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## CHAPTER 15

### LAW, ORDER, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

This chapter provides summary information about criminal and civil court proceedings (including divorce and bankruptcy); selected crime reported or becoming known to the police; police strengths; prisons; expenditure on law and order; fire brigades; and patents, trademarks and copyright. The main sources of further information for individual States are the State Year Books and Statistical Registers, and the annual reports of the relevant justice authorities. *See also* Year Book No. 55, 1969, page 456, for short descriptions of the National Safety Council of Australia, lifesaving organisations, the Royal Humane Society and the Order of St. John.

The statistics in this chapter are influenced by a number of factors which affect comparability from State to State and from year to year, such as differences in the jurisdiction of courts; changes in the law in particular States and differences in the laws between States; differences in the methods of compiling the figures (e.g. in respect of persons convicted for more than one offence); the prevailing attitude to laws such as those connected with liquor, vagrancy, gaming, and traffic offences; and the strength and distribution of the police forces.

Details of the development and structure of the State, Territory, and Commonwealth legal systems are given in Year Book No. 55, pages 565–7 and Year Book No. 56, page 441. The only notable changes since then occurred in South Australia and New South Wales. In South Australia the Local Courts Act Amendment Act, 1969 came into effect on 20 August 1970. It provides for the establishment of District Criminal Courts. Provision has been made for the division of the State into districts and for the appointment by the Senior Judge, of judges known as Recorders, to courts in each of these Districts. Under the Act the District Court has the jurisdiction and powers of the Supreme Court in respect of indictable offences except for capital offences and for felonies and misdemeanors where the maximum punishment is imprisonment exceeding ten years.

In New South Wales the Supreme Court Act, 1970 came into force on 1 July 1972. The Act provides for the concurrent administration of law and equity in the Supreme Court which will have the effect of bringing the New South Wales civil procedure in the Supreme Court in line with the other Australian States which have had concurrent administration from as early as 1876. Equitable reliefs and defences which could formerly only be pleaded in the Supreme Court exercising jurisdiction in equity can now be heard together with common law claims and defences in the one jurisdiction. The general scope of the Act will enable a suitor to obtain by one proceeding the same ultimate result as he would previously have obtained either by having selected the right jurisdiction or after having been to each jurisdiction in succession. The Law Reform (Law and Equity) Act, 1972 which, also commenced on 1 July 1972, provides that if any conflict or variance arises between the rules of equity and common law with reference to the same matter, the rules of equity will prevail. This principle extends, where applicable, to the inferior courts.

#### Lower (magistrates') courts

Particulars of the powers of magistrates, and of special provisions for dealing with juvenile offenders in special courts in the various States and Territories are given in Year Book No. 55, pages 567 to 571. The statistics in the following tables are influenced by the factors listed at the beginning of this chapter and, in particular by differences in the jurisdiction of lower courts in the various States.

##### Criminal proceedings

The number of charges heard at magistrates' courts in each State and Territory in the years 1966 to 1970 are given in the following table. The statistics relate to individual offences for which persons were charged, except for Queensland where proceedings against a person for a number of offences at the one hearing are counted as one charge.

**MAGISTRATES' COURTS(a): CHARGES HEARD, STATES AND TERRITORIES  
1966 TO 1970(b)**

| <i>State or Territory</i>              | <i>1966</i>    | <i>1967</i>    | <i>1968</i>      | <i>1969</i>      | <i>1970</i>      |
|--|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 338,808        | 336,746        | 337,540          | 361,377          | 390,233          |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 307,465        | 318,172        | 326,445          | 341,284          | 339,019          |
| Queensland(c)(d) . . . . .             | 111,743        | 95,155         | 100,046          | 107,375          | 110,803          |
| South Australia(c) . . . . .           | 83,080         | 98,588         | 117,081          | 118,877          | 125,867          |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 66,863         | 76,458         | 86,836           | 93,157           | 88,940           |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 37,624         | 36,550         | 35,077           | 32,587           | 32,880           |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | (e)7,961       | 10,336         | 10,459           | (f)13,153        | 14,695           |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 9,025          | 7,318          | 7,647            | 6,685            | (g)10,326        |
| <b>Australia . . . . .</b>             | <b>962,569</b> | <b>979,323</b> | <b>1,021,131</b> | <b>1,074,495</b> | <b>1,112,763</b> |

(a) Includes Children's Court, except for Darwin Children's Court in the Northern Territory prior to 1970. (b) Excludes minor traffic offences settled without court proceedings. (c) Year ended 30 June. (d) A person charged on several counts at the one hearing is included only once. (e) Excludes courts at Tennant Creek and Katherine. (f) Excludes court at Tennant Creek. (g) Includes remand cases, adjournments and court orders not collected in previous years.

Differences between States in the preceding table, and within States over a period of time, are influenced by the large number of traffic offences and the arrangements which have been introduced at various times for dealing with them. Provision exists in the States and the internal Territories for settlement of parking and minor traffic offences by payment of fines without court proceedings. The numbers involved are shown in the next table.

**MINOR TRAFFIC OFFENCES SETTLED BY PAYMENT OF FINES  
WITHOUT COURT PROCEEDINGS, STATES AND TERRITORIES 1966 TO 1970**

| <i>State or Territory</i>              | <i>1966</i>      | <i>1967</i>      | <i>1968</i>      | <i>1969</i>      | <i>1970</i>      |
|--|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 464,122          | 411,447          | 426,496          | 418,626          | 456,798          |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 313,529          | 343,432          | 410,857          | 443,222          | 477,332          |
| Queensland(a) . . . . .                | 209,417          | 264,617          | 253,429          | 236,347          | 235,471          |
| South Australia(a) . . . . .           | 240,359          | 240,014          | 239,619          | 267,709          | 244,120          |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 64,842           | 62,827           | 83,146           | 117,436          | 154,307          |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 50,914           | 45,081           | 55,677           | 56,076           | 62,408           |
| Northern Territory(b) . . . . .        | n.a.             | n.a.             | n.a.             | n.a.             | 8,438            |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 4,590            | 6,765            | 4,430            | 4,340            | 5,282            |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>                 | <b>1,347,773</b> | <b>1,374,183</b> | <b>1,473,654</b> | <b>1,543,756</b> | <b>1,644,156</b> |

(a) Year ended 30 June. (b) No provision for settlement of parking and minor traffic offences by payment of fines without court proceedings existed in the Northern Territory prior to 1970.

The following tables show the number of cases dealt with in magistrates' courts in which convictions were made.

**CASES AT MAGISTRATES' COURTS(a) IN WHICH CONVICTIONS WERE MADE, BY  
CLASS OF OFFENCE: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1970**

| <i>Class of offence</i>                                | <i>N.S.W.</i>  | <i>Vic.</i>    | <i>Qld<br/>(b)(c)</i> | <i>S.A.<br/>(b)</i> | <i>W.A.</i>   | <i>Tas.</i>   | <i>N.T.</i>   | <i>A.C.T.</i> | <i>Aust.</i>   |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| Against the person . . . . .                           | 4,783          | 4,117          | 859                   | 983                 | 1,398         | 602           | 442           | 96            | 13,280         |
| Against property . . . . .                             | 34,931         | 28,387         | 6,666                 | 6,331               | 14,459        | 2,942         | 921           | 615           | 95,252         |
| Forgery and offences<br>against the currency . . . . . | 928            | 521            | ..                    | 35                  | 68            | 269           | 154           | 18            | 1,993          |
| Against good order . . . . .                           | 80,060         | 33,065         | 34,166                | 14,282              | 17,997        | 1,606         | 7,355         | 575           | 189,106        |
| Other(d) . . . . .                                     | 216,861        | 228,464        | 49,507                | 92,868              | 45,977        | 21,152        | 4,656         | 5,316         | 664,801        |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>                                 | <b>337,563</b> | <b>294,554</b> | <b>91,198</b>         | <b>114,499</b>      | <b>79,899</b> | <b>26,571</b> | <b>13,528</b> | <b>6,620</b>  | <b>964,432</b> |

(a) Includes Children's Courts. (b) Year ended 30 June. (c) A person convicted on several counts at the one hearing is included only once. (d) Includes traffic offences other than minor traffic offences settled without court proceedings.

CASES AT MAGISTRATES' COURTS(a) IN WHICH CONVICTIONS WERE MADE STATES AND TERRITORIES(b), 1966 TO 1970

| State or Territory                     | 1966           | 1967           | 1968           | 1969           | 1970           |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 299,780        | 297,697        | 290,616        | 309,297        | 337,563        |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 279,631        | 286,316        | 291,821        | 297,574        | 294,554        |
| Queensland(c)(d) . . . . .             | 98,214         | 82,271         | 85,363         | 89,041         | 91,198         |
| South Australia(c) . . . . .           | 71,694         | 87,110         | 105,027        | 105,966        | 114,499        |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 63,489         | 72,798         | 81,892         | 85,956         | 79,899         |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 32,414         | 31,525         | 30,100         | 26,515         | 26,571         |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | (e)7,402       | 9,437          | 9,416          | (f)12,087      | 13,528         |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 7,793          | 6,021          | 6,947          | 5,681          | 6,620          |
| <b>Australia . . . . .</b>             | <b>860,417</b> | <b>873,175</b> | <b>901,182</b> | <b>932,117</b> | <b>964,432</b> |

(a) Includes Children's Courts except for Darwin Children's Court in the Northern Territory prior to 1970. (b) Excludes minor traffic offences settled without court proceedings. (c) Year ended 30 June. (d) A person convicted on several counts at the one hearing is included only once. (e) Excludes courts at Tennant Creek and Katherine. (f) Excludes court at Tennant Creek.

The number of cases in which convictions for drunkenness were recorded during each of the years 1966 to 1970 are given in the following table.

DRUNKENNESS CASES(a) IN WHICH CONVICTIONS WERE MADE STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1966 TO 1970

| State or Territory                     | 1966           | 1967           | 1968           | 1969           | 1970           |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 56,159         | 55,134         | 57,710         | 59,048         | 58,606         |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 24,279         | 23,855         | 24,338         | 25,582         | 25,054         |
| Queensland(b)(c) . . . . .             | 28,791         | 29,530         | 28,409         | 28,140         | 31,259         |
| South Australia(b) . . . . .           | 7,334          | 6,109          | 6,889          | 7,528          | 9,650          |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 9,033          | 10,722         | 11,146         | 11,970         | 12,612         |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 461            | 481            | 501            | 598            | 541            |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | (d)3,231       | 4,598          | 5,216          | (e)6,299       | 6,675          |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 377            | 313            | 316            | 388            | 572            |
| <b>Australia . . . . .</b>             | <b>129,665</b> | <b>130,742</b> | <b>134,525</b> | <b>139,553</b> | <b>144,969</b> |

(a) Includes Children's Courts except for Darwin Children's Court in the Northern Territory prior to 1970. (b) Year ended 30 June. (c) A person convicted on several counts at the one hearing is included only once. (d) Excludes courts at Tennant Creek and Katherine. (e) Excludes court at Tennant Creek.

Convictions for certain serious offences at lower (magistrates') courts

The figures given in the preceding tables refer to all convictions, and include offences of a technical nature, drunkenness, and minor breaches of good order, which come under the heading of crime in a very different sense from the more serious offences. The following table has therefore been prepared to show convictions at magistrates' courts for the years 1966 to 1970 for offences against the person, offences against property, forgery, and offences against the currency.

CONVICTIONS FOR CERTAIN SERIOUS OFFENCES(a) AT MAGISTRATES' COURTS(b): STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1966 TO 1970

| State or Territory                     | 1966          | 1967          | 1968          | 1969           | 1970           |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 34,911        | 35,809        | 37,367        | 40,583         | 40,642         |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 25,804        | 27,355        | 26,338        | 30,286         | 33,025         |
| Queensland(c)(d) . . . . .             | 6,900         | 6,789         | 6,604         | 6,865          | 7,525          |
| South Australia(c) . . . . .           | 5,085         | 5,180         | 5,817         | 6,678          | 7,349          |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 9,357         | 10,207        | 12,065        | 13,622         | 15,925         |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 3,285         | 3,278         | 3,650         | 3,597          | 3,813          |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | (e)647        | 818           | 941           | (f)1,307       | 1,517          |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 761           | 895           | 1,133         | 970            | 729            |
| <b>Australia . . . . .</b>             | <b>86,750</b> | <b>90,331</b> | <b>93,915</b> | <b>103,908</b> | <b>110,525</b> |

(a) Offences against the person, offences against property, forgery, and offences against the currency. (b) Includes Children's Courts except for Darwin Children's Court in the Northern Territory prior to 1970. (c) Year ended 30 June. (d) A person convicted on several counts at the one hearing is included only once. (e) Excludes courts at Tennant Creek and Katherine. (f) Excludes court at Tennant Creek.

## Committals to higher (judges') courts

In the case of other than minor offences a preliminary hearing is held before a stipendiary magistrate or justice of the peace for the purpose of determining whether a *prima facie* case has been made out. If the magistrate or justice of the peace finds that there is a case to answer, the person charged is committed for trial at a higher court. The numbers of such committals are shown in the following tables.

