz.: —The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. The librarian reports that 4,108 volumes were purchased, 1,844 volumes presented, 172 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 42,487 newspapers were added to the Reference Library during the year. The Lending

Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 166,828 volumes during 1906, and the number of persons to whom the books were lent was 8,424. Of these volumes 55.3 per cent. related to fiction, 15.2 to history, 7.7 to general literature, 11.4 to religion, philosophy, natural science and art, 6.9 to arts and trades, and 3.1 per cent. to social science. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1906 was 23,514, of which 989 were added during the year.

Following on the establishment of the Melbourne Public Library, libraries were founded in many of the larger towns. The attention of the original trustees of the Melbourne Library was directed to these institutions, and to the vast number of people whom the distance prevented from reaching the building. They, therefore, established a scheme by which the larger country centres should have the benefit of the collection, and forwarded cases of books on loan for fixed periods. To the country towns of less importance cases were also sent, and in many instances the nucleus of a local library was thus formed. This travelling library system, as it is called, thus greatly stimulated the library movement in those places where it had begun, and inaugurated it in many places to which as yet it had not spread. At the present time loans are made up to 300 volumes at a time to the committees of free libraries and mechanics' institutes, and to the councils of municipalities, for a period of one year, with a further extension of time if required. The books are selected with a view to meeting the special requirements of the district to which they are to be forwarded, publications on mining being sent to mining centres, and those relating to agricultural and pastoral pursuits to those districts where these industries are carried on. Although this scheme is now in operation in many countries, research among library records does not reveal the existence of anything similar prior to its establishment in Melbourne, so that the credit of starting it seems to belong undoubtedly to the original trustees of our library. Many of the local libraries are now in a position to supply all the wants of their patrons without having recourse to these loans.

National Gallery.

The National Gallery at the end of 1906 contained 17,721 works of art, viz., 499 oil paintings, 3,511 objects of statuary, &c., and 13,711 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays it is open from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with this institution was attended in the year by 4 male and 18 female students, and the school of design by 43 male and 69 female students. The students are encouraged to paint original works, by which means it is hoped the foundation may be laid of a school of art of purely Australian subjects. Every three years a Travelling Scholarship is open for competition amongst the students of painting. Its money value is £150 per annum, and it is awarded with the object of enabling promising students to travel and complete their art studies in England and on the Continent. The Trustees also award a prize of £20 for the best painting from life shown at the annual exhibition of students'

work, and numerous other prizes for distinction in the different branches of the drawing and painting schools.

Industrial Museum.

The Industrial and Technological Museum adjoins the National Gallery, and was opened on the 7th September, 1870. At the end of 1906 it contained 55,426 specimens. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

National Museum.

The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Thursdays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 1906 the expenditure for specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £1,352. The payments for salaries and wages during the year amounted to £2,188.

Special Libraries.

Patent Office Library.

There is a free library attached to the Commonwealth Patent Office, Melbourne. This contains about 9,750 volumes, consisting of the printed patent records from Great Britain, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, France, Italy, Germany, &c., technical periodicals, and other works relating to Science, Patents, and Trade Marks. The approximate value of the books is over £20,000, and additions of several hundred volumes are made annually. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon. Patent records, &c., are also received from Austro-Hungary, Argentina, Belgium, Finland, Luxemburg, Japan, Portugal, Peru, Mexico, British India, and South Africa.

Supreme Court Library.

The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has eighteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under Acts of Parliament and rules of court for the admission of barristers and attorneys.

Free Libraries.

Free Libraries.

Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1905-6 being £7,025. In addition to the Melbourne Public Library, 423 furnished returns in 1906, which show that they possessed 708,930 volumes, received £43,258 in revenue, and that 2,654,258 visits were paid to the 382 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors. As to the class of literature in general use, it appears, from particulars received from a number of institutions, that works of fiction are in much greater demand than any other class. Next come general literature, history, and travel, in that order.

City of Ballarat Free Library.

This library was established in 1878, on a site situated at the corner of Sturt and Camp Streets, which was at the time occupied by the Mining Board, the District Mining Surveyor, and Registrar of Births and Deaths. These officials were, however, compensated by the founders of the library to the extent of £600. With the aid of donations from some of the citizens, gifts of books from others, and loans of books from the Melbourne Public Library, the Committee were enabled in course of time to thoroughly establish the institution. In 1901-2, a sum of £3,000 was expended on a new library and reading-rooms. The total cost of the buildings including repairs up to the 31st December, 1906, was £6,401. During the year 1906, the municipal grant was £50; and receipts from subscribers and rents, £758. The library now contains 9,678 volumes on science, history, travels, and other subjects, besides a supply of reviews, magazines, and newspapers of Great Britain and the Commonwealth. The number of visitors during the last twelve months was 201,906.

Ballarat Public Library.

The committee of this institution report having experienced a prosperous year. The revenue amounted to £451, and the expenditure to £409, leaving a credit balance of £42 to be carried forward. The subscriptions amounted to £103, and 59 new subscribers were enrolled during the year. No less than 9,964 visits were paid by the subscribers to change their books, to whom 15,843 volumes were issued. In all, 510 volumes were placed upon the shelves last year, making the total number of volumes now in the Library 17,758. The cost of books, magazines, and newspapers amounted to £117; 264 volumes were presented to the Meredith Mechanics' Institute; £65 has been expended in renovating the building, and only lately a modern book stack has been built, capable of holding 2,250 volumes, the shelves of which are all very accessible, and cover a minimum of space.

Sandhurst Mechanics' Institute and Free Library.

This institute was established in 1854. It consists of two sections—the public and lending libraries—which are open to the public daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., and on Wednesdays and Saturdays to 10 p.m. There is connected with it a reading-room for members. The library contains about 15,000 volumes, and a liberal supply of periodical literature is kept up to date. The cost of building, &c., is £10,131. The institute is maintained by members' subscriptions, grants by the City Council, rents, and a subsidy from the Government. The institute was taken over by the Bendigo School of Mines in 1904, and the council is carrying on both the subscribing and the free libraries as heretofore.

Geelong Free Library and Museum.

The Geelong Free Library and Museum is located in a handsome building, originally built as the Chamber of Commerce at a cost of about £20,000. It was purchased in 1876 from that body for £3,200, for the purposes of the library and museum, which, as an institution, had been in existence since 1854. The total cost of buildings to date was £5,263. It has been mainly supported by residents of the town, and amply supplies all requirements. The average daily attendance is about 465. The library contains

5,790 books, comprising works of fiction, poetry and the drama, educational, scientific, geological, religious, biographical, classical, and other works, together with daily, weekly, and monthly publications. In addition, there is a library of 320 books in embossed type for the use of the blind. The museum contains an interesting collection of geological and mineralogical specimens, native weapons, and objects of natural history. In the art gallery are several excellent oil paintings, which add largely to the attraction of the institution. In 1906 the receipts were £186, and the expenditure £193.

Castlemaine Free Library and Mechanics' Institute.

This institute was established on a very small scale in 1855, but from that time onward it has continued to make steady and satisfactory progress. Up to the end of 1906 the buildings erected cost £5,022. The Hall, which is used for general entertainments and meetings, accommodates 600 persons. There are at the present time 250 subscribers to the institution, which contains suitable and commodious reading and other rooms for the use of the general public, well equipped with books on various subjects, numbering at the end of the year 10,387 volumes, also magazines, newspapers, and illustrated papers. There is also a billiard-room for the use of subscribers. The income for the year 1906 from all sources was £864; the expenditure £841. The total number of visits was 25,000.

Stawell Free Library and Mechanics' Institute.

This library dates its origin as far back as 1858, when the inhabitants of the Reef, Pleasant Creek, opened a building for the purpose of a mechanics' institute, circulating library, and reading room, which served the needs of the people until 1866, when it was destroyed by a fire. It was replaced by a two-story structure, which, in addition, provided space for lodge and lecture rooms. This building was burnt in 1875, and replaced by the structure now known as the Stawell Free Library and Mechanics' Institute, the cost of which was about £4,000, and at the present time there is upon it an outstanding debt of £500. The library contains 3,500 volumes of various classes of literature, and is well supplied with newspapers, magazines, journals, and illustrated papers. The institute is managed by a committee of sixteen, six members being elected each year by the public, and six by the subscribers for the same term; three being trustees or permanent members of the committee, and the Mayor of Stawell is, *ex officio*, its president. The receipts during 1906 were £335.

Warrnambool Mechanics' Institute and Free Library.

In October, 1853, a public meeting was held at Warrnambool for the purpose of petitioning the Government to reserve a block of land for the purposes of a mechanics' institute building site. The site then obtained was given up some years later, and that upon which the building now stands was obtained in its stead. It was not, however, until after the lapse of some years, in August, 1871, that the committee were in a position to erect buildings thereon. In this year a reading-room was erected, at a cost of £340, and in the September of the following year four additional rooms were added. In 1885, a large art gallery and museum was added, and opened free of all encumbrance, the total cost of the building to date being £3,331. Valuable works of art, curiosities, and historical relics

were gradually collected by the curator. In 1889, the museum was transferred to the town council, which body removed the collection to the old court-house building, thus leaving the hall free for works of art, many of which were purchased at the Melbourne Exhibition of 1888. Though not quite free from debt, the position of the institution is fairly satisfactory. It comprises a large reading-room furnished with the leading newspapers and magazines; a billiard room; a library, containing over 7,000 volumes; an art gallery, and school of art.

Exhibition Buildings.

Exhibition Buildings, Aquarium and Museum.

The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure was £132,951, of the temporary annexes, £83,111; gardens, £18,481; machinery, £5,715; organ, £5,560; and miscellaneous expenditure, £547—making a total of £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on the 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on the 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On this occasion, a further sum of £125,178 was expended upon the re-erection of the annexes; £30,986 upon additions, alterations, and decorations to the permanent building; £4,854 upon the gardens; £16,471 upon machinery; £77,128 upon electric lighting; and £8,337 upon gas and gas fittings—making a total of £262,954. At the close of the exhibition, there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904. The property again reverted to the trustees, who report, for the year 1906, that all the buildings are in a good and substantial condition, the gardens well maintained, and the aquarium and insectarium museums extremely useful, both from educational and scientific points of view. It is intended during the year 1907 to install a new system of electric lighting right through the main building and other parts of the ground by means of the most approved type of arc lamp. The receipts for the year amounted to £5,000, consisting of an advance from the Treasury of £82; rents, £2,573; and aquarium and other receipts, £2,345. The expenditure totalled £4,897; viz., £2,033 for expenses of the Aquarium; and £2,864 for maintenance and improvement of the building and gardens, insurance, and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust amount to £912.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden.

Botanic Garden.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, and is at a distance of about a mile and a half from the city. The area of the garden proper, including lawns, groups, &c., is 88 acres, whilst that of the lake, including the added elbow, or bend of the River Yarra, amounts to 12 acres in addition.

This now historic garden, together with the Government House grounds (62 acres), and the Domain (150 acres), comprises a total of 312 acres. The facts as to the commencement and progress of the establishment, having been compiled from the most reliable sources, are to be found in the illustrated "Guide Book," as published by the Government Printer in 1901-2, from which the accompanying quotation has been taken:—

"The first site chosen for a Botanic Garden was an area of 50 acres, near to where the Spencer-street railway station is situated, and was selected by Mr. Hoddle, Surveyor-General, in 1842. Afterwards various other localities were proposed, but finally, owing mainly to the discrimination and taste of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, first Government Superintendent (afterwards Lieutenant-Governor) of the province of Port Phillip, a portion of the present site was decided upon for the purpose. In September, 1845, Dr. Nicholson presented a petition, signed by three or four hundred of the citizens, headed by the Mayor, praying for the immediate establishment of the Botanic Garden, and the sum of £750 was thereupon voted—1845-6—for its maintenance. The first superintendent, or curator (Mr. John Arthur), was appointed 1st March, 1846, and he at once fenced in a 5-acre paddock, that portion of the gardens at present known as the Anderson-street Lawn, sloping towards the tea-house on the edge of Lake, in which he made good progress both as to cultivation and planting. Mr. Arthur, however, whose labours were much appreciated at the time, died in January, 1849. Mr. John Dallachy succeeded Mr. Arthur as curator, and insured such good results that, at the end of 1851, a progress report submitted to the Legislature showed that, in addition to an extension of cultivated ground, many kinds of exotic plants had been added to the collection, and also that the native vegetation has received attention. The various shows of the Horticultural Society were at that time held in the gardens. For several years prior to the retirement of Mr. Dallachy, a scientific arrangement of plants in a part of the gardens was undertaken by the then Government Botanist, Dr. Ferdinand Mueller (subsequently Baron Sir F. von Mueller), who had accompanied the Gregory Expedition in search of Leichhardt, the explorer. After the Baron had received the appointment as Director (1857), Mr. Dallachy was re-employed for several years as a collector of seeds and herbarium specimens for the gardens, and discovered many new and beautiful species in Queensland. The Baron held office as Director until 1873, when, with the view of enabling him to give undivided attention to his scientific labours as Government Botanist, he was relieved of control of the Botanic Gardens, and Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle was appointed to the position. Since 1873 the gardens have been entirely remodelled by him and their area extended by more than 30 acres.

The present features of the gardens are its extensive undulating lawn areas and broad sweeping paths with varied groupings and marginal beds of ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, and useful plants. Large specimens of Australian and exotic trees and other vegetation are effectively disposed about the grounds. At suitable spots, rockeries and mounds have been formed and planted. Along the western and southern boundary fence an interesting plantation of Australian vegetation has been made, which contains many hundreds of representative trees and shrubs of the Continent.

When the present Director took charge of the gardens, in 1873, about 2,500 species of plants were growing there, and these, having been constantly added to, now represent no less than 14,000 species. Many of the most valuable additions are large palms in great variety, arborescent and other ferns—as, for instance, those in the rather extensive "Gully," which has a thousand feet of winding pathway

running through its centre. There are, besides, hundreds of rare ornamental and utilitarian plants, and a large collection of medicinal herbs.

An extensive "System Pavilion", was also formed, the plants all in large pots, classified in their natural orders, and, like the various collections in the outer grounds, conservatory, &c., have labels attached—giving both their scientific and common names, their orders, native countries, &c.

The "Museum of Botany and Plant Products" established by Mr. Guilfoyle contains many thousands of fully-named herbarium specimens; seeds in their seed vessels (or pods), fibres, and woods; products of food, medicinal, and other plants. Both the system pavilion and museum are largely visited by students connected with botanical classes in colleges and schools.

