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## CHAPTER XXX.

## STATISTICAL ORGANIZATION AND SOURCES OF INFORMATION.

## § 1. Statistical Organization in Australia.

1. Development of Australian Statistics.—(i) *Crown Colony Blue Books*. Statistical organization in Australia was founded in the "Blue Books" which, in the Crown Colony days, were prepared annually for the information of the Colonial Office. Although primarily intended for administrative purposes, these documents have been important sources of statistical data, even though some important matters are not covered, and others only partially so. These Blue Books form the basis from which later statistical publications were developed. This led to an element of uniformity in statistical compilation within the British Empire.

(ii) *Statistical Registers*. Following the advent of Responsible Government which was granted during the period 1851-1860 to all Australian States except Western Australia—and to that State in 1890—the "Blue Book" was succeeded in all Australian States by "Statistical Registers". These were in many respects the old Blue Books in a new form, and were largely confined to summaries of the "by-product" statistics of Government administrative departments.

The first example of extensive Governmental organization for purely statistical purposes was the taking of periodic population censuses, which were initiated in all States under the Crown Colony régime. The growing need for quantitative data concerning the progress of the several young communities of Australia eventually led to the appointment of official Statisticians commissioned to prepare and publish such data.

(iii) *Statistical Conferences*. To enable the interchange of ideas between States, and to obtain uniform State Statistics which could be aggregated to Australian totals, conferences were held in the several States from as early as 1861. Altogether, six conferences were held prior to the formation of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics in 1906. These were held in 1861, 1875, 1890, 1900, 1902 and 1903. The holding of these conferences has been continued subsequently to the formation of the Commonwealth Bureau, and a representative from New Zealand attended up to 1928.

2. Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics.—(i) *Origin and Aims*. Under the provisions of section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution, power is conferred on the Commonwealth Parliament "to make laws for the peace, order and good government of the Commonwealth with respect to—" (*inter alia*) "(XI.) Census and statistics". In compliance with this provision, the Census and Statistics Act 1905 was passed, and in 1906 the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics was created. A conference of Statisticians in 1906 defined the relations between the Commonwealth and State Bureaux, and in each case the State Statistician became the representative in his own State of the Commonwealth Statistician for the purpose of administering the Commonwealth Act. In addition, each State has its own "Statistics Act", and although these are not identical in all States, they embody common principles. With the establishment of the Commonwealth Bureau, the movement towards uniformity in information collected and statistical methods employed received a great stimulus. The Commonwealth Bureau did not attempt to duplicate the existing statistical organization, but endeavoured to use the services of the State statistical offices whenever possible, and to undertake the initial collection of statistics only in fields not already occupied by the States, or in which efficiency demanded complete centralization. Frequent statistical conferences (*see above*) have assisted the uniform development of existing statistics, and have facilitated expansion into new fields.

The scope of the Commonwealth Bureau has constantly been widened, more particularly during the 1939-45 War, when the Bureau responded to the urgent demands of administration for immediate and accurate statistical information in various fields. Since the war, requirements in the administrative, industrial, financial and scientific spheres have led to the development of many new statistical collections. All the activities of the Bureau are covered by the Census and Statistics Act, which confers authority to collect information and contains stringent provisions to ensure that the information obtained is treated in strictest secrecy.

(ii) *Organization.* For administrative purposes the Commonwealth Bureau is divided into a number of Divisions. These are:—Census, Compiling, Publications, Research and Analysis, and Administrative.

(a) *Census Division.* This Division of the Bureau is responsible for the taking of Population Censuses, and for all machine tabulation work in connexion therewith.

(b) *Compiling Division.* The Compiling Division is responsible for the compilation of all statistics other than those relating to the Census of Population. It is divided into the following Branches which deal with specific fields of statistical activity :—

Trade and Transport Branch—Responsible for the original compilation, tabulation and analysis of statistics relating to imports and exports, and for the compilation of statistics relating to road and rail transport, aviation, shipping, posts and telegraphs, telephones and wireless.

Prices Branch—Deals with the collection of retail and wholesale prices and the compilation of retail and wholesale price index-numbers. A staff of trained field officers is maintained in the several States to facilitate the collection of accurate information.

Employment and Labour Branch—Compiles all employment estimates, wage and labour statistics.

Primary Production Branch—Deals with statistics relating to agricultural and pastoral activities, mining, forestry and fishing. Original data are largely supplied by State Statisticians.

Secondary Production Branch—Compiles all factory statistics both annual and monthly. Collates on a Commonwealth basis original annual data supplied by State Statisticians.

Finance and Taxation Branch—Compiles statistics of private finance (banking, insurance, exchange rates, etc.), public finance (Commonwealth, State and Local and Semi-Governmental authorities), and statistics relating to all aspects of Commonwealth taxation.

Demography Branch—Concerned with statistics of births, deaths, marriages and migration, and is responsible for periodic estimates of population.

Social Statistics Branch—Compiles all statistics relating to education, unemployment and sickness benefits, public health and welfare, and public justice.

Development Branch—This Branch was created in 1947 in order to develop new statistical collections to meet post-war demands for more adequate and up-to-date statistics, and also to examine current collections in the light of such requirements. To date the activities of the Branch have been concerned with three major projects, quarterly building statistics, retail sales statistics (including hire purchase statistics) and all new monthly production statistics. In addition, research is undertaken into the applicability of sampling methods to statistical collections. A number of collections in the Bureau are now being done on a sample basis, the most important being Retail Sales and Taxation Statistics.

(c) *Publications Division.* This Division is responsible for the scrutiny, editing and graphical illustration of all Bureau publications, and, in collaboration with other Divisions, for the initiation, development and co-ordination of statistical publications. It also maintains a regular flow of statistical series to certain international organizations, and revises statistical material in certain oversea and local publications.

(d) *Research and Analysis Division.* This Division undertakes research into the theoretical and practical problems of statistical collection and interpretation. It is responsible for the development of new statistical series in particular fields. Statistics on Australia's balance of international payments and estimates of national income and expenditure are two important fields of its work. In this Division is the Bureau's own specialized library of official and unofficial publications on statistics and economics.

(e) *Administrative Division.* The Administrative Division is responsible for all aspects of staff recruitment and direction, supplies, payment of accounts, etc. The Reproduction Section of the Division is equipped with multilith and duplicating machines for processing statistical statements for more immediate requirements. In addition, a special section of this Division is responsible for the examination of statistical methods and systems, and the co-ordination of all statistics, in Commonwealth Departments (*see par. 3 below*). The Mechanical Tabulation Branch has now been transferred from the Census Division of the Bureau to the Administrative Division. This Branch is equipped with modern tabulating equipment and is responsible for all machine tabulating work required by other Divisions of the Bureau with the exception of Census.

3. *Relation of the Bureau to other Commonwealth Departments.*—In October, 1950 the Commonwealth Public Service Board issued a circular relative to the compilation of statistics in other Commonwealth Departments, in which it stated that the Commonwealth Statistician should be the co-ordinating authority on all statistics in Commonwealth Departments, and that, as a general principle, where any new statistical field is to be established involving the regular collection of statistics, the Commonwealth Statistician should be consulted to ensure that they are necessary and that they are based on sound statistical methods; furthermore, that the Commonwealth Statistician should make a regular inspection, at least once every twelve months, of all statistical work done by Departments to ensure that their needs are met by the most economical means and without duplication of effort.

This project of co-ordination is being implemented as time and circumstances permit.

## § 2. Statistical Publications of Australia.

1. *General.*—The official statistical publications of Australia may be divided bibliographically into two main divisions, namely:—(1) Commonwealth publications dealing both individually and collectively with the several States of Australia; and (2) State publications dealing with individual States only.

2. *Commonwealth Publications.*—Commonwealth publications may be grouped under two heads, namely:—(i) Publications issued by the Commonwealth Statistician; and (ii) Parliamentary and Departmental Reports and Papers.

(i) *Publications issued by the Commonwealth Statistician.* The following is a list of the principal statistical publications issued from the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics since its inauguration to February, 1954:—

- Australian Balance of Payments.*—Statements Nos. 1 and 2, 1928–29 to 1949–50.  
*Australian Life Tables, 1901–1910. Australian Joint Life Tables, 1901–1910.*  
*Australian Life Tables, 1920–1922.*  
*Australian Life Tables, 1932–1934. Australian Joint Life Tables, 1932–1934.*  
*Australian Life Tables, 1946–1948.*  
*Australian Primary Industries.*—Report prepared for the Empire Producers Conference, Sydney, March, 1938.

- Census (1911) Results.*—Bulletins. Vols. I. (Statistician's Report), II., and III., with Appendix "Mathematical Theory of Population."
- Census (1921) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 26. Parts I. to XVI., forming Vol. I., and Parts XVII. to XXIX., forming, with the Statistician's Report, Vol. II.  
NOTE.—Part XXVII., Life Tables.
- Census (1933) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 25. Parts I. to XIV., forming Vol. I., Parts XV. to XXVIII., forming Vol. II., and Parts XXIX. to XXXVII., forming, with Statistician's Report and Australian Life Tables 1932-1934, Vol. III.
- Census (1947) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 25. Parts I. to XVI., forming Vol. I., Parts XVII. to XIX., forming Vol. II., and Parts XX. to XXVIII., forming, with Statistician's Report and Australian Life Tables 1946-1948, Vol. III.
- \**Census of Retail Establishments (1947-48) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 7.
- \**Census of Retail Establishments (1948-49) Results.*—Bulletins, Nos. 1 to 7.
- \**Dairying Industry (formerly Summary of Dairying Industry).*—Statistical Bulletin, monthly; first issue, September, 1937.
- \**Factories, Principal Statistics, Summary.*—Annually, 1948-49 to 1951-52.
- Finance.*—Bulletins 1907 to 1916-17 annually; 1917-18 and 1918-19 (one vol.); 1919-20 and 1920-21 (one vol.); 1922-23 to 1951-52 annually.
- \**Food Production and the Consumption of Foodstuffs and Nutrients in Australia, Report.* Half-yearly, 1946-47 to 1947-48; annually, 1948-49 to 1951-52.
- \**Fruit Growing Industry Summary.*—Annually, 1944-45 to 1951-52.
- Labour and Industrial Statistics.*—Memoranda and Reports, various, to 1913.
- Labour Report.*—Annually, 1913 to 1952.
- \**Live-stock Numbers (formerly Summary of Live-stock Statistics).*—Statistical Bulletin, annually, 1943 to 1953.
- Local Government in Australia.*—July, 1919.
- \**Manufacturing Industries.*—Bulletins on Individual Industries, annually, 1936-37 to 1939-40, 1940-41 (issue incomplete), and 1944-45 to 1951-52.
- \**Monthly Review of Business Statistics.*—First issue, October, 1937.
- \**Occupation Survey (1945) Results.*—Detailed tables.
- Official Year Book of the Commonwealth of Australia.*—Annually, 1907 to present issue (No. 40). Issue No. 40 also published in parts.
- Oversea Trade.*—Bulletins, annually, 1906 to 1951-52.
- \**Oversea Trade.*—Preliminary Bulletin, 1952-53.
- \**Oversea Trade Statistics : Imports Cleared for Home Consumption classified according to Individual Items of the Customs Tariff 1950-51 to 1952-53.*
- Pocket Compendium of Australian Statistics (formerly Statistical Digest).*—1913, 1914, 1916, and 1918 to 1953 annually.
- Population and Vital Statistics.*—Bulletins and Reports, various, 1906-1910.
- Demography, 1911 to 1951 annually.*
- Primary Industries.*—Bulletin, annual, 1950-51 first issue in two parts: Part I. Rural Industries; Part II. Non-Rural Industries and Value of Production.
- Production.*—Bulletin, annually, 1906 to 1947-48. From 1936-37 to 1949-50 issued in two parts.—Part I. Secondary Industries; Part II. Primary Industries (including Total Recorded Production); thereafter separate Bulletins (see *Primary Industries* and *Secondary Industries*).
- Professional Papers.*—Various. A full list appears in Official Year Book No. 13, p. 3.
- Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics.*—First issue, No. 70, December, 1917, replacing *Monthly Summary of Australian Statistics* (Bulletins Nos. 1 to 69).
- \**Report of Proceedings of the Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians, 1951.*

\* Obtainable from Commonwealth Statistician—for methods of obtaining other publications still in print see back page of this volume.

- \* *Rural Land Use and Crop Statistics* (formerly Summary of Crop Statistics).—Statistical Bulletin, annually, 1943-44 to 1951-52.
- Secondary Industries*.—Bulletin, annual, 1950-51.
- Social Insurance*.—Report to the Hon. the Minister of Trade and Customs, 1910.
- Social Statistics*.—Bulletins, 1907 to 1915 annually, and 1918.
- Superannuation for the Commonwealth Public Service*.—Report to the Hon. the Minister for Home Affairs, 1910.
- \* *Survey of Motor Vehicles (1947-48) Results*.—Bulletins Nos. 1 to 7.
- Transport and Communication*.—Bulletins, 1906, 1908 to 1916 annually, 1919 to 1930 annually, and 1932 to 1951-52 annually.
- \* *Vegetables Grown on Farms for Human Consumption*.—Statistical Bulletin, annually, 1942-43 to 1951-52.
- Wages and Prices*.—January, 1932.
- Wealth*.—The Private Wealth of Australia and its Growth as ascertained by various methods, together with a Report on the War Census in 1915.
- \* *Wheat Industry* (formerly Summary of the Wheat Situation).—Statistical Bulletin, periodically; first issue, July, 1936.

The foregoing list includes all the printed publications issued from the Bureau, and certain more important mimeographed publications issued for the most part annually. Other mimeographed statements, obtainable on application to the Commonwealth Statistician and dealing with a wide variety of subjects, are issued as follows:—

*Annually*—Bee Farming; Commonwealth and State Taxation Collections; Companies with Oversea Affiliations; Factory Statistics (Preliminary); Meat Production and Utilization; Milking Machines on Rural Holdings; Oversea Trade between Australia and Eastern Countries; Registrations of New Motor Vehicles; Social Services, Expenditure by States; Tractors on Rural Holdings; University Statistics; Value of Production; Wheat Forecast and Estimate.

*Half-yearly*—Australian Balance of Payments; Trade of Australia with United Kingdom.

*Quarterly*—Building; Minerals and Metals; Quarterly Business Survey; Retail Sale of Goods; Retail Price Variations—All Items ("C" Series) Index.

*Monthly*—Banking; Demographic Review; Employment; Exports of Wool from Australia; Export Prices Index; Gold Mining Industry; Life Assurance; Oversea Trade; Production Statistics; Registrations of New Motor Vehicles; Savings Bank Deposits and Savings Certificates.

A recent addition to the mimeographed publications refers to Wool Production\*. This statement will be issued periodically as data become available.

(ii) *Commonwealth Parliamentary and Departmental Reports and Papers*. Lists of the principal official reports and other documents containing statistical information issued from the inauguration of the Commonwealth appear in the Official Year Books up to No. 13, but it is not now practicable to undertake the preparation of such lists.

3. *State Publications*.—The chief statistical publications of each State are set out hereunder. As with the Commonwealth Parliamentary and Departmental Reports and Papers, it is not practicable to enumerate the various Departmental Reports, statements of accounts, etc., issued by officials, boards, local and semi-governmental authorities, etc., in each State.

- (a) New South Wales—Statistical Register (annual); Official Year Book of New South Wales (annual); Pocket Year Book (annual); Statistical Bulletin (monthly to December, 1919, quarterly to June, 1943, then discontinued to September, 1948); Monthly Summary of Business Statistics.

\* Obtainable from Commonwealth Statistician—for methods of obtaining other publications still in print see back page of this volume.

- (b) Victoria—Statistical Register (annual to 1916, then discontinued); Victorian Year-book (annual); Statistical Abstracts (quarterly to 1917, then discontinued to December, 1946).
- (c) Queensland—Statistical Register (annual); Official Year Book, 1901; A.B.C. of Queensland Statistics (annual to 1936, then discontinued); the Queensland Year Book (annual 1937 to 1941, then discontinued to 1945); Queensland Pocket Year Book (annual).
- (d) South Australia—Statistical Register (annual); Official Year Book, 1912 and 1913; Statesman's Pocket Year Book of South Australia (annual); Quarterly Summary of Statistics.
- (e) Western Australia—Statistical Register (annual); Statistical Abstracts (quarterly, previously issued monthly to July, 1917); Pocket Year Book of Western Australia (annual).
- (f) Tasmania—Statistical Register (annual); Pocket Year Book of Tasmania (annual); Monthly Review of Business Statistics.

### § 3. The Third Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians, Canberra, 1951.

Conferences of the Government Statisticians of the British Commonwealth were held first in London in 1920 and then in Ottawa in 1935. The Third Conference was held in Canberra from 12th to 23rd November, 1951. Delegates were present from Australia, Canada, Ceylon, India, New Zealand and the United Kingdom (including a representative of the Colonial Office). Ireland, the Commonwealth Economic Committee and the United Nations were represented by observers, and the Australian State Government Statisticians were also present.