**COMMITTALS TO HIGHER COURTS(a), BY CLASS OF OFFENCE: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1970**

| <i>Class of offence</i>                                | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i>  | <i>Qld</i><br><i>(b)(c)</i> | <i>S.A.</i><br><i>(b)</i> | <i>W.A.</i>  | <i>Tas.</i>  | <i>N.T.</i> | <i>A.C.T.</i> | <i>Aust.</i>  |
|--|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| Against the person . . . . .                           | 2,105         | 1,448        | 394                         | 307                       | 136          | 156          | 41          | 51            | 4,638         |
| Against property . . . . .                             | 6,368         | 3,716        | 1,322                       | 409                       | 1,007        | 810          | 57          | 201           | 13,890        |
| Forgery and offences<br>against the currency . . . . . | 435           | 747          | 1                           | 14                        | 50           | 40           | 31          | 11            | 1,329         |
| Against good order . . . . .                           | 162           | 42           | 8                           | 8                         | 21           | 1            | 15          | ..            | 257           |
| Other . . . . .  | 103           | 493          | 8                           | 4                         | 56           | 5            | 7           | 15            | 691           |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>                                 | <b>9,173</b>  | <b>6,446</b> | <b>1,733</b>                | <b>742</b>                | <b>1,270</b> | <b>1,012</b> | <b>151</b>  | <b>278</b>    | <b>20,805</b> |

(a) Includes committals from Children's Courts. (b) Year ended 30 June. (c) A person committed on several counts at the one hearing is included only once.

**COMMITTALS TO HIGHER COURTS(a): STATES AND TERRITORIES  
1966 TO 1970**

| <i>State or Territory</i>              | <i>1966</i>   | <i>1967</i>   | <i>1968</i>   | <i>1969</i>   | <i>1970</i>   |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 8,758         | 7,954         | 8,229         | 9,793         | 9,173         |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 5,308         | 5,655         | 6,192         | 5,515         | 6,446         |
| Queensland(b)(c) . . . . .             | 1,614         | 1,611         | 1,428         | 1,579         | 1,733         |
| South Australia(b) . . . . .           | 737           | 713           | 726           | 749           | 742           |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 523           | 609           | 1,037         | 950           | 1,270         |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 486           | 549           | 716           | 747           | 1,012         |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | (d)127        | 176           | 196           | (e)232        | 151           |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 137           | 170           | 240           | 219           | 278           |
| <b>Australia . . . . .</b>             | <b>17,690</b> | <b>17,437</b> | <b>18,764</b> | <b>19,784</b> | <b>20,805</b> |

(a) Includes committals from Children's Courts except for Darwin Children's Court in the Northern Territory prior to 1970. (b) Year ended 30 June. (c) A person committed on several counts at the one hearing is included only once. (d) Excludes courts at Tennant Creek and Katherine. (e) Excludes court at Tennant Creek.

### Higher (judges') courts

Higher courts are presided over by a judge, sometimes with a jury. The general jurisdiction of the higher courts in the States and Territories, which for this purpose include District, County and Supreme Courts, includes appeals from the lower courts, cases of serious crime committed for trial or sentence by lower courts, and civil cases involving common law, commercial causes, equity, etc. Under the Commonwealth *Matrimonial Causes Act* 1959-1966, the Supreme Courts of the various States and Territories have exclusive jurisdiction in matrimonial causes, and under the *Bankruptcy Act* 1966-1969, the Federal Court of Bankruptcy, the Supreme Courts of New South Wales, Queensland, Western Australia, Tasmania and the Northern Territory, and the Courts of Insolvency in Victoria and South Australia, can deal with bankruptcy cases. However, the Federal Court handles bankruptcy cases in New South Wales and Victoria.

Proceedings at higher courts include therefore criminal, civil, divorce, and bankruptcy proceedings. Separate details of all except civil proceedings are given in the following paragraphs.

## Criminal proceedings

The statistics in the following tables are influenced by the factors listed in the second paragraph at the beginning of this chapter.

**PERSONS CONVICTED<sup>(a)</sup> AT HIGHER COURTS: BY NATURE OF OFFENCE: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1970**

| Offence                                   | N.S.W.       | Vic.         | Qld(b)       | S.A.       | W.A.       | Tas.       | N.T.      | A.C.T.    | Aust.        |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|--------------|
| <b>Against the person—</b>                |              |              |              |            |            |            |           |           |              |
| Murder . . . . .                          | 21           | 14           | 2            | 6          | 7          | 3          | 1         | ..        | 54           |
| Attempted murder . . . . .                | 3            | 6            | ..           | ..         | ..         | ..         | ..        | ..        | 9            |
| Manslaughter(c) . . . . .                 | 24           | 17           | 16           | 7          | 16         | 5          | 2         | 1         | 88           |
| Culpable driving . . . . .                | 57           | 10           | 25           | 3          | 4          | 12         | 1         | 2         | 114          |
| Rape . . . . .                            | 36           | 27           | 9            | 6          | 6          | 4          | 2         | ..        | 90           |
| Other offences against females            | 359          | 260          | 94           | 126        | 7          | 43         | 16        | 8         | 913          |
| Abduction . . . . .                       | 1            | 9            | 1            | ..         | 4          | 1          | ..        | ..        | 16           |
| Unnatural offences . . . . .              | 96           | 77           | 15           | 25         | 6          | 17         | 1         | 3         | 240          |
| Abortion and attempt to procure           | 2            | 5            | 6            | 2          | 1          | ..         | ..        | ..        | 16           |
| Bigamy . . . . .                          | 10           | 4            | 2            | 2          | 5          | ..         | ..        | ..        | 23           |
| Malicious wounding and aggravated assault | 168          | 52           | 55           | 16         | 20         | 2          | 2         | 10        | 325          |
| Common assault . . . . .                  | 62           | 43           | 12           | 4          | 14         | 4          | 4         | ..        | 143          |
| Other offences against the person         | 20           | 6            | 12           | 19         | 4          | 2          | 6         | 2         | 71           |
| <i>Total, against the person</i>          | <i>859</i>   | <i>530</i>   | <i>249</i>   | <i>216</i> | <i>94</i>  | <i>93</i>  | <i>35</i> | <i>26</i> | <i>2,102</i> |
| <b>Against property—</b>                  |              |              |              |            |            |            |           |           |              |
| Burglary, breaking and entering           | 1,408        | 385          | 750          | 328        | 447        | 131        | 24        | 37        | 3,510        |
| Robbery and stealing from the person      | 245          | 151          | 47           | 24         | 27         | 66         | 5         | 10        | 575          |
| Embezzlement and larceny by servants      | 102          | 58           | 9            | 8          | 14         | ..         | ..        | 8         | 199          |
| Other larceny(d) . . . . .                | 769          | 190          | 214          | 21         | 24         | ..         | 6         | 1         | 1,225        |
| Receiving . . . . .                       | 164          | 36           | 57           | 16         | 25         | 12         | 3         | 1         | 314          |
| Fraud and false pretences . . . . .       | 111          | 62           | 19           | 14         | 7          | 13         | 3         | 3         | 232          |
| Arson . . . . .                           | 17           | 9            | 30           | 2          | 8          | 5          | ..        | 1         | 72           |
| Malicious damage . . . . .                | 6            | 15           | 3            | 1          | 2          | ..         | ..        | 2         | 29           |
| Other offences against property . . . . . | 24           | ..           | 17           | 7          | 1          | ..         | 1         | ..        | 50           |
| <i>Total, against property</i>            | <i>2,846</i> | <i>906</i>   | <i>1,146</i> | <i>421</i> | <i>555</i> | <i>227</i> | <i>42</i> | <i>63</i> | <i>6,206</i> |
| Forgery and offences against the currency | 44           | 82           | 2            | 13         | 7          | 8          | 5         | 5         | 166          |
| Against good order . . . . .              | 7            | 3            | 4            | ..         | ..         | 1          | ..        | ..        | 15           |
| Other . . . . .                           | 48           | 231          | 1            | 44         | 37         | 8          | 5         | 2         | 376          |
| <b>Grand total</b>                        | <b>3,804</b> | <b>1,752</b> | <b>1,402</b> | <b>694</b> | <b>693</b> | <b>337</b> | <b>87</b> | <b>96</b> | <b>8,865</b> |

(a) A person convicted on several counts at the one hearing is classified according to the most serious offence and is included only once. (b) Year ended 30 June. (c) Includes causing death by dangerous driving. (d) Includes unlawfully using vehicles.

**PERSONS CONVICTED<sup>(a)</sup> AT HIGHER COURTS: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1966 TO 1970**

| State or Territory                     | 1966         | 1967         | 1968         | 1969         | 1970         |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | 3,201        | 3,126        | 3,254        | 3,609        | 3,804        |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | 1,725        | 1,786        | 1,790        | 1,689        | 1,752        |
| Queensland(b) . . . . .                | 1,330        | 1,279        | 1,160        | 1,610        | 1,402        |
| South Australia . . . . .              | 738          | 707          | 692          | 712          | 694          |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | 302          | 357          | 507          | 518          | 693          |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | 204          | 254          | 243          | 292          | 337          |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | 58           | 65           | 88           | 120          | 87           |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | 67           | 69           | 86           | 68           | 96           |
| <b>Australia . . . . .</b>             | <b>7,625</b> | <b>7,643</b> | <b>7,820</b> | <b>8,618</b> | <b>8,865</b> |

(a) See footnote (a) in table above. (b) Year ended 30 June.

## Capital punishment

There were no executions in Australia in 1971. For a brief account of the law relating to capital punishment in Australia, see Year Book No. 55, page 573.

### Divorce and other matrimonial causes

A description of Commonwealth legislation governing divorce and other matrimonial causes in Australia is contained in Year Book No. 55, page 580. Under this legislation a court may grant decrees of dissolution of marriage (divorce), nullity of marriage, judicial separation, restitution of conjugal rights, and iactitation of marriage (i.e., that a person should refrain from making a false claim that a marriage has taken place between him and another person). Orders may be made for maintenance, the custody and welfare of children, and settlement of property, and damages for adultery. The following statistics refer only to petitions for, and decrees of, dissolution, nullity, and judicial separation. Detailed statistics are published in the annual and quarterly *Divorce* bulletins (13.1 and 13.2), and the annual *Demography* bulletin (4.9).

#### Petitions filed

Statistics of petitions exclude cross-petitions contained in answers by respondents. The following table shows the number of petitions for dissolution of marriage, nullity of marriage, and judicial separation filed in each State and Territory during 1971.

#### PETITIONS FILED FOR DISSOLUTION, NULLITY, AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1971

| Petition for—                  | N.S.W.       | Vic.         | Qld          | S.A.         | W.A.         | Tas.       | N.T.       | A.C.T.     | Aust.            |
|--------------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------------|
| <b>Dissolution—</b>            |              |              |              |              |              |            |            |            |                  |
| By husband . . . .             | 2,746        | 1,631        | 736          | 622          | 673          | 221        | 63         | 115        | 6,807            |
| By wife . . . . .              | 4,877        | 2,611        | 1,176        | 1,026        | 778          | 261        | 47         | 164        | 10,940           |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>         | <b>7,623</b> | <b>4,242</b> | <b>1,912</b> | <b>1,648</b> | <b>1,451</b> | <b>482</b> | <b>110</b> | <b>279</b> | <b>17,747</b>    |
| <b>Nullity—</b>                |              |              |              |              |              |            |            |            |                  |
| By husband . . . .             | 10           | 3            | 1            | 1            | 1            | ..         | ..         | ..         | 16               |
| By wife . . . . .              | 31           | 10           | 4            | 4            | 2            | 6          | ..         | 1          | 58               |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>         | <b>41</b>    | <b>13</b>    | <b>5</b>     | <b>5</b>     | <b>3</b>     | <b>6</b>   | <b>..</b>  | <b>1</b>   | <b>74</b>        |
| <b>Dissolution or nullity—</b> |              |              |              |              |              |            |            |            |                  |
| By husband . . . .             | 1            | 7            | ..           | 1            | ..           | ..         | ..         | ..         | 9                |
| By wife . . . . .              | 8            | 7            | 3            | 1            | ..           | ..         | ..         | ..         | 19               |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>         | <b>9</b>     | <b>14</b>    | <b>3</b>     | <b>2</b>     | <b>..</b>    | <b>..</b>  | <b>..</b>  | <b>..</b>  | <b>28</b>        |
| <b>Judicial separation—</b>    |              |              |              |              |              |            |            |            |                  |
| By husband . . . .             | ..           | ..           | ..           | 1            | ..           | ..         | ..         | ..         | 1                |
| By wife . . . . .              | 18           | 2            | 3            | 8            | ..           | ..         | ..         | 1          | 32               |
| <b>Total . . . . .</b>         | <b>18</b>    | <b>2</b>     | <b>3</b>     | <b>9</b>     | <b>..</b>    | <b>..</b>  | <b>..</b>  | <b>1</b>   | <b>33</b>        |
| <b>All petitions—</b>          |              |              |              |              |              |            |            |            |                  |
| By husband . . . .             | No. 2,758    | 1,641        | 737          | 627          | 674          | 221        | 63         | 115        | (a)6,836         |
| per cent . . . .               | 36           | 38           | 38           | 38           | 46           | 45         | 57         | 41         | 38               |
| By wife . . . . .              | No. 4,934    | 2,630        | 1,186        | 1,041        | 780          | 267        | 47         | 166        | (b)11,051        |
| per cent . . . .               | 64           | 62           | 62           | 62           | 54           | 55         | 43         | 59         | 62               |
| <b>Grand total . . . .</b>     | <b>7,692</b> | <b>4,271</b> | <b>1,923</b> | <b>1,668</b> | <b>1,454</b> | <b>488</b> | <b>110</b> | <b>281</b> | <b>(c)17,887</b> |

(a) Includes 3 petitions for dissolution or judicial separation. (b) Includes 2 petitions for dissolution or judicial separation. (c) Includes 5 petitions for dissolution or judicial separation.