The grounds are almost encircled by a much-used carriage way, which, having been inter-connected, comprises the Alexandra Avenue and the South Yarra Drive, and now makes one wide promenade of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length. Adjacent to the two entrances from the Alexandra Avenue, and on one of the highest points, close to Government House, has been erected a large domed structure with ten columns, which is known as the Temple of the Winds. This has been dedicated by the Director to the memory of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, the first Governor of Victoria, who selected the site for the Botanic Garden in 1845-6. The Temple is very attractive to visitors, as from it, very fine views of the Gardens, Yarra Improvements, City, Eastern Suburbs, and the Dandenong and Healesville Ranges are to be obtained.

An efficient water supply for the gardens is obtained from the River Yarra. A pumping station is located near Dight's Falls, at Studley Park, and the water is drawn by powerful pumps from the river and forced into a storage reservoir, situated on the highest point in the Park. The whole of the water required is conducted from this reservoir for a distance of over three miles directly into the gardens water mains. A service of Yan Yean water is provided for drinking purposes for visitors.

The gardens may be approached from the City by foot or vehicle along the interesting Alexandra Drive and Avenue from Prince's Bridge, by boat along the Yarra River, or by the South Yarra or Toorak trams, which pass close to one of the main entrances; while visitors from the northern, eastern, or southern suburbs can obtain access by gates on these boundaries of the gardens.

The gates of the gardens are daily opened from April to September (inclusive) at 7.30 a.m., and from October to March (inclusive) at 7 a.m., and closed at sunset.

It will be seen by the facts quoted that the Melbourne Botanic Garden has now had an existence of over 60 years, and as a favorite resort has become increasingly popular, being attended by many thousands of people on Sundays and holidays, whilst being on week days much used by citizens and others, including visitors from other States, Colonies, &c., Great Britain, and other countries.

Zoological and Acclimatisation Gardens.

The gardens of the Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, distant nearly two miles from the Post Office, and can be reached by the tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by rail. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the Governor-General, and the present director is Mr. D. Le Souëf.

Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria.

The initiation and progress of the horticultural interests in this State may justly be considered as due to the efforts of this society, which, as the Horticultural Society of Victora, was started in the year 1849. Its pioneer members have by this time all passed away, but there remain a few who were members of the society in the early fifties and whose interest in the work of popularizing the growth of plants, flowers, and fruits still manifests itself.

Some few years after its establishment, the society undertook the responsibility of forming and maintaining experimental gardens at Burnley—the park of which it formed a part being known as Survey Paddock—and Mr. Clarson was intrusted with the direction of the work, acting for many years as honorary director. Upon his resignation in 1882, Mr. George Neilson took charge as curator and remained in that position until his much lamented death a few years ago. During all this time, the society was rendering most valued assistance to growers, especially in the establishment of the most complete and reliable type collection of fruits ever seen in Australasia. Horticulturists from all parts of Australia and New Zealand readily availed themselves of this magnificent collection in order to settle disputed questions of nomenclature of fruits, as very great pains were taken to insure absolute correctness of name of every variety planted among the collection. In 1885, Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria issued the warrant for the society to use the name of "Royal," and it has since worked under the full title of Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria.

The years of depression following the crash of the land boom had their full effect on the society, many of the most liberal donors to its funds being compelled to relinquish the financial support they had in past years generously accorded the committee. In 1891, the Government of the day undertook the establishment of a School of Horticulture, and the balance due to debenture-holders on the handsome show pavilion erected in the gardens having been paid by the Government, the estate was handed over to the management of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Neilson continuing as curator under the direction of a Board of Horticultural Advice to whose personnel the Government appointed three, the society three, with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman. This arrangement

worked with the utmost satisfaction until the death of the curator. Some years after that event, the Minister made a new departure by dissolving the board and placing the School of Horticulture under the sole auspices of the Department.

Since relinquishing the sole control of the Gardens, the society has set itself the task of giving instruction by means of lectures and exhibits at monthly meetings of members, and by imposing fruit and floral displays, all of which attract large attendances.

The President of the society is the Hon. T. H. Payne, M.L.C., who succeeded the Hon. William Anderson, of Southern Cross, in the Koroit District.

The membership subscription is low enough (10s. per annum) to be within the reach of all lovers of horticulture, and as a consequence the list of members is an encouraging evidence of the society's popularity.

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, two vice-presidents (one amateur and one professional), an honorary treasurer, and sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. James R. A. Milligan, at the office, Broken Hill Chambers, 31 Queen-street, Melbourne.

Other Societies.

There are 27 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres. The Government provided £262 in aid of these associations during the year ended 30th June, 1906.

Metropolitan Public Reserves.

Public reserves in Greater Melbourne.

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes being 5,421 acres in 1906. The following list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, has been supplied by the Lands Department :—

Area of Reserves, Parks, and Gardens in Melbourne and Suburbs, 1906.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Melbourne City ...	Royal Park	425
" ...	Yarra "	155
" ...	Prince's "	97
" ...	Fawkner "	102
" ...	Flinders "	17
" ...	Alexandra Park	46
" ...	Park (Model Farm)	28

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1906—*continued.*

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
Melbourne City ...	Botanic Garden and Domain	178
" ...	Queen Victoria Memorial Statue and Garden	8½
" ...	Zoological Garden	55
" ...	Carlton "	63
" ...	Fitzroy "	64
" ...	Spring "	21
" ...	Flagstaff "	18
" ...	Argyle Square	3¼
" ...	Curtain "	3½
" ...	Darling "	2
" ...	Lincoln "	3¼
" ...	Macarthur "	1
" ...	Murchison "	1
" ...	University "	3½
" ...	University Grounds	106
" ...	School Children's Recreation Reserve ...	25
" ...	Industrial Schools and Board of Health Depôt	47
" ...	Melbourne Cricket Ground	9½
" ...	East Melbourne "	7
" ...	Scotch College "	7
" ...	Richmond Cricket Ground	6
" ...	Carlton " (old)	5
" ...	Parliament Reserve	10
" ...	Ornamental Plantations	17
" ...	General Cemetery	101
" ...	Old Cemetery	8½
" ...	Military Parade Ground	5
" ...	Recreation (Brown's Hill)	7½
" ...	Recreation (North Melbourne)	9½
" ...	Racecourse (Flemington)	301
" ...	Recreation (Kensington)	5¾
Fitzroy City ...	Edinburgh Park	34
" ...	Recreation	7
Collingwood City ...	Mayor's Park	6
" ...	Recreation	7
" ...	Darling Gardens	16
" ...	Victoria Park	10
Richmond City ...	Richmond Park	158
" ...	Horticultural Gardens	33
" ...	Barkly Square	7
" ...	Municipal Reserve	7¾
Northcote Town ...	Jika Park	5¾
" ...	Recreation	7
South Melbourne City	Albert Park (part of)	464
" " ...	St. Vincent Gardens	7⅞
" " ...	Ornamental Plantations	2¼
" " ...	Cricket and Recreation (Warehousemen's) ...	8
Port Melbourne Town	Cricket Ground	7¼
" " ...	Park and Garden...	58
" " ...	" "	2
" " ...	Ornamental Plantations	17
Prahran City ...	Toorak Park	7
" ...	Victoria Gardens	4
" ...	Gardens (Grattan-street)	2
St. Kilda City ...	St. Kilda Gardens	16

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1906—*continued.*

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	Area.
		Acres.
St. Kilda City ...	Albert Park (part of)	106
" ...	Recreation (Point Ormond)	54
" ...	"	1¾
" ...	"	11
" ...	" (Beach Reserves)	47½
" ...	" Dandenong Road	22½
" ...	Cemetery	20
Brighton Town ...	Elsternwick Park	90¼
" ...	Recreation (Elsternwick)	14½
" ...	Beach Park	67
Essendon Town ...	Recreation	10¼
" ...	"	5¼
" ...	Agricultural Society's Yards	30
" ...	Queen's Park	22
" ..	Water Reserve	11½
Hawthorn City ...	Recreation	15
Kew Borough ...	Studley Park	203
" ...	Lunatic Asylum	384
" ...	Cemetery	31
" ...	Recreation	16
Footscray City ...	Public Gardens and Recreation	10½
" ...	"	2¼
" ..	Cricket Ground, &c.	5¾
" ...	Recreation (Yarraville)	5
" ...	" (Footscray West)	15
Williamstown Town ...	Park (Newport)	25
" ...	" "	2
" ...	"	20
" ..	Recreation	9¾
" ...	Beach Park	20
" ...	Cemetery	28
" ...	Rifle Range	332
" ...	Cricket Ground	6¾
" ...	Public Garden	3½
" ...	Recreation (Newport)	13
Malvern Town ...	Park and Garden	8
" ...	Recreation	4½
" ...	Park and Garden (Waverley-road)	16
Caulfield Town ...	Race-course	144
" ...	Park	62
" ...	Park (East Caulfield)	17
" ...	Recreation	13
" ...	Brighton Cemetery	29
Oakleigh Borough ...	Recreation	8
" ...	Park and Garden	21
" ...	Park and Recreation	5
" ...	Cemetery	10
Camberwell Town ...	Gardens	7
" ...	Norwood Recreation Reserve	4
Coburg Borough ..	Recreation	5
Outside urban municipalities	Yarra Bend Asylum	350
	Williamstown Race-course	190
	Total	5,421⅛

Most of the large towns throughout the State also possess public gardens, parks, and reserves for recreation purposes. The following table contains particulars especting the most important of these :— Public Reserves in Country Towns.

NUMBER AND AREA OF PARKS AND GARDENS OF COUNTRY TOWNS IN VICTORIA, 1906.

Town.	Number of Reserves.	Area.
		Acres.
Ararat	4	36½
Bairnsdale	3	150
Ballarat	6	1,042
Ballarat East	11	175¼
Beechworth	5	161
Bendigo	10	168
Buninyong	4	114
Burrumbeet	1	100
Castlemaine	3	109
Clunes	5	78½
Colac	1	38
Creswick	2	43
Daylesford	5	242
Dromana	3	274¾
Dunolly	5	312
Eaglehawk	4	42½
Echuca	4	251
Flinders	1	14¼
Geelong	5	261
Hamilton	4	51
Horsham	3	142¼
Koroit	1	13
Kyneton	1	14
Korumburra	2	31½
Learmonth	4	76
Majorca	2	185
Maldon	4	156
Maryborough	3	142
Mortlake	2	82
Portland	5	103
Port Fairy	1	26
Queenscliffe	2	46
Sale	1	40
Sebastopol	1	36
Shepparton	4	113
St. Arnaud	2	63
Stawell	3	71¾
Wangaratta	3	125
Warrnambool	9	449

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Friendly societies are regulated under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1890 and amendments thereof in the Acts of 1891, 1896, 1900, 1905, and 1906, which, amongst other provisions, prescribe that each Valuations of Friendly Societies.

society shall furnish returns annually to the Government Actuary for Friendly Societies, and once at least in every five years shall cause its assets and liabilities to be valued to the satisfaction of that officer. The fees for valuation have purposely been fixed low, and average no more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers if they desire it, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and all the valuations are now made by the Government Actuary for Friendly Societies.

Friendly Societies.

The following is an epitome of the particulars furnished respecting friendly societies for the five years, 1901 to 1905:—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1901 TO 1905.
(Including Female Societies.)

——	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Number of societies ...	31	29	26	26	26
Number of branches ...	1,176	1,209	1,236	1,266	1,306
Average number of members	101,045	104,416	105,784	107,213	110,063
Number of members sick	20,988	21,017	19,527	21,608	20,951
Weeks for which aliment was allowed	170,166	170,460	173,676	184,799	180,986
Deaths of members ...	1,044	1,029	1,030	1,007	1,035
Deaths of registered wives	393	427	408	406	413
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund	203,896	204,301	212,607	223,460	225,790
Income of incidental fund	171,676	171,261	174,798	181,085	183,881
Total Income ...	375,572	375,562	387,405	404,545	409,671
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund	153,965	156,921	154,652	161,277	152,434
Expenditure of incidental fund	169,512	170,700	173,629	177,899	182,234
Total Expenditure...	323,477	327,621	328,281	339,176	334,668
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund	1,269,872	1,317,252	1,375,207	1,437,390	1,510,746
Amount to credit of incidental fund	51,086	51,647	52,816	56,032	57,679
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund	1,207,193	1,252,861	1,315,904	1,378,151	1,451,359
Amount invested—incidental fund	40,029	42,314	43,903	47,395	48,549
Total invested ...	1,247,222	1,295,175	1,359,807	1,425,546	1,499,908

Growth of Friendly Societies.

During the quinquennium ended with 1905, the number of members in friendly societies increased by 12,572, or by slightly less than $12\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., the amount to the credit of the sick and funeral fund by £290,805, or about $23\frac{3}{4}$ per cent., and the total amount invested by £308,890, or over 27 per cent.

Registered friendly societies consisting solely of females at the end of 1905 numbered 8, and the branches 116. The average number of members during the year was 5,535, the total income £10,484, and the expenditure £8,262. The capital amounted to £10,578, of which £9,170 was invested. Female societies.

In proportion to the number of effective male members of Friendly Societies, the amount of sickness experienced in 1905 was about the average of recent years. The days per effective member for which aliment was allowed were equal to an average of 12.0 in each of the five years 1901-1905, but the average was only 10.8 during the eighteen years ended 1900. The death rate in 1905 was slightly below the average—the rate per 1,000 members being 9.75 in 1905, 9.64 in 1904, 10.02 in 1903, 10.09 in 1902, 10.45 in 1901, and 10.51 for the 28 years ended 1905. The female societies experienced a smaller amount of sickness than the male branches—the days per effective member for which aliment was allowed only averaging 5.4 yearly in the five years ended 1905. The death rate, too, was considerably lower, being 3.07 per 1,000 members in 1905, and not exceeding 5 per 1,000 members in any of the years of the quinquennium. Sickness and death rates.

Occupations.—Census Returns.

The occupations of the people in 1901 were ascertained at the census. The various divisions of employment, under 28 heads, were:— Occupations, 1901.

Occupations of the People, 1901.