The Conference reviewed statistical requirements and modern practice on many aspects of the following matters:—Labour Statistics, Production Statistics, Agricultural Statistics, External Trade Statistics, Retail Trade and Census of Distribution, Application of Sampling Methods, Statistical Co-ordination, National Income, Indexes of Prices, Family Budget Inquiries, Road Transport Statistics, Recent Developments in Census Taking, Mineral Statistics.

Whereas the earlier conferences prepared reports and passed series of resolutions aiming at improving and co-ordinating statistics throughout the Commonwealth, the report prepared by the Third Conference aimed at reaching as firm an expression of views as was consistent with unanimity whilst at the same time mentioning different views which were expressed if unanimous conclusions were not possible.

The Conference provided an opportunity for an exchange of views which should lead to statistical improvements in all countries represented, and its report should be of assistance to the Statistical Office of the United Nations and other organizations in their work of improving statistics on an international scale. In view of the advantages to be gained from meetings of these Statisticians, Conference decided that Commonwealth conferences should be held every five years and a co-ordinating committee was appointed to make plans for the Fourth Conference.

### § 4. Select List of Works about, or published in, Australia.

(Compiled by the Librarian of the Commonwealth National Library.)

This list aims to meet the growing need, in Australia as publishing develops, and overseas as interest in Australia widens, for an authoritative current reference and reading list of books dealing with Australia or of Australian authorship, wherever published.

Australians will find these books in the National Library and in their State Libraries as well as in leading bookshops. Oversea readers may have access to them in the collections which the National Library maintains at 36 Australian posts abroad. They will be found also, increasingly, in leading libraries and bookshops in many countries. In the United States, for example, Australian books are included in the Farmington Plan in which 52 libraries and research institutions co-operate to ensure that at least one copy of all material published in any part of the world and likely to be required for a serious purpose will be available promptly somewhere in the country.

The list is classified broadly by subject and under each heading there is first a list of the principal standard books still in print, then a list of selected books and official publications (excluding annual reports) which were published during 1952. A few books published earlier, but received too late for inclusion in the previous list, are also included. Where known the retail price in the country of publication is given, but this is subject to fluctuation.

The Library also issues a series of select lists which include *Australian Public Affairs Information Service* (monthly): subject index of material in new books, pamphlets, current periodicals and government publications from English speaking countries, with an important bearing on investigations in Australian political, economic, cultural and social affairs, and the following full bibliographies:—

*Monthly list of Australian Government Publications*, covering both the Commonwealth and the States;

*Books published in Australia*: a monthly list of books supplied to the National Library under copyright.

The two last-mentioned publications are cumulated annually as the *Annual Catalogue of Australian Publications* which includes also a list of books published overseas of Australian interest or by authors resident in Australia, a select list of the more important Australian periodical and serial publications and a directory of publishers.

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#### General and Descriptive.

- ABBOTT, C. L. A. Australia's frontier province [the Northern Territory]. Syd., Angus & Robertson [1950]. 7s. 6d.
- AUSTRALIA: the *Herald* year book: a reference work of world wide range: [No. 1] to date. Melb., Herald and Weekly Times, 1949 to date. 17s. 6d. Latest issue: 1950.
- AUSTRALIAN ENCYCLOPAEDIA: ed. by A. W. Jose, H. J. Carter and T. G. Tucker: 3rd ed. 2v. Syd. Angus & Robertson, 1926-27. (O.p., but new ed. in preparation).
- GRATTAN, C. H. Introducing Australia: 2nd Aust. ed. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1949. 7s. 6d.
- LODEWYCKX, A. Australie waarheen? Meppel, J. A. Boom [1950]. 25s.
- MADIGAN, C. T. Central Australia: 2nd ed. Melb., Oxford Univ. Press, 1944. 15s.
- NOBLE, N. S., ed. The Australian environment: 2nd ed. Melb., C.S.I.R.O., 1950. 10s. 6d.
- OFFICIAL YEAR BOOK OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA: no. 1 to date. Canb., Govt. Pr., 1908 to date, 5s. *per issue*; after no. 33, 10s. Latest issue: no. 40, 1954.
- RATCLIFFE, F. N. Flying fox and drifting sand: the adventures of a biologist in Australia: introd. by Julian Huxley. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1951. 15s. First published in 1938.
- TAYLOR, T. G. Australia: a study of warm environments and their effect on British settlement: 6th ed. Lond., Methuen, 1951. 30s.
- WALKABOUT: Australian geographical magazine: v. 1 to date. Melb., Australian Geographical Society, 1934 to date. Monthly, 24s. *per annum*.



## General and Descriptive—continued.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

- AUSTRALIA. Commonwealth of Australia Jubilee celebrations 1901-1951: an official record. [Canb., 1952].
- AUSTRALIA—*News and Information Bureau*. Canberra: a guide to the national capital. Syd., Angus & Robertson [1952]. 6s.
- AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF SCIENCE. *Handbook of Queensland*: prepared for the use of members . . . on the occasion of the 28th meeting held in Brisbane, May, 1951. [Brisb., Govt. Pr. 1951].
- EMMETT, E. T. Tasmania by road and track. M.Ib., Melbourne Univ. Press [1952]. 12s. 6d.
- FARWELL, G. Australian setting. Lond., Evans [1952]. 12s. 6d.
- FINLAYSON, H. H. The red centre: man and beast in the heart of Australia [2nd ed.]. Syd., Angus & Robertson [1952]. 21s.
- FLATTELY, S. The Australian snow pictorial. M.Ib., Georgian House, 1952. 25s.
- GENTILI, J. Australia: terra promessa. Firenze, Valmartira [1952].
- GRIFFITHS, G. NESTA. Some southern homes of New South Wales. Syd., Shepherd Press, 1952. 35s.
- HAUSER, H. Australien: der fünfte Kontinent. Berlin, Safari [1952]. 8.90 glds.
- HURLEY, J. F. Sydney from the sky: a camera study. Syd., Angus & Robertson [1952]. 15s.
- HULLY, J. F. ed. The Blue Mountains and Jenolan Caves: a camera study. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1952. 25s.
- PALMER, NELLIE. The Dandenongs. Melb., National Press [1952]. 10s. 6d.
- PINNEY, P. Dust on my shoes. Syd., Angus & Robertson [1952]. 21s. Travel notes of an Australian abroad.
- RIEL, A. P. M. VAN. Australie: land en volk. Amsterdam, N.V. de Technische Vitgeverij in opdracht van *Internationaal Technisch Studiecentrum* [1951].
- SHARLAND, M. S. R. Stones of a century. Hobart, Oldham, Peddome & Merdith, 1952. 3cs. Historical notes on early colonial architecture in Tasmania.
- TAUSSIG, H. J. C. Australien ein anderes land. Zürich, Stauffacher [1952]. DM16.60.

## Territories Outside Australia.

- AUSTRALIA—*External Affairs, Department of*. Handbook and index to accompany a map of Antarctica produced by the Department of the Interior, 1939: by E. P. Bayliss and J. S. Cumpston. Canb., 1940. 2s. 6d.
- GORDON, D. C. The Australian frontier in New Guinea 1870-1885. N.Y., Columbia Univ. Press, 1957. \$1.25.
- HOGBIN, H. I. Transformation scene: the changing culture of a New Guinea village. Lond., Routledge, 1951. 3cs.
- MEAD, MARGARET. From the South Seas: studies of adolescence and sex in primitive societies. 3 v. in 1. N.Y., Morrow, 1939. 81.
- OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE TERRITORY OF NEW GUINEA. Canb., Prime Minister's Department, 1943. 7s. 6d.
- RIFKINFIELD, A. Megalithic culture of Melanesia. Leiden, Brill, 1950. 35 glds.
- WILLIAMS, F. E. Orokaiva magic. Oxf., Oxford Univ. Press, 1928. 12s. 6d.
- Orokaiva Society. Oxf., Oxford Univ. Press, 1930. 25s.
- Papuans of the Trans-Fly. Oxf., Oxford Univ. Press, 1936. 30s.
- See also the annual reports of the Administrators of the various Territories, and reports to the General Assembly of the United Nations on trusteeship territories, the anthropological reports of the Governments of Papua and New Guinea, and material appearing in *Oceania*.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

- AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL ANTARCTIC RESEARCH EXPEDITION, 1947-1949. [Reports]. Melb., Antarctic Division, Department of External Affairs, 1951 to date.
- DERRICK, R. A. Vocational training in the South Pacific. Melb., Oxford Univ. Press, 1952. 30s.
- NEW ZEALAND ANTARCTIC SOCIETY. The Antarctic to-day: a mid-century survey: ed. by Frank A. Simpson. [Well.] Reed [1952]. 47s. 6d.
- WURN, S. Studies in the Kivial languages, Fly Delta, Papua, New Guinea. Wien, Herold, 1951. (Acta ethnologica et linguistica: no. 2)

## History.

- CLARK, C. M. H., ed. Select documents in Australian history 1788-1850: selected and ed. by C. M. H. Clark with the assistance of L. S. Pryor. Syd., Angus & Robertson [1950]. 30s.
- FITZPATRICK, B. C. British Empire in Australia: an economic history 1834-1939: 2nd ed. Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1949. 17s. 6d.
- HISTORICAL RECORDS OF AUSTRALIA: [ed. by J. F. Watson]. Syd., Commonwealth National Library, 1914 to date. 12s. 6d. *per v.* 34 v. have so far appeared. Publication has been suspended since 1923.
- HISTORICAL STUDIES: Australia and New Zealand: no. 1 to date. Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1940 to date. Bi-annual. 16s. *per annum*.
- LA NAUZE, J. A. Political economy in Australia: historical studies. Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1949. 9s. 6d.
- O'BRIEN, E. M. The foundation of Australia (1786-1800): a study in English criminal practice and penal colonization in the eighteenth century: foreword by John M. Ward: 2nd ed. Syd., Angus & Robertson, 1950. 25s.
- SHANN, E. O. G. An economic history of Australia. Melb., Georgian House, 1948. 18s. First published in 1930.
- SHAW, A. G. L. Economic development of Australia: rev. ed. Melb., Longmans, 1946. 8s. 6d.

## History—continued.

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

- BROWN, L. P. *ed.* Clyde Company papers: v. 2: 1836-40. Lond., Oxford Univ. Press, 1952.
- COOPER, H. M. French exploration in South Australia with especial reference to Encounter Bay, Kangaroo Island, the two gulfs and Murat Bay, 1802-1803. [Adel., Author, 1952]. 378. 6d.
- CRAWFORD, R. M. Australia. Lond., Hutchinson's Univ. Library [1952]. 88. 6d.
- HAWSON, J. The journal of a journey from New South Wales to Adelaide . . . performed in 1838. Melb., Georgian House, 1952. 218.
- HENNING, RACHEL B. Letters: forty pen drawings by Norman Lindsay. Syd., Bulletin Newspaper Co., 1952. 78. 6d.
- Letters written during the years 1853 to 1882 describing both town and country life in New South Wales and Queensland.
- INGLETON, G. C., *comp.* True patriots all; or, News from early Australia, as told in a collection of broadsides: garnered and decorated by Geoffrey Chapman Ingleton. Syd., Angus & Robertson [1952]. 428.
- MOYLE, JEAN V. Portrait of a village: Watervale 1851-1951. [Adel., Author, 1952]. 128. 6d.
- SKEMP, J. R. Memories of Myrtle Bank: the bush-farming experiences of Rowland and Samuel Skemp in north-eastern Tasmania, 1883-1948. Melb., Melbourne Univ. Press, 1952. 218.
- TOWNSLEY, W. A. Struggle for self-government in Tasmania, 1842-1852. Hobart. Govt. Pr., 1951.

## Military and Naval History.

- AUSTRALIA—Army, Department of—Public Relations Directorate. The Australian army at war: an official record of service in two hemispheres, 1939-1945. Melb., 1947.
- BEAN, C. E. W. Anzac to Amiens: a shorter history of the Australian fighting services in the first world war. Canb., Australian War Memorial, 1946. 258.
- FEAKES, H. J. White ensign—southern cross: a story of the King's ships of Australia's navy: (foreword by Admiral Lord Mountbatten of Chelsea). Syd., Ure Smith [1951]. 428.
- MACANDIE, G. L. The genesis of the Royal Australian Navy: a compilation. Syd., Govt. Pr., 1949. 258.
- MCGUIRE, Francis M. The Royal Australian Navy: its origin, development and organization. Melb., Oxford Univ. Press, 1948. 168.
- OFFICIAL HISTORY OF AUSTRALIA IN THE WAR OF 1914-1918: ed. by C. E. W. Bean. 12 v. Canb., Australian War Memorial 1921-42. 218. *per v.* v. 8, 10, 11, 188.
- OFFICIAL HISTORY OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARMY MEDICAL SERVICES IN THE WAR OF 1914-1918: ed. by Col. A. G. Butler. 3 v. Canb., Australian War Memorial, 1930-43. 218. *per t.*

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

- BRADDON, R. The naked island. Lond., W. Laurie [1952]. 158.
- CHARLOTT, R. *ed.* The unofficial history of the 29/46 Australian infantry battalion A.I.F. September, 1939-September, 1945. Melb. [R. B. Eames], 1952.
- GOODHART, D. The history of the 2/7 Australian Field Regiment. Adel., Rigby Ltd., 1952. 478. 6d.
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\* Excludes the works of individual authors, reference to which will be found in Miller, *Australian literature from its beginnings to 1935* and Serle, *An Australasian anthology*.



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## DIARY OF PRINCIPAL ECONOMIC EVENTS, 1950 to 1953.

The principal economic events for the years 1931 to 1938 were shown on pp. 968 to 977 of the Official Year Book No. 33, those for the years 1939 to 1944 on pp. 1129 to 1141 of the Official Year Book No. 36 while those for the years 1945 to 1949 were included in the range of years—1945 to 1951—covered by the three Official Year Books following (Nos. 37 to 39). For reasons of space some of the items originally shown for the years 1950 and 1951 have been omitted from this issue. Previous issues should be consulted for additional information for these years.

### 1950.

Favorable economic conditions were maintained throughout the year. Employment rose every month with the exception of October, when a railway dispute started in Victoria, later extending to South Australia. The total increase in employment (other than rural, household domestic, and defence forces) was approximately 100,000 (70,000 males and 30,000 females). Again the bulk of the increase was due to immigration. Permanent arrivals exceeded permanent departures by about 154,000, 4,000 more than in the previous year. Average earnings per head continued to increase and in December quarter were approximately 15 per cent. higher than in the corresponding quarter of the previous year. Towards the end of the year the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration gave a judgment which brought about an increase of £1 per week in the male basic wage. This operated from the beginning of December, and so had little effect on conditions in 1950. Retail prices increased by about 12 per cent. and wholesale prices by about 16 per cent.

Secondary production continued to expand, and increases in production as compared with 1949 (affected by the coal strike) were recorded in such basic materials as coal (17 per cent.), pig-iron (29 per cent.), cement (22 per cent.) and electricity (14 per cent.). Home production, however, was inadequate and imports of the first three commodities increased. In the case of electricity, black-outs and other restrictions continued, particularly in New South Wales. House building activity continued to increase, with 76,000 houses started, and 62,000 finished. Substantial orders for prefabricated houses were placed overseas by various governmental authorities.

The run of good seasons continued, although exceptionally heavy rainfall several times caused serious flooding in parts of eastern Australia with damage to farm properties, particularly dairy and vegetable farms in coastal areas. Average export prices of wheat remained above the maximum under the International Wheat Agreement (16s. 1d.), ensuring a high return from the large 1949-50 crop, and the year closed with the harvesting of a crop which was well above average although less than the previous year. The 1949-50 wool selling season closed with firm prices, giving an average for the year of more than 63d. The 1950-51 season opened with prices about 50 per cent. higher than at the end of the previous season, and the year closed with prices still tending to rise. Production for 1950-51 was slightly lower than in 1949-50. Meat production in 1950, also, was about 5 per cent. lower, but the production of milk and butter was well maintained.

*2nd January.*—Uranium production to commence in South Australia. Mining operations already in progress at Radium Hill.

*8th February.*—Petrol rationing abolished for second time since the end of war.

Committee of experts appointed to review Commonwealth taxation legislation, particularly in relation to income tax.

*7th March.*—Bill introduced in New South Wales Legislative Assembly to create a Transport and Highways Commission to control all State transport services. (Act assented to 27th April.)

*15th March.*—Social Services Consolidation Bill introduced into Senate, providing for the endowment of the first or only child under 16 years of age, in each family at the rate of 5s. per week. (Act assented to 28th June.)

*16th March.*—Commonwealth Bank Bill introduced in House of Representatives to amend Banking Act 1945, to repeal Banking Act 1947, and to re-establish Commonwealth Bank Board. (Houses failed to agree on measure—*see* 4th October.)