**Decrees granted**

Statistics of decrees granted refer to decrees *nisi* made absolute except for the following cases, where no decree *nisi* is granted.

- (i) Decrees of judicial separation, which do not dissolve the marriage and may be discharged on resumption of cohabitation.
- (ii) Decrees of nullity of void marriage, as distinct from nullity of voidable marriage. A void marriage is invalid because of failure to meet a legal requirement, and the original decree of nullity is final. A valid marriage is voidable on proof of one or more of the grounds set out in Section 21 of the *Matrimonial Causes Act 1959-1966*, e.g. that either party is incapable of consummating the marriage.

The following tables show the number of dissolutions of marriage, nullities of marriage, and judicial separations granted in each State and Territory during 1971 classified according to petitioner, and the grounds on which decrees were granted during the years 1967 to 1971.

**DECREES FOR DISSOLUTION, NULLITY, AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION  
STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1971**

| <i>Decree of—</i>           | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i>  | <i>Qld</i>   | <i>S.A.</i>  | <i>W.A.</i>  | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>N.T.</i> | <i>A.C.T.</i> | <i>Aust.</i>  |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>Dissolution—</b>         |               |              |              |              |              |             |             |               |               |
| To husband . . .            | 1,956         | 1,190        | 527          | 473          | 486          | 196         | 35          | 72            | 4,935         |
| To wife . . .               | 3,502         | 1,878        | 877          | 791          | 577          | 233         | 20          | 120           | 7,998         |
| To both . . .               | 9             | 4            | ..           | ..           | 1            | ..          | ..          | ..            | 14            |
| <i>Total</i> . . .          | <i>5,467</i>  | <i>3,072</i> | <i>1,404</i> | <i>1,264</i> | <i>1,064</i> | <i>429</i>  | <i>55</i>   | <i>192</i>    | <i>12,947</i> |
| <b>Nullity—</b>             |               |              |              |              |              |             |             |               |               |
| To husband . . .            | 5             | 2            | ..           | 4            | 1            | 1           | ..          | ..            | 13            |
| To wife . . .               | 11            | 4            | 7            | 4            | 1            | 1           | 2           | ..            | 30            |
| <i>Total</i> . . .          | <i>16</i>     | <i>6</i>     | <i>7</i>     | <i>8</i>     | <i>2</i>     | <i>2</i>    | <i>2</i>    | <i>..</i>     | <i>43</i>     |
| <b>Judicial separation—</b> |               |              |              |              |              |             |             |               |               |
| To husband . . .            | ..            | ..           | ..           | 1            | ..           | 1           | ..          | ..            | 2             |
| To wife . . .               | 4             | 1            | ..           | 2            | 2            | ..          | ..          | 1             | 10            |
| <i>Total</i> . . .          | <i>4</i>      | <i>1</i>     | <i>..</i>    | <i>3</i>     | <i>2</i>     | <i>1</i>    | <i>..</i>   | <i>1</i>      | <i>12</i>     |
| <b>All decrees—</b>         |               |              |              |              |              |             |             |               |               |
| To husband . . .            | No. 1,961     | 1,192        | 527          | 478          | 487          | 198         | 35          | 72            | 4,950         |
| per cent . . .              | 36            | 39           | 37           | 38           | 46           | 46          | 61          | 37            | 38            |
| To wife . . .               | No. 3,517     | 1,883        | 884          | 797          | 580          | 234         | 22          | 121           | 8,038         |
| per cent . . .              | 64            | 61           | 63           | 63           | 54           | 54          | 39          | 63            | 62            |
| To both . . .               | No. 9         | 4            | ..           | ..           | 1            | ..          | ..          | ..            | 14            |
| <b>Grand total</b> . . .    | <b>5,487</b>  | <b>3,079</b> | <b>1,411</b> | <b>1,275</b> | <b>1,068</b> | <b>432</b>  | <b>57</b>   | <b>193</b>    | <b>13,002</b> |



## LAW, ORDER, AND PUBLIC SAFETY

## DECREES FOR DISSOLUTION, NULLITY, AND JUDICIAL SEPARATION GROUNDS, AUSTRALIA, 1967 TO 1971

| <i>Ground</i>   | 1967         | 1968          | 1969          | 1970          | 1971          |
|---|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| <b>DISSOLUTION</b>                                    |              |               |               |               |               |
| <b>Single grounds—</b>                                |              |               |               |               |               |
| Desertion . . . . .                                   | 4,398        | 4,863         | 4,730         | 5,098         | 5,076         |
| Adultery . . . . .                                    | 2,270        | 2,611         | 2,916         | 3,419         | 3,977         |
| Separation . . . . .                                  | 1,868        | 1,959         | 1,758         | 2,023         | 2,243         |
| Cruelty . . . . .                                     | 550          | 670           | 750           | 942           | 983           |
| Drunkenness . . . . .                                 | 128          | 150           | 136           | 142           | 165           |
| Failure to pay maintenance                            | 3            | 10            | 8             | 3             | 1             |
| Non-compliance with res-<br>titution decree . . . . . | 5            | 5             | 5             | 2             | 1             |
| Refusal to consummate . . . . .                       | 30           | 39            | 32            | 42            | 29            |
| Insanity . . . . .                                    | 7            | 7             | 7             | 6             | 3             |
| Frequent convictions . . . . .                        | 12           | 18            | 18            | 25            | 15            |
| Imprisonment . . . . .                                | 7            | 4             | 3             | 3             | 8             |
| Other single grounds . . . . .                        | 10           | 17            | 11            | 17            | 23            |
| <b>Dual grounds—</b>                                  |              |               |               |               |               |
| Desertion and adultery . . . . .                      | 76           | 68            | 102           | 90            | 87            |
| Desertion and separation . . . . .                    | 68           | 88            | 145           | 96            | 79            |
| Desertion and cruelty . . . . .                       | 50           | 44            | 77            | 59            | 49            |
| Desertion and drunkenness . . . . .                   | 24           | 16            | 8             | 14            | 10            |
| Desertion and failure to pay<br>maintenance . . . . . | 4            | 6             | 5             | 3             | 6             |
| Desertion and other . . . . .                         | 5            | 5             | 4             | 7             | 5             |
| Adultery and separation . . . . .                     | 9            | 1             | 3             | 4             | 3             |
| Adultery and cruelty . . . . .                        | 12           | 12            | 16            | 17            | 14            |
| Adultery and other . . . . .                          | 3            | 2             | 2             | 2             | 1             |
| Separation and other . . . . .                        | 5            | 1             | 2             | 3             | ..            |
| Cruelty and drunkenness . . . . .                     | 126          | 118           | 143           | 160           | 146           |
| Cruelty and other . . . . .                           | ..           | 2             | 7             | 5             | 1             |
| Other dual grounds . . . . .                          | 2            | 2             | 3             | 1             | 8             |
| Three grounds or more . . . . .                       | 16           | 13            | 39            | 15            | 14            |
| <i>Total</i> . . . . .                                | 9,688        | 10,731        | 10,930        | 12,198        | 12,947        |
| <b>NULLITY</b>  |              |               |               |               |               |
| Bigamy . . . . .                                      | 15           | 18            | 14            | 15            | 23            |
| Invalid marriage . . . . .                            | 5            | 2             | 1             | ..            | 1             |
| Incapacity to consummate . . . . .                    | 27           | 23            | 28            | 29            | 15            |
| Other grounds . . . . .                               | 4            | 1             | 3             | 1             | 4             |
| <i>Total</i> . . . . .                                | 51           | 44            | 46            | 45            | 43            |
| <b>JUDICIAL SEPARATION</b>                            |              |               |               |               |               |
| Desertion . . . . .                                   | 1            | 1             | ..            | ..            | 1             |
| Adultery . . . . .                                    | 5            | 9             | 1             | 3             | 2             |
| Cruelty . . . . .                                     | 2            | 3             | 5             | ..            | 5             |
| Other grounds . . . . .                               | ..           | 3             | 2             | 3             | 4             |
| <i>Total</i> . . . . .                                | 8            | 16            | 8             | 6             | 12            |
| <b>ALL DECREES</b>                                    |              |               |               |               |               |
| <b>Grand total.</b> . . . . .                         | <b>9,747</b> | <b>10,791</b> | <b>10,984</b> | <b>12,249</b> | <b>13,002</b> |

## Divorced persons at each census, 1911 to 1966

The following table shows the number and proportion of divorced persons in Australia as recorded from returns supplied at each census from 1911 to 1966. A classification of divorced persons by ages for the censuses from 1891 to 1947 appeared in earlier issues of the Year Book (*see* No. 39, page 269). Before 1911 no record was made of divorced persons in South Australia, so comparisons cannot be made beyond that date.

## DIVORCED PERSONS AT CENSUS DATES: AUSTRALIA, 1911 TO 1966

| Sex               | Number |       |        |        |        |        |        | Number per 10,000 of males or females 15 years of age and over |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|
|                   | 1911   | 1921  | 1933   | 1947   | 1954   | 1961   | 1966   | 1911   | 1921 | 1933 | 1947 | 1954 | 1961 | 1966 |
| Males . . . . .   | 2,368  | 4,233 | 10,298 | 25,052 | 32,389 | 38,640 | 42,885 | 15   | 23   | 42   | 89   | 100  | 105  | 105  |
| Females . . . . . | 2,140  | 4,304 | 10,888 | 27,516 | 36,650 | 43,339 | 51,143 | 15   | 24   | 46   | 96   | 115  | 119  | 125  |

## Bankruptcy

For a description of the provisions of the *Bankruptcy Act* 1966-1969, *see* Year Book No. 55, pages 586-7. The Bankruptcy Act was amended in 1970 to remove any obstacle the Act may present to the operation of compositions or schemes of arrangement entered into under State or Territory legislation providing assistance to farmers in respect of their debts.

## Bankruptcy proceedings

The following table shows the number of bankruptcies of the various types in each State, together with the disclosed assets and liabilities of the debtors, during 1970-71.

## BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1970-71

| State or Territory |                          | Sequestration orders and orders for administration of deceased debtors' estates | Compositions | Deeds of assignment | Deeds of arrangement | Total      |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------|---------------------|----------------------|------------|
| N.S.W.(a)          | Number . . . . .         | 626   | 8            | 39                  | 21                   | 694        |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 5,901,988   | 132,070      | 1,113,697           | 1,178,038            | 8,325,793  |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 2,687,856   | 44,057       | 918,060             | 1,608,060            | 5,258,033  |
| Vic.               | Number . . . . .         | 512   | 32           | 53                  | 36                   | 633        |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 3,782,780   | 375,607      | 1,595,371           | 950,840              | 6,704,598  |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 1,030,853   | 109,923      | 1,041,250           | 977,557              | 3,159,583  |
| Qld                | Number . . . . .         | 264   | 7            | 21                  | 8                    | 300        |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 4,176,171   | 34,765       | 423,843             | 363,329              | 4,998,108  |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 1,704,678   | 14,768       | 196,586             | 497,677              | 2,413,709  |
| S. Aust..          | Number . . . . .         | 611   | 2            | 6                   | 7                    | 626        |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 4,211,801   | 42,675       | 188,685             | 205,830              | 4,648,991  |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 2,579,476   | 29,492       | 158,729             | 105,096              | 2,872,793  |
| W. Aust.           | Number . . . . .         | 292   | 14           | 25                  | 59                   | 390        |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 2,321,984   | 253,536      | 540,829             | 1,907,930            | 5,024,279  |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 636,720   | 70,046       | 471,092             | 1,941,916            | 3,119,774  |
| Tas.               | Number . . . . .         | 122   | 1            | 8                   | 8                    | 139        |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 838,485   | 9,903        | 113,497             | 74,955               | 1,036,840  |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 226,535   | 17,921       | 161,173             | 68,289               | 473,918    |
| N.T.               | Number . . . . .         | 1   | ..           | ..                  | ..                   | 1          |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 26,088  | ..           | ..                  | ..                   | 26,088     |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 2,201   | ..           | ..                  | ..                   | 2,201      |
| Australia          | Number . . . . .         | 2,428   | 64           | 152                 | 139                  | 2,783      |
|                    | Liabilities \$ . . . . . | 21,259,297  | 848,556      | 3,975,922           | 4,680,922            | 30,764,697 |
|                    | Assets \$ . . . . .      | 8,868,319   | 286,207      | 2,946,890           | 5,198,595            | 17,300,011 |

(a) Includes the Australian Capital Territory.