——	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ministering to—			
Government, Defence, &c.	6,719	165	6,884
Religion, Charity, Science, Education, &c.	13,664	14,676	28,340
Board, Lodging, and Attendance ...	13,129	53,686	66,815
Dealing in—			
Money and Real Property	10,039	2,760	12,799
Art and Mechanic Productions ...	3,720	934	4,654
Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials	6,374	2,452	8,826
Foods, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants	18,217	3,428	21,645
Animals, and Animal and Vegetable Substances	3,977	198	4,175
Metal or Minerals (other than those used for Fuel and Light)	2,044	162	2,206
Minerals, &c., mainly used for Fuel and Light	2,794	34	2,828
Engaged in—			
General Dealing and Mercantile Pursuits	16,091	4,446	20,537
Speculating on Chance Events ...	284	1	285
Storage	1,093	..	1,093
Transport and Communication ...	30,318	1,198	31,516

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1901—*continued.*

—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Manufacturers of—			
Art and Mechanic Productions ...	20,676	1,748	22,424
Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials	10,664	28,450	39,114
Foods, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants	10,251	1,402	11,653
Animal and Vegetable Substances ...	5,281	85	5,366
Metals and Minerals (other than those used for Fuel and Light)	14,315	88	14,403
Materials used for Heat, Light, or Energy	1,035	37	1,072
Constructors of Buildings, Roads, Railways, Earthworks, &c.	27,392	17	27,409
Engaged in Disposing of the Dead or Refuse	1,260	24	1,284
Ill-defined Industrial Workers (chiefly Labourers)	22,653	855	23,508
Engaged on Land or with Animals, and in Obtaining Raw Products from Natural Sources	140,149	24,998	165,147
Persons—			
Of Independent Means	7,242	2,824	10,066
Dependent upon Natural Guardians ...	203,279	444,931	648,210
Dependent upon the State or upon Public or Private Support	7,701	6,444	14,145
Occupation not stated (chiefly Breadwinners)	3,522	1,415	4,937
Total	603,883	597,458	1,201,341

Breadwinners and dependents, 1901.

The number of breadwinners and dependents were:—

BREADWINNERS AND DEPENDENTS, 1901.

—	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage.		
				Males.	Females.	Total.
Breadwinners	389,381	144,668	534,049	65	24	45
Dependents ...	210,980	451,375	662,355	35	76	55
Total ..	600,361	596,043	1,196,404	100	100	100

Proportion of breadwinners and dependents.

The proportion of breadwinners was 100 to every 124 dependents, which was almost the same as at the previous census, when 100 breadwinners supported 125 dependents. It will be seen, too, that nearly one-fourth of the females in Victoria were returned as earning their own living.

FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

Factory legislation.

The Factories and Shops Acts were consolidated during the year 1905 by the *Factories and Shops Act* 1905, No. 1975. Beyond making the Act a permanent measure, no changes were effected in the law by Act 1975. The nine existing Acts were merely consolidated.

Shortly after the consolidation, the *Factories and Shops Act* 1905 (No. 2), No. 2008, was passed, and came into force on the 1st March, 1906. This measure removed a number of administrative difficulties, and the majority of its provisions do not call for special remark.

An important change was, however, made as regards the provisions governing the closing of shops in the Metropolitan District. Under the present law, the majority of shops should be closed at 7 p.m. ordinary nights, and 10 p.m. on Saturdays, unless a majority of the shopkeepers of any class in any district petitioned the Governor in Council to fix a later hour by Regulation. Shopkeepers could also petition for the closing of shops for a half-holiday.

The above provisions continue in force as regards places outside the Metropolitan District, but, as regards the latter, the amending Act fixes the hours for closing and for a half-holiday, and same cannot be altered except by Act of Parliament.

Shortly stated, the hours for closing butchers' shops are fixed at 5 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday, 6 p.m. on Friday, 1 p.m. on Wednesday or Saturday, whichever the shopkeeper may prefer. If Wednesday be chosen for half-holiday, the hour for closing on Saturday is 9 p.m., and if Saturday be chosen the hour for closing on Wednesday is 5 p.m. Bicycle shops, boot repairers' shops, dairy produce shops, flower shops, hairdressers' shops, and pawnbrokers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m.; on Wednesday or Saturday, at 1 p.m. If shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m.; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it can be kept open till 11 p.m. on Saturday.

All other shops (except Fourth Schedule Shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday. On Friday, at 6 p.m., if shop be closed on Wednesday at 1 p.m., but if closed on Wednesday at 6 p.m., and on Saturday at 1 p.m., the shop may be kept open till 10 p.m. on Friday. If closed on Wednesday at 1 p.m., shop may be kept open till 10 p.m. on Saturday. The shop must be closed for a half-holiday on Wednesday or Saturday at 1 p.m., whichever day the shopkeeper may elect, but having elected one day or the other he cannot change it for three months.

The Fourth Schedule shops, so far as Metropolitan District is concerned, are:—

Chemists' shops.
Coffee-houses.
Confectioners.
Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.
Eating-houses.
Fish and oyster shops.
Fruit and vegetable shops.
Restaurants.
Tobacconists' shops.
Booksellers' and news agents' shops.

No hours for closing such shops are fixed by the Act.

A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons other than a Chinese, or in which one

or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale. The expression handicraft includes any work done in a laundry or dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories; and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to see that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. A record is to be kept in every factory of the names, work, and wages of all employés, and the ages of those under 21. The employment of persons under 13 is debarred, and a strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment for all females and for males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency or service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, in order to try to prevent or lessen unfair competition. Every employé in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week. This provision is, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers.

Wages Boards.

The most important provision contained in the Act of 1896, and extended by subsequent Acts, is in regard to the formation of Boards to fix the rates of wages and piece-work in various trades, for which purpose it is provided that, to determine the lowest prices or rates to be paid, the Governor-in-Council may appoint special Boards, if a resolution in favour of creating a Board for any process, trade, or business has been carried in both Houses of Parliament, consisting of from four to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employés), who are to nominate some outside person as chairman; or if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor-in-Council shall appoint the chairman. The Board so appointed may fix piece-work rates which may be paid, and also the lowest wages rates, and may also determine the number of improvers who may be employed. There are 49 Special Boards now in existence, affecting over 49,000 operatives.

Effect—Rise in earnings.

The Chief Inspector of Factories reports that determinations, made by thirty-eight Boards appointed under the Act, were in full operation during 1906, and furnishes figures showing the increase in average earnings consequent thereon. For instance, the average weekly wage for all employés (including boys) in the bread-making trade was £1 12s. 6d. in 1896, prior to the Wages Board being in operation, and £2 1s. 3d. in 1905, when its determination was in full force. Likewise, the average wage of persons employed in the clothing trade increased from £1 in 1896 to £1 0s. 6d. in 1905; the average wage in the boot trade from £1 3s. 2d. to £1 6s. 4d.; and in the furniture trade from £1 9s. 1d. to £1 15s. 10d. In 1900, the average wage of persons engaged in the engraving trade was 36s. 11d., and in 1905, when the determination was in force, it was £2 1s. 9d., or an increase of 4s. 10d. In the pottery trade the average wage was £1 8s. 1d. in 1900, before the Wages Board fixed

the rates, and in 1905, when the determination was in operation, it had risen to £1 12s. 7d., or an average increase of 4s. 6d. for each employé engaged in the trade.

Provision has been made in the law for appeals against the determination of any Special Board to a Court of Industrial Appeals. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court (Mr. Justice Hood was appointed as Judge of the Court of Industrial Appeals), who may be assisted by two assessors for technical purposes only. The assessors have no voice in the decisions of the Court. There have been three appeals against the determinations of Special Boards to this Court.

Government Labour Bureau.

Prior to the 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaus were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by a bureau under the control of the Public Works Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied when work is available according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. This bureau also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would be otherwise unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the bureau in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment for the year 1906 :—

Government Labour Bureau.

Year and Month.	Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the End of each Month.	Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.
1906—January	1,453	
February	1,811	
March	1,407	
April	966	
May	1,454	
June	1,751	
July	2,601	2,896
August	1,859	
September	1,319	
October	*	
November	1,031	
December	*	

* Figures not available.

During the year 1906 the number of railway tickets advanced was 850, valued at £755, of which £505 was refunded. During the past six and a quarter years 4,775 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £4,003, of which £2,280 has been refunded.

CHARITIES AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

Charitable and Reformatory Institutions, &c.

The total number of organizations administering charitable relief and of a reformatory character throughout the State which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1906 was 238. The number of these which received aid from the Government was 211. The amount received by all these institutions was £779,325, of which the Government contributed £521,964, and £257,361 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure amounted to £737,253. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year was 13,874, and there were no less than 117,191 distinct cases of outdoor relief. With regard to the outdoor relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; but in these latter cases, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of these duplications can be based.

In the following table will be found a summary containing full particulars of all these charitable and reformatory institutions, showing the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in institutions, the total number of distinct cases receiving outdoor relief, together with receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS—INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1905-6.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average Indoors.	Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
HOSPITALS.				£	£	£	£
General Hospitals	45	2,137	56,535	50,990	98,047	149,037	128,582
Women's Hospital	1	103	1,259	3,800	11,874	15,674	10,145
Children's Hospital ..	1	90	13,541	500	13,904	14,404	8,809
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	19	3,609	360	1,317	1,677	1,909
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	35	..	6,601	..	6,601	6,601

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS—INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1905-6—*continued.*

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average Indoors.	Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts. From Government.	Receipts. From Other Sources.	Receipts. Total.	Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
HOSPITALS—*continued.*				£	£	£	£
Consumptive Sanatorium ..	1	60	..	300	3,581	3,881	5,979
Convalescent Homes	2	45	..	370	1,301	1,671	1,535
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions	3	218	5,748	3,400	16,323	19,723	10,841
Hospitals for Insane and Idiot Asylum	9	4,822	..	121,735	22,167	143,902	143,902
Foundling Hospitals	2	118	..	1,316	1,783	3,099	3,691
Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	25	..	1,464	2,204	3,668	3,723
Total	67	7,672	80,692	190,836	172,501	363,337	325,717
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums	8	2,587	1,942	20,667	14,999	35,666	34,904
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	53	11	..	4,485	4,485	2,742
Freemasons' Home	1	16	1	..	948	948	635
Old Actors' Home	1	5	32	..	320	320	321
Benevolent Societies .. .	93	..	13,266	5,033	16,348	21,381	20,384
Orphan Asylums	9	1,446	..	5,650	15,716	21,366	20,137
Total	113	4,107	15,252	31,350	52,816	84,166	79,123
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	20	264	4,823	59,800	1,643	61,443	61,443
Female Refuges	10	654	..	2,300	18,575	20,875	21,91
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	6	160	..	566	4,644	5,210	4,917
Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society	1	..	476	195	508	703	684
Gaols and Penal Establishments ..	16	1,017		51,222	..	51,222	51,222
Total	53	2,095	5,299	114,083	25,370	139,453	140,179
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-Age Pensioners ..	..	..	10,990	185,515	3,612	189,127	189,127
Night Shelters (Dr. Singleton's) ..	2	..	..	40	16	56	72
Charity Organization Society ..	1	..	..	..	2,618	2,618	2,381
Free Dispensaries	2	..	4,958	140	428	568	654
Total	5		15,948	185,695	6,674	192,369	192,234
Grand Total	238	13,874	117,191	521,964	257,361	779,325	737,253

Charitable institutions—accommodation.

Particulars relating to the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are as follow. The information relates to the year ended the 30th June, 1906, except for the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, in which cases it relates to the calendar year 1906, and the Infectious Diseases Hospital, which is for the year ended 30th September, 1906. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, the remainder in country towns, nine of the latter

being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows:—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1905-6.

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic feet.		
General Hospitals ...	45	410	4,249,885	3,123	1,361
Women's Hospital ...	1	25	144,450	104	1,389
Children's Hospital ...	1	17	141,815	115	1,233
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	8	54,680	60	911
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	1	3	23,894	20	1,195
Infectious Diseases Hospital	1	6	96,304	50	1,926
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	1	8	...	70	...
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1	3	15,336	61	251
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	1	8	...	40	...
Consumptive Sanatorium...	1	32	56,000	114	491
Hospitals for the Insane ...	8	1,204	2,908,525	4,220	689
Idiot Asylum	1	20	114,288	308	371
Benevolent Asylums ...	8	215	1,743,466	2,710	643
Convalescent Homes ...	2	30	69,000	61	1,131
Blind Asylum	1	5	91,318	112	815
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1	3	72,220	78	926
Orphan Asylums ...	9	70	675,427	1,399	483
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	20	95	330,864	723	458
Female Refuges	10	130	493,914	714	692
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	6	15	107,017	181	591
Total	120	2,307	11,388,403	14,263	798

The following statement shows the number of inmates and of deaths in these institutions:— Charitable institutions —inmates and deaths.

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1905-6.

Description of Institution	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
				Per cent.
General Hospitals	22,763	2,137	2,326	10·2
Women's Hospital	2,119	103	34	1·6
Children's Hospital	1,823	90	198	10·9
Eye and Ear Hospital	707	52	3	·4
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	289	19	17	5·9
Infectious Diseases Hospital ...	416	25	17	4·1
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	123	64	18	14·6
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	115	54	16	13·9
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	171	35	1	·6
Consumptive Sanatorium ...	234	60	6	2·6
Hospitals for the Insane	5,377	4,493	288	5·4
Idiot Asylum	359	329	7	1·9
Benevolent Asylums	3,855	2,587	453	11·8
Convalescent Homes	1,195	45	...	...
Blind Asylum	100	89	1	1·0
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	93	77	...	...
Orphan Asylums	1,857	1,446	11	·6
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	5,867	5,087	42	·7
Female Refuges	1,036	654	13	1·3
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	624	160	5	·8
Old Colonists' Association ...	59	53	3	5·1
Old Actors' Home	5	5	...	...
Freemasons' Home	17	16	2	11·8
Total	49,204	17,680	3,461	7·0

In addition to the inmates shown in the preceding table, there were 38 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 96 infants in the Female Refuges, and 117 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

Charitable institutions—receipts and expenditure.

The total receipts of all charitable institutions in the year 1905-6 amounted to £538,976, of which considerably more than one-half was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £496,904. Of the Government contribution, £188,136 was expended on the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, and the Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives, which are Government institutions. Compared with the previous year, the total receipts show a very satisfactory increase, viz., £43,700—£30,314 of this amount being from private sources, and £13,386 from the Government.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1905-6.

Description of Institution.	Receipts.			Expenditure.
	From Government.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£
General Hospitals	50,990	98,047	149,037	128,582
Women's Hospital	3,800	11,874	15,674	10,145
Children's Hospital	500	13,904	14,404	8,809
Eye and Ear Hospital	800	5,058	5,858	3,652
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	360	1,317	1,677	1,909
Infectious Diseases Hospital ...	1,464	2,204	3,668	3,723
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	316	588	904	837
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	1,000	1,195	2,195	2,854
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	6,601	...	6,601	6,601
Consumptive Sanatorium ...	300	3,581	3,881	5,979
Hospitals for the Insane Idiot Asylum	121,735	22,167	143,902	143,902
Benevolent Asylums	20,667	14,999	35,666	34,904
Convalescent Homes	370	1,301	1,671	1,535
Blind Asylum	1,700	7,395	9,095	3,704
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	900	3,870	4,770	3,485
Orphan Asylums	5,650	15,716	21,366	20,137
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	59,800	1,643	61,443	61,443
Female Refuges	2,300	18,575	20,875	21,913
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	566	4,644	5,210	4,917
Old Colonists' Association ..	...	4,485	4,485	2,742
Old Actors' Home	...	320	320	321
Freemasons' Home	...	948	948	635
Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society	195	508	703	684
Charity Organization Society ...	...	2,618	2,618	2,381
Benevolent Societies	5,033	16,348	21,381	20,384
Free Dispensaries	140	428	568	654
Dr. Singleton's Night Shelters ...	40	16	56	72
Total	285,227	253,749	538,976	496,904

The following statement shows the average number of inmates of the respective institutions, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost for the year of each inmate:— Charitable institutions —average cost per inmate.