*22nd March.*—Severest floodings for twenty-five years in south-east corner of New South Wales.

*30th March.*—Electricity Commission Bill, to acquire major electricity organizations in State, introduced in New South Wales Legislative Assembly. (Act assented to 12th July.)

*31st March.*—Decision at London Wool Conference to continue Joint Wool Organization scheme on present basis for time being. Principle of reserve price plan to replace Joint Organization accepted.

*13th April.*—Coal Industry Tribunal, after three months' hearing, granted permission to colliery proprietors in New South Wales, Victoria and Queensland to remove pillar coal by mechanical means.

*22nd April.*—Commonwealth Government to admit, duty free, all types of pre-fabricated houses and accessories imported during 1950, irrespective of country of origin.

*15th-19th May.*—British Consultative Committee meeting in Sydney to consider ways of assisting development of south and south-east Asia in co-operation with other interested countries.

*13th June.*—Bills introduced into House of Representatives providing for a scheme of reserve prices for wool to replace present Joint Organization system—to be financed by a levy on wool. (Act assented to 1st July. Validity challenged in High Court on 24th August, but hearing postponed pending result of referendum of wool-growers on wool levy. *See* 23rd August, 1951.)

*16th June.*—Abolition of butter rationing.

*25th June.*—Disastrous floods on north coast of New South Wales.

*30th June.*—Australian forces in vicinity of Korea placed at disposal of United Nations in Korean conflict.

*3rd July.*—Tea rationing abolished—end of retail rationing in Australia.

*6th July.*—Queensland Government to proceed with plans to build Burdekin Dam (to cost £30,000,000) and the Tully Falls Hydro-electric Scheme (£7,000,000).

*9th July-23rd August.*—Prime Minister visited Malaya, Egypt, Italy, Britain, United States of America, Canada, Japan and New Zealand. In Britain he had informal talks on defence, finance, and foreign policy and Commonwealth co-operation in these fields. In America he negotiated a \$100,000,000 loan for Australia with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Loan will be used to finance capital goods and equipment to enable expansion of specific development projects.

*2nd August.*—Operations of Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme for first year have cost £2,500,000. Staff numbered 1,400 and progress up to expectations.

*22nd August.*—Contract with American company to construct Eildon Dam on Goulburn River, Victoria, at a cost of £11,400,000.

29th August.—Bill introduced in Victorian Legislative Assembly to constitute a Gas and Fuel Corporation to establish, purchase, acquire and operate gas undertakings and to co-ordinate gas production and distribution in Victoria. (Act assented to 6th December.)

7th September.—Loan programme approved by Loan Council for 1950-51 comprised Government loans, £175,400,000, and Local and Semi-Governmental loans, £70,700,000.

28th September.—Commonwealth Government to pay subsidy of up to £300 on each prefabricated house, to a maximum number of 3,000, imported by State Governments after 12th October, 1949.

4th October.—Commonwealth Bank Bill 1950 (No. 2) introduced in House of Representatives. (Referred by Senate to Select Committee on 14th March, 1951. Double dissolution of Parliament granted 17th March on grounds that Senate had failed to pass Bill. See 16th March, 1950.)

12th October.—Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration ruled that male basic wage should be increased by £1 and female basic wage from 54 per cent. to 75 per cent. of male rate. Applications must be made to Court for new awards or alterations to existing awards.

Introduction of 1950-51 Budget. (For details, see Official Year Book No. 39, p. 1336.)

16th October.—Railway services in Victoria ceased following breakdown in discussions on abolition of passive time and payment of overtime on a daily basis. (Dispute extended to South Australia 23rd October; services resumed in South Australia 20th November; and in Victoria 9th December, after A.C.T.U. Disputes Committee had called off the stoppage.)

27th October.—Agreement announced for Britain to buy all surplus meat produced in Australia during next fifteen years.

29th November.—Australia allocated trade with Japan to value of £46,000,000 in 1950-51 under trade agreement with a number of sterling area countries and Japan.

Governor of Commonwealth Bank announced that Banks will be required to adopt a more selective advance policy in order to limit the inflationary effect of expenditure financed from bank advances.

6th December.—Defence (Transitional Provisions) Bill to extend for one year a number of national security regulations and orders introduced in Senate. (Act assented to 16th December.)

8th December.—Announcement of functions and personnel of National Security Resources Board, to advise Government on best use of Australia's resources in interests of national security.

20th December.—Commonwealth Government to contribute £31,250,000 to Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-East Asia, and £3,500,000 to technical assistance programme.

## 1951.

The year opened with exceedingly favorable economic conditions, wool prices rising to an all-time record of about 17s. per lb. in March. Towards the end of the season these prices fell sharply from this extreme but the average for the season was 12s. per lb. Wool prices were still lower at the beginning of the 1951-52 selling season, but even so maintained the high average of 7s. per lb. over the first half of the season. Export prices for wheat remained steady at the high level of more than 16s. throughout the year. Weather conditions generally were favorable except in Queensland and northern New South Wales, where droughts and, towards the end of the year, fires caused damage to pastures and losses of stock. The average wheat yield (1951-52) was estimated at about 15.5 bushels per acre, but the total crop was considerably lower than in the previous year, owing to the

reduced acreages sown. Milk production in 1951 declined by about 10 per cent. Beef production increased slightly, but there was a further sharp reduction in mutton and lamb production, which was below the pre-war level. Total meat production fell very slightly.

These trends in primary production and the general inflationary conditions were reflected in the balance of payments. The trade year 1950-51 ended with an excess of exports of about £240,000,000 (imports, £740,000,000, exports, £980,000,000), but the succeeding trade year opened with the usual excess of imports of the early months continuing, until by December the trend in the balance of payments showed imports running at more than £1,000,000,000 per year and exports at only about £700,000,000. Oversea reserves had been reduced by about £300,000,000 during the last six months.

To help counter inflation, a rigid control of new capital issues was re-imposed in February. A slight increase in bond rate was brought about in May by the issue of a loan at a discount of 1 per cent.; and in August a further increase was made to 3½ per cent. The Commonwealth Budget was designed to counter inflation and provided for increases in direct and indirect taxes and a surplus of £115,000,000, although at the same time the Commonwealth undertook to provide money out of this surplus to finance State works if sufficient loan money was not forthcoming. Despite the instructions issued late in 1950 about a more restrictive advance policy (see 29th November, 1950) bank advances increased by about 25 per cent. during the year.

The increase in employment slowed down during the first half of the year and practically ceased in the second half, despite continued net permanent migration of about 110,000 for the whole year. Prices and earnings, however, continued to increase. Wholesale and retail prices both increased by about 25 per cent. and cost of living adjustments added 38s. to the basic wage in addition to the increase of £1 at the end of 1950. Average earnings per head rose 30 per cent.

A series of one-day stoppages in the coal mines early in the year caused some temporary falling off in production in industries heavily dependent on coal, such as iron and steel and cement, but over the year production of these commodities was higher than, or up to, the level of the previous year, and black coal production was an all-time record of 17,600,000 tons. Eighty-five thousand houses were started, and 72,000 completed, 12 per cent. and 16 per cent., respectively, higher than in the previous year. About 9,000 imported pre-fabricated houses were delivered out of total orders for 21,000 placed by governmental authorities.

*8th January.*—Commonwealth Government decision to close down shale oil plant at Glen Davis, New South Wales; production to continue temporarily. (Tenders were called on 14th February, 1952 for the purchase of assets, in whole or part.)

*2nd February.*—Control of capital issues re-introduced in an effort to reduce inflationary pressure. (See 28th May and 2nd August.)

*5th February.*—Coal miners in eastern States began one day per week stoppages in protest against provisions of the Coal Industry Tribunal's award (20th December, 1950) for payments over and above the ordinary wage rate to employees who worked the full ten days of a pay-period. (Stoppages were discontinued in mid-March, see 3rd May.)

Meeting of Governors of central banks of Australia, Ceylon, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and the United Kingdom to discuss general banking problems and the international economic situation.

*3rd March.*—Commonwealth War Gratuities amounting to £52,800,000 paid to ex-service personnel of the 1939-45 War.

*15th March.*—Commonwealth Government to grant to States special financial assistance of £15,000,000 for 1950-51.

*4th April.*—Victorian Government acquired land in Gippsland as the site for the Lurgi Brown Coal Gasification Plant to supply Melbourne with gas.

9th April.—Appreciable drop in wool prices at Sydney after post-war rise to record levels.

30th April.—Electricity zoning commenced in New South Wales, a complete ban on the use of electricity for commerce and industry to apply between 7 a.m. and 9 p.m. on one day each week in five zones. (Subsequently modified, in general, to blackouts within previously specified zones.)

3rd May.—The Coal Industry Tribunal, in a review of certain portions of its decisions on a log of claims covering members of the Australian Coal and Shale Employees' Federation, rejected a claim for a wage increase, and directed that the "attendance allowance" was to stand. (See 5th February.)

15th May.—Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Bill 1951 introduced into New South Wales Legislative Assembly providing for the inclusion in New South Wales industrial awards of three months' long-service leave on full pay after 20 years' continuous service. (Act assented to 12th September.)

28th May.—Capital Issues Control Regulations (see 2nd February) challenged in High Court. (On 12th September, 1952 the High Court declared the Regulations valid.)

17th June.—Announcement of signing of a trade agreement with Western Germany.

21st June.—Commonwealth Bank Bill 1951 providing for the restoration of the Commonwealth Bank Board, introduced into the House of Representatives. (Act assented to 16th July; operated from 21st August.)

29th June.—Conciliation and Arbitration Bill 1951, providing for secret union ballots in elections and on strike issues, greater control by the Arbitration Court, etc., introduced into House of Representatives. (Act assented to 19th July.)

5th July.—Defence Preparations Bill, providing authority until 31st December, 1953 for the Government to make regulations necessary for defence preparations and to adjust the economy to meet the threat of war, introduced into House of Representatives. (Act assented to 19th July.)

17th July.—Large upward cost of living adjustments in the basic wage announced by Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration—increase of 13s. in the average weekly wage for the six capital cities.

19th July.—All States except Queensland fixed prices of controlled goods and services at levels ruling on 18th July. (The order was extended in New South Wales on 24th July to cover a wide variety of goods and services, but was relaxed on 20th August and removed on 9th October.)

20th July.—Final liquidation of the stock of the United Kingdom Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd. (Joint Organization) at London Wool Sales.

24th July.—Announcement of letting to a Norwegian firm of the first contract for the design and construction of a dam in the Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Scheme. (The project, at Guthega, is to cost £5,800,000 and is to be completed by June, 1954.)

28th July.—Commonwealth Government to sell, for 45s. per share, its holdings of 863,596 ordinary shares in Amalgamated Wireless (Australasia) Ltd., comprising 51 per cent. of the issued capital.

30th July.—Conference of representatives of Commonwealth and State Governments, employers and trade unions, and other sections of the community, called by the Prime Minister, met in Sydney to discuss means of combating inflation.

2nd August.—New Capital Issues Control Regulations gazetted under the Defence Preparations Act 1951 to replace those operating under the Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act. (See 2nd February and 28th May.)

9th August.—The Prime Minister called a conference in Canberra of the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank, the heads of commercial banks, and the Secretary to the Treasury, to discuss bank credit policy.

10th August.—Conference in Canberra between the Government and representatives of insurance companies to consider general financial and investment policy.

14th August.—Announcement by Vacuum Oil Co. Pty. Ltd. that it will build a new oil refinery at Altona, near Melbourne, to be completed in about three years at a cost of £7,500,000.

15th August.—A new company to be formed to develop deposits of pyrites at Nairne, South Australia, for the production of sulphur.

16th–17th August.—The Loan Council approved a rise in the long-term bond rate from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. to  $3\frac{3}{4}$  per cent., to apply to the Thirteenth Security Loan for £40,000,000 to be opened on 22nd August. The loan programme for 1951–52, after State works programmes had been reduced by approximately 25 per cent., was decided as follows:—Commonwealth, £23,000,000; States, £202,000,000; Local Authorities, £96,000,000.

21st August.—The Commonwealth Government issued instructions for the reduction of the staff of Commonwealth Departments by 10,000 (5 per cent.).

The Victorian State Electricity Commission's loan, calling for £6,000,000 at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. interest, was closed, under-subscribed by £3,350,000.

23rd August.—Wool-growers rejected by referendum the proposal for a reserve price plan for wool. (See 13th June, 1950.)

27th–30th August.—New season's wool auctions in Sydney realize prices about 25 per cent. below those of June.

1st September.—Major hire purchase finance companies in New South Wales and South Australia announced new conditions for hire purchase agreements, increasing deposit rates and reducing repayment periods. (See also 8th November.)

11th September.—Interest rates on loans to local and semi-governmental authorities raised from  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. to  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

26th September.—Commonwealth Budget for 1951–52 introduced into the House of Representatives. (For details, see Official Year Book No. 39, p. 1340.)

—October.—Extensive bush fires in Queensland, Northern Territory and northern New South Wales damaged wide areas of country.

7th October.—Announced that Australia is to spend about £700,000,000 on defence during next three years.

12th October.—Details announced of a fifteen-year meat agreement with the United Kingdom to commence on 18th July, 1952.

18th October.—The Victorian Industrial Appeals Court ruled that dairy farm employees would work a 48-hour week instead of the 40-hour week granted in August by the Dairy Farm Workers' Wages Board. The Court increased the basic rates of pay by 10s. to £10 19s. per week, and increased the annual leave granted by the Board from two to three weeks.

Australia signed the Torquay Protocol to the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs.

Further large upward adjustments in the basic wage announced by the Arbitration Court—average weekly wage for the six capitals increased by 11s. (See 17th July.)

8th November.—The Commonwealth Bank ceased to make credit available for the purchase of cars other than new cars for commerce. Private hire purchase firms also restricted credit and shortened repayment periods. (See also 1st September.)

12th–23rd November.—The Third Conference of Government Statisticians of the British Commonwealth held in Canberra.

20th November.—Announcement that current Australian gold output may be sold on "premium markets overseas", providing that it is sold for dollars.

—December.—Serious bush fires in the Blue Mountains area of New South Wales.

21st December.—British Commonwealth Sugar Agreement signed in London; Australian export quota fixed at 600,000 tons of raw sugar per annum. The agreement is to operate until 31st December, 1959, prices to be negotiated annually.

## 1952.

Migration continued on a reduced scale during 1952, making a net addition to the population of 94,000, compared with 111,000 in 1951 and a post-war peak of 153,000 in 1950.

The decline in immigration was associated with unsettled employment conditions in Australia, which were reflected in the fall in employment, the total numbers employed (excluding rural and household domestic workers and the defence forces) dropping from 2,637,000 in December, 1951, to 2,533,000 in December, 1952. Except for small increases in February and December, this decline in the level of employment continued throughout each month of 1952, with the largest falls in the manufacturing, building and retail industries. The number of persons on unemployment benefit increased from 2,000 to 40,000.

New houses numbering 68,000 were started and 79,000 completed during the year, compared with 85,000 and 72,000 respectively in the previous year. Production of coal, gas, electricity, pig-iron and steel was maintained or increased, and electricity restrictions were much less severe than in recent years.

In the early part of the year continuing drought and bushfires, particularly in New South Wales, Queensland and Northern Territory, seriously affected pastures and restricted meat and butter production. Conditions improved during the year and meat and milk production increased quickly. For crops, weather conditions generally were favorable and wheat production in 1952-53 was considerably higher than in 1951-52, despite a slightly reduced acreage. Average yield per acre reached an all-time record of about 19 bushels. Wool production is estimated to have reached an all-time record in 1952-53, being 19 per cent. above 1951-52. More effective control of the rabbit pest through the spread of myxomatosis in recent years appears to have contributed to both an increase in sheep numbers and an increase in average clip per sheep.

Due to generally easier supply conditions the high level of imports reached in the latter half of 1951 continued into 1952. This increase in imports, together with a drop in the receipts for exports, had resulted in a balance of payments deficit on current account for the latter half of 1951 of £316 million, and the continuation of these conditions in 1952 led to the imposition of severe import restrictions (on 8th March) to safeguard overseas reserves. Licences to import goods from dollar areas were also recalled and reviewed. The value of imports was slightly lower in the first half of 1952 and fell by more than 50 per cent. in the second half of the year. There was a slight increase in the value of exports and the balance of payments deficit of £269 million in the first half of the year was changed to a surplus of £75 million in the second half of the year.

Average earnings per employee continued to rise and in the December quarter were about 11 per cent. above the corresponding level of the previous year. Retail prices increased by about 10 per cent. and wholesale prices by about 9 per cent. during the year. Proportionately, these price and wage increases were about one-third as great as those in the previous year.