The next table shows Australian figures in respect of each of the various types of bankruptcy, for the years 1966-67 to 1970-71.

## BANKRUPTCY PROCEEDINGS: AUSTRALIA, 1966-67 TO 1970-71

| Year    |   |                    | <i>Sequestration orders and orders for administration of deceased debtors' estates</i> |       | <i>Compositions</i> | <i>Deeds of assignment</i> | <i>Deeds of arrangement</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---------|---|--------------------|--|-------|---------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
|         |   |                    |  |       |                     |                            |                             |              |
| 1966-67 | . | Number . . .       | 2,284  | 127   | 18                  | 108                        | 2,537                       |              |
|         |   | Liabilities \$'000 | 19,108   | 2,176 | 535                 | 2,310                      | 24,129                      |              |
|         |   | Assets \$'000      | 7,685  | 1,293 | 308                 | 1,542                      | 10,829                      |              |
| 1967-68 | . | Number . . .       | 2,350  | 78    | 35                  | 88                         | 2,551                       |              |
|         |   | Liabilities \$'000 | 15,222   | 1,828 | 1,229               | 3,330                      | 21,609                      |              |
|         |   | Assets \$'000      | 6,292  | 1,189 | 918                 | 2,010                      | 10,409                      |              |
| 1968-69 | . | Number . . .       | 2,302  | 52    | 103                 | 93                         | 2,550                       |              |
|         |   | Liabilities \$'000 | 15,865   | 893   | 3,870               | 2,641                      | 23,269                      |              |
|         |   | Assets \$'000      | 7,588  | 447   | 2,699               | 1,674                      | 12,408                      |              |
| 1969-70 | . | Number . . .       | 2,236  | 59    | 145                 | 102                        | 2,542                       |              |
|         |   | Liabilities \$'000 | 18,243   | 1,006 | 3,810               | 2,903                      | 25,962                      |              |
|         |   | Assets \$'000      | 6,820  | 423   | 2,881               | 2,297                      | 12,422                      |              |
| 1970-71 | . | Number . . .       | 2,428  | 64    | 152                 | 139                        | 2,783                       |              |
|         |   | Liabilities \$'000 | 21,259   | 849   | 3,976               | 4,681                      | 30,765                      |              |
|         |   | Assets \$'000      | 8,868  | 286   | 2,947               | 5,199                      | 17,300                      |              |

## The High Court of Australia

The High Court of Australia consists of a Chief Justice and six other Justices. Its principal seat is in Melbourne, but sittings are held in every State capital as occasion requires. The High Court has both original and appellate jurisdiction. Its original jurisdiction is usually exercised by a single Justice, appellate jurisdiction by at least three Justices. The following table sets out transactions in its original and appellate jurisdiction for 1970 and 1971.

## TRANSACTIONS OF THE HIGH COURT OF AUSTRALIA, 1970 AND 1971

| <i>Original jurisdiction(a)</i>          | 1970        | 1971     | <i>Appellate jurisdiction</i> | 1970 | 1971 |
|--|-------------|----------|-------------------------------|------|------|
| Number of writs issued . . .             | 63          | 90       | Number of appeals—            |      |      |
| Number of causes entered for trial . . . | 38          | 27       | Set down for hearing . . .    | 87   | 111  |
| Judgments for plaintiffs . . .           | 11          | 5        | Allowed . . .                 | 27   | 47   |
| Judgments for defendants . . .           | 3           | 3        | Dismissed . . .               | 67   | 90   |
| Otherwise disposed of . . .              | 16          | 14       | Otherwise disposed of . . .   | 8    | 18   |
| Amounts of judgments . . .               | \$1,630,034 | \$34,464 |                               |      |      |

(a) Some matters dealt with by the High Court neither originate as writs nor are entered as causes.

During 1970 and 1971, respectively, the High Court dealt also with the following: appeals from assessments under the Taxation Assessments Act, 153, 53; special cases stated for the opinion of the Full Court, 11, 3; applications for prohibition, etc., 5, 10. The fees collected amounted to \$15,183 in 1970 and \$15,992 in 1971.

## Selected crime reported to police

The following tables show some details of certain categories of offences reported or becoming known to police. This series, which commenced in 1964, is derived from police records and is based, as far as possible, on definitions and procedural arrangements uniformly determined for all States. The following explanations are necessary in order to interpret the figures in this series.

*Offences reported or becoming known.* All incidents reported or becoming known to the police which are found to constitute offences within the scope of the crimes covered are included. Offences are shown as 'reported or becoming known' in the period during which it has been established that the incident constitutes a crime, not necessarily in the period when the incident occurred. However, the incident is included when the police are satisfied that a crime has been committed, even though it may be established in subsequent proceedings that no crime or a crime of a different nature was committed. As far as possible, the offences are recorded in respect of the State in which the incident occurred, regardless of which police force undertakes investigations or prosecutions, or where an arrest is made. In the case of homicide, assault, robbery, and rape, one offence is counted in respect of each victim, regardless of the number of offenders involved. In the case of breaking and entering, and fraud, etc., one offence is counted for each act or series of directly related acts occurring at the same time and place, and under the same circumstances. Each motor vehicle stolen is counted as constituting a separate offence.

*Offences cleared.* An offence of the type included in this series is counted as 'cleared' when an information (charge, arrest or summons to appear) has been laid against at least one person involved. However, an offence may also be counted as 'cleared' without an information being laid. This may occur when the offender has received an official caution or has died, has committed suicide, has been committed to a mental institution, or is in another jurisdiction from which extradition is not desired or available, or is serving a sentence; or if there are other obstacles to prosecution, such as diplomatic immunity or that the complainant refuses to prosecute. A clearance is always shown against the classification under which the offence was 'reported', regardless of the nature of the charge laid or changes in the description of an offence due to later information. The entries are made in respect of the year when the offence was 'cleared', whether or not the offence was 'reported' in that or an earlier year.

*Persons involved in crimes cleared.* This is the sum of the number of persons dealt with in each of the offences shown as 'cleared'. If more than one person is involved in the one offence, each person is counted. If the same person is involved in more than one offence cleared, he is counted separately for each offence. Persons involved are shown against the categories of offences to which an incident was originally allocated, regardless of the actual offences they are charged with. This basis of counting 'persons involved in offences cleared' was adopted to reveal trends in crime participation by persons in various age-groups. The figures in this series are not directly comparable with statistics of persons charged or convicted in court, or of cases brought before the courts; nor do these figures reveal the number of offenders in the community.

#### Offences included in the statistics

*Homicide.* Separate details are provided for murder, attempted murder (i.e. acts done with intent to murder) and manslaughter (unlawful killing other than murder), excluding manslaughter arising from motor traffic accidents.

*Serious assault.* These are assaults normally dealt with on indictment. Includes woundings, offences causing bodily harm, assaults with a weapon, etc., and attempts of this nature. Excludes sexual assault and robbery. *Uniform interpretation of this definition between States is especially difficult to effect.*

*Robbery.* Stealing anything, if at or immediately before or after the time of stealing, the offender uses or threatens to use violence to any person or property in order to obtain the thing stolen, or to prevent or overcome resistance to its being stolen. Includes attempts of this nature.

*Rape.* Includes attempted rape and assault with intent to rape. Excludes unlawful carnal knowledge (i.e. where consent is given, but the girl is below the legal age of consent) and indecent assault.

*Breaking and entering.* Breaking and entering a building (or entering a building and breaking out) and committing or intending to commit a crime. Includes burglaries. Separate details are shown according to the type of building involved, namely, *dwellings* (including unoccupied dwellings, tents, caravans, etc., used as dwellings, and the residential parts of hotels, schools, etc.); *shops* (including kiosks, service stations, restaurants, bars, non-residential clubs, etc.); and *offices, factories and warehouses* (including parts of buildings, but excluding dwellings and shops used for such purposes). Includes attempts. From 1967 the figures exclude breakings involving property valued at \$100 or less.

*Motor vehicle thefts, illegal use, etc.* Includes all offences of illegal, unlawful or unauthorised use, use without consent, unlawfully assuming control, etc., no matter under which legislation these offences are prescribed. Excludes cases of 'interference', but includes attempts at illegal use. The number of stolen motor vehicles which are recovered is also shown.

*Fraud, forgery, false pretences.* Includes embezzlement, 'omit to account', misappropriation, fraudulent appropriation, conversion, larceny as bailee, falsification of accounts, company fraud, forgery, uttering, false pretences, passing of valueless cheques and offences by trustees. Includes attempts, but excludes imposition. As a general rule, offences are included only if there is an element of deception or trickery. Separate details are shown for *valueless cheque* offences (i.e. passing of valueless cheques, whether there is no account, insufficient funds or a false signature of the purported drawer of the cheque. However, this sub-group excludes cases where a genuine cheque is altered or the endorsement of the payee is forged. These cases are regarded as forgery and or uttering and included in 'other').

#### Offences reported or becoming known to police

The following table shows, for each State and Territory, the number of offences in each of the seven categories covered by this series which were reported or became known to police during the years 1967 to 1971. The table excludes offences reported to and investigated by the Commonwealth Police, which are shown on page 458.

#### SELECTED CRIME REPORTED OR BECOMING KNOWN TO POLICE NUMBER OF OFFENCES, STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1967 TO 1971

| Category of crime  | N.S.W.(a) | Vic    | Qld   | S.A.  | W.A.  | Tas.  | N.T. | A.C.T. | Aust.  |
|--|-----------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|--------|--------|
| <b>Homicide—</b>   |           |        |       |       |       |       |      |        |        |
| 1967 . . . . .   | 139       | 57     | 47    | 25    | 7     | 7     | 17   | 1      | 300    |
| 1968 . . . . .   | 140       | 52     | 51    | 18    | 14    | 10    | 12   | 3      | 300    |
| 1969 . . . . .   | 120       | 66     | 38    | 21    | 12    | 15    | 7    | 1      | 280    |
| 1970 . . . . .   | 125       | 107    | 36    | 34    | 15    | 10    | 9    | 3      | 339    |
| 1971 . . . . .   | 134       | 87     | 44    | 27    | 26    | 8     | 15   | 2      | 343    |
| <b>Serious assault(b)—</b>   |           |        |       |       |       |       |      |        |        |
| 1967 . . . . .   | 547       | 1,338  | 119   | 71    | 20    | 11    | 39   | 13     | 2,158  |
| 1968 . . . . .   | 611       | 1,600  | 128   | 52    | 60    | 19    | 15   | 23     | 2,508  |
| 1969 . . . . .   | 626       | 1,460  | 134   | 92    | 77    | 47    | 30   | 17     | 2,483  |
| 1970 . . . . .   | 799       | 2,014  | 177   | 87    | 95    | 32    | 46   | 32     | 3,282  |
| 1971 . . . . .   | 724       | 2,457  | 212   | 115   | 156   | 32    | 120  | 46     | 3,862  |
| <b>Robbery—</b>  |           |        |       |       |       |       |      |        |        |
| 1967 . . . . .   | 386       | 395    | 79    | 51    | 21    | 18    | 5    | 5      | 960    |
| 1968 . . . . .   | 544       | 480    | 88    | 79    | 48    | 23    | 6    | 12     | 1,280  |
| 1969 . . . . .   | 777       | 503    | 106   | 127   | 41    | 23    | 13   | 9      | 1,599  |
| 1970 . . . . .   | 867       | 744    | 124   | 140   | 69    | 33    | 11   | 11     | 1,999  |
| 1971 . . . . .   | 1,490     | 792    | 205   | 151   | 92    | 39    | 36   | 13     | 2,818  |
| <b>Rape—</b>   |           |        |       |       |       |       |      |        |        |
| 1967 . . . . .   | 72        | 138    | 32    | 43    | 5     | 17    | 2    | 2      | 311    |
| 1968 . . . . .   | 95        | 168    | 34    | 43    | 5     | 7     | 7    | 4      | 363    |
| 1969 . . . . .   | 126       | 144    | 35    | 32    | 6     | 7     | 7    | 7      | 364    |
| 1970 . . . . .   | 136       | 160    | 42    | 21    | 6     | 17    | 29   | 5      | 416    |
| 1971 . . . . .   | 204       | 191    | 74    | 44    | 21    | 23    | 17   | 4      | 578    |
| <b>Breaking and entering (dwellings, shops, offices, etc.)(c)—</b> |           |        |       |       |       |       |      |        |        |
| 1967 . . . . .   | 7,806     | 7,656  | 1,417 | 1,165 | 552   | 340   | 40   | 96     | 19,072 |
| 1968 . . . . .   | 11,026    | 8,069  | 1,841 | 1,181 | 883   | 422   | 54   | 86     | 23,562 |
| 1969 . . . . .   | 11,923    | 8,215  | 2,035 | 1,299 | 1,368 | 586   | 66   | 105    | 25,597 |
| 1970 . . . . .   | 13,879    | 9,870  | 2,538 | 1,727 | 1,825 | 492   | 68   | 192    | 30,591 |
| 1971(d) . . . . .  | 13,394    | 12,189 | 3,798 | 1,878 | 1,623 | 666   | 171  | 206    | 33,925 |
| <b>Motor vehicle theft, etc.—</b>                                  |           |        |       |       |       |       |      |        |        |
| 1967 . . . . .   | 12,558    | 8,348  | 1,544 | 1,701 | 1,707 | 603   | 119  | 211    | 26,791 |
| 1968 . . . . .   | 13,008    | 9,352  | 1,740 | 1,967 | 2,084 | 759   | 192  | 196    | 29,298 |
| 1969 . . . . .   | 16,082    | 9,343  | 2,295 | 1,741 | 1,895 | 658   | 228  | 250    | 32,492 |
| 1970 . . . . .   | 18,464    | 11,246 | 3,023 | 2,140 | 2,700 | 722   | 347  | 284    | 38,926 |
| 1971 . . . . .   | 20,756    | 12,688 | 4,090 | 2,746 | 3,645 | 1,012 | 482  | 376    | 45,795 |
| <b>Fraud, forgery, etc.—</b>                                       |           |        |       |       |       |       |      |        |        |
| 1967 . . . . .   | 5,438     | 3,367  | 2,872 | 2,185 | 1,256 | 292   | 143  | 270    | 15,823 |
| 1968 . . . . .   | 6,283     | 4,402  | 4,154 | 1,596 | 1,476 | 607   | 271  | 166    | 18,955 |
| 1969 . . . . .   | 5,897     | 4,554  | 4,056 | 2,927 | 1,924 | 660   | 187  | 210    | 20,415 |
| 1970 . . . . .   | 7,184     | 5,438  | 3,658 | 3,541 | 2,048 | 663   | 154  | 179    | 22,865 |
| 1971 . . . . .   | 9,881     | 5,777  | 4,324 | 3,098 | 1,818 | 634   | 217  | 217    | 25,966 |