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1905-6.

Description of Institution.	Daily average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance.	Average cost of each Inmate.
		£	£ s. d.
General Hospitals	2.137	117,270	54 17 6
Women's Hospital	103	6,890	66 17 10
Children's Hospital	90	8,524	94 14 3
Eye and Ear Hospital	52	3,643	70 1 2
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	19	1,737	91 8 5
Infectious Diseases Hospital ...	25	3,593	143 14 5
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ...	64	647	10 2 2
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	54	1,513	28 0 4
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	35	2,408	68 16 0
Consumptive Sanatorium	60	4,458	74 6 0
Hospitals for the Insane ... } Idiot Asylum ... ... }	4,822	134,237	27 16 9
Benevolent Asylums	2,587	33,128	12 16 1
Convalescent Homes	45	1,326	29 9 4
Blind Asylum	89	3,615	40 12 4
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	77	3,317	43 1 7
Orphan Asylums	1,446	18,370	12 14 1
Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools	5,087	61,443	12 1 7
Female Refuges	654	16,586	25 7 3
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	160	4,372	27 6 6
Old Colonists' Association	53	2,181	41 3 0
Old Actors' Home	5	321	64 4 0
Freemasons' Home	16	635	39 13 9
Total	17,680	430,214	24 6 8

In calculating the average cost of each inmate, the cost of treating out-patients is necessarily included, as there is no available information showing the cost of in-patients and out-patients separately.

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Orphan Asylums, and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the children of the Industrial and Reformatory Schools cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is somewhat misleading, the true cost per head of those supported by the State being about £17 6s. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the first-named institution, and for infants in the two latter groups of institutions.

Melbourne Hospital.

The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. Five years from the foundation of the city, the great desirability, and even necessity, of providing some establishment for the reception, nursing, and treatment of the sick poor, and for the relief of victims of accidents, was apparent. A public meeting, presided over by the Superintendent of the Province, Mr. Latrobe, and attended by the leading people of the settlement was held on 1st March, 1841, and resolutions were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted in favour of the foundation of a hospital in which the best medical advice and the most skilful surgical treatment available would be at the service of those who were in indigent circumstances, as well as of those who would be admitted as paying patients. The severity of the struggle for existence in those early days, and the poverty of the people of the settlement, retarded for a time the collection of subscriptions. In a year, only £300 had been received; but urgent requirements were met by the establishment of a dispensary in a small brick cottage in Little Collins-street rented for the purpose. The grant in aid, which had been fully expected, was refused by the Government in Sydney; but the charitable work was not thereby doomed, and private donations enabled larger premises, in Bourke-street west, to be engaged for hospital purposes. It was intimated that no more than £500 could in any event be expected from Sydney, and the indignation and disappointment in Melbourne culminated in a meeting of prominent colonists at the house of Dr. Palmer, afterwards President of the Legislative Council under responsible government. Strong representations were made to the Governor, Sir George Gipps, who promised the memorialists a site for the hospital, and a money grant by way of building fund and endowment. In February, 1845, two sites were offered, namely, the hay and corn market reserve, between Flinders-lane and Flinders-street, on the east side of Collins-street, and a block, in a then sequestered corner of the town, bounded by Lonsdale, Little Lonsdale, Swanston, and Russell streets. The latter was ultimately chosen, and upon it the building of the hospital was commenced.

As an intimation had been received from Sydney that the Government was prepared to advance £1,000 if a like amount was subscribed in Melbourne, immediate steps were taken to fulfil the condition. £265 was raised at the meeting, at which also a governing body was appointed. The first entertainment raised nearly £60, and was given by some gentlemen amateurs who had formed themselves into a philharmonic society. In January, 1846, tenders were called for. The foundation stone was laid on the same day as that of the original Prince's-bridge. Early in 1848, the building was ready for occupation, a staff was appointed, and in March of that year, two patients were admitted, and four out-patients treated. By July, 1848, all the beds, 21 in number, were occupied, and even at that early date, applications for admission exceeded the available accommodation, and additions had therefore to be made. The original building now forms the east wing of the main building. From that time up to the present day continual additions and alterations have

been made in order to meet the growing demands of an increasing population, and equip the institution for the position it has held as the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain over 300 beds, in which between 4,000 and 5,000 in-patients are treated annually. In the out-patients' department, 18,586 persons were treated last year, including 7,258 casualty cases. The aggregate number of attendances was 75,974.

As far as has been possible in an institution, the greater part of which was built over half a century ago, the hospital has been improved in accordance with the latest views of hospital construction, and the requirements of modern science. A fine new operating theatre was built a few years ago, and recently the old original theatre was reconstructed and brought thoroughly up-to-date. In these two theatres during 1906, no fewer than 2,025 operations were performed. There is a most effective system of steam supply and hot-water pipes installed at this hospital, whereby the operating theatres and some of the wards are heated, the sterilizers are supplied with steam at a high temperature, and the theatres are provided with absolutely sterilized water.

Some years ago an excellently-equipped mortuary was added to the hospital, and a fine large lecture-room for University students. Other important additions have been two new wards for septic cases. These are the most up-to-date wards in the hospital, and have proved highly satisfactory. Another department of the institution which has been excellently equipped is the X rays room. Generous donations from the trustees of the estate of the late Edward Wilson have provided for this highly useful department the latest and best equipment.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated up to date number 190,014; the out-patients, 832,088.

In 1905-6 the Government granted £10,000 towards maintenance; the municipal grants were £761; private contributions amounted to £4,151; proceeds of entertainments, £308; legacies, bequests, £10,805; Hospital Sunday, £2,212; payments and contributions by in-door patients, £1,813; out-patients' fees, £1,236; and £3,191 was received from all other sources. The total receipts for the twelve months were £34,477, which includes £5,978, bequests, &c., to the endowment fund. The expenditure was £25,667—£831 for buildings and extraordinary repairs, £24,682 for maintenance, and £154 for miscellaneous items.

Alfred Hospital.

For many years before the establishment of this institution, the necessity for a second general hospital in Melbourne was recognised. It was not, however, until 1868, that it was finally resolved that a charitable institution should be erected as a memorial of the providential escape of H.R.H. Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, from assassination during his visit to Sydney. A site of 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone was laid in March, 1869, by His Royal Highness, after whom the hospital was

named. In May, 1871, the establishment was opened, and additions were made in 1885. In 1888, a fire occurred, which entirely destroyed a portion of the original buildings. During the year 1901-2, further additions were made. This hospital is recognised by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and, in addition, a training school for nurses was established in 1880, the term of instruction decided upon being one year, but this was subsequently increased to three years. The pupils are of two grades—the first pay an entrance fee and a fixed sum monthly for maintenance, &c., whilst the second receive a small and progressive salary after six months. Since the opening in 1871, 49,032 in-patients were treated, and of these 5,365 died in the establishment. The out-patients numbered 97,323, and the casualty cases 55,324. For the year ended 30th June, 1906, the daily average number of in-patients was 157. The number of patients treated shows a continuous and steady increase. Thus, the total number of patients for year ended 30th June, 1896, was 6,560, while the figures for the year 1905-6 are 10,164. The total revenue from all sources was £13,520—£3,800 from the Government; £421 municipal grants; £1,914 private contributions; £85 proceeds of entertainments; £3,452 legacies, bequests, &c.; £905 Hospital Sunday; £1,564 contributions by in-door patients; £686 by out-door patients; and £693 all other receipts. The total expenditure was £11,652. A new operating theatre, on the most approved model, is in course of erection, which will involve an expenditure of about £1,800.

Homœopathic Hospital.

'This institution was first established in 1869 as a dispensary, in Spring-street, Melbourne. In 1876, the buildings were enlarged, and founded as a hospital for the treatment of both in and out-patients. In 1881, owing to annually increasing demands for the treatment of in-patients, it was decided to remove the institution to its present site on St. Kilda-road, and the northern wing and administration quarters were then erected. In 1890, the southern wing, which is reserved for surgical cases, was added, the cost being met by a gift of £9,000 made by Mr. James S. Hosie, of Melbourne. Since the institution was first opened, up to 30th June, 1906, 141,906 patients have received treatment. During the year ended on that date, 8,397 patients were treated. The visits of out-patients during the same period were 23,715. The average stay of in-patients was 19 days for males and 23 days for females, which is an exceedingly low average. 1,014 operations were performed by the visiting honorary surgeons, and 1,497 casualty cases were attended to. The establishment has attached to it a school for training nurses, who have to serve a period of three years, and pass prescribed examinations. Visitors are admitted on Sundays and Wednesdays, between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. The income for the year was £6,104, made up of £1,750 Government grant; £247 municipal grants; £1,039 private contributions; £27 proceeds of entertainments; £1,446 legacies, bequests, &c., £332 Hospital Sunday; £603 contributions by in-door, and £500 by out-door patients; and £160 from all other sources. The expenditure was £4,344—£105 for buildings; £4,175 for maintenance; and miscellaneous items £64.

The institution has accommodation for 84 patients. On 30th June, 1906, there were remaining under care 28 men and 31 women. It is proposed by the board of management of the hospital very shortly to proceed with the erection of a children's wing, which will provide accommodation for over 30 children. Also a new building for nurses' accommodation, dispensary, and out-patients' waiting rooms.

Austin Hospital for Incurables.

This hospital for incurables, the only one of its kind in Victoria, is situated on a block of 17 acres at Heidelberg. Its origin belongs to the year 1880, when Mrs. Thomas Austin, of Barwon Park, Winchelsea, offered £6,000 for the purposes of the institution. Other donations quickly followed, and the Government of the day granted the present site. The hospital was opened in August, 1882, and provided accommodation for 66 patients. In 1884, a wing, containing sixteen beds for the reception of cancer patients, was opened, and in 1900 another wing was added for consumptives, containing 41 beds. Alterations in 1897 increased by eight the accommodation for cancer patients. The Nurses' Home, with accommodation for 30 nurses and women servants, was erected and furnished in 1897. This building was enlarged in 1906 so as to increase the accommodation for nurses and women servants to 45 beds. In 1901, the children's wing was erected, and a laundry has since been added. In 1905 an additional wing for consumptives, capable of containing 60 patients, was opened. £5,110 of the total cost (about £6,000) of the erection of the building was provided by Mr. Joseph Kronheimer, of Melbourne. The ground floor of the wing, holding 30 beds, has been furnished at a cost of about £480, of which amount quite two-thirds has been specially contributed, without solicitation, by friends of the institution. The whole (60 beds) of the accommodation for patients in the Kronheimer wing was rendered available in 1906. Up to 30th June, 1906, 2,310 patients were admitted; of this number 1,564 died in the institution, 554 were discharged, and 192 were occupying beds in the various wards. The patients treated have been all of the one class, *i.e.*, chronic or incurable, many of them reaching the hospital in a dying condition. Amongst the number set out as having been discharged, a fair percentage, say, 45 per cent., have benefited very considerably from the treatment received in the institution, the remaining 55 per cent. having left of their own accord, many of them preferring to die amongst their friends and relatives. Practically no cures have been effected at the establishment. The patients treated during the year 1905-6 numbered 349, of whom 205 were new admissions, and the daily average was 169. The institution is well supported by the public. Of the total expenditure for 1905-6, £8,007, £1,744 was spent on buildings, and £6,263 on maintenance and other expenses. The revenue was £15,016; made up of £1,000 Government grant; £217 municipal grants; £2,469 private contributions; £119 proceeds of entertainments; £9,129 legacies and bequests; £658 Hospital Sunday; £569 contributions from in-door patients; and £855 miscellaneous contributions. Of the surplus in hand, £3,600 was

credited to the Perpetual Endowment account, and £2,380 placed in reserve to provide for future building operations The institution now contains 27 dormitories with 176 beds. There were 109 men and 83 women under care on 30th June, 1906.

St. Vincent's Hospital.

This hospital was founded in 1893, and is conducted by the Sisters of Charity; but, though associated with the Roman Catholic Church, the work of the institution is carried on upon entirely unsectarian lines. The site is in Victoria-parade, Fitzroy. The present building only forms the rear portion of the proposed completed structure, and contains 120 beds. During the year ended 30th June, 1906, 940 patients were admitted, which, with 20 remaining from the previous year, makes 960 treated. There were 740 discharged, cured or relieved; 58 discharged incurable; 72 died; leaving 90 remaining on 30th June, 1906. The number of out-patients who received treatment was 9,360. The total receipts were £4,321, made up of £1,000 Government grant; £91 from municipalities; £827 private contributions; £25 proceeds of entertainments; £1,068 legacies and bequests; £266 from Hospital Sunday; £714 payments by in-door, and £330 by out-door patients. The expenditure was £6,080—£639 on buildings, and £5,441 on maintenance and miscellaneous expenses.

Ballarat District Hospital.

The foundation stone of this hospital was laid on the 25th December, 1855, and on the 1st January following a memorial stone was laid to commemorate the completion of the main building. On the Queen's Birthday, 1869, the foundation stone of the Prince Alfred Memorial Ward was laid. This building provides accommodation for 75 beds. On 23rd March, 1897, a public meeting of the ladies of the district was held, when it was decided to collect funds for the purpose of building wards to accommodate 50 female patients, and on 21st June, 1897, was laid the foundation stone of the Queen Victoria Women's Ward, in commemoration of the Jubilee of Her Majesty, the late Queen Victoria, and this building was completed and opened on 26th October, 1900. The establishment is now fully equipped for the accommodation of 170 patients, and its work and usefulness are of a high character. The receipts for 1905-6 were £5,467, made up by £2,800 Government grant, £310 municipal grants, £882 private contributions, £226 proceeds of entertainments, £449 legacies, bequests, &c., £88 Hospital Sunday collections, £264 contributions by in-door patients, and £149 by out-door patients, and £299 miscellaneous receipts. The expenditure was £4,963—£20 on buildings and repairs, £4,943 on maintenance, &c. There are twelve dormitories, and in the 170 beds there were 97 persons under care on 30th June, 1906.