During 1952 uncertainty about the future of interest rates for public authority borrowing resulted in a number of loan failures until some stability in interest rates was reached towards the end of the year. A Commonwealth Government cash and conversion loan of £75 million at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. was under-subscribed by £14 million. Later in the year a further loan of £20 million was raised at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. Semi-Government authorities floated a number of loans at  $4\frac{1}{8}$  per cent. with varying but frequently unsuccessful results and later in the year the rate was raised to  $4\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. in line with the trend in Commonwealth bond rates. Bank overdraft and deposit rates were also raised from the beginning of August.

*2nd January.*—The Australian Mutual Provident Society to take over a large low-rainfall area in the Mallee-Wimmera District for development and improvement for settlement under the Victorian Land (Development Leases) Act 1951. (*See also* 18th August, 1949, Official Year Book No. 39.)

*5th January.*—Australia and Pakistan signed a one-year trade agreement.



*17th January.*—Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioner Galvin refused an application by eleven metals trades unions for marginal wage increases. The decision affected more than 250,000 metal trades workers throughout Australia. (*See* 29th February, 1st March, 1952, and 14th–11th November, 1953.)

*18th January.*—Commonwealth Government to subsidize Air Beef Pty. Ltd. (operators of an inland slaughter works at Glenroy, Western Australia, transporting meat to the coast by air) to the extent of £10,000 a year.

*21st January.*—A conference of British Commonwealth Finance Ministers, attended by the Treasurer of Australia, issued a statement on the measures considered necessary to correct the sterling area situation.

*22nd January.*—Increase of 10s. in cost of living adjustment to the average weekly wage for the six capital cities announced by Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration.

Publication of a report of Mr. H. B. Basten, a United Kingdom authority on ports and harbours, on "The Turn-round of Ships in Australian Ports".

*25th January.*—Widespread bushfires in New South Wales, Victoria and the Australian Capital Territory.

*19th February.*—Good rains in the northern areas of New South Wales end the worst drought experienced for many years, during which extensive areas of pastures and crops were destroyed by bushfires. Drought conditions continued in Queensland and Northern Territory.

*21st February.*—Announcement of a reduction in Commonwealth Public Service employment by 12,500 during the six months ended 31st December, 1951.

*23rd February.*—Conversion of all Australian sulphuric acid plants from the use of imported sulphur to the use of locally-produced pyrites projected by the end of 1953.

Discovery announced of important high-grade uranium deposits at Rum Jungle in the Northern Territory.

*26th February.*—Introduction into the House of Representatives of the Fisheries and Pearl Fisheries Bills to conserve swimming and sedentary fisheries in Australian waters. (Acts assented to 13th March.)

*29th February.*—Welders employed by Australian Iron and Steel Ltd. at Port Kembla protested against the Galvin award (*see* 17th January). (By 16th May about 3,500 workers were directly involved in the dispute, which resulted in the closing down of the Australian Iron and Steel Ltd. plant, while many in associated industries were also affected. Work was resumed on 6th June).

*1st March.*—Industrial dispute, involving maintenance workers of the State Electricity Commission of Victoria protesting against the Galvin award (*see* 17th January), caused the introduction of power restrictions in Victoria. (The dispute ended on 12th April. Severe restrictions were imposed on the use of power from 15th April, but were eased on 18th April.)

*6th March.*—Price control lifted from clothing and textiles in South Australia and Western Australia.

*7th March.*—The Commonwealth Bank prohibited the establishment of further import credits until licences had been obtained for the goods involved.

*8th March.*—Imposition of severe restrictions on imports from all sources and on amounts available for Australians travelling overseas.

*11th March.*—Arrival of the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development to survey development progress and to discuss loan prospects with the Commonwealth Government.

*1st April.*—Agreement between the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments and the combined Development Agency of the British and American Governments on the development of uranium deposits at Radium Hill, South Australia.

9th April.—The Waterside Workers' Federation, in connexion with its claim for higher margins, imposed an Australia-wide ban on overtime. (Ban continued until 9th July.)

20th April.—Wages of about 50,000 workers in the pastoral industry in all States, except Queensland (where a State award is in operation), reduced by Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioner because of a decline in wool prices.

3rd May.—A special Loan Council meeting approved programmes amounting to £247,500,000 for Government loans and £128,000,000 for local and semi-governmental authorities loans, the Commonwealth Government being prepared to guarantee subscriptions to an extent of £125,000,000 (subsequently increased to £135,000,000) from Commonwealth sources.

7th May.—Introduction into the House of Representatives of the Aluminium Industry Bill, an amending bill designed to increase by £4,250,000 the capital originally contributed in 1944 (£3,000,000) for the establishment of the industry at Bell Bay, Tasmania, and provide for the annual production of 13,000 tons of aluminium ingots. (Act assented to 30th May.)

22nd May.—Modification of the Commonwealth Bank's advance policy to secure greater flexibility and to enable individual banks to apply the policy appropriately in individual cases.

The Conciliation and Arbitration Bill introduced into House of Representatives providing for a limited right of appeal from decisions of Conciliation Commissioners to a court of three Arbitration Court Judges, and an increase in the number of Arbitration Court Judges to at least seven, so that two full courts may sit at once. (Act assented to 17th June.)

23rd May.—Good rains brought relief to north and central Australia which had suffered from prolonged drought causing heavy losses in cattle industry.

29th May.—Bill introduced to approve agreement between the Commonwealth Government and the Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. to form a joint company to cut 10,000,000 super. feet of timber annually from pine forests at Bulolo, New Guinea. (Act assented to 17th June.)

10th June.—Announcement of New South Wales Government's conditional agreement to the establishment by Caltex Oil (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. of a £25,000,000 oil refinery at Kurnell, Botany Bay.

17th June.—Myxomatosis campaign against rabbits to be intensified during the following spring and summer.

18th June.—During one of the worst floods in the history of central and south-west New South Wales, Wagga, Forbes, Cowra and many other towns were badly flooded by water from the Murrumbidgee and Lachlan Rivers and their tributaries.

24th June.—Employers' organizations lodged a claim with the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration seeking the following adjustments to awards of 25 metal trades unions, affecting about 250,000 workers in all States except Western Australia:— (i) Reduction in basic wage by amounts of from £2 5s. to £2 7s. per week; (ii) Reduction of the female rate from 75 per cent. to 60 per cent. of the male rate; (iii) An increase in working hours from 40 to 44 hours per week, to be worked in either 5 or 5½ days; (iv) Abandonment of the system of automatic quarterly cost of living adjustments to the basic wage. (See 5th August, 1952 and 12th September, 1953.)

1st July.—New five-year Dairy Industry Stabilization Scheme commenced to operate.

7th July.—At a conference of the Prime Minister and State Premiers a total of £135,900,000 was decided on as tax reimbursement grant to the States for 1952-53, plus Special Grants to Victoria and Tasmania of £800,000 and £70,000 respectively. Announcement of the Commonwealth Government's intention to return powers for taxing incomes to the States at the end of 1952-53, provided agreement could be reached concerning the technical problems involved.

9th July.—The International Bank for Reconstruction and Development announced the granting of a further loan to Australia of \$50,000,000 for a twenty-year term at 4½ per cent. interest. (See 9th July, 1950.)

14th July.—Relaxation of bank advance policy to provide hire-purchase finance for farm equipment announced.

24th July.—Announced that as a result of present economic situation Australia would accept only 80,000 immigrants in 1953, and that the migration programme for 1952 would also be reduced.

28th July.—Price control removed from clothing and textiles in New South Wales and Victoria.

1st August.—Revocation of the order made by the Commonwealth Bank under National Security Regulations fixing maximum rates of interest. This was followed by a general increase in interest rates.

5th August.—Victorian State Government discontinued almost all building controls in Victoria.

Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration commenced the Basic Wage and Standard Hours Inquiry in Melbourne. (See 24th June, 1952 and 12th September, 1953.)

6th August.—The Commonwealth Budget for 1952-53 introduced into the House of Representatives, providing for estimated expenditure of £959,430,000 and revenue of £959,890,000, allowing an estimated surplus of £460,000. Estimated expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund included:—Defence Services, £200,000,000; War and Repatriation Services, £111,000,000; National Welfare Fund, £164,000,000; Payments to or for the States, £178,000,000; Capital Works and Services, £107,000,000. In addition, an estimated £6,000,000 was provided for War Service Land Settlement from Loan Fund. The Budget included proposals for increases in Repatriation benefits (£2,400,000) and Social Service Benefits (£27,000,000). The special levy of 10 per cent. of income tax assessed, imposed on individual taxpayers in 1951-52, was discontinued, reducing income tax payable by individuals by £23,000,000 for the year. Other taxation reductions included:—Companies (£15,000,000) and Sales Tax (£5,000,000). In addition the Commonwealth Land Tax was discontinued.

26th August.—Arrival of Santa Gertrudis cattle from King Ranch, Texas, U.S.A., to start the breed on the Darling Downs, Queensland.

27th August.—The new blast furnace lit at Port Kembla, New South Wales, expected to increase output of pig iron at that centre by 1,500 tons daily.

1st September.—The Commonwealth Government to seek oversea markets for Australian coal.

11th September.—Announced that Consolidated Zinc Pty. Ltd. would develop the Rum Jungle, Northern Territory, uranium deposits on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, the United States of America Atomic Energy Commission to supply uranium refining plant to begin operating in 1954.

25th September.—The Joint Coal Board recommended the closing of several coal mines producing poor quality coal, because of lack of markets.

30th September.—New South Wales Building Operations and Building Materials Control Act 1945 expired, ending all controls over building operations and materials in New South Wales.

6th October.—The Commonwealth Bank announced the cessation of restrictions on bank advances for any purpose, except where the control of capital issues is involved. (See 29th November, 1950.)

14th October.—The Navigation Bill, proposing the transfer of jurisdiction over maritime industrial disputes from the Maritime Industry Commission to a single judge of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration and the abolition of the Maritime Industry Commission, introduced into the House of Representatives. (Act assented to 8th December.)

Broken Hill Proprietary Steel Industry Agreement Bill introduced into the Western Australian Legislative Assembly to ratify an agreement for the establishment of a steel rolling mill and fence post factory at a cost of approximately £4,000,000 at Kwinana, near Fremantle, Western Australia. (Act assented to 18th December.)

16th October.—A Bill to provide for the sale of the Commonwealth's holding of shares in Commonwealth Oil Refineries Ltd. to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. introduced into the House of Representatives. (Act assented to 6th November.) The Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. Ltd. is to construct an oil refinery with a capacity of about 3,000,000 tons a year, to cost about £40,000,000, at Kwinana, near Fremantle, Western Australia.

22nd October.—Owing to the increased production of coal, the Coal Industry Tribunal granted an application to advance the date for commencement of the long service leave scheme from 1st January, 1954 to 1st January, 1953. (See 7th September, 1949, Official Year Book No. 39.)

17th and 23rd November.—Export controls lifted from large number of primary and secondary products.

27th November–11th December.—The Prime Minister and other Australian Ministers attended the British Commonwealth Economic Conference in London. All subjects were discussed in the light of the necessity to curb inflation and rises in the cost of living, to encourage sound economic development, and to extend a multilateral trade and payment system over the widest possible area.

A group of financial, industrial and commercial concerns in the United Kingdom proposed to form a company to further development throughout the Commonwealth.

5th December.—The Coal Industry Stabilization Plan was announced by the Commonwealth Government, its main features being the financing by the Commonwealth of the stockpiling of surplus production, and of the sale of coal on a credit basis to major consumers; the forgoing by the Commonwealth of interest charges on mining plant which might become idle, and the daily review of production and demand.

31st December.—The first good rains for many months were recorded in Northern Territory drought-stricken areas.

### 1953.

The immigration programme was cut further during the year and net migration amounted to only about 43,000, compared with 94,000 in 1952 and over 100,000 in each of the preceding three years.

After the almost continuous decline in employment in 1952 there was an almost continuous increase in 1953 and total employment (excluding rural and household domestic employment and the defence forces) rose from 2,533,000 in December, 1952 to 2,612,000 in December, 1953—still below the peak of 2,643,000 in November, 1951. Numbers on unemployment benefit dropped to less than half the level of 41,600 reached in January.

Production of coal was down slightly from the 1952 level, but production of gas and electricity and of many basic materials (pig-iron and steel, lead, cement, superphosphate) continued to increase. Production of refrigerators, washing machines, radios and other domestic electrical goods, many clothing and textile lines and sporting goods increased substantially after the set back of the previous year. There was also some revival in house building, but the number of houses started, although some 3,000 higher than in the previous year, did not regain the 1951 level.

Seasonal conditions were satisfactory. Meat production was substantially increased. The average wheat yield was lower than the previous year's record but still high at 17 bushels per acre. Acreage was somewhat greater and total production was estimated at about 199 million bushels compared with 195 million bushels in the 1952–53 harvest. The wool clip for 1953–54 was only 3 per cent. under the record of the previous year.

After some weakness at the close of the 1952–53 season, wool prices firmed again at the opening sales in September and during the first half of the 1953–54 season averaged 85d. compared with 81.8d. in 1952–53. With rising wool, wheat, butter and meat prices offsetting other reductions, export prices generally remained above the previous year's level. The value of exports was considerably higher than in 1952. During the second half of the year imports also increased substantially over the low level of the previous twelve months, and the balance of payments credit on current account which reached about £100 million in the first half of the year dropped to about £20 million in the second half.

Rises in internal prices and earnings were much smaller. Average earnings per employee rose by 4 per cent., the basic wage by 2 per cent., retail prices by 4 per cent., and wholesale prices by 5 per cent. before falling towards the close of the year, compared with increases of about 10 per cent. in 1952.

Interest rates were kept stable during the year at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. on Commonwealth bonds,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. on local and semi-governmental securities and 5 per cent. on bank advances. Both Commonwealth loans raised during the year at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. were over-subscribed (the October one by £15 million), and during the second half of the year there was some speculation about a possible drop in interest rates.

*5th January.*—Announced that new deposits of coal, bauxite, tin and zinc had been discovered as a result of surveys carried out by the Bureau of Mineral Resources, Geology and Geophysics.

*8th January.*—Ten-year agreement signed with the Combined Development Agency for sale to the United States of America of uranium from deposits at Rum Jungle, Northern Territory.

*10th January.*—Announced that United Kingdom and Queensland Governments had agreed to abandon the Queensland-British Food Corporation's farming project in Central Queensland.

*22nd January.*—For first time since 1945, basic wage adjustment for December quarter showed no change in average for six capital cities.

*18th February.*—Television Bill introduced into House of Representatives to permit the establishment of both National and Commercial television transmitting stations. (Act assented to 20th March.)

*19th February.*—Commonwealth Bank Bill 1953 and Banking Bill 1953 introduced into House of Representatives. The Commonwealth Bank Bill sets up the Commonwealth Trading Bank under a General Manager, in place of the General Banking Division of the Commonwealth Bank. The Banking Bill provides for a new method of determining the maximum amounts which the trading banks may be required to lodge with the Commonwealth Bank as the central bank and requires the Commonwealth Bank to conform to the special accounts provisions of the Banking Bill. (Both Acts assented to 28th March.)

*20th February.*—Premiers' Conference in Canberra to discuss return of income tax powers to the States. No agreement reached.

*10th March.*—Prime Minister announced that a Census of Australia would be taken in 1954.

*1st April.*—Further relaxation of import restrictions to allow additional imports to the value of £50,000,000 during the next twelve months other than from the dollar area and Japan.

*13th April.*—New International Wheat Agreement signed in Washington fixing Australia's annual wheat export quota at 75,000,000 bushels—Australian signature not to be effective unless agreement also signed by United Kingdom and India. (Later legislation introduced into House of Representatives, 11th October.)

*17th April.*—Basic wage rise of 3s. per week announced.

*18th April.*—Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization announced that, after ten years' research, a process had been developed to prevent shrinkage in wool.

*15th May.*—Australia and United States of America signed conventions to end double taxation between the two countries. (Acts ratifying these conventions were assented to 11th December.)

*19th May.*—Australian Loan Council meeting at Canberra adopted programme of £231,000,000 for State Government works during 1953-54 (Commonwealth will contribute, however, only on a basis of a £200,000,000 programme). Borrowing programme of £90,486,000 by Local Government and Semi-governmental authorities also approved. Loan Council decided to retain ruling interest rates on public loans for at least twelve months.

*8th June.*—Britain and Australia signed agreement for reciprocity in social services benefits.

*9th June.*—Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers on defence, economic and political issues concluded in London.

*24th June.*—Contract prices for sale of Australian butter and cheese to the United Kingdom Ministry of Food during 1953-54 increased by approximately  $3\frac{3}{4}$  per cent.

1st July.—Commonwealth Medical Benefits Scheme commenced, under which persons who are contributors to an approved medical benefits organization are entitled to receive part reimbursement by the Commonwealth of payments made for medical services to themselves or their dependants.

Conditions of purchase by Australian Atomic Energy Commission of acceptable uranium ores and concentrates from 1st July announced, including guaranteed minimum prices for five years.

Further relaxation of restrictions on imports from sterling countries came into operation. Some increases in imports from Japan also to be allowed.

10th July.—Price of petrol reduced by 1½d. per gallon.