(a) Figures for 1971 are not necessarily comparable with those for earlier years because of changes in reporting procedures. (b) See definition on page 455. (c) Excludes offences involving property valued at \$100 or less. (d) Excludes 8,175 attempted breaking and entering offences in New South Wales.

#### Crimes cleared and persons involved

The tables which follow show, for the various categories of offences, the numbers of offences reported, the numbers cleared, and the numbers of persons involved according to age and sex. Sub-divisions of the categories homicide, breaking and entering, and fraud, etc., are provided. See pages 454-6 for definitions used and the bases on which these statistics are prepared.

**HOMICIDE: CRIMES REPORTED OR BECOMING KNOWN, CRIMES CLEARED AND PERSONS INVOLVED, AUSTRALIA, 1969 TO 1971**

|  | <i>Murder</i> |      |      | <i>Attempted murder</i> |      |      | <i>Manslaughter</i> |      |      | <i>All homicide</i> |        |        |
|--|---------------|------|------|-------------------------|------|------|---------------------|------|------|---------------------|--------|--------|
|  | 1969          | 1970 | 1971 | 1969                    | 1970 | 1971 | 1969                | 1970 | 1971 | 1969                | 1970   | 1971   |
| Numbers reported or becoming known . . . | 157           | 172  | 185  | 90                      | 145  | 119  | 33                  | 22   | 39   | 280                 | 339    | 343    |
| Numbers cleared . . .                    | 152           | 160  | 178  | 82                      | 139  | 112  | 33                  | 22   | 39   | 267                 | 321    | 329    |
| Persons involved in crimes cleared—      |               |      |      |                         |      |      |                     |      |      |                     |        |        |
| Aged(a)—                                 |               |      |      |                         |      |      |                     |      |      |                     |        |        |
| 16 years and under . . .                 | 4             | 15   | 9    | 6                       | 7    | 3    | 2                   | 1    | 1    | 12                  | 23     | 13     |
| 17 and 18 years . . .                    | 8             | 8    | 11   | 6                       | 11   | 8    | 7                   | 4    | 2    | 21                  | 23     | 21     |
| 19 and 20 years . . .                    | 8             | 14   | 9    | 6                       | 17   | 11   | 5                   | 1    | 5    | 19                  | 32     | 25     |
| 21 years and over . . .                  | 147           | 147  | 171  | 65                      | 116  | 99   | 22                  | 16   | 35   | 234                 | 279    | 305    |
| Total persons involved . . .             | 167           | 184  | 200  | 83                      | 151  | 121  | 36                  | 22   | 43   | (b)286              | (b)357 | (b)364 |

(a) Age last birthday at time of clearance. (b) Includes 54 females in 1969, 51 in 1970, and 43 in 1971.

**SERIOUS ASSAULT, ROBBERY, RAPE: CRIMES REPORTED OR BECOMING KNOWN CRIMES CLEARED, AND PERSONS INVOLVED, AUSTRALIA, 1969 TO 1971**

|  | <i>Serious assault</i> |          |          | <i>Robbery</i> |          |          | <i>Rape</i> |      |      |        |
|--|------------------------|----------|----------|----------------|----------|----------|-------------|------|------|--------|
|  | 1969                   | 1970     | 1971     | 1969           | 1970     | 1971     | 1969        | 1970 | 1971 |        |
| Numbers reported or becoming known . . . | 2,483                  | 3,282    | 3,862    | 1,599          | 1,999    | 2,818    | 364         | 416  | 578  |        |
| Numbers cleared . . .                    | 1,892                  | 2,524    | 2,936    | 648            | 755      | 827      | 286         | 315  | 375  |        |
| Persons involved in crimes cleared—      |                        |          |          |                |          |          |             |      |      |        |
| Aged(a)—                                 |                        |          |          |                |          |          |             |      |      |        |
| 16 years and under . . .                 |                        | 176      | 268      | 182            | 200      | 251      | 30          | 40   | 39   |        |
| 17 and 18 years . . .                    |                        | 333      | 406      | 227            | 285      | 283      | 74          | 58   | 111  |        |
| 19 and 20 years . . .                    |                        | 326      | 449      | 210            | 238      | 217      | 83          | 73   | 100  |        |
| 21 years and over . . .                  |                        | 1,590    | 1,884    | 476            | 566      | 669      | 207         | 223  | 239  |        |
| Total persons involved . . .             |                        | (b)2,425 | (b)3,007 | (b)3,669       | (c)1,095 | (c)1,289 | (c)1,420    | 394  | 394  | (d)489 |

(a) Age last birthday at time of clearance. (b) Includes 110 females in 1969, 119 in 1970 and 169 in 1971. (c) Includes 58 females in 1969, 44 in 1970, and 50 in 1971. (d) Includes 1 female in 1971.

**BREAKING AND ENTERING(a): CRIMES REPORTED OR BECOMING KNOWN, CRIMES CLEARED, AND PERSONS INVOLVED, AUSTRALIA, 1969 TO 1971**

|  | <i>Dwellings</i> |        |        | <i>Shops</i> |       |       | <i>Offices and warehouses</i> |       |       | <i>Total</i> |           |          |
|--|------------------|--------|--------|--------------|-------|-------|-------------------------------|-------|-------|--------------|-----------|----------|
|  | 1969             | 1970   | 1971   | 1969         | 1970  | 1971  | 1969                          | 1970  | 1971  | 1969         | 1970      | 1971     |
| Numbers reported or becoming known . . . | 12,258           | 15,110 | 17,707 | 7,215        | 7,552 | 9,243 | 6,124                         | 7,929 | 6,975 | 25,597       | 30,591(b) | 33,925   |
| Numbers cleared . . .                    | 1,983            | 2,306  | 2,119  | 1,862        | 1,885 | 1,854 | 1,142                         | 1,253 | 836   | 4,987        | 5,444     | 4,809    |
| Persons involved in crimes cleared—      |                  |        |        |              |       |       |                               |       |       |              |           |          |
| Ages(c)—                                 |                  |        |        |              |       |       |                               |       |       |              |           |          |
| 16 years and under . . .                 | 845              | 1,122  | 1,072  | 553          | 694   | 902   | 422                           | 407   | 409   | 1,820        | 2,223     | 2,383    |
| 17 and 18 years . . .                    | 492              | 600    | 682    | 594          | 590   | 634   | 306                           | 331   | 251   | 1,392        | 1,521     | 1,567    |
| 19 and 20 years . . .                    | 384              | 387    | 415    | 391          | 421   | 512   | 210                           | 221   | 178   | 985          | 1,029     | 1,105    |
| 21 years and over . . .                  | 1,013            | 1,180  | 1,112  | 1,357        | 1,175 | 1,182 | 764                           | 890   | 588   | 3,134        | 3,245     | 2,882    |
| Total persons involved . . .             | 2,734            | 3,289  | 3,281  | 2,895        | 2,880 | 3,230 | 1,702                         | 1,849 | 1,426 | (d)7,331     | (d)8,018  | (d)7,937 |

(a) Excludes offences involving property valued at \$100 or less. (b) Excludes 8,175 attempted breaking and entering offences in New South Wales. (c) Age last birthday at time of clearance. (d) Includes 210 females in 1969, 134 in 1970, and 274 in 1971.

**MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT, ETC., FRAUD, ETC.: CRIMES REPORTED OR BECOMING KNOWN, CRIMES CLEARED, AND PERSONS INVOLVED, AUSTRALIA, 1969 TO 1971**

|  | <i>Motor vehicles theft, etc.</i> |        |        | <i>Fraud, forgery, false pretences</i> |       |        |              |        |        |                         |        |        |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------|--------|--|-------|--------|--------------|--------|--------|-------------------------|--------|--------|
|  | 1969                              | 1970   | 1971   | <i>Valueless cheques</i>               |       |        | <i>Other</i> |        |        | <i>All frauds, etc.</i> |        |        |
|  |                                   |        |        | 1969                                   | 1970  | 1971   | 1969         | 1970   | 1971   | 1969                    | 1970   | 1971   |
| Numbers reported or becoming known . . . | 32,492                            | 38,926 | 45,795 | 8,694                                  | 9,016 | 10,284 | 11,721       | 13,849 | 15,682 | 20,415                  | 22,865 | 25,966 |
| Numbers cleared . . .                    | 6,772                             | 7,820  | 10,395 | 6,643                                  | 6,564 | 6,809  | 10,601       | 12,557 | 12,396 | 17,244                  | 19,121 | 19,205 |
| Persons involved in crimes cleared—      |                                   |        |        |  |       |        |              |        |        |                         |        |        |
| Males aged(a)—                           |                                   |        |        |  |       |        |              |        |        |                         |        |        |
| 16 years and under . . .                 | 4,571                             | 5,662  | 7,754  | 177                                    | 189   | 177    | 404          | 529    | 346    | 581                     | 718    | 523    |
| 17 and 18 years . . .                    | 2,753                             | 3,331  | 4,168  | 209                                    | 241   | 294    | 298          | 332    | 661    | 507                     | 573    | 955    |
| 19 and 20 years . . .                    | 1,295                             | 1,300  | 1,692  | 409                                    | 332   | 441    | 369          | 513    | 663    | 778                     | 845    | 1,104  |
| 21 years and over . . .                  | 1,840                             | 2,035  | 2,907  | 5,352                                  | 4,887 | 5,189  | 7,512        | 7,507  | 8,529  | 12,864                  | 12,394 | 13,718 |
| Total males . . .                        | 10,459                            | 12,328 | 16,521 | 6,147                                  | 5,649 | 6,101  | 8,583        | 8,881  | 10,199 | 14,730                  | 14,530 | 16,300 |
| Females aged(a)—                         |                                   |        |        |  |       |        |              |        |        |                         |        |        |
| 16 years and under . . .                 | 86                                | 118    | 269    | 43                                     | 35    | 55     | 132          | 132    | 120    | 175                     | 167    | 175    |
| 17 and 18 years . . .                    | 69                                | 42     | 71     | 17                                     | 102   | 54     | 178          | 351    | 313    | 195                     | 453    | 367    |
| 19 and 20 years . . .                    | 25                                | 39     | 49     | 85                                     | 86    | 106    | 315          | 255    | 285    | 400                     | 341    | 391    |
| 21 years and over . . .                  | 33                                | 34     | 52     | 748                                    | 1,226 | 846    | 1,729        | 3,274  | 2,113  | 2,477                   | 4,500  | 2,959  |
| Total females . . .                      | 213                               | 233    | 441    | 893                                    | 1,449 | 1,061  | 2,354        | 4,012  | 2,831  | 3,247                   | 5,461  | 3,892  |
| Total persons involved . . .             | 10,672                            | 12,561 | 16,962 | 7,040                                  | 7,098 | 7,162  | 10,937       | 12,893 | 13,030 | 17,977                  | 19,991 | 20,192 |

(a) Age last birthday at time of clearance.

The number of stolen motor vehicles recovered was: 1969, 29,371; 1970, 34,864; 1971, 41,332.