Bendigo Hospital.

This establishment was founded in 1853, upon a site of 10 acres, which was permanently reserved in 1856, when the main portion of the present building was erected to provide accommodation for 60 patients, the Bowen wing having been subsequently added. This hospital, through the munificence of the late Mr. George Lansell, has the right to six beds for patients from the Bendigo district in the Austin Hospital for Incurables, at Heidelberg. The hospital

now includes detention wards of six rooms, recently built on modern lines by the Government at a cost of over £2,500 for male and female insane patients, where they are kept under observation for limited periods prior to discharge or transfer to a public asylum. There is also a special cottage set apart for contagious diseases, which, however, is not adequate to meet the wants of the district, and local effort is now being made to raise the necessary funds whereby this cottage may be enlarged, or a new ward on approved modern lines built. For this purpose, £1,004 has been collected locally. By a gift of £1,000, Miss Edith Lansell has endowed in perpetuity a cot in the children's ward as a thank offering for her recovery from a long and dangerous illness. The General Hospital provides accommodation for 172 patients, but during the last ten years the daily average has only been 112. The number of patients received during the year was 1,500, which, with 105 remaining at the close of the previous year, yields a total of 1,605 treated. The electric light has been installed throughout, and electric fans have been placed in the principal wards. The out-patients numbered 2,498, and their attendances 7,394. The receipts for 1905-6 were £6,535, comprising £2,600 Government grant; £137 municipal grant; £1,245 private contributions; £559 proceeds of entertainments; £355 legacies and bequests; £467 Hospital Sunday; £545 contributions by in-door patients; and £627 from all other sources. The expenditure was £6,646—£153 on buildings, and £6,493 on maintenance and miscellaneous expenses. The institution is endowed to the extent of nearly £13,500 (£2,500 of which is in real estate). It is managed by a committee of fifteen, two of whom are medical men; the staff comprises two resident medical officers, matron, night matron, three male and twenty-five female nurses, a resident secretary, and a working staff of five male and thirteen female servants. The institution contains 27 dormitories. There were 108 patients under care on 30th June, 1906.

Castlemaine Hospital.

There are no official records in existence dealing with the formation and early history of this hospital. Many attempts have been made by members of various committees in the past to obtain reliable data and original documents to enable them to do so, but unfortunately, without success. In 1903, however, some important private documents were discovered which threw some light upon the subject. From these it appears that a public meeting was convened at Castlemaine on the 17th February, 1853, when it was resolved that a hospital should be established for (1) the reception of sick persons who are totally destitute; (2) for accidents; and (3) for those who are able to pay to be attended by their own medical men if desired. On the 24th May, 1853, the hospital appears to have been opened in a good building, 30 feet long by 20 feet wide, with a detached surgery, kitchen, and men's room. The first resident surgeon was appointed to the institution about the middle of 1853. Cases of leprosy were treated early in the sixties, in a tent specially set apart for the purpose, but, in 1870, the patients were all removed to Melbourne, and there strictly isolated. To commemorate the Diamond

Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria in June, 1897, an up-to-date building was erected for the treatment of infectious diseases. It consists of two wards, each containing three beds, specially fitted up to receive patients suffering from contagious diseases. It is called the Queen Victoria Ward. In 1905-6, 277 patients were admitted, 237 were discharged, cured, or relieved, 41 died, and 36 remained at the close of the year. The institution contains 13 dormitories, with 75 beds. The average number of in-patients for the year was 37. The total receipts were £2,185, made up of £1,250 Government grant; £101 municipal grants; £414 private contributions; £81 proceeds of entertainments; £71 legacies and bequests; £41 Hospital Sunday; £172 contributed by in-door and £31 by out-door patients; and £24 miscellaneous receipts. The expenditure was £2,175.

Geelong Infirmary and Benevolent Asylum.

This institution was opened on the 23rd April, 1852, and during the remainder of that year 150 patients were treated in the Infirmary and seven inmates were admitted to the Benevolent Asylum. It is managed by a president, assisted by a committee of 22 persons, who meet once a month for the transaction of business. The staff consists of a resident surgeon and assistants, a matron, wardsman, and women nurses and probationers. A nurses' training school is a special feature of this establishment, twelve nurses being constantly under tuition, the course of instruction extending over a term of three years. The buildings, being now 54 years old, are showing signs of age, but everything is done to keep the wards in an up-to-date condition. There is a handsome new out-patients' department which is kept quite apart from the general hospital. It contains an operating theatre, with all modern appliances. A thoroughly up-to-date X-ray apparatus has been imported from Germany at a cost of £100, and the institution is now perfectly equipped in this important branch of medical science. An infectious ward is in course of erection at rear of the present hospital. It is to accommodate 24 patients. During the year a plant to distil all water used at operations for surgical purposes has been installed, together with the latest basins in theatre, which are filled and emptied by valves operated by the surgeon's feet. The laundry is fitted up with the latest steam washing machines, everything being washed and sterilized on the premises. There is also a plant in use for the manufacture of aerated waters. The number of beds is 205, the average number occupied 155. During 1906, 1,783 cases—938 in-door and 845 out-door—received relief, and there were 131 under care in the institution at th close of the year. The total ordinary income from all sources for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1906, was £5,761 (including the grant in aid received from the Government, £2,440), and the total expenditure was £5,318.

Maryborough Hospital.

Within spacious grounds, tastefully laid out, this hospital is an imposing structure, the grounds and buildings covering an area of 5 acres. The hospital was established in a modest way in the early days of gold-mining in the fifties, and came as a great boon to gold diggers. Since its establishment,

it has increased in importance and dimensions, and many thousands of people have regained health and strength under its auspices. There is a house surgeon, three honorary physicians, one honorary surgeon-dentist, a dispenser, a matron, and a capable staff of nurses. The main building now contains eight dormitories with 85 beds, and a detached contagious diseases ward (a fine brick building recently erected by the municipalities of the district, assisted by the Government) contains ten beds. On the 30th June, 1905, there were 61 patients under care, and during the year 583 were admitted, giving a daily average of 60. The number remaining in the hospital on 30th June, 1906, was 52. The number of out-patients was 854, and their attendance 3,039. The receipts during the year totalled £2,527—£1,170 Government grant; £91 municipal grant; £488 private contributions; £297 proceeds of entertainments; £44 Hospital Sunday; £269 contributed by in-patients, and £131 by out-patients; and £37 miscellaneous. The expenditure was £2,083—£145 for buildings, and £1,938 for maintenance, &c.

Stawell Hospital and Benevolent Asylum.

The Pleasant Creek Hospital was established in 1858, and a building of wood, canvas, and iron, capable of accommodating twenty patients, was constructed. In February, 1859, this temporary hospital was opened, and before the end of that year 67 patients had been admitted. In 1861, the permanent building was opened, on the admirable site of 19 acres, which the Government had granted. Numerous additional wards have from time to time been constructed, and in 1883 the scope of the operations of the charity was widened by the incorporation with the hospital of a benevolent asylum; its name also was altered to the Stawell Hospital and Benevolent Asylum. The buildings are now capable of accommodating 59 patients in the hospital and 13 inmates in the Benevolent Asylum. A new building has been constructed for the purpose of an Infectious Diseases Hospital, and provides for twelve patients. It is designated the W. H. Syme ward, its whole structure, furnishing, and equipment being generously provided as a free gift by the widow of the late Dr. W. H. Syme, who was for many years an honorary surgeon of the institution. The building was formally opened by the Right Honorable Sir John Forrest, P.C., &c., on the 20th November, 1904. The relief afforded during the year ended 30th June, 1906, was as follows:—In-patients, 308; out-patients, 300; number of attendances of out-patients, 1,135; daily average of in-patients, 38. The total revenue for the year was £2,121, made up of £1,010 Government grant; £134 municipal grant; £335 private contributions; £9 entertainments; £308 legacies, bequests, &c.; £66 Hospital Sunday; £139 payments by in-patients, and £11 by out-patients; and £109 miscellaneous. The expenditure was £1,976—£410 for buildings and repairs, and £1,566 for maintenance, &c.

Warrnambool Hospital and Benevolent Asylum.

This institution was incorporated in 1872. During the year ended 30th June, 1906, 396 cases have been treated in the institution, viz., 342 in the hospital and 54 in the Benevolent Asylum. Of the hospital cases, 291 were discharged, cured, or relieved, 19 died, and 32 remained in the hospital on 30th June, 1906. Of the

Asylum cases, 13 were discharged, 2 died, and 39 remained in the Asylum on 30th June, 1906. The total attendances of out-patients were 2,659. An isolated building in the hospital grounds has been set apart for the treatment of contagious cases. There are ten wards and dormitories, containing 96 beds. The receipts for the year amounted to £2,417, including Government grant, £1,030; municipal grants, £239; private contributions, £372; legacies, bequests, &c., £205; Hospital Sunday, £163; patients' contributions, £244; and other receipts, £164. The expenditure was £2,932. A septic tank for the sewerage of the institution has been installed.

Women's Hospital.

The necessity for establishing an institution of this kind forced itself upon the attention of the benevolent ladies of Melbourne fifty years ago. In 1856 it was definitely founded, its original title being the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Women and Children, and it was the first institution of this special nature erected in Australia. The work was first carried on in Collins-street, Eastern Hill, but a permanent site was eventually granted by the Government in Madeline-street, Carlton, where the hospital was opened in 1858, its title being altered in 1868 to Women's Hospital, the name it now bears. Important and improved additions have since been made, including the Genevieve Ward Wing, constituting the largest portion of the midwifery department, nurses' quarters, and the infirmary and midwifery operating theatres. The institution, early in its career, attained a high reputation for the efficient help it afforded, and the accommodation had to be augmented from time to time to meet increasing demands. It is a special training school in gynæcology and midwifery for medical men and nurses, and the excellent work carried on is fully recognised. Up to 30th June, 1906, the number of patients admitted was 45,804, and the attendances of out-patients 186,665. During the year ended on that date, 2,043 patients were admitted, which, together with 76 remaining in at close of previous year, gives a total of 2,119 treated. There were also in the same period 3,575 attendances of 1,259 out-patients. There is now accommodation for 102 in-patients, each bed having the most liberal allowance of space. It is governed by a committee of 15 ladies and 6 gentlemen, on whom falls the responsibility of the effective working of the whole establishment. The professional work devolves chiefly on an honorary staff. The receipts were £15,674, made up of £3,800 Government grant; £306, municipal grant; £1,584, private contributions; £870, proceeds of entertainments; £7,117, legacies and bequests; £608, Hospital Sunday; £743, from patients; and £646, other receipts. The total expenditure was £10,145—£3,224 for buildings and £6,921 for maintenance and miscellaneous expenses. Every patient who passes through the wards is seen and spoken to by some lady or ladies of the committee—many of them before admission, but all before leaving. No patient is discharged without inquiries being made as to her home, &c., and, where possible, want in this matter is also supplied. To prevent abuse of the charitable trust, certain ladies each week give much of their time to interviewing applicants for admission to inquire into their circumstances.

In this establishment 18 patients remained under care on 30th June, 1905. During the year 271 were admitted, making a total of 289 treated—245 were cured or relieved, 17 died, 2 discharged as incurable, and 8 at their own request, leaving 17 in the hospital on 30th June, 1906. The total number of cases of out-patients treated was 3,609, the attendances numbering 14,534. The income for 1905-6 was £1,677, made up as follows:—Government grant, £360; municipal grant, £88; private contributions, £225; proceeds of entertainments, £26; legacies, bequests, &c., £200; Hospital Sunday fund, £192; out-patients' contributions, £433; in-patients' fees, £112; and miscellaneous receipts, £41. The expenditure was £1,909. Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital.

The Children's Hospital, Melbourne, was established in 1870 for the purpose of treating the general and peculiar ailments of children. The patients treated come in from almost every part of the State, over 100 districts being tabulated as those whence the in-patients came, including places so widely apart as Swan Hill and Yarram, Camperdown and Rochester. Every infantile ailment is treated—febrile, constitutional, and developmental troubles being dealt with in large numbers. Numerous cases of accidents and casualties are also admitted. There are now 113 cots at the hospital, and owing to the great demands for admission only those cases which cannot be successfully treated as out-patients are taken in. Many of the cots have been endowed by the generosity of private donors or of public bodies. The hospital had 91 in-door patients at the commencement of the financial year. During the twelve months ended 30th June, 1906, there were 1,732 additional in-door patients admitted, of whom 1,536 were discharged relieved, 198 died, and 89 remained at the close of the year. The attendances of 13,541 out-door patients for the year were 79,727. The total attendances of 240,771 out-door patients since the foundation were 1,170,270, and of in-door patients treated 24,014. The hospital is situated in Rathdown, Pelham, and Drummond streets, Carlton, and connected with the institution is a convalescent home at Brighton Beach, containing 22 cots. The number of convalescent children passing through this establishment during the year 1905-6 was 369. Owing to the generosity of the late Mr. John Robertson, the committee are able to erect a much-needed Nurses' Home, at a cost of nearly £9,000. This magnificent bequest was made without condition, and the committee have decided to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Robertson by naming the new building the "Robertson Nurses' Home." The cost of maintenance was £8,583, which with £226 expended on buildings and repairs, gave a total expenditure of £8,809. The receipts were £14,404—made up of £500, Government grant; £350, municipal grant; £1,521, voluntary contributions; £807, proceeds of entertainments; £7,161, bequests; £2,319, Hospital Sunday; £492, contributions by out-patients; and £516, by in-patients; and £738, interest and miscellaneous revenue. Children's Hospital, Melbourne.

The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital deals not only with the diseases which, as the name of the institution implies, fall to be Eye and Ear Hospital.

treated there, but also with diseases in parts adjacent to the eye and ear, viz., the nose, pharynx, naso-pharynx, and larynx. Thus classes of ailments are treated in this institution which not only are the cause of extreme suffering in themselves, but also, when unchecked, the means of producing much helplessness and poverty, arising from deafness, blindness, &c., and entailing a heavy burden on the community. It places within the reach of all persons, without distinction of creed or country, every attainable means for the relief or cure of diseases of the eye and ear. The patients treated are distributed throughout the whole of the Commonwealth; New Zealand also contributing its quota. The in-patients admitted during 1906 numbered 656, making, with 51 in the institution at the commencement of the year, a total of 707 treated. The patients discharged numbered 650, of whom 604 were stated to be cured or relieved, and 37 to be incurable. Six were discharged at their own request, and 3 died. Besides these, there were 5,748 out-patients treated, 104 of this number being from the other States and New Zealand. The total number of attendances was 27,102, and of operations, 908. The hospital buildings are situated on a fine site in Victoria-parade, East Melbourne, but the accommodation is quite insufficient. However, negotiations for the acquirement of the adjoining land belonging to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, so long carried on, have, it may be said, at length been brought to a successful issue, and the hospital will shortly be in actual possession, and with room for the much-needed extension. The receipts for the year 1905-6 were £5,858—made up of £800 Government grant; £257, from municipalities; £833, private contributions; £1,897, legacies, bequests, &c.; £998, out-patients' fees; £260, in-patients' fees; and £813, other sources. The expenditure was £3,652.

Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind.

By J. Thurston Hogarth, Esq., Superintendent and Secretary.

Institute for Blind.

The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind occupies a site on the St. Kilda-road, Melbourne. The institution is strictly undenominational in its character, and its objects are to give a suitable scholastic and religious education to the young blind of the State, and to teach them trades or professions by means of which they may earn an independent livelihood. It is further intended, as far as the exigencies of trade will permit, to give employment in its industrial department to blind people, who, having completed their term of training, may be unable to get work elsewhere. This, however, is restricted to the demand for the goods made. The institute is not in any sense a benevolent asylum for the indigent blind, who can not only be maintained cheaper, but can be better cared for in the ordinary institutions for the care of the destitute. The scholastic education is similar to that in the State schools, varied only in the apparatus and means employed; and examinations are held annually by the

Education Department. Music is an important part of the education of the blind, and those who display exceptional talent are trained for the musical profession, and the skill of the pupils is utilized as a means of raising revenue for the institution by means of concerts and band performances in various parts of the State. In the industrial branch, pupils are trained in the trades of brush, basket, mat, and matting making, the period of training varying from two to five years. Wages are paid at somewhat higher rates than those ruling in the various trades of a similar character outside. Some less proficient workers have their wages supplemented by a bonus. Its outside workers are assisted in times of sickness by "The Blind Workers' Sick Benefit Society." Its funds are maintained by weekly contributions by its members, and it is subsidized by a grant from the board of management equal to the amount of the members' contributions. This society is managed by a committee of its members, assisted by the principal of the institution and the accountant, who acts as honorary treasurer. The institution contains 5 dormitories, with 112 beds. There were under care on the 1st July, 1905, 92 persons; 8 were admitted during the year; 8 were discharged at their own request; and one died; leaving 91 at the end of the financial year. The total amount received for goods manufactured was £5,727. There is now no debt on the institution. The board of management have decided to erect a new brush factory, so that they may be able to further extend the usefulness of the institution by giving employment to a larger number of blind people. The total receipts in 1905-6 were £9,095, comprising—£1,700, Government grant; £182, municipal grant; £1,478, private contributions; £4,836, legacies and bequests; and £899 from all other sources. The expenditure was £3,704.

Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution.

By John Adcock, Esq., Superintendent and Secretary.

Deaf and Dumb Institution

The Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution occupies a site on the St. Kilda-road, and is a home and school combined for deaf children from all parts of the State, irrespective of creed or nationality. At the beginning of the year there were 76 pupils on the roll. During the year 17 new pupils were admitted, and 12 discharged, thus leaving 81 pupils on the roll on the 30th June, 1906, viz., 36 boys and 45 girls. Since the year 1862, when the institution was fairly launched, 465 deaf children have enjoyed its benefits. The combined oral and manual system of teaching, which is used in the majority of similar institutions throughout the world, is also used here, with satisfactory results. In addition to the ordinary school work, many of the boys are taught bootmaking and gardening, and the girls dressmaking, plain and fancy needlework, and all kinds of domestic duties. The receipts for the year amounted to £4,770—made up of £900 Government grant; £209 municipal grant; £1,030 private contributions; and £2,631 from all other sources. The expenditure

was £3,485—£156 for buildings and extraordinary repairs, and £3,329 for maintenance, &c. £1108 has been added to the endowment account, the total to the credit of which fund is now £13,534, most of which is invested in Government stock, the interest only being available for maintenance purposes.

Benevolent Asylums.

Benevolent asylums.

In addition to the nine Benevolent Asylums connected with general hospitals, there are eight other of these institutions in the State; two are situated at Ballarat, one each at Bendigo, Beechworth, and Castlemaine, the remaining three being in Melbourne. The number of inmates on the 1st July, 1905, was 2,495; the number admitted during the year 1,360; the total discharged cured, relieved, or otherwise, and died was 1,383; leaving under care on 30th June, 1906, in all the institutions 2,472. The Government grant in aid for the year 1905-6 was £20,667; from municipalities a sum of £1,089 was received; private contributions amounted to £3,649; proceeds of entertainments, £877; legacies, bequests, and special donations, £3,372; Hospital Sunday collections, £1,287; payments by patients, £1,685; from all other sources, £3,040 was received, making a total income of £35,666. The expenditure was £34,904.

Benevolent societies.

Ninety-three benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1906. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of two of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of any of the others, with the exception of the Central Methodist Mission and Scots' Church Mission. The distinct adult individuals relieved during the year numbered about 13,266; the receipts amounted to £21,381, of which £5,033 was from Government, £1,458 from municipalities, and £14,890 from private sources; the expenditure was £20,384.

Orphan asylums.

There are nine of these establishments in the State, situated at Ballarat, Geelong, and Melbourne. The number of children under care on the 1st July, 1905, was 1,428; the number admitted during the 12 months was 429; the total discharged and died, 388, leaving under care on 30th June, 1906, 1,469. This shows overcrowding to a slight extent, as the daily average in attendance was 1,446, and the number of beds only 1,399. In one of these establishments, the Nazareth Home at Ballarat, the particulars respecting cost of maintenance, &c., cannot be furnished, as the management, on the score of economy, keep no books of accounts. In the other eight institutions, the total receipts were £21,366—made up of £5,650, Government grant; £393, municipal grants; £4,279, private contributions; £692, proceeds of entertainments; £4,024, legacies and bequests; £187, Hospital Sunday contributions; £2,116, payments on account of orphans maintained; and £4,025, other receipts.

The total expenditure was £20,137—£1,250 for buildings, and £18,887 for maintenance and other expenses.

Sanatoriums for consumptives.

There are two consumptive sanatoriums, situated at Echuca and Macedon, with 114 beds. On 1st July, 1905, there were under care 36 males and 29 females, and 98 males and 71 females were admitted during the year; 71 males and 48 females were discharged cured or relieved; 14 males and 18 females were discharged incurable; and 8 males and 8 females were discharged at their own request; 6 males died, leaving under care on 30th June, 1906, 35 males and 26 females. The Government grant in aid was £300; municipal donations amounted to £122; private contributions to £922; proceeds of entertainments, £64; legacies, bequests, &c., £262; Hospital Sunday distribution, £441; relatives contributed £1,497; interest amounted to £265; and all other receipts £8, making a total of £3,881. The expenditure on buildings was £1,454; on maintenance and miscellaneous expenses, £4,525—a total of £5,979.

Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium.

The Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium at Broadmeadows, established by the Government, was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. This institution is under the control of the Department of Public Health. During the year ended 30th June, 1906, 171 patients have been treated in the institution. Of this number 81 have done very well, 28 have been classed as incurable, 21 have been discharged at their own desire or for special reasons, and one death has occurred. At the end of the period under review there were 40 patients under care. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the sanatorium, the house or rooms vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed.

Convalescent homes.

In addition to the hospitals, there are two Convalescent Homes—one for men situated at Cheltenham, and the other for women at Clayton—with accommodation for 61 inmates. The number of inmates at the beginning of the year 1905-6 was 51; 1,144 were admitted, and 1,151 were discharged during the year, and 44 remained under care on the 30th June, 1906. The Government grant in aid of these institutions amounted to £370; municipal grants, £67; private contributions, £511; proceeds of entertainments, £2; legacies, bequests, &c., £322; Hospital Sunday, &c., £281; from relatives, £85; and from interest and other sources, £33—a total of £1,671. The expenditure was £163 on buildings, &c.; £1,372 on maintenance—a total of £1,535.

Free dispensaries.

Two free dispensaries furnished returns for 1906—the Collingwood and Fitzroy Free Medical Dispensary, and the Richmond General Dispensary. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1906, numbered 4,958. The visits to or by these persons numbered 20,159. The total receipts amounted to £568, of which £140 was from Government and £428 from other sources. The total expenditure was £654.

Broadmeadows Foundling Hospital.

This hospital was established on the 1st April, 1901. The original cost of the buildings was £2,200, and £1,832 has been expended since that time in additions and improvements. The total number of inmates on 30th June, 1905, was 58; 65 were admitted during the year, 18 died, 35 were discharged or adopted, and 70 were under care on 30th June, 1906. The institution contains 8 dormitories and 70 beds. It is supported chiefly by donations and collections. It is managed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose aim is to protect infant life, procure suitable homes for the children, and afford shelter to destitute mothers. The condition of the institution has been greatly improved, open-air accommodation for the infants having been recently provided.

The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home.

The objects of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and must undertake to contribute something towards its support. During year ended 30th June, 1906, 115 children were in the care of the institution. Of these 18 were discharged to friends or relations, 6 discharged to hospital, 6 adopted, 25 boarded out, 16 died, and 44 remained in institution on 30th June, 1906. Two new day nurseries and foundling ward, with necessary nurses' duty rooms, &c., were opened in September, 1905, and the extra accommodation is already taxed to the uttermost. Ordinary and extraordinary receipts amounted to £2,195, of which £1,000 was from Government, and £1,195 from other sources. Expenditure was £2,854, of which £1,316 was spent on building and repairs, and £1,538 on maintenance, &c.

Refuges for women.

At the present time these refuges are ten in number, and are all situated in or near large centres of population. The women while under care in these institutions are expected to work to the best of their ability, a suitable share of labour being allotted to each. Laundry work is the chief means of providing employment, whilst sewing, art needlework, embroidery, &c., also provide occupation to a limited extent. During the year ended 30th June, 1906, the Government subsidized these establishments to the extent of £2,300; £15,723 was obtained as the result of the labour of inmates, and £2,852 from other sources, making the total receipts £20,875. The expenditure amounted to £21,913—made up of £4,586 spent

on buildings, and £17,327 on maintenance. The following statement contains particulars of the number of inmates in the separate institutions during the year 1905-6:—

REFUGES FOR WOMEN, 1905-6.

Female Refuges.	Number admitted.		Born in the Home.	Number discharged.		Inmates on 30th June, 1906.	
	Women and Girls.	Infants.		Women and Girls.	Infants.	Women and Girls.	Infants.
Ballarat Home ...	9	...	10	11	10	9	8
Bendigo Rescue Home	7	2	...	9	5	5	3
Elizabeth Fry Retreat, South Yarra ...	52	...	...	51	...	28	...
Geelong	6	1	4	7	8	7	3
Magdalen Asylum, Abbotsford ...	120	...	...	119	...	361	...
Carlton Refuge ...	31	36	...	39	35	34	24
South Yarra Home ...	63	...	...	57	...	29	...
Temporary Home, Collingwood ...	47	11	...	48	10	12	4
House of Mercy, Cheltenham ...	9	...	...	9	...	9	...
Magdalen Asylum, South Melbourne	38	...	...	31	...	161	...
Total ...	382	50	14	381	68	655	42

Salvation Army Rescue Homes.

There are six rescue homes controlled by the Salvation Army at Abbotsford, Ballarat, Bendigo, Brunswick, Fitzroy, and Geelong. The establishments contained 180 beds on 1st July, 1905, when there were under care 162 adults and 16 children. During the year 462 adults and 101 children were admitted; 222 were placed at service or restored to friends; 168 were discharged at their own request; 19 were sent to hospitals and other institutions; 5 women and 13 infants died; and there were 51 adults discharged for various reasons, with 82 children. The Army received £566 from the Government, in aid of these institutions; £209 from private contributions; and £4,435 from the proceeds of the labour of the inmates —a total of £5,210. The total expenditure was £4,917, made up of £528 for buildings and repairs, £4,372 for maintenance, and £17 for miscellaneous expenses.

Night shelters.

At Dr. Singleton's Night Shelters, Collingwood, 15,518 cases were accommodated during the year 1905-6, viz., 7,138 men, 8,246 women, and 134 children. The expenses were £72, which were defrayed out of the "General Charity Fund," but there were also numerous contributions in the shape of food.

Victorian Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society.

Since 1872 a society has been in existence for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessaries,

railway passes, and various kinds of tools of trade; and those who desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior, or to leave the State. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The work is aided by honorary correspondents in country centres. Very valuable aid is given in connexion with the moral reformation of the young offender. The improvement of the hardened criminal is a matter of great difficulty, but the society is a valuable help to those who have not become confirmed in careers of crime and wrong-doing, and minimizes the tendencies of drifting into the criminal class of those who have formed vicious and evil habits. The number of individuals relieved in 1905-6 was 476. The receipts were £703, including grants from the Government and the Penal Department, and contributions from private sources; and the expenditure was £684.

St. John's Ambulance Association.

This association was established in Victoria in 1883. Its objects are to instruct all classes in the preliminary treatment of the sick and injured. Since the inception of the association its influence has been steadily increasing, and the number of people instructed is growing larger every day. The total number who have been instructed to date is 14,750; the number of persons who are fully qualified is 727; 2,098 railway employés and 553 members of the police force have been specially educated in the work; and 8,519 certificates and medallions have been issued. Four ambulance waggons are stationed at 25 Lang-lane (Tel. 3264), at the back of the Grand Hotel, Spring-street, which may be summoned when required. First aid is rendered by trained men when necessary. Ashford litters are also provided for the use of the public in cases of accident in the city.

Charity Organization Society.

By T. C. Mackley, Esq., Secretary.

Charity Organization Society.