15th July.—Announced that the United Kingdom Government would pay higher prices, representing increases of 7½ and 5½ per cent. respectively, for Australian lamb and mutton in 1953-54.

Export controls removed from further Australian products.

22nd July.—Announced that the United Kingdom Ministry of Food had declined to enter into a long-term contract for the purchase of Australian canned fruits. (Later in the year the Ministry agreed to the bulk purchase of the exportable surplus of canned apricots, peaches and pears for 1954 only. It was made clear, however, that it was the policy of the United Kingdom Government to return to open trading in all imported foodstuffs as rapidly as circumstances permit.)

7th August.—Shipping freights to United Kingdom rose by 7½ per cent.

13th August.—Commonwealth Government rejected a Japanese request for a conference to discuss trade relations between Australia and Japan.

5th September.—Drilling for oil began at Exmouth Gulf in Western Australia.

9th September.—The Commonwealth Budget for 1953-54 introduced into the House of Representatives, providing for an estimated expenditure of £986,542,000, revenue of £986,757,000 and an estimated surplus of £215,000. The major items of estimated expenditure from Consolidated Revenue Fund were:—Defence Services, £200,000,000; War and Repatriation Services, £116,000,000; National Welfare Fund, £184,000,000; Payments to or for the States, £189,000,000; Capital Works and Services, £101,500,000. Estimated expenditure from Loan Fund includes £7,000,000 for War Service Land Settlement and £7,000,000 for redemption of War Savings Certificates. The Budget included proposals for increases in expenditure on repatriation benefits (£1,000,000) and social services benefits (£18,500,000); and reductions in taxation of an estimated annual value to taxpayers of £82,000,000. Proposals for reductions in taxation included reduced rates of income tax with increased allowances and exemptions (£40,000,000), company tax (£23,000,000), sales tax (£9,000,000), increased annual exemption from pay-roll tax (£4,000,000), and the abolition of entertainments tax (£5,000,000).

10th September.—Pearl Fisheries Bill introduced, providing for a licensing system and other measures to control pearl fisheries (Act assented to 17th September). *See also* 11th September.

11th September.—Australian sovereignty proclaimed over sea-bed, subsoil, and continental shelf adjoining Australia and Australian territories. (Australia subsequently agreed to submit issues arising from the Pearl Fisheries Act to the International Court of Justice for adjudication.)

12th September.—Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in a judgment, refused applications by employers for reduction of current basic wages and for an increase of standard hours of work and also refused applications by unions for increases of basic wages. The employers' applications for abandonment of the system of automatic adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with retail price indexes were, however, granted. Later, the extension by the Court, on its own motion, of this decision to awards not the subject of an application before the Court was challenged in the High Court by the unions concerned but the power of the Arbitration Court to so vary awards was upheld.

24th September.—Australian Council of Trade Unions Congress withdrew its policy of unqualified opposition to incentive payments, leaving individual unions free to accept incentive payment schemes if they so desire.

*30th September.*—Announced that Commonwealth Finance Ministers would confer in Sydney in January, 1954, on such subjects as the balance of payments, world trade and the development of economic resources.

*1st October.*—Announced that Australia would receive an increase of 5½ per cent. in the price of beef and veal shipped to the United Kingdom during 1953-54 under the fifteen-year meat agreement with United Kingdom.

Further relaxation of import restrictions on goods from sterling areas came into operation, allowing additional annual imports valued at £45 million.

*7th October.*—All States agreed to a price of 14s. per bushel for wheat sold in Australia for the three years ending 1955-56.

*13th October.*—Wheat Marketing Bill providing for orderly marketing of wheat for next three harvests introduced into House of Representatives. (Act assented to 26th October.) All States have agreed to introduce complementary legislation but have not yet done so.

Bill providing for ratification of the International Wheat Agreement, under which portion of Australia's crop for the next three seasons will be exported within certain price limits, introduced into House of Representatives. (Act assented to 26th October.)

Queensland State Full Industrial Court rejected application by employers' organizations to end basic wage adjustments.

*15th October.*—First atomic weapon exploded at a proving ground north of Woomera.

*22nd October.*—Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration refused New South Wales transport authorities permission to withdraw applications for relief from basic wage adjustments.

*26th October.*—Factories and Shops (Wages Boards) Bill 1953 introduced in Victoria to pay latest cost-of-living increase in basic wages. (Act assented to 25th November.)

*30th October.*—Tasmanian Government abolished price control on all goods other than copper.

*11th November.*—Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration completed hearing of evidence by Australian Engineering Union and other organizations in the margins case and reserved its decision. (On 26th February, 1954, the Court announced that the case had been adjourned until November, 1954, for further hearing and determination.)

*12th November.*—Industrial Arbitration (Amendment) Bill, giving absolute preference to unionists, introduced in New South Wales Parliament. (Act assented to 17th December.)

*3rd December.*—Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia commenced operations.

*4th December.*—Oil discovered at Exmouth Gulf, 680 miles north of Perth. The oil, discovered at a depth of approximately 3,600 feet, was stated to be a very high grade crude oil.

*31st December.*—With the expiration of the Defence Preparations Act, control of Capital Issues ceased.

Price control abandoned in Western Australia.

# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

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

NOTES.—For each earlier year this Table contains rarely more than two or three items; for recent years, however, in order to provide a wide cover of events, etc., it includes a much greater number. Both the nature of the Table and considerations of space render necessary a continual reduction in these items, and for more information the reader should therefore consult earlier issues.

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

Year.

- 1788 N.S.W.—Arrival of "First Fleet", under Captain Arthur Phillip, at Botany Bay. Land in vicinity being found unsuitable for settlement, the expedition moved to Sydney Cove, and formal possession of the colony was taken on 26th January. Formal proclamation of colony and establishment of regular government on 7th February. Branch Settlement established at Norfolk Island. French navigator Lapérouse visited Botany Bay. First cultivation of wheat and barley. First grape vines planted.
- 1789 N.S.W.—First wheat harvest at Parramatta, near Sydney. Discovery of Hawkesbury River.
- 1790 N.S.W.—Scarcity of provisions. "Second Fleet" reached Port Jackson. Landing of the New South Wales Corps.
- 1791 N.S.W.—Arrival of "Third Fleet". Territorial seal brought by Governor King.
- 1792 N.S.W.—Visit of *Philadelphia*, first foreign trading vessel.
- 1793 N.S.W.—First free immigrants arrived in *Bellona*. First Australian church opened at Sydney. Tas.—D'Entrecasteaux discovered the Derwent River.
- 1794 N.S.W.—Establishment of settlement at Hawkesbury River.
- 1795 N.S.W.—Erection of the first printing press at Sydney. Descendants of strayed cattle discovered at Cowpastures, Nepean River.
- 1796 N.S.W.—First Australian theatre opened at Sydney. Coal discovered by fisherman at Newcastle.
- 1797 N.S.W.—Introduction of merino sheep from Cape of Good Hope.
- 1798 Tas.—Insularity of Tasmania proved by voyage of Bass and Flinders.
- 1800 N.S.W.—Hunter River coal-mines worked. First Customs House in Australia established at Sydney. Flinders' charts published.
- 1801 N.S.W.—First colonial manufacture of blankets and linen.
- 1802 Vic.—Discovery of Port Phillip by Lieut. Murray. Q'land.—Discovery of Port Curtis and Port Bowen by Flinders. S.A.—Discovery of Spencer's and St. Vincent Gulfs by Flinders.
- 1803 N.S.W.—First Australian wool taken to England by Capt. Macarthur. Issue of "The Sydney Gazette", first Australian newspaper. Vic.—Attempted settlement at Port Phillip by Collins. Discovery of Yarra by Grimes. Tas.—First settlement formed at Risdon by Lieut. Bowen.
- 1804 Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Port Phillip. Tas.—Foundation of settlement at Hobart by Collins.
- 1805 N.S.W.—First extensive sheep farm established at Camden by Capt. Macarthur.
- 1806 N.S.W.—"The great flood" on the Hawkesbury. Shortage of provisions. Tas.—Settlement at Launceston.
- 1807 N.S.W.—First shipment of merchantable wool (245 lb.) to England.
- 1808 N.S.W.—Deposition of Governor Bligh.
- 1809 N.S.W.—Free school established.
- 1810 N.S.W.—Post Office officially established at Sydney.
- 1813 N.S.W.—Passage across Blue Mountains discovered by Wentworth, Lawson and Blaxland. Macquarie River discovered by Evans.
- 1814 N.S.W.—Flinders suggested the name "Australia", instead of "New Holland". Creation of Civil Courts.



- Year.
- 1815 N.S.W.—First steam engine in Australia erected at Sydney. Lachlan River discovered by Evans. Tas.—Arrival of first immigrant ship with free settlers. First export of wheat to Sydney.
- 1816 N.S.W.—Sydney Hospital opened.
- 1817 N.S.W.—Oxley's first exploration inland. Discovery of Lakes George and Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains by Meehan and Hume. First bank in Australia—Bank of New South Wales—opened at Sydney.
- 1818 N.S.W.—Liverpool Plains, and the Peel, Hastings and Manning Rivers discovered by Oxley, and Port Essington (N.T.) by Captain King.
- 1819 N.S.W.—First Savings Bank in Australia opened at Sydney.
- 1820 Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep from Camden Park (N.S.W.) flocks.
- 1821 Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1822 N.S.W.—Formation of Agricultural Society of New South Wales.
- 1823 N.S.W.—New South Wales Judicature Act passed. Discovery of gold at Fish River by Assistant-Surveyor McBrien. Qld.—Brisbane River discovered by Oxley.
- 1824 N.S.W.—Constituted a Crown Colony. Executive Council formed. Establishment of Supreme Court at Sydney, and introduction of trial by jury. First Australian Enactment (Currency Bill) passed by the Legislative Council. Proclamation of freedom of the press. First manufacture of sugar. Vic.—Hume and Hovell, journeying overland from Sydney, arrived at Corio Bay. Qld.—Penal settlement founded at Moreton Bay (Brisbane). Port Dundas Settlement formed at Melville Island, N. Terr.
- 1825 Tas.—Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) proclaimed a separate colony. Qld.—Major Lockyer explored Brisbane River to its source and discovered coal.
- 1826 N.S.W.—Settlement in Illawarra District. Vic.—Settlement at Corinella, Western Port, formed by Captain Wright.
- 1827 Qld.—Darling Downs and the Condamine River discovered by Allan Cunningham. W.A.—Military settlement founded at King George's Sound by Major Lockyer. First official claim of British Sovereignty over all Australia.
- 1828 N.S.W.—Second constitution. First Census. Sturt's expedition down Darling River. Gas first used at Sydney. Richmond and Clarence Rivers discovered by Captain Rous. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Western Port. Qld.—Cunningham discovered a route from Brisbane to the Darling Downs, and explored Brisbane River.
- 1829 N.S.W.—Sturt's expedition down Murrumbidgee River. W.A.—Foundation of settlement at Swan River. Foundation of Perth.
- 1830 N.S.W.—Sturt, voyaging down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, arrived at Lake Alexandrina. Tas.—Black line organized to force aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula, but failed. Small remnant subsequently (1830 to 1835) persuaded to settle on Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Crown lands first disposed of at auction. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. SS. *Surprise*, first steamship built in Australia, launched at Sydney. First coal shipped from Australian Agricultural Company's workings at Newcastle, N.S.W. First assisted immigration to N.S.W. S.A.—Wakefield's first colonization committee. W.A.—Appointment of Executive and Legislative Councils.
- 1832 N.S.W.—State Savings Bank established.
- 1833 N.S.W.—First School of Arts established at Sydney.
- 1834 N.S.W.—First settlement at Twofold Bay. Vic.—Settlement formed at Portland Bay by Henty Brothers. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. W.A.—Severe reprisals against Murray River natives at Pinjarrah for continued attacks on settlers.
- 1835 Vic.—John Batman arrived at Port Phillip; foundation of Melbourne.
- 1836 N.S.W.—Mitchell's overland journey from Sydney to Cape Northumberland. Vic.—Proclamation of Port Phillip district as open for settlement. S.A.—Settlement founded at Adelaide under Governor Hindmarsh.

- Year.
- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Vic.—First overlanders from Sydney arrived at Port Phillip.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Brisbane—first free colonists. S.A.—“Overlanding” of cattle from Sydney to Adelaide along the Murray route by Hawden and Bonney. Settlement at Port Essington, Northern Territory, formed by Captain Bremer.
- 1839 N.S.W.—Gold found at Vale of Clwydd by Count Strzelecki. S.A.—Lake Torrens discovered by Eyre. Port Darwin discovered by Captain Stokes. W.A.—Murchison River discovered by Captain Grey.
- 1840 N.S.W.—Abolition of transportation to New South Wales. Land regulations—proceeds of sales to be applied to payments for public works and expenditure on immigration. Vic.—Determination of northern boundary. Qld.—Penal settlement broken up and Moreton Bay district thrown open. S.A.—Eyre began his overland journey from Adelaide to King George’s Sound.
- 1841 N.S.W.—Gold found near Hartley. W.A.—Completion of Eyre’s overland journey from Adelaide to King George’s Sound. New Zealand proclaimed a separate colony.
- 1842 N.S.W.—Incorporation of Sydney. Vic.—Incorporation of Melbourne. S.A.—Discovery of copper at Kapunda.
- 1843 N.S.W.—First Representative Constitution (under Act of 1842). Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation as a distinct electoral division.
- 1844 Qld.—Leichhardt’s expedition to Port Essington (N.T.). S.A.—Sturt’s last expedition inland.
- 1845 N.S.W.—Mitchell’s explorations on the Barcoo. Qld.—Explorations by Mitchell and Kennedy. S.A.—Discovery of the Burra copper deposits. Sturt discovered Cooper’s Creek.
- 1846 N.S.W.—Initiation of meat-preserving. Qld.—Foundation of settlement at Port Curtis. S.A.—Proclamation of North Australia.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Iron-smelting commenced near Berrima. Overland mail established between Sydney and Adelaide. Qld.—Explorations by Leichhardt, Burnett and Kennedy.
- 1848 N.S.W.—National and Denominational School Boards established. Qld.—Leichhardt’s last journey. Kennedy speared by the blacks at York Peninsula. Chinese brought in as shepherds.
- 1849 N.S.W.—Indignation of colonists at arrival of convict ship *Hashemy*. Exodus of population to gold-fields of California. Vic.—*Randolph* prevented from landing convicts. Qld.—Assignment of *Hashemy* convicts to squatters on Darling Downs. W.A.—Commencement of transportation to Western Australia.
- 1850 N.S.W.—Final abolition of transportation. First sod of first Australian railway turned at Sydney. Sydney University founded. Vic.—Gold discovered at Clunes. Representative government granted. S.A.—Representative government granted. W.A.—Pearl oysters found by Lieut. Helpman at Saturday Island Shoal. Tas.—Representative government granted.
- 1851 N.S.W.—Payable gold discovered by Hargraves at Lewis Ponds and Summerhill Creek. Vic.—Port Phillip created an independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold in various localities. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Arrival of *Chusan*, first P. and O. mail steamer from England. S.A.—First steamer ascended the Murray River to the junction with the Darling. Tas.—Meeting of first elective Council protested against transportation. Payable gold discovered at The Nook, near Fingal, and at Nine Mile Springs.
- 1853 Tas.—Abolition of transportation. Vic.—Melbourne University founded.
- 1854 Vic.—Opening of first Victorian railway—Flinders Street to Port Melbourne. Riots on Ballarat gold-fields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, 3rd Dec. Telegraph first used.