**Offences reported or becoming known to Commonwealth Police**

In addition to the offences shown in the preceding tables, the following statistics relate to those offences in the selected crime series which were reported to and investigated by the Commonwealth Police in 1971.

|  | <i>Breaking and Entering</i> | <i>Valueless cheques</i> | <i>Other Fraud</i> |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Numbers reported or becoming known . . . | 8                            | 2,004                    | 6,148              |
| Numbers cleared . . .                    | 6                            | 419                      | 2,268              |
| Persons(a) involved in crimes cleared—   |                              |                          |                    |
| Aged(b)—                                 |                              |                          |                    |
| 16 years and under . . .                 | ..                           | 1                        | 30(8)              |
| 17 and 18 years . . .                    | ..                           | 13(1)                    | 19(7)              |
| 19 and 20 years . . .                    | ..                           | 14(2)                    | 148(29)            |
| 21 years and over . . .                  | 6                            | 406(124)                 | 2,075(801)         |
| Total persons involved . . .             | 6                            | 434(127)                 | 2,272(845)         |

(a) Numbers of females are shown in brackets.

(b) Age last birthday at time of clearance.

**Drug offences**

Australia is a signatory to the Single Convention of Narcotic Drugs which has as its main aim the limitation of narcotic drugs to legitimate medical and research purposes.

As its name implies, the Single Convention covers only the so-called narcotic drugs. In recognition that there are other drugs of dependence, the member nations met during 1970 and 1971 and drew up a further Convention to impose controls on psychotropic substances such as hallucinogens, amphetamines, other central nervous system stimulants, barbiturates, tranquillisers and certain other sedatives.

**Legislative provisions**

Regulation 5 of the Customs (Prohibited Imports) Regulations made under Section 50 of the *Customs Act 1901-1971* provides the legal controls for the importation of narcotic drugs and other drugs of dependence. Under this regulation all importers of these drugs must be licensed and must obtain permission in writing for each importation. Importers are also required to keep these drugs in a secure place and to keep such records as may be required concerning use or disposal.

The penalty on conviction for an offence relating to narcotic goods as defined in the *Customs Act 1901-1971* is:

- (a) In a Court of Summary Jurisdiction—  
A fine not exceeding \$2,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 2 years, or both.
- (b) On indictment—  
A fine not exceeding \$4,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or both.

The manufacture of narcotic drugs in Australia is controlled under the *Narcotic Drugs Act 1967*. The Act requires that a manufacturer shall be licensed and shall comply with strict conditions and directions relating to such manufacture and the handling of the drugs concerned. Failure to comply with these requirements constitutes an offence against the Act and the penalty upon conviction for such an offence is:

- (a) In a Court of Summary Jurisdiction—  
A fine not exceeding \$1,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 2 years, or both.
- (b) On indictment—  
A fine not exceeding \$4,000 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding 10 years, or both.

State and Territory legislation relating to the regulation, control and prohibition of the sale, use, possession and administering (including smoking) of poisons, restricted substances, drugs of addiction, dangerous drugs and deleterious substances, is listed below.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| New South Wales . . . . .              | Poisons Act, 1966-1967; Summary Offences Act, 1970  |
| Victoria . . . . .                     | <i>Poisons Act 1962</i>   |
| Queensland . . . . .                   | ' <i>The Health Acts 1937 to 1967</i> '   |
| South Australia . . . . .              | Narcotic and Psychotropic Drugs Act, 1970 (formerly Dangerous Drugs Act, 1934-1955); Food and Health Act, 1908-1962; Police Offences Act, 1953-1961 |
| Western Australia . . . . .            | <i>Police Act, 1892-1967; Poisons Act 1964</i>  |
| Tasmania . . . . .                     | <i>Dangerous Drugs Act 1959; Alcohol and Drug Dependency Act 1968; Health Services Act 1960</i>   |
| Northern Territory . . . . .           | <i>Dangerous Drugs Ordinance 1928-1969; Poison Ordinance</i>  |
| Australian Capital Territory . . . . . | <i>Poisons and Dangerous Drugs Ordinance 1967</i>   |

In some States this legislation also provides for the offence of 'trafficking' (where there is possession of a minimum specified quantity of a prescribed substance, prohibited drug, or drug of addiction, such possession being *prima facie* for the offence), and for the offence of being the owner, lessee, or concerned in the management of any premises used for the purposes of drug abuse such as the smoking of opium or indian hemp. Offences of habitually consorting, etc., with reputed drug offenders are also covered under State legislation.

During 1971 some States introduced legislation requiring that stocks of dangerous drugs in pharmacies be stored in heavy metal safes.

All State Governments have agreed to a uniform code of penalties based on those applicable in Commonwealth legislation. Some State Governments have already taken the legislative action to implement this decision.

### Law enforcement

Law enforcement in respect of drugs is handled by State police forces, the Commonwealth Police Force, and the Department of Customs and Excise. In 1969 a National Standing Control Committee on Drugs of Dependence was established to consider further action by the Commonwealth and States to combat all aspects of the drug problem in Australia and to make recommendations on legislative and administrative action. The Committee is chaired by the Comptroller-General of Customs and its members comprise senior officers of Commonwealth and State police and health authorities.

The National Standing Control Committee on Drugs of Dependence recommended that the Central Crime Intelligence Bureau of the Commonwealth Police serve as the national agency for the systematic collection, evaluation and dissemination of information concerning the illicit drug traffic in Australia. During 1971, the second complete year for which the Central Crime Intelligence Bureau compiled statistics, 3,869 drug offences, for which 1,890 males and 408 females were prosecuted, were reported to the Bureau. Details of the offences and the drugs involved are given in the following table.



## DRUG OFFENCES REPORTED TO THE CENTRAL CRIME INTELLIGENCE BUREAU: 1971

(Source: Commonwealth Police(a))

| Type of drug  | Type of offence(b)                       |              |            | Total        | per cent |
|---|--|--------------|------------|--------------|----------|
|   | Possession<br>(including<br>importation) | Use          | Traffic    |              |          |
| <b>Amphetamines—</b>  |  |              |            |              |          |
| Amphetamine . . . . .   | 32                                       | 24           | 3          | 59           | } 7.1    |
| Dexamphetamine . . . . .  | 28                                       | 6            | 2          | 36           |          |
| Methylamphetamine . . . . .   | 37                                       | 9            | 7          | 53           |          |
| Other—Not specified . . . . .   | 59                                       | 11           | 8          | 78           |          |
| <i>Total amphetamines</i> . . . . .   | 156                                      | 50           | 20         | 226          | 7.1      |
| <b>Barbiturates—</b>  |  |              |            |              |          |
| Amylobarbitone (amytal) . . . . .   | 3  | 8            | 6          | 17           | } 2.6    |
| Pentobarbitone (nembutal) . . . . .   | 25                                       | 21           | 10         | 56           |          |
| Other—Not specified . . . . .   | 6  | 3            | 1          | 10           |          |
| <i>Total barbiturates</i> . . . . .   | 34                                       | 32           | 17         | 83           | 2.6      |
| <b>Cannabis—</b>  |  |              |            |              |          |
| Indian hemp, hashish, marihuana, plants<br>(cannabis), seeds (cannabis) . . . . . | 859                                      | 559          | 125        | 1,543        | 48.6     |
| <b>Hallucinogenic—</b>  |  |              |            |              |          |
| L.S.D. . . . .  | 96                                       | 130          | 87         | 313          | } 10.4   |
| Psilocybin . . . . .  | 16                                       | 1            | 2          | 19           |          |
| <i>Total hallucinogenic</i> . . . . .   | 112                                      | 131          | 89         | 332          | 10.4     |
| <b>Narcotics—</b>   |  |              |            |              |          |
| Heroin . . . . .  | 24                                       | 26           | 7          | 57           | } 18.5   |
| Morphine . . . . .  | 102                                      | 132          | 15         | 249          |          |
| Opium . . . . .   | 19                                       | 9            | ..         | 28           |          |
| Pethidine . . . . .   | 23                                       | 38           | 6          | 67           |          |
| Other—Not specified . . . . .   | 71                                       | 93           | 23         | 187          |          |
| <i>Total narcotics</i> . . . . .  | 239                                      | 298          | 51         | 588          | 18.5     |
| Other—Not specified . . . . .   | 310                                      | 73           | 24         | 407          | 12.8     |
| <b>Total</b> . . . . .  | <b>1,710</b>                             | <b>1,143</b> | <b>326</b> | <b>3,179</b> |          |
| Per cent . . . . .  | 53.8                                     | 36.0         | 10.2       | ..           | 100.0    |

(a) From information provided by State police forces and the Commonwealth Department of Customs and Excise.  
 (b) These offences comprised 82.1 per cent of the total of 3,869 offences reported for 1971.

In 1969 the Commonwealth Bureau of Narcotics was created within the Department of Customs and Excise, as part of the Government's campaign to combat the increasing incidence of illicit trafficking of drugs in Australia. The Bureau operates on a national basis and is made up of three sections:

*Licit Control Section*—responsible for the control of legal importation and exportation of all drugs of dependence as well as controlling the manufacture of narcotic drugs in Australia.

The section is also responsible for ensuring that Australia's obligations, as a signatory to the various international conventions on drugs, are complied with.

*Overseas Liaison*—responsible for maintaining an effective system for the exchange of information with overseas law enforcement agencies concerned with the suppression of illicit trafficking in drugs.

*Law Enforcement*—responsible for the prevention of, and investigations into, illegal importation, exportation, and major trafficking of drugs. Its activities are concentrated in co-ordinated operations against importers and major distributors.

The following table shows the types of drugs and amounts seized by the Department of Customs and Excise in the years 1967-71.

## DRUG SEIZURES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CUSTOMS AND EXCISE: 1967 TO 1971

| Type of drug    | Unit        | 1967   | 1968  | 1969   | 1970   | 1971    |
|-----------------|-------------|--------|-------|--------|--------|---------|
| Amphetamines(a) | gram        | ..     | ..    | ..     | 11,379 | 18      |
|                 | tablet      | ..     | ..    | 688    | ..     | 1,421   |
| Barbiturates(a) | gram        | ..     | ..    | ..     | ..     | 22      |
|                 | tablet      | ..     | ..    | ..     | 2,800  | 287     |
| Cannabis        | gram        | 1,376  | 5,654 | 47,809 | 98,078 | 178,654 |
| Cocaine         | gram        | ..     | ..    | ..     | ..     | 4       |
|                 | tablet      | ..     | ..    | ..     | 120    | 9       |
| L.S.D.          | dosage unit | 237    | ..    | 368    | 17,611 | 21,676  |
| Narcotics—      |             |        |       |        |        |         |
| Opium           | gram        | 21,530 | 3,660 | 889    | 9,950  | 6,094   |
| Heroin          | gram        | 2,572  | 1,977 | 196    | 1,405  | 2,468   |
| Morphine        | gram        | ..     | 1,387 | ..     | 29     | 31      |
|                 | ampoule     | ..     | ..    | 8      | 18     | 6       |
|                 | tablet      | ..     | ..    | ..     | 151    | 2       |
| Pethidine       | tablet      | ..     | ..    | ..     | 43     | 6       |

(a) Not a prohibited import until 1969.

The number of offenders charged with drug offences by the Department of Customs and Excise, and the sentences imposed in the years 1967 to 1971 are given in the following table. Particulars of all drug offences in 1971 reported to the Central Crime Intelligence Bureau are shown in the table on page 460.

## PROSECUTIONS AND CONVICTIONS UNDER THE CUSTOMS ACT AND THE NARCOTIC DRUGS ACT FOR OFFENCES INVOLVING DRUGS OF DEPENDENCE 1967 TO 1971

(Source: Department of Customs and Excise)

| Offence and year     | Number of offenders | Number of individual charges | Con-<br>victions on<br>individual<br>charges | Fines imposed |        | Gaol sentences |        | Number of bonds granted (a) | Number of charges not proceeded with or dismissed | Number of charges pending |
|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--|---------------|--------|----------------|--------|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------|
|                      |                     |                              |  | Number        | Amount | Number         | Months |                             |   |                           |
| §                    |                     |                              |  |               |        |                |        |                             |   |                           |
| Unlawful possession— |                     |                              |  |               |        |                |        |                             |   |                           |
| 1967                 | 50                  | 54                           | 48   | 29            | 2,940  | 17             | 228½   | 2                           | 1   | 5                         |
| 1968                 | 51                  | 52                           | 46   | 41            | 8,820  | 4              | 22     | 1                           | 3   | 3                         |
| 1969                 | 61                  | 63                           | 60   | 50            | 9,490  | 5              | 57     | 5                           | 1   | 2                         |
| 1970                 | 79                  | 82                           | 68   | 50            | 18,415 | 19             | 220    | 4                           | 5   | 9                         |
| 1971                 | 53                  | 56                           | 31   | 13            | 2,870  | 14             | 266    | 4                           | 12  | 13                        |
| Unlawful import—     |                     |                              |  |               |        |                |        |                             |   |                           |
| 1967                 | 11                  | 11                           | 7  | 4             | 325    | 3              | 8      | ..                          | 1   | 3                         |
| 1968                 | 21                  | 25                           | 15   | 13            | 1,615  | 2              | 42     | ..                          | 3   | 7                         |
| 1969                 | 32                  | 34                           | 27   | 20            | 5,300  | 7              | 84     | 1                           | ..  | 7                         |
| 1970                 | 55                  | 62                           | 58   | 36            | 15,285 | 16             | 238    | 9                           | ..  | 4                         |
| 1971                 | 74                  | 78                           | 60   | 41            | 11,005 | 16             | 188    | 3                           | 2   | 16                        |
| Other offences—      |                     |                              |  |               |        |                |        |                             |   |                           |
| 1967                 | 1                   | 1                            | ..   | ..            | ..     | ..             | ..     | ..                          | 1   | ..                        |
| 1968                 | 1                   | 1                            | 1  | 1             | 500    | ..             | ..     | ..                          | ..  | ..                        |
| 1969                 | 5                   | 5                            | 4  | 3             | 500    | 1              | 6      | ..                          | 1   | ..                        |
| 1970                 | 12                  | 13                           | 12   | 11            | 700    | ..             | ..     | ..                          | 1   | ..                        |
| 1971                 | 15                  | 15                           | 10   | 6             | 3,950  | 4              | 88     | ..                          | ..  | 5                         |

(a) Bonds include suspended gaol sentences and/or other recognisances to be of good behaviour for a specified period.