The society has been established in Melbourne since 1887, its objects being:—(1) To encourage and organize charitable work and to promote co-operation therein; (2) To check imposture and professional mendicity, and to discourage indiscriminate alms-giving; (3) To inquire into all applications for assistance, with the view of ascertaining if and in what way each case can be helped; (4) To afford (where necessary) immediate relief during inquiry or pending arrangements with charitable institutions or aid from other sources; (5) To maintain a woodyard, or other labour test, so that the means of earning food or shelter shall be open to any applicant able and willing to work; (6) To establish a loan fund; (7) To keep records of all cases for the purpose of reference, and to maintain a Central Register of help given by all relieving agencies. The society is managed by an executive committee elected by a council empowered to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. This council consists of a nominee of each of the charities represented, and of twenty members elected at an annual meeting of subscribers of the society. The income of the year ended 30th June, 1906, was—Administration account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as

all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £1,080; expenditure, £871; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £1,361; expenditure, £1,380. Emergency Relief Account—Receipts, £177; expenditure, £129. Woodyard—Receipts, £760; expenditure, £673. The number of cases dealt with during the year was 1,507, of which the new cases investigated were 972. The result of investigation shows that in 830 instances distress was due to misfortune, and in 74 to misconduct; in 21 cases the cause of distress was undetermined, and 47 cases come under other headings. Special efforts are made to deal with applicants for alms on street and doorstep. The society claims to have prevented a large amount of imposture, to have relieved subscribers of the annoying feeling that their benevolence was often wasted on unworthy objects, and to have stimulated and wisely directed the flow of charity. Especially good work has been done in cases where employment has been found for those who, without the society's aid, might have degenerated into permanent burdens on public or private charity, and in the large number of cases in which relatives of indigent persons have been induced to recognise natural claims in a community where no legal obligation is entailed by relationship other than that of husband to wife and of parent to infant. The woodyard is a very practical part of the society's work. It affords a test of the sincerity of men who ask help on the ground that they cannot get work; and it gives temporary work to those who really need it. This society has consistently advocated the establishment of labour colonies. That at Leongatha was founded by the advice, and with the assistance of the society thirteen years ago. The lack of suitable employment for the poor is partly met by the employment office of the society, through which a large number of persons have been given work, permanent in some cases, and temporary in others, which otherwise would not have reached them.

Labour Colony, Leongatha.

Labour Colony, Leongatha.

The Labour Colony at Leongatha was established by a proclamation of 26th September, 1893, setting apart and appropriating, under the *Settlement on Lands Act* 1893, about 800 acres in the township. By a further proclamation of 24th April, 1903, the colony was abolished, and the land resumed by the Lands Department, although the colonists were still maintained on the land.

On the 14th June, 1904, 460 acres or thereabouts of the old Labour Colony lands, including the homestead, were proclaimed a Labour Colony, and Trustees were appointed to act from 1st July, 1904.

The object sought by its establishment was to afford temporary relief at sustenance wages to able-bodied destitute men. During the first year of its existence 1,013 men were sent to the colony, and up to the present, 6,547 men have been afforded relief. The colonists are instructed in the general work of farming, dairying, fruit and vegetable growing. Pig breeding is carried on extensively, and poultry are also raised. During the year ended 30th June, 1906,

201 men were admitted, a weekly average of 51 was maintained during the whole year—123 left looking for work, 70 left with engagements, 46 left without notice, 4 were discharged for various reasons, 8 sent to Melbourne for medical treatment, and 54 were at work on the 30th June, 1906. The cost of maintenance, including food, wages, and management, was 8s. 9d. per week per man.

After the trustees of the old colony had all retired the Minister of Lands instructed the Director of Agriculture, on 13th June, 1903, to take over the farm and manage it as a Labour Establishment, virtually as a Labour Colony for the relief of destitute men in Melbourne who desired to go there. No order was given that the number admitted to the Establishment was to be reduced, and the destitute were as freely admitted as formerly, but in many instances were not maintained there so long, orders being issued that when a man had earned £2 he should leave in search of work.

When the accounts were balanced for the financial year ended 30th June, 1906, it was found that there was a credit balance of £499 in trust accounts.

The total expense for the year was £2,022, which included £188 fares and freights; £258 plants and tools; and £32 live stock.

The receipts from sales amounted to £1,172, as follows:—

Dairy produce	...£555
Farm produce and garden ...	... 143
Horses	... 15
Pigs	... 201
Dairy Herd	... 92
Hides, bones, &c.	... 46
Sheep	... 45
Poultry	... 23
Bees	... 5
Miscellaneous	... 47

The following is the amount of Government grants spent annually since the establishment of the Colony:—

1893-4	...£4,213	15	2
1894-5	... 3,203	8	0
1895-6	... 2,473	13	1
1896-7	... 2,219	14	4
1897-8	... 2,729	13	2
1898-9	... 4,091	8	1
1899-1900	... 3,884	5	11
1900-1	... 3,000	0	0
1901-2	... 2,374	3	6
1902-3	... 3,627	7	10
1903-4	... 1,998	18	11
1904-5	... 999	19	7
1905-6	.. 499	19	9
Total	£35,316	7	4

It will be seen that the Government grant for 1905-6—£500 is the lowest that has ever been made, and is £500 less than that of the year 1904-5.

Although the profits from the farm will be reduced owing to the restricted area, there will still be work in clearing and cultivation to enable men to be sent to Leongatha for several years. By the continuation of this colony no man need starve in the city. Every week applications are made by destitute unemployed men to be sent to the Institution. A greater number apply in winter than in spring or summer, and without an asylum of this kind it is hard to conceive what would become of these destitute individuals. In every large community there is always a great number of human derelicts without criminal tendencies; and provision (other than gaols) where men can get work that is remunerative to the State, must of necessity be made; and this Institution, therefore, should come in time to acquire a national character. It is now almost self-supporting, and, in a few years' time, by the adoption of improved methods in management, should become entirely self-supporting.

Australian Health Society.

By J. G. Burrows, Esq., Secretary.

Health Society

The "Australian Health Society" was established in Melbourne in 1875. It consists of about 300 members, and is managed by a president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer, secretary, and fifteen members of council, five of whom are ladies. Its objects are:—(1) To create an educated public opinion with regard to sanitary matters in general, by the aid of the platform, the press, and other suitable means; (2) to induce and assist people, by personal influence, example, and encouragement, to live in accordance with recognised laws whereby health is maintained and disease is prevented; (3) to seek the removal of all noxious influences deleterious to the public health, and to influence and facilitate legislation in that direction. To effect these objects (its methods being distinctly benevolent), the society prints and distributes freely pamphlets, tracts, and wall sheets bearing upon the preservation of health; maintains a lending library of specially selected works for the use of members; and arranges courses of public health lectures. The ladies' committee of the council organise series of illustrated "Health Talks for Wives and Daughters" in thickly populated parts of the suburbs, thus reaching the classes most in need of sanitary enlightenment. Admission is in all cases free. In pursuance of the plan of testing the work done in the inculcation of health and temperance lessons in the State schools, an examination is held annually, with the concurrence of the Minister of Public Instruction, of pupils of thirteen years of age and upwards, in those subjects. At the last examination 43 candidates passed, and were awarded prizes and certificates, which were presented at the society's annual meeting by His Excellency the

Governor (Sir Reginald Talbot, K.C.B.), patron of the society. In the latter part of 1905 arrangements were completed by which the "Victorian Association for the Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis" and the "Women's Health Society" were amalgamated with the Australian Health Society, the view being taken that the union would tend to further the spread of hygienic knowledge, and promote the cause of sanitary progress. The society receives no pecuniary aid from the Government, its work being carried on by voluntary subscriptions ranging from 5s. per annum upwards. The office is located in Empire Buildings, Flinders-street.

Royal Humane Society of Australasia.

By R. W. E. Wilmot, Esq., Secretary.

Humane Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victorian Humane Society." Its objects are as follow:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures. (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia. (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful. (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes. During the year ended 30th June, 1906, 122 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 45 certificates, 29 bronze medals, 7 silver medals, and 1 gold medal were granted. The receipts during the year amounted to £536, and the expenditure to £552. The institution has placed and maintains 340 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1905-6, 39 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 37 for similar acts in New South Wales, 2 in New Zealand, 2 in Western Australia, 1 in Tasmania, and 1 in South Australia. The society has 154 honorary correspondents, residing as follows, viz.:—52 in Victoria, 35 in New South Wales, 25 in New Zealand, 28 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 3 in Western Australia. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and to the awards made by the society appearing to give complete satisfaction throughout the States, there is no urgency for forming local branches of the society in the other States.

Swimming competitions have been inaugurated in the schools of the Commonwealth, and awards of medals and certificates are made to those pupils who attain proficiency in exercises which have special reference to saving life from drowning. The society is making a special feature of the development of swimming and life saving proficiency.

Society for the Protection of Animals.

The Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals has been established about 35 years. For the first 10½ years of its existence it was known as the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. By the enforcement of the existing laws, and the procuring of such further legislation as may be deemed expedient, it seeks to prevent wanton and unnecessary cruelty. The creation of a wholesome and enlightened public opinion is also aimed at, since it is recognised that to excite and sustain such opinion regarding man's duty to the lower animals is even of greater importance than the enforcement of the law, particularly in those classes of cases where pain and suffering may actually be caused in ignorance, and where consequently a little more knowledge of animals would result in the diminution of the unconscious practice of cruelty. To this end, papers and leaflets dealing with the proper, humane, and considerate treatment of animals are widely distributed. Honorary agents of the society are appointed in more than 170 different centres, and these, by disinterested service under the supervision of and in co-operation with the secretary and inspector in Melbourne, forward the work of the institution in every portion of the State. During the year ended 30th June, 1906, 767 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 534 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 114 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £770, and the expenditure to £441.

Hospital Saturday and Sunday.

Hospital Saturday and Sunday.

In Melbourne and suburbs, the last Saturday and Sunday of October in each year are set apart for making collections in aid of the charitable institutions. The clergy of the various denominations take an active part in the movement, preaching sermons appropriate to the occasion, and otherwise helping it forward. The church collections on this Sunday are entirely devoted in aid of the fund. Sunday school superintendents, business firms, their employés, and others lend valuable assistance in making collections. The following are the amounts collected since the movement was inaugurated :—

Collections, 1873 to 1905.

	£		£
1873 to 1898	190,104	1903	7,058
1899	5,853	1904	7,795
1900	5,901	1905	8,235
1901	6,034		
1902	6,669		£237,649

The returns for 1906 are not yet available.

Distribution of moneys collected on Hospital Saturday and Sunday.

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions, as well as the total sums collected, from the inception of the fund, and for the year 1905, were as under:—

DISTRIBUTION, 1873 TO 1905.

Institution.	Amount Distributed.		
	1873 to 1904.	1905.	Total.
	£	£	£
Melbourne Hospital	66,806	2,187	68,993
Alfred Hospital	29,114	898	30,012
Benevolent Asylum	20,187	643	20,830
Women's Hospital	20,218	608	20,826
Children's Hospital	25,664	1,140	26,804
Eye and Ear Hospital	11,020	380	11,400
Homœopathic Hospital	10,895	332	11,227
Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm	7,291	156	7,447
Richmond Dispensary	1,451	40	1,491
Collingwood Dispensary	1,900	...	1,900
Austin Hospital for Incurables	11,868	658	12,526
Convalescent Home for Women	2,215	140	2,355
„ „ Men	1,700	140	1,840
Melbourne District Nursing Society	782	150	932
St. Vincent's Hospital	3,170	265	3,435
Sanatorium for Consumptives, Echuca and Macedon	1,607	438	2,045
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children	672	186	858
Melbourne Dental Hospital	94	30	124
The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home ...	80	6	86
Total distributed	216,734	8,397	225,131
Total collected	229,414	8,235	237,649

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Old-age pensions in Victoria.

An Act to provide for the payment of old-age pensions was passed in 1900. The minimum age of a pensioner is 65 years, but pensions may be granted to persons under that age if they have been permanently disabled through having been engaged in mining or any unhealthy or hazardous occupation. The period of residence in the State required to entitle a person to a pension is 20 years, five of which must be continuous and immediately preceding the application. A person who has deserted, without just cause, wife, husband, or children, for a period of 12 months in the preceding five years, is debarred from pension rights. The absence of serious criminal taint, to the extent of not having been imprisoned for periods amounting to five years during the whole qualifying period of residence, or to six months or upwards in the preceding five years, is insisted upon. Three convictions for drunkenness during the preceding two years is a disqualification. An applicant must be a British subject by birth, or a

naturalized subject of not less than six months' standing, but Chinese and Asiatics, whether naturalized or not, and Aborigines are excluded. Relatives may be summoned to show cause why they do not support applicants for pensions, and may be ordered to do so. Originally the maximum pension was 10s. per week, but in the Amending Act of 1901 it was reduced to 8s. per week. Under the Amending Act of 1903 pensions are only granted and the amount fixed by the Treasurer of the State, after recommendation of the Commissioners. The maximum rate of pension (8s. per week) was retained. The Government propose to increase the maximum pension to 10s. per week from the 1st July, 1907. 11,055 persons were entitled to receive pensions on 31st December, 1905. Between 1st January, 1906, and 31st December, 1906, 1,136 pensions were granted to new applicants, and 105 pensions were restored; 444 pensions were suspended, and 1,066 pensioners died, leaving 10,786 persons entitled to pensions on 31st December, 1906, of whom 10,587 received payment from last schedules prepared. (The remaining 199 pensioners are inmates of hospitals or have had their pensions temporarily withheld.) Of the persons entitled to pensions on 31st December, 1906, 4,713 were resident in Melbourne and suburbs; 734 in Ballarat and district; 509 in Bendigo and district; 317 in Geelong; 125 in Maryborough; 113 in Daylesford; 128 in Warrnambool; 105 in Creswick, and the remainder were scattered throughout the other districts of the State.

The following are the amounts paid since the inception of the system on 1st January, 1901, viz.:—

In 1900-01	...	...	£129,338
1901-02	...	...	292,432
1902-03	...	...	215,973
1903-04	...	...	205,150
1904-05	...	...	200,464
1905-06	...	...	189,127
From 1st July, 1906, to 31st December, 1906	...	...	94,243
Total	...	...	£1,326,727

Old-age pensions in Australia and New Zealand.

The following statement shows the estimated number of persons aged 65 years and over in the two Australian States and New Zealand paying old-age pensions, the number of persons receiving

pensions, the proportion of the latter to the former, and the annual amount payable:—

OLD-AGE PENSIONS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1906.

State or Colony.	Estimated Number of Persons Aged 65 Years and Upwards.	Number of Persons Receiving Old Age Pensions.	Proportion of those Eligible on an Age Basis Receiving Pensions.	Annual Amount Payable.
			Per cent.	£
Victoria	67,500	10,786	16	186,957
New South Wales ...	55,300	21,406	39	500,000
New Zealand	42,934	12,582	29	313,018
Total ...	165,734	44,774	27	999,975

It thus appears that New South Wales is paying pensions to nearly two-fifths of those eligible to receive them under the age qualification, New Zealand to nearly one-third, but in Victoria only about one-sixth of those so qualified are on the pension list. The number of pensioners in New Zealand includes 667 Maoris.

Besides Victoria, only New South Wales and New Zealand have, in Australasia, provided pensions for their aged people. In New South Wales, the scheme sanctioned by Parliament specifies a pension of £26 a year, diminished by £1 for every £1 of income above £26 a year, and by £1 for every £15 of property the pensioner possesses. Persons under 65 years of age but over 60 years are entitled to pensions if they are incapacitated by sickness or injury from earning their livelihood.