- Year.
- 1855 N.S.W.—Opening of railway—Sydney to Parramatta. Mint opened.
- 1856 N.S.W.—Pitcairn Islanders placed on Norfolk Island. W.A.—A. C. Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt.  
Responsible Governments in N.S.W., Vic., S.A. and Tas. (Act of 1855).
- 1857 N.S.W.—Select Committee on Federation. Vic.—Manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. S.A.—Passage of Torrens' Real Property Act.
- 1858 N.S.W.—Establishment of manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. Telegraphic communication between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. Qld.—Canoona gold rush.  
Population of Australia reached 1,000,000.
- 1859 Qld.—Proclamation of Queensland as separate colony. Tas.—First submarine cable, via Circular Head and King Island to Cape Otway.
- 1860 Vic.—Burke and Wills left Melbourne and crossed to Gulf of Carpentaria. S.A.—Copper discoveries at Wallaroo and Moonta. McDouall Stuart reached centre of continent and named "Central Mount Stuart".
- 1861 N.S.W.—Anti-Chinese riots at Lambing Flat and Burrangong gold-fields. Opening of first tramway in Sydney. Regulation of Chinese immigration. Vic.—Burke and Wills perished at Cooper's Creek, near Innamincka, S.A.
- 1862 N.S.W.—Abolition of State aid to religion. Real Property (Torrens) Act passed. S.A.—Stuart crossed the Continent from south to north. W.A.—First export of pearl-shell.
- 1863 Vic.—Intercolonial Conference at Melbourne. S.A.—Northern Territory taken over. W.A.—Initiation of settlement in the north-west district. Henry Maxwell Lefroy discovered and traversed area now comprised in the Coolgardie-Kalgoorlie gold-field.
- 1864 Qld.—First sugar made from Queensland cane.
- 1865 N.S.W.—Destruction by fire of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney.
- 1866 N.S.W.—Passage of Public Schools Act of (Sir) Henry Parkes. S.A.—Introduction of camels for exploration, etc.
- 1867 Vic.—Imposition of protective tariff. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Gympie.
- 1868 W.A.—Arrival of *Hougomont*, last convict ship.
- 1869 Vic.—Record gold nugget "Welcome Stranger" 2,284 oz. found near Dunolly. W.A.—First telegraph line opened from Perth to Fremantle.
- 1870 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Exhibition opened at Sydney. Imperial troops withdrawn. Vic.—Intercolonial Congress at Melbourne. S.A.—Commencement of transcontinental telegraph.
- 1871 N.S.W.—Permanent military force raised. W.A.—Forrest's explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Bischoff.
- 1872 Vic.—Mint opened. S.A.—Cable from Java to Port Darwin. Completion of transcontinental telegraph line.
- 1873 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Conference at Sydney. First volunteer encampment. Inauguration of mail service with San Francisco.
- 1874 N.S.W.—Triennial Parliaments Act passed. Intercolonial Conference. S.A.—University of Adelaide founded. W.A.—John and Alexander Forrest arrived at Overland Telegraph from Murchison.
- 1875 Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island.
- 1876 N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney to Wellington. W.A.—Giles crossed colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aborigines.
- 1877 W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia.  
Population of Australia reached 2,000,000.
- 1878 Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration.  
Introduction of telephone into Australia.
- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Kallara Station, near Bourke. First steam tramway. W.A.—A. Forrest's explorations in the Kimberley district, and discovery of the Fitzroy pastoral country.

- Year.
- 1880 N.S.W.—Public Instruction Act passed. Vic.—First Australian Telephone Exchange opened in Melbourne.  
Federal Conference at Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration.  
First Australia-wide censuses on same date taken.
- 1882 W.A.—Nugget of gold found between Roebourne and Cossack.
- 1883 N.S.W.—Discovery of silver at Broken Hill. Completion of railway between New South Wales and Victoria. Qld.—Annexation of New Guinea—repudiated by Imperial authorities.  
Federal Conference held at Sydney. Federal Council created.
- 1884 Federation Bill passed in Victoria and rejected in New South Wales. British protectorate declared over New Guinea.
- 1885 N.S.W.—Military contingent sent to the Sudan. Opening of the Broken Hill Proprietary Silver Mines. W.A.—Gold found by prospectors on the Margaret and Ord Rivers in the Kimberley district. Tas.—Silver-lead discovered at Mount Zeehan.
- 1886 Tas.—Discovery of gold and copper at Mount Lyell.  
First session of Federal Council held at Hobart on 26th January.
- 1887 W.A.—Gold discovered at Southern Cross.  
First "Colonial" Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Restrictive legislation against Chinese, imposing poll-tax of £100. Qld.—Railway communication opened between Sydney and Brisbane.  
Conference of Australian Ministers at Sydney to consider question of Chinese immigration. First meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science held in Sydney.
- 1889 Qld.—Railway communication established between Brisbane and Adelaide.  
W.A.—Framing of new Constitution. Tas.—University of Tasmania founded.  
Population of Australia reached 3,000,000.
- 1890 W.A.—Responsible Government granted.  
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference.
- 1891 N.S.W.—Arrival of Australian Auxiliary Squadron. Cessation of assisted immigration. W.A.—Discovery of gold on the Murchison.  
First Federal Convention in Sydney, draft bill framed and adopted.
- 1892 W.A.—Discovery of gold at Coolgardie.
- 1893 Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1894 S.A.—Women's suffrage granted—first State to do so.
- 1895 N.S.W.—Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes introduced.  
Conference of Premiers on Federation at Hobart.
- 1896 N.S.W.—People's Federal Convention at Bathurst. Vic.—Wages Board system established by Act of Parliament.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.
- 1898 Draft Federal Constitution Bill submitted to electors in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. Requisite statutory number of votes not obtained in New South Wales.
- 1899 First contingent of Australian troops sent to South Africa. Conference of Premiers in Melbourne to consider amendments to Federal Constitution Bill. Referendum—Bill accepted by New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania. First Labour Government (Queensland).
- 1900 N.S.W.—Old-age pensions instituted.  
Contingents of naval troops sent to China. Commonwealth Constitution Act received Royal Assent, 9th July. Proclamation of Commonwealth signed 17th September. Mr. (afterwards Sir) Edmund Barton formed first Federal Ministry.

## Year.

- 1901 Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney. First Federal Parliament opened at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York. Interstate free-trade established.
- 1902 Completion of Pacific Cable (all-British). First Federal Tariff.
- 1903 Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie Water Supply Scheme completed. Inauguration of the Federal High Court.
- 1904 Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.
- 1905 Population of Australia reached 4,000,000. Re-introduction of assisted immigration in New South Wales.
- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliff, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Papua taken over by Commonwealth. Excise Tariff Act imposed duties on agricultural machinery except when manufactured "under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared . . . . . to be fair and reasonable . . . . ."
- 1907 First telephone trunk line service between Capital Cities, i.e., Sydney and Melbourne. Imperial Conference in London. Declaration of first basic wage in "Harvester Judgment".
- 1908 Canberra chosen as site of Australian Capital.
- 1909 Imperial Defence Conference in London. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Australian military defence. Queensland University founded.
- 1910 Penny Postage. Arrival of *Yarra* and *Parramatta*, first vessels built for the Royal Australian Navy. Australian Notes Act passed and first Commonwealth notes issued. Admiral Sir R. Henderson visited Australia to advise on naval defence.
- 1911 First Federal Census. Transfer of Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory to Commonwealth. Introduction of compulsory military training. University of Western Australia founded.
- 1912 Opening of Commonwealth Bank. First payments of Maternity Bonus. First sod turned at Port Augusta of Trans-Australian Railway.
- 1913 Australian Capital named Canberra and foundation stone laid. Appointment of Interstate Commission.
- 1914 Visit of General Sir Ian Hamilton to report on military defence scheme. Double dissolution of Federal Parliament. Transfer of Norfolk Island to Commonwealth.
- European War declared 4th August. Australian Navy transferred to British Navy. Australian offer to equip and furnish 20,000 troops accepted. German possessions in South-West Pacific seized by Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. German cruiser *Emden* destroyed by H.M.A.S. *Sydney* at Cocos Islands, 9th November. First contingent landed in Egypt. Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (A.N.Z.A.C.) formed under Sir William Birdwood.
- 1915 Opening of Broken Hill Proprietary's Ironworks at Newcastle, N.S.W.  
Australian and New Zealand troops landed at Gallipoli, 25th April. Evacuation, 18th-20th December. Australian warships with Grand Fleet.
- 1916 Purchase of steamships by the Commonwealth.  
Australian and New Zealand mounted troops organized in mounted divisions and camel corps, operating thereafter in Egypt, Palestine and Syria. Other troops transferred to France. First proposal for compulsory military service overseas defeated by referendum.
- 1917 National Ministry formed under Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes. Transcontinental (Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta) Railway completed.  
Australian Flying Corps operating with R.F.C. in Palestine and France. Second proposal for compulsory military service overseas defeated by referendum.
- 1918 Population of Australia reached 5,000,000. Australia House (Strand, London) opened by the King.  
Five Australian divisions in France formed into army corps, 1st January. Armistice with Germany, 11th November. Repatriation Commission created.

- Year.
- 1919 Peace Conference. Return of Australian troops. Flight England to Australia by Capt. (Sir) Ross Smith and Lieut. (Sir) Keith Smith. Peace Treaty signed at Versailles, 28th June.
- 1920 Visit to Australia of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Imperial Statistical Conference in London.
- 1921 Mandate given to Australia over Territory of New Guinea. First direct wireless press message, England to Australia. Second Federal Census.
- 1922 First lock on River Murray opened at Blanchetown, South Australia. Queensland Legislative Council abolished.
- 1923 First sod turned on the site of Federal Parliament House at Canberra.
- 1924 Directorate of Commonwealth Bank appointed. Australian Loan Council formed.
- 1925 Population of Australia reached 6,000,000. Solar Observatory established at Canberra.
- 1926 Council for Scientific and Industrial Research established. Imperial Conference. Dominion Status defined.
- 1927 Transfer of Seat of Commonwealth Government from Melbourne to Canberra. Beam wireless established.
- 1928 Financial agreement of Commonwealth and States: State Debts referendum carried.
- 1929 Commonwealth Bank empowered to mobilize gold reserve. Abolition of peacetime compulsory military training in favour of voluntary system
- 1930 Effects of world-wide severe economic depression felt throughout Australia. Brisbane—Grafton (N.S.W.) railway, first step towards uniform gauge railway communication between capitals of mainland States, opened. First Australian—Rt. Hon. Sir Isaac Alfred Isaacs, G.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the High Court—appointed Governor-General of Australia.
- 1931 Depression continues. Initiation of Premiers' Conference plan to meet the financial situation. Commonwealth Bank Act amended to provide for temporary lower reserve against notes. England departed from gold standard. Commonwealth Bank assumed control of exchange rate and lowered it to 125 (previously 130).
- 1932 Sydney Harbour Bridge opened. Australian Broadcasting Commission established. Legislation passed enabling note reserve to be held in sterling securities. Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa.
- 1933 World Economic Conference in London. Secession Referendum carried (Western Australia). Antarctica and Ashmore and Cartier Islands taken over by the Commonwealth. Third Federal Census.
- 1934 Inauguration of England—Australia Air Mail Service.
- 1935 Empire Statistical Conference at Ottawa.
- 1936 Joint Commonwealth and State Marketing Schemes invalidated by decision of the Privy Council in the James case. Tasmania linked with mainland by submarine telephone cable.
- 1937 Imperial Conference in London. Report of the Royal Commission on Monetary and Banking Systems in Australia.
- 1938 New Defence Programme involving expenditure of £63,000,000 over three years. New Trade Treaty with Japan.
- 1939 Population of Australia reached 7,000,000.  
War declared on Germany, 3rd September. Royal Australian Navy placed at disposal of Great Britain. Advance party of Australians embarked for Middle East, 15th December.
- 1940 Exchange of Ministers between Australia and United States of America marked Australia's entry into field of direct diplomatic representation with countries other than the United Kingdom.  
First Australian convoy (6th Australian Division) sailed for Middle East. Cruiser *Sydney* crippled Italian cruiser *Bartolomeo Colleoni*.

## Year.

- 1941 Establishment of Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme. United States Congress passed Lend-Lease Bill.  
Arrival of units of Eighth Australian Division in Malaya. Australian destroyers in "Tobruk Ferry Run". *Sydney* lost after fight with *Steiermark*. R.A.A.F. in defence of Britain, in Middle East and at Singapore. Australian forces engaged in Middle East, Greece, Crete and Syria. Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Australia declared war on Japan, 9th December
- 1942 Federal uniform taxation adopted. Commonwealth widows' pensions introduced. Rationing of commodities.  
Japanese landed at Rabaul. Fall of Singapore. Darwin bombed. United States armed forces landed in Australia. Headquarters of South-west Pacific Command set up by General Douglas MacArthur in Melbourne. Coral Sea Battle. Japanese midget submarines in Sydney Harbour. Australian cruisers in attack on Solomon Islands. Australians withdrew from Kokoda. Japanese forced to withdraw from Milne Bay. Owen Stanley Ranges offensive. Ninth Australian Division at El Alamein (North Africa). Kokoda recaptured. Further Australian successes in New Guinea.
- 1943 Price Stabilization Scheme. Mortgage Bank Department of Commonwealth Bank opened. National Works Council formed.  
Australian forces combined with American forces to recapture many places in New Guinea. Commencement of long series of amphibious operations in which R.A.N. ships took part. R.A.A.F. from 1943 till end of war operated on all fronts.
- 1944 Pay-as-you-earn taxation operated from 1st July. Referendum refused Commonwealth Government increased powers in post-war period.  
Australian advances in Northern New Guinea. Allied invasion of France. Australians landed on New Britain; took over from Americans in Bougainville, Solomon Islands, and at Aitape, New Guinea.
- 1945 Captain Cook Dock opened by Governor-General, the Duke of Gloucester. Re-establishment and Employment Act. Banking Act to regulate banking and to protect the currency and public credit. Australia ratified United Nations Charter. General demobilization commenced.  
Cessation of hostilities in Europe, 8th May. Cessation of hostilities against Japan, 15th August. Australian forces operating in New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Borneo.
- 1946 Cessation of man-power controls. Commonwealth Government accepted responsibility for supply and maintenance of B.C.O.F. in Japan. Inauguration of Commonwealth Employment Service. United Kingdom—Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd. (Joint Organization) commenced operations. Act to establish National University at Canberra. Coal Industry Act providing, *inter alia*, for a joint Commonwealth—State authority. Commonwealth and State agreement on housing. Commonwealth Trans-Australia Airlines began operations. Constitution Alteration Referendum granted powers in regard to social services to Commonwealth. Double taxation relief agreement between Australia and Britain. Approval for establishment of guided missile range in Central Australia. Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act. Expiry of National Security Act.
- 1947 End of demobilization. Post-war defence programme to extend over five years approved. Census of Australia—first since 1933. Full High Court declared invalid section of Banking Act 1945 prohibiting banks from conducting business for State authorities. Legislation to nationalize trading banks enacted (*see* 1948). Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition to establish scientific research station at Heard Island. First "displaced persons" reached Australia.

Year.

- 1948 Forty-hour week effective throughout Australia. Membership of Commonwealth Parliament increased. Constitution Alteration (Rents and Prices) proposal defeated. High Court declared invalid certain vital sections of Banking Act 1947. Tuberculosis Act. International Trade Organization Act (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and Havana Charter for International Trade Organization).
- 1949 Nationality and Citizenship Act operative. Broadcasting Control Board came into operation. New Guinea placed under international trusteeship and administrative union of Papua and New Guinea established. Certain Australian aborigines for first time granted franchise at Federal elections. Agreement reached on arrangements for increasing meat exports from Australia to United Kingdom (subsequent legislation to assist in facilitating movement of livestock in Australia). Establishment of New South Wales University of Technology. Ratification completed by all Governments concerned of Murray River Agreement for enlarging of Hume Weir. Dispute over claims for 35-hour week, 30s. a week wage increase, and long-service leave rendered all Australian black coal mines idle from 27th June until 15th August, causing restrictions in dependent services and unemployment. Australia ratified International Wheat Agreement. Conciliation and Arbitration Act amended to prevent irregularities in elections for offices in organizations registered under Act. Establishment of Australian Whaling Commission. Reduction of 25 per cent. in Australia's imports from dollar areas. Devaluation of sterling against American dollar, and commensurate devaluation of Australian pound to two dollars twenty-four cents. Establishment of Immigration Planning Council to assist in assimilation of migrants into industry and the community. Commencement of Snowy Mountains Hydroelectric Power Scheme. Agreement on rail standardization, replacing original agreement of 1946, ratified by Commonwealth and South Australian Governments. Australia's population reached 8,000,000.
- 1950 Projected commencement announced of uranium production in South Australia. Petrol rationing abolished for second time since end of war. Senate and House of Representatives failed to agree on Commonwealth Bank Bill. Severest flooding for twenty-five years in south-east corner of New South Wales. Appointment of first Australian Ambassador to United States (now Republic) of Indonesia. British Consultative Committee meeting in Sydney on ways of assisting development of south and south-east Asia in co-operation with other interested governments. Appointment of first Australian Minister to Philippines. Australian Dakota Transport Squadron to assist United Kingdom forces in Malaya; later decided to send squadron of heavy bombers also. Sir Thomas Blamey first Australian to be elevated to rank of Field-Marshal. Arrival of Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, Chief of Imperial General Staff, for defence talks. First Minister for Israel in Australia arrived. Abolition of butter rationing. Disastrous floods on north coast of New South Wales. Following attacks by forces of North Korea on forces of Republic of Korea and failure of Security Council's call for immediate cessation of hostilities, the Council called on members to furnish assistance to Republic of Korea. Australian naval and air forces in vicinity of Korea placed at disposal of United Nations, and decision to withdraw Australian troops with BCOF in Japan countermanded. Scheme of reserve prices for wool to replace existing Joint Organization system enacted (*see below*). Abolition of tea rationing ended retail rationing in Australia. Arrival of first Ambassador for United States (now Republic) of Indonesia. Loan of \$100,000,000 for Australia by International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Validity of Commonwealth wool levy scheme challenged in High Court, but hearing subsequently postponed pending result of referendum of woolgrowers (*see 1951*). Inauguration of modified free medicine scheme. All volunteers in Australian Regular Army



Year.