NOTE. Where dual penalties such as a fine and a bond were imposed both are included.

## Senate Select Committee

On 25 November 1969, by resolution of the Senate, a Select Committee into Drug Trafficking and Drug Abuse was established. The report of the findings of the Senate Select Committee was tabled in May 1971.

## Police

The primary duties of the police are to prevent crime, to detect and detain offenders, to protect life and property, to enforce the law, and to maintain peace and good order. In addition, they perform many duties in the service of the State, e.g. they act as clerks of petty sessions in small centres, as crown land bailiffs, foresters, mining wardens, and inspectors under the fisheries and various other

Acts. In metropolitan and large country areas they also regulate the street traffic. With the exception of the Commonwealth Police Force and the police in the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory, the police forces of Australia are under the control of the State Governments, but their members perform certain functions for the Commonwealth Governments, such as acting as aliens registration officers and concurrently with Commonwealth Police and other Commonwealth Officers, policing various Commonwealth Acts and Regulations.

Women police perform special duties at places where young women and girls are subject to moral danger, control traffic at school crossings and lecture school children on road safety. They also assist male police as required in the performance of normal police duties.

The strength of the police force and the duties and ranks of the personnel involved in each State and Territory for 1971 are shown in the following table. Comparability between States is affected by differences in the classification of ranks and duties, and known differences between States are mentioned in footnotes.

Also included in the table are statistics of ancillary and civilian staff employed by police departments. Differences between States in the use of such staff are considerable. These differences arise, on the one hand, from differences in the extent to which police make use of such staff for police functions and, on the other hand, in the extent to which such staff are required to undertake additional functions (such as parking control) which are allocated to the police in varying degrees between States. There is also some overlap between duties of ancillary and civilian staff as defined in the footnotes to the table.

**POLICE FORCES AND ASSISTANT STAFF: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 30 JUNE 1971**

| <i>Duty and rank(a)</i>  | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>N.T.</i> | <i>A.C.T.</i> |
|--|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| <b>POLICE FORCES</b>   |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Criminal investigations, plain clothes police, scientific duties—  |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Executive officers . . . . .                                       | 3             | 2           | 1          | 1           | 1           | 1           | ..          | ..            |
| Inspectors . . . . .   | 15            | 18          | 9          | 3           | 5           | 5           | 1           | 1             |
| Sergeants . . . . .  | 344           | 64          | 147        | 41          | 52          | 17          | 11          | 8             |
| Constables(b) . . . . .  | 826           | 602         | (c)296     | 241         | 93          | 90          | 29          | 19            |
| Total, criminal investigations, etc. . . . .                       | 1,188         | 686         | (c)453     | 286         | 151         | 113         | 41          | 28            |
| Traffic duties—  |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Executive officers . . . . .                                       | 2             | 1           | 1          | 1           | 3           | 1           | ..          | ..            |
| Inspectors . . . . .   | 8             | 10          | 4          | 4           | 4           | 2           | ..          | 1             |
| Sergeants . . . . .  | 160           | 22          | 31         | 20          | 42          | 7           | 3           | 10            |
| Constables(b) . . . . .  | 886           | 443         | (c)263     | 197         | 186         | 77          | 14          | 61            |
| Total, traffic duties . . . . .                                    | 1,056         | 476         | (c)299     | 222         | 235         | 87          | 17          | 72            |
| Other special and general duties—                                  |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Executive officers . . . . .                                       | 23            | 22          | 6          | 9           | 13          | 5           | ..          | ..            |
| Inspectors . . . . .   | 122           | 99          | (d)67      | 40          | 19          | 31          | 3           | 10            |
| Sergeants . . . . .  | 1,328         | 222         | 673        | 173         | 229         | 45          | 32          | 47            |
| Constables(b) . . . . .  | 3,473         | 3,152       | (c)1,518   | 1,210       | 883         | 441         | 157         | 181           |
| Total, other special, etc. . . . .                                 | 4,946         | 3,495       | (c)2,264   | 1,432       | (e)1,144    | 522         | (f)192      | (f)238        |
| Not allocated—   |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Executive officers whose duties extend beyond one branch . . . . . |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Inspectors . . . . .   | 5             | 3           | (g)5       | 2           | 4           | ..          | (h)3        | 2             |
| Police women . . . . .   | ..            | 1           | ..         | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..          | ..            |
| Trainees and cadets . . . . .                                      | 99            | 109         | 30         | 37          | 34          | 15          | 6           | 7             |
| Total, not allocated . . . . .                                     | 176           | 175         | 146        | 381         | 48          | 59          | ..          | ..            |
| Total, not allocated . . . . .                                     | 280           | 288         | 181        | 420         | 86          | 74          | 9           | 9             |
| Total police force—  |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Executive officers . . . . .                                       | 33            | (h)28       | (g)13      | 13          | (h)21       | 7           | (h)3        | 2             |
| Inspectors . . . . .   | 145           | 128         | 80         | 47          | 28          | 38          | 4           | 12            |
| Sergeants . . . . .  | 1,832         | 308         | 851        | 234         | 323         | 69          | 46          | 65            |
| Constables(b) . . . . .  | 5,185         | 4,197       | (c)2,077   | 1,648       | 1,162       | 608         | 200         | 261           |
| Police women . . . . .   | 99            | 109         | 30         | 37          | 34          | 15          | 6           | 7             |
| Trainees and cadets . . . . .                                      | 176           | 175         | 146        | 381         | 48          | 59          | ..          | ..            |
| Total police force . . . . .                                       | 7,470         | 4,945       | 3,197      | 2,360       | 1,616       | 796         | 259         | 347           |
| <b>ANCILLARY AND CIVILIAN STAFF</b>                                |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Employed by Police Department—                                     |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Ancillary staff(i)—  |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Full-time . . . . .  | 187           | 104         | 25         | (j)178      | ..          | ..          | 34          | ..            |
| Part-time . . . . .  | ..            | 3           | ..         | 2           | 118         | ..          | ..          | ..            |
| Civilian staff(k)—   |               |             |            |             |             |             |             |               |
| Full-time . . . . .  | (l)1,087      | 787         | 383        | 87          | (m)476      | 106         | 27          | 53            |
| Part-time . . . . .  | ..            | 58          | 30         | 8           | 181         | ..          | ..          | ..            |

For footnotes see next page.

POLICE FORCES AND ASSISTANT STAFF: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 30 JUNE 1971—  
*continued*

| Duty and rank(a)    | N.S.W. | Vic.  | Qld   | S.A.  | W.A.  | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. |
|---------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|
| <b>TOTAL STAFF</b>  |        |       |       |       |       |      |      |        |
| Grand total—        |        |       |       |       |       |      |      |        |
| Full-time . . . . . | 8,744  | 5,836 | 3,605 | 2,625 | 2,092 | 902  | 320  | 400    |
| Part-time . . . . . | ..     | 61    | 30    | 10    | 299   | ..   | ..   | ..     |

(a) Where more than one duty is involved, officers have been allocated to the category of duties in which the greater part of their time is spent. The allocation of executive officers and inspectors to categories of duties is necessarily somewhat arbitrary and varies from State to State. (b) Includes probationary constables. (c) Excludes probationary constables; included with trainees and cadets. (d) Includes sub-inspectors. (e) Includes officers engaged on motor vehicle examination and testing and licensing drivers. (f) Does not include transport and maintenance; each section undertakes its own transport, and maintenance is done on contract and/or by the government transport pool. (g) Includes 1 chief superintendent. (h) Includes 1 chief inspector. (i) Parking police, native trackers, wardresses, etc.; special constables in New South Wales and Tasmania; police reservists in Victoria. (j) Includes clerical workers in the Women Police Auxiliaries. (k) Clerks, typists, artisans, cleaners. (l) Does not include cleaning which is done by the Cleaning Services Branch of the Government Stores Department. (m) Includes 58 cadets whose appointment is not subject to the Police Act.

Ancillary and civilian staff are excluded from the following table.

**POLICE FORCES: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1967 TO 1971**

| 30 June—       | N.S.W. | Vic.  | Qld   | S.A.  | W.A.  | Tas. | N.T. | A.C.T. | Aust.  |
|----------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|--------|
| 1967 . . . . . | 6,765  | 4,711 | 3,056 | 2,059 | 1,375 | 645  | 151  | 215    | 18,977 |
| 1968 . . . . . | 7,111  | 4,825 | 3,083 | 2,214 | 1,421 | 632  | 172  | 228    | 19,686 |
| 1969 . . . . . | 7,259  | 4,743 | 3,179 | 2,255 | 1,490 | 670  | 195  | 288    | 20,079 |
| 1970 . . . . . | 7,324  | 4,739 | 3,221 | 2,282 | 1,529 | 701  | 235  | 290    | 20,321 |
| 1971 . . . . . | 7,470  | 4,945 | 3,197 | 2,360 | 1,616 | 796  | 259  | 347    | 20,990 |

**Commonwealth Police Force**

The Commonwealth Police Force commenced operations on 21 April 1960, and is the principal agency for the enforcement of the laws passed by the Commonwealth Parliament. It is also responsible for the protection of Commonwealth property and interests at various buildings and establishments under the control of the Commonwealth. This force co-ordinates the work of other Commonwealth investigation and law enforcement agencies and acts on behalf of the United Nations Organisation for the suppressing of traffic in women and the suppression of obscene literature.

Under the control of the force is the Australian Police College at Manly, New South Wales, which provides training for officers of various police forces and other agencies in Australia and New Zealand. The force has its Head Office in Canberra and District Offices in each capital city. The strength of the force at 30 June 1971 was 974 policemen and 4 policewomen. At that date there were, in addition, 103 civilian employees.

**Prisons**

**Prisons and prison accommodation**

**PRISONS AND PRISON ACCOMMODATION: STATES AND NORTHERN TERRITORY, 30 JUNE 1970**

|                         | N.S.W. | Vic.  | Qld   | S.A.  | W.A.  | Tas. | N.T. | Aust.  |
|-------------------------|--------|-------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|--------|
| Prisons . . . . .       | 21     | 13    | 8     | 16    | 17    | 1    | 2    | 78     |
| Accommodation . . . . . | 3,783  | 2,626 | 1,303 | 1,356 | 1,548 | 417  | 218  | 11,251 |

There is no gaol in the Australian Capital Territory, but there are two lock-ups attached to police stations at Canberra and another lock-up at Jervis Bay where offenders are held for short periods. Prisoners remanded or sentenced by a court in the Australian Capital Territory for more than five days are usually held in New South Wales prisons.

## Convicted prisoners

## CONVICTED PRISONERS: STATES AND TERRITORIES, 1966 TO 1970

| 30 June—   | N.S.W.<br>(a) | Vic.  | Qld   | S.A. | W.A.  | Tas. | N.T. | Australia |                                     |
|------------|---------------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
|            |               |       |       |      |       |      |      | Number    | Per<br>10,000<br>of popu-<br>lation |
| 1966 . . . | 3,140         | 1,872 | 995   | 818  | 863   | 259  | 107  | 8,054     | 6.9                                 |
| 1967 . . . | 3,334         | 1,994 | 1,021 | 866  | 1,137 | 275  | 112  | 8,739     | 7.4                                 |
| 1968 . . . | 3,292         | 2,103 | 958   | 926  | 1,150 | 281  | 120  | 8,830     | 7.3                                 |
| 1969 . . . | 3,327         | 2,199 | 1,065 | 884  | 1,214 | 331  | 177  | 9,197     | 7.5                                 |
| 1970 . . . | 3,429         | 2,178 | 1,104 | 836  | 1,174 | 327  | 198  | 9,246     | 7.4                                 |

(a) Includes Australian Capital Territory prisoners held in New South Wales prisons.

## Expenditure on law, order and public safety

## Expenditure on law, order and public safety

The following table shows the identifiable expenditure on goods and services of Commonwealth and State public authorities whose activities are primarily directed towards serving the purposes of law, order and public safety. Because of differing legislative and administrative arrangements and differing accounting practices in the various States, the activities covered by the figures are not the same in each State; and the activities covered by the Commonwealth figures differ from those of the States because of the Commonwealth's different responsibilities in this field. The Commonwealth and State figures are therefore not strictly comparable; but they have been compiled by uniform methods, and each series is comparable from year to year.