In New Zealand, every person 65 years of age and over, is eligible for a pension, provided he has resided continuously in the colony for 25 years, and does not receive income in excess of £60 a year, nor possess property exceeding £260 in value. The maximum pension is £26 a year with a deduction of £1 per annum for each £1 of income above £34 a year, and for each £10 of property above £50. Where any part of the property of an applicant is that on which he permanently resides, and which produces no income a deduction of £150 is allowed. In the case of a husband and wife the amount of joint income (including pension) is limited to £90.

The law of New South Wales and New Zealand, unlike that of Victoria, makes no provision for relatives of aged impecunious persons being compelled to support them.

Lunatic Asylums.

The number of cases admitted to lunatic asylums during the year 1905 was 726, the number discharged recovered was 253, and relieved 36. The number of patients remaining in the asylums on the 31st December, 1905, was 4,768, or a proportion of 1 in every 255 of the population, as compared with 4,642, or 1 in every 261 of the population, in the preceding year. Of those discharged recovered in 1905, as many as 69 per cent. had been in the asylums for less than twelve months, 17 per cent. from 1 to 2 years, and 8 per cent. from 2 to 5 years. After this length of time in the asylums recoveries are not at all likely to take place. Of those who died, 30 per cent. had been resident under twelve months, 30 per cent, from 1 to 5 years, 10 per cent. from 5 to 10 years, 6 per cent. from 10 to 15 years, 6 per cent. from 15 to 20 years, 5 per cent. from 20 to 25 years, and about 13 per cent. were in longer than 25 years. These facts tend to show that mortality is heavy during the early stages of treatment, and that the death rate amongst those inmates who have a lengthened asylum residence is very light.

Admissions, discharges, &c., lunatic asylums, 1848 to 1905.

Since the opening of the first asylum in 1848 up to the end of 1905, 34,517 persons have been admitted, viz., 19,746 males, and 14,771 females. The proportion who recovered was 29 per cent. of males, and 33 per cent. of females, whilst 4 and 7 per cent. respectively were relieved, 21 and 21 per cent. (including transfers) were not improved, 33 and 23 per cent. died, and 12 and 15 per cent. respectively still remain under care in the institutions.

Patients in Hospitals for the Insane in Australasia

The number of patients in the Hospitals for the Insane in the different Australian States and New Zealand, and their proportion to the total population of each State on 31st December, 1905, were :—

Number of Lunatics in States.

State or Colony.	Number of Lunatics on 31st December, 1905.	
	Total.	Per 100,000 of Population.
Victoria	4,768*	391
Queensland	1,942	368
New Zealand	3,112	353
New South Wales	5,252	352
South Australia	983	260
Tasmania (1904)	460	255
Western Australia (1904)	474	196

* On 31st December, 1906, the number of patients in the Victorian Hopitals for the Insane had increased to 4,873.

Recoveries of lunatics in Australia, 1905.

The recoveries of patients in the Victorian Hospitals for the Insane in 1905 were below the average of the fifteen years ended with 1905, the proportion in that year being 3,387 per 10,000 admitted, as compared with 3,729 in the period stated.

RECOVERIES.

	Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.		Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.
South Australia ...	... 5,261	Western Australia (1904)	... 3,944
Tasmania (1904) ...	... 4,634	Queensland ...	... 3,403
New South Wales ...	... 4,622	Victoria	... 3,387

Deaths of lunatics in Australia and New Zealand.

The mortality of patients was higher in South Australia in 1905 than in any of the other States. This will be seen by the following figures —

DEATHS.

	Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.		Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients.
South Australia	... 949	New Zealand ...	... 703
Western Australia (1904)	... 921	Queensland ...	... 696
Tasmania (1904) ...	... 764	New South Wales ...	... 689
Victoria	... 718		

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

Neglected and Reformatory Children.

There were at the end of 1906 three industrial and eleven reformatory schools in the State. Two of them (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing depôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes, situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Neglected Children's Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1906, numbered 5,126—comprising 4,920 neglected and 206 reformatory children—and in addition there were 32 others free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following

table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years:—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1902 TO 1906.

Year.	Number of Neglected Children at the end of the Year.					Total Neglected Children.
	Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1902 ...	3,753	762	736	149	2	5,402
1903 ...	3,363	771	767	143	1	5,045
1904 ...	3,154	769	826	136	4	4,889
1905 ...	3,044	761	854	148	6	4,813
1906 ...	3,315	724	751	120	10	4,920

Year.	Number of Reformatory Children at the end of the Year.					Total Reformatory Children.
	In Reformatory Schools.	Placed with Relatives.	Maintaining themselves at Service.	In Institutions.	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1902 ...	199	64	79	...	1	343
1903 ...	192	54	64	3	3	316
1904 ...	189	33	62	2	1	287
1905 ...	151	29	54	1	...	235
1906 ...	144	20	42	...	...	206

Children boarded out, &c.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send reports to the department as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is five shillings per week for each child. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

Children committed to the care of the State, 1906.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1906 were as follow:—The total number of children placed under control during the year was 771, and in 267, or 35 per cent. of the whole, were the parents held to be blamable—the father in 184, the mother in 43, and both parents in 40 cases. There were 504 cases in which the parents were held to be blameless—in 337 the father was dead and the mother poor but of good character; in 14 both parents were dead; in 74 the parents were alive, but, though held to be of good character, were too poor to support their children; in 3 the father was an invalid and the mother dead; in 14 the father was poor and the mother dead; in 38 both parents were the victims of misfortune; in 6 the parents were unknown; in 5 the father was unknown and the mother dead; and in 13 the father was unknown and the mother unable through ill-health or poverty, to maintain her offspring.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The Government expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1906 to £52,771, and for reformatory school children to £4,355; the expenses of administration amounted to £4,140, making a total gross expenditure of £61,266. A sum of £1,593 was received from parents for maintenance, and £50 from other sources, making the net expenditure £59,623. The average number of neglected children under supervision during the year was 4,770; of this total, 3,135 were maintained in foster homes at an average annual cost per head to the State of £15 3s.; 94 were in Government receiving depôts at £28 8s. 6d. per head, and 66 were in private industrial schools costing £14 19s. 1d. per head; 751 were at service earning their own living, and 724 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The average number of reformatory wards under supervision during the year was 211. Of this number, 149 were maintained in private schools at an average annual cost per head of £29 4s. 7d., 42 were at service earning their own living, and 20 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The average net cost per head of neglected and reformatory school children who were maintained by the State during the year was £17 6s. 2d.

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1890 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference if found unfitted for such care, to the control of the Department for Neglected Children. The following return shows the societies and persons registered under the provisions of this part of the Act, and particulars respecting the children under their care during 1906:—

WORK OF SOCIETIES AND PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER PART VIII. OF THE "NEGLECTED CHILDREN'S ACT."

Name of Society or Person.	Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.05.	Admissions during 1906.			Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.06.
		Court Committals.	Transfer of Guardianship.	Voluntary Admissions.	
Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society	343	16	18	3	344
Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society	855	3	..	119	839
Clifden Home, Wedderburn ..	103	..	..	..	103
Gordon Institute, Melbourne ..	158	2	19	11	132
Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn (Mr. W. M. Forster)	41	1	..	37	35
Burwood Boys' Home	43	..	21	..	53
Geelong Try Boys' Brigade ..	95	..	..	89	127
Latrobe-street Ragged School Mission	106	..	..	26	89
Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East	23	1	..	4	28
Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society	77	1	..	23	97
Methodist Homes for Children ..	311	17	17	24	325
Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East	50	1	2	14	62
Mrs. Goldspink, 285 Rathdown-street, Carlton	201	15	14	22	252
Total	2,406	57	91	372	2,486

The total number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies in 1906, reached the large number of 9,113, viz., 5,158 under the control of the Neglected Children's Department, 2,486 under the supervision of societies registered under Part VIII. of the Neglected Children's Act, and 1,469 in Orphan Asylums. Total number of neglected and orphan children.

Victorian Mining Accident Relief Fund.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine at Creswick caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on the disaster 79 persons—comprising 18 widows and 61 children—were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives, and upon the Government promising to subsidize the fund to the extent of £5,000, it was decided to make it a permanent and national one. An executive committee of representative gentlemen was appointed to administer the fund, which was deposited in banks, averaging about 5 per cent. interest per annum. In July, 1884, the late Mr. E. L. Zox, M.P., one of the committee, introduced a Bill into the Legislative Assembly to enable the committee appointed to manage the fund to hand over their functions to a body of trustees proposed to be incorporated under the name of the "Victorian Mining Accident Relief Trustees." This was done in order to place the fund on a proper footing and so as to obtain a larger income from the investment of the capital, which was then hardly adequate to meet the demands on it. This Bill, which became law in December, 1884, provided for subsidizing the fund from time to time by Parliament, but this has never been carried out. The trustees appointed comprised the Minister of Mines, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, the Mayors of the cities of Melbourne, Ballarat, Bendigo, the Town of Ballarat East, the Borough of Creswick, and the President of the Miners' Association for the time being respectively. Permission was given to invest the moneys in Government debentures, stock, in incorporated banks—£5,000 being the limit in any one institution, or on first mortgages of freehold land and tenements in the city of Melbourne and suburbs. Victorian Mining Accident Relief Fund.

In 1885 the sum of £20,000 was lent on the property known as "Our Lodgings," situated in Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, for three years at 6 per cent. per annum, precaution being taken to obtain the joint and several bond of the directors of the company for the due

payment of the interest and principal. At the expiration of the period stated the company having fulfilled the conditions attached to the mortgage, obtained a release.

In 1888 the sum of £20,000 was again invested for seven years at 5½ per cent. per annum on mortgage over the land and buildings in Queen-street occupied by Messrs. Jacobs, Hart, and Co. This investment did not, however, turn out to be a satisfactory one and the mortgagor finally asked the trustees to release him from his obligations on handing over the property, together with a sum of £1,000. This latter proposal was agreed to by the trustees.

In view of the importance of this action in relation to the investment of public trust moneys, a board was appointed by Parliament to investigate the affairs of the trust, and to ascertain whether such release should be granted on the conditions set out, or whether the Relief Fund would be benefited by the adoption of another course than that proposed by the trustees. After careful review of the evidence, the board made a full report as to the condition of the fund. The constitution of the trust was considered to be defective and the formation of a new body was recommended, such body to consist of five members to be appointed by the Governor in Council, and to hold office for five years. It was further advised that the future investment of the Relief Fund be strictly confined to Government stock or debentures, and that the Act should be amended accordingly; that the mortgagor be released from his mortgage on the conditions stipulated by him; and that effect should be given to the expressed intention of Parliament to subsidize the fund, and to establish its permanency.

These recommendations were acted upon except as regards subsidizing the fund, which has not yet been done; and on the 31st December, 1905, the amount to the credit of the fund was £14,013, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street; £1,500 was in Government debentures, £467 bank deposit receipts, and £46 cash in hand. At the end of 1905 there were seven widows as a charge on the fund, receiving 15s. per week each.

Bendigo Miners' Association—The Watson Fund.

The Watson Sustentation Fund.

About the middle of the year 1889 the idea suggested itself to Mr. J. B. Watson of doing something for the permanently injured miners of the Bendigo District. It was immediately after the occurrence of

a severe mining accident that Mr. Watson sent a letter to the Miners' Association with an offer to contribute £1,500, at the rate of £100 per year unconditionally, or to give £150 per year for 10 years, if the Society would contribute a like amount. His proposal was brought under the notice of the Committee of Management with the result that a Select Committee was appointed to bring up a report, and at the same time to formulate a scheme. It was thought that the sum of money was not sufficient to meet the liability that would be likely to occur. It was ultimately decided to recommend the members to accept Mr. Watson's offer of £150 for 10 years, and at the same time to cover it with the sum of £200 per year, to be made by levy on all members. This scheme was laid before Mr. Watson and the members, and accepted by both parties, and it was arranged that all gifts and donations that could be procured should be credited to a fund to be known as the Watson Sustentation Fund. It was decided that the collections of 1890 should be reserved strictly for revenue purposes, and that the benefits should not come into full operation until 1891, so as to give the fund a good start, and place it on a sure foundation. Payments were accordingly first made in 1891, at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week, Further changes were afterwards made, as necessity arose.

The following return shows the receipts and expenditure, from the inception of the fund. In the column "Administration" the item £152 for 1903 includes £132 expenses in connexion with the sale of property:—

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

Year.	Relieved during the Year.	On Funds at end of Year.	Deaths during the Year.	Receipts.		
				From the Founder, J. B. Watson.	Other Receipts.	Total Receipts.
				£	£	£
1890 ...	...	...	...	150	1,467	1,617
1891 ...	11	11	...	150	56	206
1892 ...	26	26	...	150	503	653
1893 ...	44	44	...	150	452	602
1894 ...	43	43	...	150	790	940
1895 ...	43	38	5	150	734	884
1896 ...	57	48	9	150	543	693
1897 ...	56	52	4	150	1,680	1,830
1898 ...	57	48	9	150	944	1,094
1899 ...	56	41	15	150	524	674
1900 ...	54	47	7	...	641	641
1901 ...	66	48	18	...	591	591
1902 ...	52	41	11	...	549	549
1903 ...	50	43	7	...	874	874
1904 ...	58	48	10	...	1,049	1,049
1905 ...	63	40	20	...	875	875
1906 ...	76	40	36	...	1,235	1,235
Total ...	...	...	151	1,500	13,507	15,007

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND—*continued.*

Expenditure.

Year.	Sick Pay.	Donations to Members and Wives and Families of Deceased Members.	Administration.	Total Expenditure	Balance at End of Year.
	£	£	£	£	£
1890 ...	...	...	...	...	1,617
1891 ...	104	87	6	197	1,626
1892 ...	330	150	8	488	1,791
1893 ...	571	116	9	696	1,697
1894 ...	578	64	6	648	1,989
1895 ...	777	98	7	882	1,991
1896 ...	845	107	34	986	1,698
1897 ...	946	121	17	1,084	2,444
1898 ...	917	99	10	1,026	2,512
1899 ...	873	61	7	941	2,245
1900 ...	973	65	11	1,049	1,837
1901 ...	765	140	9	914	1,514
1902 ...	842	28	11	881	1,182
1903 ...	827	39	152	1,018	1,038
1904 ...	854	114	24	992	1,095
1905 ...	822	80	43	945	1,025
1906 ...	767	97	29	893	1,367
Total ...	11,791	1,466	383	13,640	—

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund.

This fund was inaugurated in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1906-7 was 85, to whom £490 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £64. The accumulated fund on the 20th June, 1907, amounted to £13,831.