1950—  
*contd.*

and Citizen Military Forces to be liable for service anywhere in the world (*see* below). Australian ground troops joined British Commonwealth Brigade in Korean conflict. Introduction of Commonwealth Bank Bill 1950 (No. 2) in House of Representatives (referred to Select Committee 14th March, 1951). Adult franchise for Victorian Legislative Council replaced existing franchise dependent on property qualifications. Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration ruling of increase of £1 in male basic wage, and increase in female basic wage from 54 to 75 per cent. of male rate. Railway dispute caused cessation of railway services in Victoria from 16th October to 8th December, and in South Australia from 23rd October to 19th November. Communist Party Dissolution Bill 1950 (No. 2) assented to. Validity of Act challenged in High Court (declared invalid on 9th March, 1951). National Service Bill to establish a system of national training for defence forces of Australia introduced in House of Representatives—provides for compulsory registration and call-up at 18 years of age of all male British and certain non-British subjects resident in Australia (extended in 1954 to every male person ordinarily resident in Australia who attains, or who has attained, the age of 18 years since 1st November, 1950.) Volunteers in Australian Citizen Military Forces to be liable for oversea service only in the event of a major war. National Security Resources Board appointed to advise Government on best use of Australia's resources in interests of national security. Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act extending for one year a number of national security regulations and orders. Commonwealth Government to contribute £31,250,000 to Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-east Asia and £3,500,000 for technical assistance programme. Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers in London.

1951 Opening of Jubilee celebrations to mark the fiftieth year of Australian federation. Meeting of Governors of central banks of Australia, Ceylon, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and the United Kingdom to discuss general banking problems and the international economic situation. British Government's confirmation of transfer of Heard Island and the Macdonald Islands (Southern Indian Ocean) to Australia as from 26th December, 1947. Arrival in Canberra of President Truman's special Envoy, Mr. John Foster Dulles, for talks on a Japanese peace treaty. Governor-General granted double dissolution of nineteenth Parliament on the grounds that the Senate had "failed to pass" the Commonwealth Bank Bill (*see* 1950). Return of Menzies-Fadden Government after general election following double dissolution (*see* above). The Governor-General opened the twentieth Parliament with special Jubilee ceremonies. Melbourne became an international airport. Official cessation of hostilities with Germany. Large upward adjustments in federal basic wage (13s. in six capital cities average). Defence Preparations Act to adjust the nation's economy to meet the threat of war. Final liquidation of the stock of the United Kingdom—Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd. (Joint Organization). Conference of representatives of the Commonwealth and State Governments, employers and trade unions, and other sections of the community, called by the Prime Minister to discuss means of combating inflation. The Governor of the Commonwealth Bank, the heads of commercial banks and the Secretary to the Treasury in conference called by the Prime Minister to discuss bank credit policy. General financial and investment policy considered at conference between the Government and representatives of insurance companies. Woolgrowers at a referendum rejected the proposal for a reserve price plan for wool (*see* 1950). Security Treaty signed in Washington by the United States of America, Australia and New Zealand for action in the event of an armed attack in the Pacific. Japanese Peace Treaty signed at San Francisco by 49 nations, including Australia. Constitution Alteration (Powers to deal with Communists and Communism)

Year.

1951—  
*contd.*

referendum resulted in a decision against the proposed Act. Australia to provide an additional infantry battalion for United Nations forces in Korea. The Prime Minister announced that Australia would spend about £700,000,000 on defence during the next three years. Further large upward adjustments (*see above*) in federal basic wage—11s. for six capital cities' average. Third Conference of Government Statisticians of the British Commonwealth held in Canberra. Opening of new Legislative Council of Papua and New Guinea, which included, for the first time in the history of Australian Legislature, representatives of the native peoples. New mace presented to the House of Representatives by a delegation from the House of Commons, to commemorate the Jubilee of the Australian Commonwealth. Act to re-establish Commonwealth Joint Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts.

1952 Nuclear experiments commenced at National University, Canberra. Refusal by Commonwealth Conciliation Commissioner of an application by eleven metal trades unions for marginal wage increases ("Galvin" Award) affected more than 250,000 metal trades workers throughout Australia. Widespread bushfires in New South Wales, Victoria and Australian Capital Territory. Prototype of first unmanned radio-controlled jet aircraft designed and built in Australia successfully tested. Death of His Majesty, King George VI; Princess Elizabeth proclaimed Queen. Third British Commonwealth Scientific Official Conference held in Canberra and Melbourne. Good rains in northern areas of New South Wales ended the worst drought experienced there for many years. Announcement that locally-produced pyrites would replace imported sulphur in Australian sulphuric acid industry by the end of 1953. Important high-grade uranium deposits discovered at Rum Jungle, Northern Territory. Japanese Peace Treaty ratified. 1st Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, sailed from Sydney for service in Korea (the second battalion of Australian troops to serve there). Australia ratified the Pacific Pact between United States of America, New Zealand and Australia. Commonwealth Bank prohibited the establishment of further import credits until licences had been obtained for the goods involved. Imposition of severe restrictions on imports from all sources and on amounts available for Australians travelling overseas. Agreement between the Commonwealth and South Australian Governments and the Combined Development Agency of the British and American Governments, on the development of uranium deposits at Radium Hill, South Australia. Sir Owen Dixon appointed Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia to succeed Sir John Latham. Australian ambassadors to Japan and West Germany appointed. At Berala, near Sydney, in the first collision between two electric trains in New South Wales to result in fatalities, ten persons were killed and more than 100 injured. Proclamation of termination of the war which commenced on 3rd September, 1939. Good rains brought relief to north and central Australia, which had suffered from prolonged drought conditions. Nine people died and 22 were injured in a level-crossing smash at Boronia in Victoria. An amendment to the Conciliation and Arbitration Act provided for a limited right of appeal to the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration from decisions of Conciliation Commissioners, and for an increase in the number of Judges. Agreement between the Commonwealth Government and Bulolo Gold Dredging Ltd. to cut timber from pine forests at Bulolo, New Guinea. Wagga, Forbes, Cowra and many other towns in central and south-west New South Wales experienced one of the worst floods in their history. In the Basic Wage and Standard Hours Inquiry before the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, employers' organizations sought reductions in wages, longer hours and abandonment of the system of automatic quarterly cost of living adjustments to the basic wage. No. 78 Fighter Wing,

Year.

1952—  
*contd.*

R.A.A.F., departed for Malta to assist the R.A.F. in garrison duties in the Middle East. Reductions announced in Australia's 1952 and 1953 immigration programmes. Representatives of New Zealand, the United States of America and Australia met at Honolulu to consider the Pacific defence pact (A.N.Z.U.S.). Tenth General Assembly of the Union Radio Scientifique Internationale held in Sydney—the first meeting of an international scientific body outside Europe or America. Purchase by Commonwealth Government of one of the fourteen known authentic copies of "Magna Carta". Qantas Empire Airways began first direct service between Sydney and Johannesburg, South Africa, via Perth, Cocos Islands and Mauritius. Commonwealth legislation requiring employers to give preference in employment to ex-servicemen extended for three years. Consolidated Zinc Pty. Ltd. to begin development in 1954 of the Rum Jungle uranium deposits on behalf of the Commonwealth Government, using refining plant supplied by the United States Atomic Energy Commission. Commonwealth Government disposed of shares in Commonwealth Oil Refineries to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. which is to construct a £40,000,000 oil refinery at Kwinana, near Fremantle, Western Australia. Britain's first atomic weapon detonated on the Monte Bello Islands, near the north-west coast of Australia. Ratification by Western Australian Parliament of an agreement for the establishment at Kwinana, near Fremantle, by the Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd., of a steel rolling mill and fence post factory at a cost of approximately £4,000,000. Announcement of projected visit to Australia and New Zealand by Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh early in 1954. Death of Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes. Agreement between the Commonwealth Government and Australian National Airways Pty. Ltd. guaranteeing the latter a loan to purchase new aircraft and an equal share with Trans-Australia Airlines in government business and reducing air route charges. British Commonwealth Economic Conference in London attended by Prime Minister of Australia. Death of Sister Kenny, world renowned for treatment of poliomyelitis. Good rains in Northern Territory terminated prolonged drought there.

1953 Ten-year agreement signed with Combined Development Agency for sale to the United States of America of uranium from deposits at Rum Jungle, Northern Territory. First Minister to Australia for Thailand and First Japanese Ambassador to Australia presented credentials to Governor-General. For first time since 1945, basic wage adjustment for December quarter showed no change in six capitals' average. Inquiry by Royal Commission into the establishment of television in Australia. Television Bill introduced to permit the establishment of both National and Commercial television transmitting stations (Act assented to 20th March). Commonwealth Bank Bill 1953 and Banking Bill 1953 introduced (both Acts assented to 28th March). Premiers' Conference in Canberra failed to reach agreement on return of income tax powers to States. 2nd Battalion, The Royal Australian Regiment, sailed from Sydney for service in Korea. Prime Minister announced that a Census of Australia would be taken in 1954. Bill introduced into Northern Territory Legislative Council to give citizenship rights to Northern Territory aborigines, except those committed to State care (assented to 17th April). Atomic Energy Bill 1953, establishing Atomic Energy Commission, introduced (Act assented to 15th April). H.M.A.S. *Sydney* sailed from Melbourne for England with Coronation Contingent. National Health Bill 1953 introduced, consolidating legislation relating to pharmaceutical, medical and hospital benefits and other health services (Act assented to 18th December). Import restrictions further relaxed. New International Wheat Agreement signed in Washington. Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization developed a process to prevent shrinkage in wool. Australian designed and

Year.

1953—  
*contd.*

built radio-controlled jet plane for use in guided missile research successfully tested. Field-Marshal Sir William Slim sworn in as Governor-General of Australia. Senate election resulted in Government parties retaining majority. Australia and United States of America signed conventions to end double taxation between the two countries. (Acts ratifying these conventions assented to 11th December.) Australian Loan Council adopted programme of £231,000,000 for 1953-54 (Commonwealth will contribute, however, only on basis of a £200,000,000 programme). Borrowing programme of £90,486,000 by Local Government and Semi-Governmental Authorities also approved. Loan Council decided to retain ruling interest rates on public loans for at least twelve months. Full Court of Victoria upheld validity of Electoral Reform Bill providing for two State seats for each Commonwealth Electorate. Coronation of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Second. Britain and Australia signed agreement for reciprocity in social services benefits. First Australian-built Canberra bomber successfully tested. Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers on defence, economic and political issues held in London. New South Wales Parliament to introduce legislation to make New England University College a separate university, devoted mainly to agricultural studies and research. Commonwealth Medical Benefits Scheme commenced, under which persons who are contributors to an approved medical benefits organization are entitled to receive part reimbursement by the Commonwealth of payments made for medical services to themselves or their dependents. Korean armistice signed by United Nations and Communist Forces at Panmunjom, bringing to an end over three years of fighting. First Australian-built jet fighter made initial test flight. Pearl Fisheries Act providing for stricter control of pearl fisheries. Australia proclaimed sovereignty over sea-bed, subsoil and continental shelf adjoining Australia and Australian territories but agreed to submit issues arising from the Pearl Fisheries Act to the International Court of Justice for adjudication. Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration refused applications by employers for reduction of current basic wages and for an increase of standard hours of work, and also refused applications by unions for increases of basic wages. The employers' applications for abandonment of the system of automatic adjustment of the basic wage in accordance with retail price index-numbers were, however, granted. Later, the extension by the Court, on its own motion, of this decision to awards not the subject of an application before the Court was challenged in the High Court by the unions concerned but the power of the Arbitration Court to so vary awards was upheld. Arrangements made with United Kingdom for sharing cost of guided missile research at Woomera, South Australia. Atomic weapons exploded north of Woomera. Commonwealth Trading Bank of Australia commenced operations. Oil, stated to be a very high grade crude oil, discovered at Exmouth Gulf, about 680 miles north of Perth.

# STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

NOTE.—(1) In most cases where figures are available back to 1861, these were shown in Official Year Book No. 39, pp. xxviii-xxix.

(2) Most of the statistics in this Summary relate to the periods shown in the table headings. In those comparatively few cases where the statistics relate to other periods, this is indicated in footnotes.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—								
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1953.	
<b>Demography(a)—</b>									
Population(b)	{ '000 Males ..	1,737	2,005	2,382	2,799	3,333	3,599	4,318	4,434
	{ '000 Females ..	1,504	1,820	2,192	2,712	3,220	3,545	4,221	4,319
	{ '000 Persons ..	3,241	3,825	4,574	5,511	6,553	7,144	8,539	8,753
Net Oversea Migration	'000	26.9	3.0	74.4	17.5	-10.1	5.2	111.4	94.0
Marriages	'000	24	28	39	47	39	75	77	74
Divorces(d) and Judicial Separations	Rate(c)	7.5	7.3	8.8	8.6	6.0	10.6	9.2	8.6
Births	'000	190	399	522	1,502	1,955	3,330	7,327	7,106
	Rate(c)	110	103	122	136	119	135	193	202
Deaths	'000	34.5	27.2	27.2	25.0	18.2	18.9	22.9	23.3
	Rate(c)	47	46	48	54	57	71	82	82
Infant Deaths	'000	14.8	12.2	10.7	9.9	8.7	10.0	9.7	9.4
	Rate(e)	12.7	10.7	8.4	9.0	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.8
	Rate(e)	115.3	103.6	68.5	65.7	42.1	39.7	25.2	23.8
<b>Wages (Adult Males)—</b>									
Nominal Weekly Wage Index Numbers	(f)	848	1,000	1,826	1,752	1,997	4,495	5,241	
Real Wage Index Numbers(g)	(f)	(f)	1,000	1,087	1,210	1,194	1,439	1,438	
<b>Production—</b>									
<b>Agricultural—</b>									
Wheat	{ Area mill. acs.	3.3	5.1	7.4	9.7	14.7	12.0	10.4	10.2
	{ Yield mill. bus.	26	39	72	129	191	167	160	195
	{ Av. Yield bus.	7.7	7.5	9.6	13.3	12.9	13.9	15.4	19.1
	{ Area '000 acs.	246	461	617	733	1,085	1,460	2,365	2,764
Oats	{ Yield mill. bus.	5.7	9.8	9.6	12.1	15.2	22.3	34.5	43.6
	{ Av. Yield bus.	23.3	21.2	15.5	16.6	14.0	15.3	14.6	15.8
	{ Area '000 acs.	68	75	116	299	342	784	1,118	1,377
Barley	{ Yield mill. bus.	1.2	1.5	2.1	6.1	6.3	18.0	21.9	35.0
	{ Av. Yield bus.	17.3	20.4	17.7	20.4	18.4	23.0	19.6	25.5
	{ Area '000 acs.	284	295	340	305	269	301	170	174
Maize	{ Yield mill. bus.	9.3	7.0	8.9	7.8	7.1	7.4	4.0	5.0
	{ Av. Yield bus.	32.6	23.9	26.3	25.7	26.2	24.7	23.7	28.5
	{ Area '000 acs.	942	1,688	2,518	2,995	2,635	2,758	1,549	1,761
Hay	{ Yield '000 tons	1,067	2,025	2,868	3,902	3,167	3,575	2,345	2,765
	{ Av. Yield tons	1.13	1.20	1.14	1.30	1.20	1.30	1.51	1.57
	{ Area '000 acs.	113	110	130	149	145	99	118	135
Potatoes	{ Yield '000 tons	380	323	301	388	397	333	509	431
	{ Av. Yield tons	3.37	2.94	2.31	2.50	2.74	3.35	4.31	3.18
	{ Area '000 acs.	45	87	101	128	242	255	282	280
Sugar-cane	{ Yield '000 tons	738	1,368	1,682	2,437	4,213	5,154	5,327	6,967
	{ Av. Yield tons	16.2	15.7	16.7	19.0	17.4	20.3	18.9	24.9
	{ Area '000 acs.	49	64	61	92	113	130	136	136
Vineyards	{ Wine mill. gals.	3.4	5.3	5.0	8.5	14.2	16.0	35.3	30.0
Total Area of Crops	{ mill. acs.	5.4	8.4	12.1	15.4	21.2	20.5	19.8	20.4
<b>Pastoral, Dairying, etc.—</b>									
Livestock	{ Horses .. mill.	1.6	1.6	2.3	2.4	1.8	1.6	0.9	0.9
	{ Cattle .. "	11.1	8.5	11.8	14.4	12.3	13.6	14.9	15.2
	{ Sheep .. "	106	72	97	86	111	125	118	123
	{ Pigs .. "	0.9	0.9	1.1	1.0	1.2	1.5	1.0	1.0
Wool(i)	{ mill. lb.	(a) 634	(a) 539	(a) 798	(a) 723	1,007	1,167	1,080	1,281
Butter	{ '000 tons	(a) 19	(a) 46	(a) 95	(a) 119	175	165	135	168
Cheese	{ .. "	(a) 4.5	(a) 5.3	(a) 7.1	(a) 14.6	14.0	30.1	40.6	46.8
Meat(j)—									
Beef and Veal	{ .. "	(f)	(f)	(f)	339	350	534	582	675
Mutton and Lamb	{ .. "	(f)	(f)	(f)	218	307	372	282	394
Pork	{ .. "	(f)	(f)	(f)	11.1	22.7	58.1	35.0	31.8
Bacon and Ham	{ .. "	(a) 7.5	(a) 15.2	(a) 23.8	26.2	31.8	42.5	36.6	38.7
Total Meat	{ .. "	(f)	(f)	(f)	608	727	1,027	949	1,154

(a) Year ended previous December. (b) At 31st December of previous year. (c) Number per 1,000 of mean population. (d) Decreases made absolute, including decreases for nullity of marriage. (e) Number per 1,000 live births. (f) Not available. (g) Index of nominal weekly wage rates for adult males divided by the "C" Series Retail Price index number. (h) Productive cana. (i) In terms of greasy. (j) Bone-in weight in terms of fresh meat; cured weight, bacon and ham.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—continued.

NOTE.—See headnotes on page 1216.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—							
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1953.
<b>Production—continued.</b>								
<b>Mineral(a)(b)—</b>								
Copper(c) .. .. '000 tons	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	13.5	20.9	17.9	18.6
Gold(c) .. .. '000 fine oz.	1,243	3,300	2,484	758	595	1,497	896	980
Lead(c) .. .. '000 tons	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	150.8	289.4	212.0	228.2
Zinc(c) .. .. ..	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	66.1	232.6	189.2	196.5
Black Coal .. .. mill. tons	4.4	6.9	10.6	12.8	8.4	14.2	17.6	19.4
Brown Coal .. .. ..	..	..	(e)	0.1	2.2	4.6	7.8	8.1
<b>Forestry—</b>								
Sawn output of native timber mill. sup. ft.	(d)	(a) 452	(a) 605	590	237	914	1,396	1,308
<b>Factories—</b>								
Number of factories .. '000	(f)	(f)	{ 14.5	.8.0	21.7	27.0	45.8	47.7
Persons employed .. ..	(f)	(f)	{ 312	379	337	725	978	933
Salaries and wages paid £m.	(f)	(f)	{ 28	68	56	180	612	635
Net value of production(g)—								
Chemicals, etc. .. ..			{ 1.1	3.2	7.9	24.8	63.7	67.8
Industrial metals, etc. ..			{ 12.0	23.6	22.8	119.9	413.1	421.3
Textiles, etc. .. ..	(d)	(d)	{ 7.5	19.2	{ 6.9	21.0	56.6	64.8
Clothing .. .. ..					{ 11.1	23.6	81.1	82.8
Food, etc. .. .. ..			{ 11.8	27.2	28.7	53.2	141.1	164.3
Paper, etc. .. .. ..			{ 4.2	9.0	9.6	17.1	68.2	68.3
All groups .. .. ..	23.3	29.1	{ 47.5	112.5	111.0	316.5	1,024.0	1082.8
Value of plant and machinery	(d)	(d)	{ 31.4	78.1	121.5	169.2	412.5	493.5
Value of land and buildings	(d)	(d)	{ 32.5	67.3	106.6	156.3	360.2	414.4
<b>Net value of production(h)—</b>								
Agriculture .. .. £m.	17.0	23.8	38.8	81.9	49.7	64.0	246.7	(d)
Pastoral .. .. ..	31.3	27.2	52.7	75.1	43.0	85.4	400.5	(d)
Dairying .. .. ..	6.0	7.6	16.1	35.3	22.6	34.3	103.8	(d)
Poultry .. .. ..	1.9	2.0	4.0	9.0	5.7	6.5	31.5	(d)
Bee-farming .. .. ..	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.8	(d)
Total, Rural .. .. ..	56.3	60.7	111.7	201.4	121.1	190.6	783.3	(d)
Trapping .. .. ..	(d)	(d)	{ 4.8	9.1	1.5	5.0	6.7	(d)
Forestry .. .. ..	(d)	(d)	{ 1.1	1.4	3.9	10.2	37.9	(d)
Fisheries .. .. ..	4.4	2.8	{ 4.8	9.1	3.9	1.8	5.7	(d)
Mines and Quarries(i)	12.1	22.0	23.3	30.0	13.5	33.4	97.2	109.6
Total, Non-Rural .. ..	16.5	24.8	29.2	30.5	20.3	50.4	147.5	(d)
Total, Primary .. ..	72.8	85.5	140.9	231.9	144.4	241.0	930.8	(d)
Factories(j) .. .. ..	23.3	29.1	47.5	112.5	111.0	316.5	1,024.0	1082.8
Total All Industries ..	96.1	114.6	188.4	344.4	252.4	557.5	1,954.8	(d)
<b>Building(j)—</b>								
Permits, New Dwellings { '000	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	{ 2.1	9.7	32.8	30.1
.. All Buildings(k) { £m.	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	{ 1.5	9.6	80.4	77.7
.. All Buildings(k) { £m.	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	{ 4.6	13.5	116.4	120.5
<b>Overseas Trade—</b>								
Imports .. .. £m. f.o.b.	(a) 34	(a) 38	(a) 61	94	52	174	1,053	514
Exports .. .. ..	36	50	79	128	108	169	675	871
<b>Principal Exports (l)—</b>								
Wool .. .. { mill. lb.(m) ..	641	529	734	946	903	938	1,036	1,216
.. .. { £m. f.o.b. ..	20	15	26	48	32	58	323	403
Wheat .. .. { '000 tons ..	258	543	1,477	2,677	3,413	593	1,685	1,594
.. .. { £m. f.o.b. ..	1.9	2.8	9.6	28.6	19.2	4.6	55.3	52.3
Flour .. .. { '000 short tons	33	97	176	360	611	414	789	866
.. .. { £m. f.o.b. ..	0.3	0.6	1.4	5.5	3.8	4.2	33.0	37.4
Butter .. .. { mill. lb. ..	4	35	102	127	202	130	25	111
.. .. { £m. f.o.b. ..	0.2	1.4	4.6	8.0	10.3	8.1	4.6	20.2

(a) Year ended previous December. (b) Breaks in the continuity of the series occurred in 1931 and 1951. (c) Mine production, i.e., metal content of minerals produced. (d) Not available. (e) Less than .05. (f) Owing to variation in classification, effective comparison is impossible. (g) For definition see page 991. (h) Gross value from 1891 to 1921-22. Prior to 1922 figures are for years ended previous December. For definitions of gross and net value see page 1139. (i) Incomplete. (j) Six capital cities and suburbs. (k) Includes additions and alterations. (l) Australian produce except gold, which includes re-exports. (m) In terms of greasy.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

NOTE.—See headnotes on page 1216.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—							
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1953.
<b>Oversea Trade—<i>continued.</i></b>								
<b>Principal Exports(b)—<i>continued.</i></b>								
Hides and Skins .. Em. f.o.b.	0.9	1.3	3.2	3.1	2.3	6.0	17.1	20.2
Meats .. .. .	0.5	2.6	4.3	5.5	6.4	14.1	35.5	65.8
Fruit (c) .. .. .	..	0.2	0.5	3.0	4.8	4.0	19.5	27.7
Sugar .. .. .	..	(d)	(d)	(d)	2.5	2.6	6.9	21.7
Gold .. .. .	5.7	14.3	12.0	3.5	11.0	9.2	7.0	20.4
Silver and Lead ..	1.9	2.3	3.2	2.7	2.9	7.4	32.1	30.5
Ores and Concentrates ..	..	(d)	3.7	0.8	0.2	1.3	20.4	20.3
<b>Principal Imports—</b>								
Vegetable foodstuffs, etc. ..	..	3.6	3.7	4.0	2.6	6.1	25.0	18.5
Apparel, etc. .. .. .	..	10.9	16.2	31.0	15.4	32.7	203.6	48.2
Oil, etc. .. .. .	..	1.2	1.6	4.7	5.5	16.2	87.5	74.3
Metals, etc. .. .. .	e	7.8	14.0	22.8	7.4	71.8	392.9	225.9
Rubber, etc. .. .. .	..	0.5	1.4	1.7	0.8	3.2	35.1	9.0
Paper, etc. .. .. .	..	1.6	2.6	4.4	4.4	4.3	68.8	22.4
<b>Transport and Communication—</b>								
<b>Shipping—</b>								
Oversea Vessels, { No. ..	3,778	4,028	4,174	3,111	3,057	2,544	1,136	4,041
Entrances and { mill. tons	4.7	6.5	10.0	9.1	11.4	10.8	18.2	17.6
<b>Clearances</b>								
Oversea Cargo—								
Discharged .. mill. tons(f)			(e)	2.4	3.0	5.5	14.4	9.7
Shipped .. .. .			(e)	5.8	6.7	4.2	5.7	7.5
Interstate Vessels, { No. ..	(e)	(e)	9,605	9,782	7,957	9,100	7,524	9,121
Entrances and { mill. tons			13.1	12.8	11.1	12.9	15.8	18.5
<b>Clearances</b>								
Interstate Cargo Shipped			(g)	5.5	4.0	10.0	9.0	9.7
<b>mill. tons(f)</b>								
Government Railways—								
Route-miles .. '000	10.4	12.8	16.8	23.5	27.0	27.2	26.8	26.8
Passenger-journeys .. mill.	84	115	228	335	393	475	501	498
Goods and livestock carried								
.. mill. tons	9.4	15.5	25.5	31.5	26.1	38.9	44.8	44.4
.. mill.	29.7	38.2	55.2	56.1	63.8	88.5	93.4	92.6
<b>Trainways and Omnibuses—</b>								
<b>Passenger-journeys—</b>								
Trams .. .. . mill.	(e)	(e)	360	569	589	874	686	647
Omnibuses .. .. .			(e)	(e)	(e)	264	555	555
<b>Motor vehicles on the register—</b>								
Cars .. .. . '000			(e)	102	420	451	1,032	1,109
Commercial vehicles ..					96	251	583	582
<b>Civil Aviation (Internal)—</b>								
Plane-miles flown .. mill.	..	..	..	..	2.5	7.8	41.8	30.1
Passengers carried .. '000	..	..	..	..	57	152	1,829	1,706
Passenger-miles .. mill.	..	..	..	..	(e)	76	722	667
Freight car- { '000 short tons	..	..	..	..	0.1	1.2	57.5	57.6
ried .. mill. ton-miles	..	..	..	..	(e)	0.9	26.7	27.2
<b>Postal—</b>								
Postal matter dealt with(h)	(a)	(a)	(a)					
.. mill. articles	242	324	595	702	(i) 871	(i) 1,100	(i) 1,485	(i) 1,483
Telegrams and cablegrams mill.	10.0	9.9	13.3	16.8	13.9	26.1	29.8	25.8
<b>Telephones—</b>								
Instruments .. .. '000	..	29	103	259	485	739	1,301	1,384
Lines .. .. .	(a)	25	85	196	364	531	927	985
Calls—Trunk .. .. mill.	(g)	(a)	(a)	14.0	28.9	45.3	69.4	75.0
Local .. .. .	(a)	(a)	(a)	221	369	664	968	973
Broadcast Listeners' Licences	'000	..	..	(j) 36	369	1,320	1,961	1,986
<b>Public Finance—</b>								
<b>Commonwealth—</b>								
<b>Consolidated Revenue Fund—</b>								
Revenue .. .. . Em.	..	11	21	64	72	210	1,017	1,040
Expenditure .. .. .	..	4	15	64	70	210	1,017	1,027
Net loan fund expenditure	..	..	1	5	4	213	56	54
Taxation collections ..	..	9	16	50	54	180	934	895

(a) Year ended previous December. (b) Australian produce except gold, which includes re-exports.  
(c) Excludes fruit juices. (d) Less than .05. (e) Not available. (f) Tons weight plus tons measurement. (g) Year ended 30th June. (h) Letters, postcards, letter-cards and newspapers.  
(i) Includes packets. (j) Year 1923-24.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—continued.

NOTE.—See headnotes on page 1216.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—							
	1892.	1902.	1912.	1922.	1932.	1942.	1952.	1953.
<b>Public Finance—continued.</b>								
<b>State—</b>								
Consolidated Revenue Funds—								
Revenue .. £m.	(a)	28	41	85	100	152	387	436
Expenditure .. ..	(a)	29	41	87	121	149	390	436
Net loan expenditure ..	(a)	9	16	34	6	9	198	161
Taxation collections ..	(a)	3	5	18	33	57	63	71
<b>Public Debt(b)—</b>								
Commonwealth .. £m.	..	..	6	354	319	638	1,869	1,888
State .. ..	e 155.1	213	279	519	789	911	1,396	1,544
Total .. ..	e 155.1	213	285	873	1,108	1,549	3,265	3,432
Overseas .. ..	(a)	(a)	194	412	522	516	406	413
In Australia .. ..	(a)	(a)	91	461	586	1,033	2,859	3,019
<b>Private Finance—</b>								
Commonwealth Note Issue(d) £m.	(a)	(a)	8	54	51	103	303	329
Cheque-paying banks(e)—								
Advances .. ..	125	94	109	183	261	270	677	597
Deposits .. ..	98	91	143	289	319	387	1,180	1,260
Bank clearings .. ..	(a)	338	662	1,702	1,581	2,828	12,160	11,476
Savings bank deposits(f)	15	31	59	154	198	274	892	947
Life Assurance(g)(h)—								
Ordinary—								
Policies .. '000	(a)	414	484	730	871	1,340	2,553	2,731
Sum assured .. £m.								
Industrial—								
Policies .. '000	(a)	236	467	973	1,550	2,780	3,843	3,873
Sum assured .. £m.								
Total—								
Policies .. '000	(a)	650	951	1,703	2,421	4,120	6,396	6,604
Sum assured .. £m.								
<b>Social Statistics—</b>								
Commonwealth Social Services—								
Age and Invalid .. '000(b)	..	..	90	144	256	336	420	445
Pensions .. £m.	..	..	2.2	5.4	11.1	19.3	59.8	72.4
Child Endowment, .. '000 (b)								
Claims in force .. £m.	..	..	..	..	..	488	1,205	1,247
Total Commonwealth Health and Social Services(h) £m.								
War Pensions .. '000(b)	..	..	..	225	274	220	524	544
Service Pensions .. '000(b)	..	..	..	7.0	7.4	7.5	31.8	34.4
State Social Services(t)—	..	..	..	..	..	14	17	19
Education(c)—	..	..	..	..	..	0.6	1.8	2.2
Government Schools—								
Schools .. '000	6.2	7.0	8.0	9.4	10.1	9.5	7.6	(a)
Staff .. ..	12.6	14.5	17.0	26.1	33.8	32.1	36.7	(a)
Students .. ..	561	638	639	819	937	887	1,013	(a)
Non-government Schools—								
Schools .. '000	2.0	2.5	1.9	1.7	1.8	1.9	1.9	(a)
Staff .. ..	6.0	8.3	7.8	8.8	10.0	11.4	13.3	(a)
Students .. ..	125	149	161	199	221	257	326	(a)
Universities(f)—								
Number .. ..	4	4	5	6	6	8	9	9
Staff(k) .. ..	(a)	(a)	249	482	703	1,416	3,082	2,998
Students .. '000	1.6	1.8	3.4	8.0	9.8	13.9	31.7	29.6
Public Hospitals—								
Number .. ..	(a)	285	355	404	513	566	675	(a)
Staff—Medical .. '000	(a)	(a)	1.1	1.5	3.2	3.9	6.9	(a)
Nursing .. ..	(a)	(a)	5.1	6.8	9.3	15.4	24.6	(a)
In-patients, cases treated ..	(l)(m)54	(m) 91	134	215	371	595	896	(a)
<b>Police and Prisons(c)—</b>								
Police .. ..	'000	5.3	5.8	6.4	6.9	8.6	9.7	12.3
Prisons .. ..	(a)	(a)	104	91	85	70	69	70
Prisoners .. ..	'000	(a)	4.3	3.1	2.9	4.2	4.4	5.0
<b>Prices(c)—</b>								
"C" Series Retail Price Index ..	..	..	1,000	1,680	1,448	1,673	3,124	3,645
Melbourne Wholesale Price Index	945	974	1,000	1,903	1,429	1,796	5,098	5,647

(a) Not available. (b) At 30th June. (c) Year ended previous December. (d) At end of June. (e) Figures for 1891 are averages of weekly balances for the December quarter; the remainder are for the June quarter. All cheque-paying banks to 1931-32, Private Trading Banks thereafter. (f) 1891 at 31st December, thereafter at 30th June. (g) Existing business in Australia. (h) Excludes war and service pensions. (i) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory. (j) Excludes Australian National University. (k) Teaching and research staff. Includes part-time. (l) Year 1891-92 for Victoria. (m) Adelaide Hospital only included in South Australia.