ALL PUBLIC AUTHORITIES: EXPENDITURE ON LAW, ORDER AND PUBLIC SAFETY  
1966-67 TO 1970-71  
(\$ million)

|  | 1966-67 | 1967-68 | 1968-69 | 1969-70 | 1970-71 |
|--|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Net current expenditure on goods and services— |         |         |         |         |         |
| Commonwealth Authorities . . . . .             | 11.2    | 12.5    | 13.9    | 16.5    | 20.1    |
| State Authorities—                             |         |         |         |         |         |
| New South Wales . . . . .                      | 59.6    | 64.9    | 71.6    | 81.2    | 93.4    |
| Victoria . . . . .                             | 36.9    | 40.0    | 43.7    | 48.3    | 53.5    |
| Queensland . . . . .                           | 22.6    | 24.7    | 27.5    | 31.2    | 38.5    |
| South Australia . . . . .                      | 12.2    | 13.3    | 14.4    | 15.6    | 18.2    |
| Western Australia . . . . .                    | 11.9    | 12.8    | 15.4    | 18.7    | 22.8    |
| Tasmania . . . . .                             | 4.9     | 5.9     | 6.5     | 7.2     | 8.4     |
| <i>Total States</i> . . . . .                  | 148.0   | 161.5   | 179.2   | 202.1   | 234.8   |
| <i>Total Current</i> . . . . .                 | 159.2   | 174.0   | 193.1   | 218.7   | 254.9   |
| Gross fixed capital expenditure—               |         |         |         |         |         |
| Commonwealth authorities . . . . .             | 0.6     | 1.5     | 1.6     | 1.5     | 2.1     |
| State authorities—                             |         |         |         |         |         |
| New South Wales . . . . .                      | 4.4     | 5.3     | 7.2     | 9.3     | 10.6    |
| Victoria . . . . .                             | 4.4     | 4.7     | 7.0     | 4.4     | 3.9     |
| Queensland . . . . .                           | 2.9     | 3.2     | 3.9     | 4.6     | 4.4     |
| South Australia . . . . .                      | 1.3     | 0.8     | 0.8     | 1.1     | 1.7     |
| Western Australia . . . . .                    | 0.8     | 0.9     | 1.7     | 1.3     | 1.8     |
| Tasmania . . . . .                             | 0.8     | 0.8     | 1.2     | 1.2     | 1.8     |
| <i>Total States</i> . . . . .                  | 14.6    | 15.7    | 21.8    | 22.0    | 24.2    |
| <i>Total Capital</i> . . . . .                 | 15.2    | 17.1    | 23.3    | 23.4    | 26.3    |
| <i>Total expenditure</i> . . . . .             | 174.4   | 191.1   | 216.4   | 242.1   | 281.2   |

## Fire brigades

### New South Wales

A Board of Fire Commissioners, consisting of six members, two appointed by the State Government (President and Deputy President) and one each representing insurance companies, local government authorities, volunteer firemen, and permanent firemen, operates under the Fire Brigades Act, 1909-1970, and 167 fire districts had been constituted at the end of 1970. The cost of maintenance of fire brigades is borne in proportions of local councils and the Government each one-eighth, and the insurance companies three-quarters.

At 31 December 1971 the actual strength of the Fire Brigade throughout the fire districts of New South Wales was 493 officers and 1,395 permanent and 2,739 volunteer firemen. Corresponding figures for the Sydney Fire District were 398, 1,201 and 238. The revenue for the year 1970 was \$12,241,000, as follows: from the Government, \$1,511,000; municipalities and shires, \$1,511,000; fire insurance companies and firms, \$9,054,000; and from other sources, \$165,000. The disbursements for the year were \$13,277,000. The Board of Fire Commissioners provides the fire protection services for Canberra, in the Australian Capital Territory, and the cost of these services is reimbursed by the Commonwealth Government.

Under the Bush Fires Act, 1949-1970 a Bush Fire Fighting Fund exists from which finance is provided for the prevention and fighting of bush fires. Contributions to the Fund by the Government, councils and insurance companies are in the proportion of one-quarter, one-quarter and one-half, respectively. At 30 June 1971 Volunteer Brigades equipped by means of this fund numbered 2,420 with an active membership of about 60,000 persons. The expenditure from the Fund for equipment, up to 30 June 1972, amounted to \$11,016,000.

### Victoria

In Victoria, fire brigades are controlled by the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board consisting of eight members, including an employees' representative, and the Country Fire Authority consisting of eleven members.

*Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board.* The Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board receives contributions from the municipalities and the insurance companies in the proportion of one-third and two-thirds respectively. At 30 June 1971 the Board had under its control 46 stations, 1,242 permanent staff, and 271 special service and clerical, etc. staff. The total receipts for 1970-71 were \$10,371,377, comprising contributions \$9,171,388, receipts for services \$779,192, and interest and sundries \$420,797. The expenditure was \$10,094,515.

*Country Fire Authority.* This authority is responsible for the prevention and suppression of fires in the 'country area of Victoria', which embraces the whole of the State outside the Metropolitan Fire District, excluding State forests, National Parks and certain Crown lands. The country area has been divided into twenty-five fire control regions, three of which (Ballarat, Bendigo and Geelong) are wholly urban and the remainder mixed urban and rural. The Country Fire Authority receives contributions in the proportion of two-thirds from insurance companies and one-third from the Treasury. At 30 June 1971 the Country Fire Authority Act applied to 180 insurance companies and 212 urban and 1,052 rural fire brigades. Permanent staff of the Authority totalled 311 (including administrative), while the effective strength of volunteer personnel was 112,730. Income for the year 1970-71 amounted to \$4,111,392. Total expenditure other than loan redemption and capital expenditure amounted to \$3,914,971.

### Queensland

There are two controlling bodies responsible for fire fighting services throughout Queensland. The State Fire Services Council controls brigades set up under '*The Fire Brigades Acts, 1964 to 1966*,' and the Rural Fires Board under provisions of '*The Rural Fires Act, 1946 to 1968*' administers bush fire brigades. In addition a local authority may establish a fire fighting brigade of its own as do some major establishments such as the State Forestry Department and private companies whose activities involve fire hazards.

Fire districts are constituted under '*The Fire Brigades Acts, 1964 to 1966*'. For each district, there must be a Fire Brigades Board consisting of seven members, and the cost of maintenance of each brigade is proportioned as follows: Treasury one-eighth, insurance companies three-quarters, and local authorities one-eighth. The insurance companies' contribution is paid to the State Government and thence to fire brigades.

At 30 June, 1971 there were 81 fire brigade boards. The number of stations was 186 and full-time staff numbered 1,195, comprising 64 administrative, 306 officers and 825 firemen. Volunteers numbered 46. Part-time staff numbered 1,339 comprising 74 administrative, 160 officers and 1,105

firemen. The total revenue for the year 1970-71 was \$7,610,232, received mainly from the following sources: Government \$911,500, local authorities \$911,500, insurance companies \$5,468,998. Loan receipts (Government and other) were \$758,928. The total expenditure for the year was \$7,443,031, the chief items being salaries and wages \$5,478,257, and interest and redemption of loans \$659,712.

The Rural Fires Board consists of a chairman and nine members. All, except the one representing the United Graziers Association, are appointed by the Governor-in-Council from Government Departments and the Minister of Lands has power to add up to three additional members from the community as a whole. For administrative purposes the State is divided into Rural Fire Districts under the control of a Chief Fire Warden and in these districts fire wardens are appointed to assigned areas. These officers co-ordinate and control the bush fire brigades on a voluntary basis. At 30 June 1971 there were 180 rural fire districts with 1,656 voluntary fire wardens and bush fire brigades numbered 1,041. Expenditure by the State Government during 1970-71 amounted to \$91,233.

#### South Australia

The Fire Brigades Act, 1936-1958 provides for a board of five members, that the expenses and maintenance of brigades are defrayed in the proportion of two-ninths by the Treasury, five-ninths by insurance companies and two-ninths by the municipalities concerned, and that when the Treasury proportion exceeds its statutory contribution of approximately \$31,000, the excess is borne five-sevenths by insurance companies and two-sevenths by the municipalities. At 30 June 1971 there were altogether 37 fire brigade stations, of which 16 were metropolitan and 21 country.

The strength of the permanent staff at 30 June 1971 was 554, comprising 388 officers and men, 109 country auxiliary firemen and 57 other employees (including maintenance workers). The total revenue for the year 1970-71 was \$2,177,060, including contributions of \$1,901,772 made up as follows: insurance companies \$1,144,374, Treasury \$299,648 and municipalities \$457,750. The Treasury contribution includes a special grant of \$266,972.

#### Western Australia

By the provisions of the *Fire Brigades Act, 1942-1966* certain local government areas are constituted fire districts under the control of the Western Australian Fire Brigades Board. There were 64 fire districts at 30 June 1971. The contribution to the Board is made in the proportion of 16 per cent from the Government, 20 per cent from local government authorities, and 64 per cent from insurance companies. The number of local government authorities and insurance companies who contributed numbered 77 and 165 respectively. Fifteen permanent and two volunteer brigades operate in the metropolitan fire district centred on the City of Perth. Permanent brigade personnel serve with volunteer brigade personnel in five large country centres and volunteer brigades provide town fire protection at some fifty other centres. At 30 June 1971 the Board had 557 employees and there were 1,460 volunteer brigade officers and firemen. The revenue for the year ended 30 June 1971 was \$3,636,986 and the expenditure \$3,750,772.

Under the *Bush Fires Act, 1954-1970* a Bush Fires Board, consisting of thirteen members, six of whom are nominated by the Country Shire Councils' Association, was set up to advise the Minister for Lands on bush fire control and to administer the Bush Fires Act. The Act also provides for the registration of bush fire control officers, who numbered 2,396 at 30 June 1971, and the establishment of bush fire brigades, 944 at 30 June 1971. Many individual brigades are large organisations with numerous self-contained sections.

#### Tasmania

The *Fire Brigades Act 1945* provided for the creation of the Fire Brigades Commission of Tasmania to co-ordinate the activities of existing fire brigade boards, while leaving the responsibility for individual control and management with the boards. The Commission comprises the following: two persons nominated by the Minister; one person representing the City or Municipal Councils; one person nominated by the Chairman of the Rural Fires Board; and three persons representing the insurance companies. Contributions towards the cost of operations are on the basis of 22.5 per cent each from the Treasury and the municipalities and 55 per cent from the insurance companies concerned. The cost for the year 1970-71 amounted to \$1,262,167. There were, at 30 June 1971, 23 boards controlling 40 stations, and their aggregate staffs numbered 683 (officers and firemen), comprising 224 permanent firemen, 419 part-time firemen and 40 volunteers; the volunteers all operate under the Hobart Board in the forested and mountainous Fern Tree area.

Following the fire disaster of February 1967, amendments were made to the *Rural Fires Act 1950*. The 1967 Act brought the separate urban and rural fire services and the State Civil Defence and Emergency Services together under the Chief Secretary. The newly-constituted Rural Fires Board, under a chairman appointed by the Governor, consists of 16 members. The Board has a paid staff of 15, headed by the State Fire Control Officer and includes five regional fire officers and an assistant

regional officer. At 30 June 1971 there were 273 rural fire brigades composed of 6,600 registered volunteers. The Board's budget in 1970-71 was \$371,937. Half the administrative expenditure is met by insurance companies insuring rural properties, and half by the Government. Special fire area expenditure is borne by the Government, with remaining expenditure being shared proportionately between the Government and municipalities.

## Patents, trade marks and designs

### Patents

Patents for inventions are granted under the *Patents Act* 1952-1969, which applies to the Commonwealth of Australia and the Territories of Norfolk Island and Papua New Guinea. The Act is administered by a Commissioner of Patents. The amending Act of 1969 came into operation on 1 January 1970. Regulations under the Act provide variable fees for lodgment of applications depending on size of specifications and number of claims. The basic fee for lodging an application and complete specification is \$20.00. Examination no longer automatically follows lodgment of applications. The Commissioner may now direct an applicant to request examination in which case the examination fee is \$60.00, or the applicant may request it of his own accord, in which case the fee is \$80.00. If examination is not requested within five years after lodgment, the application lapses.

Annual taxes are payable commencing with a fee of \$8.00 after the expiration of two years from the date of lodgment of the complete specification and rising to \$50.00 after the expiration of 15 years from that date.

#### PATENTS: AUSTRALIA, 1967 TO 1971

|   | 1967   | 1968   | 1969   | 1970   | 1971   |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Applications . . . . .  | 15,733 | 16,712 | 17,446 | 16,443 | 16,407 |
| Applications accompanied by<br>provisional specifications . . . . . | 3,708  | 3,899  | 3,637  | 3,628  | 3,933  |
| Letters patent sealed . . . . .                                     | 6,356  | 5,537  | 7,127  | 6,130  | 10,641 |

### Trade marks and designs

Under the *Trade Marks Act* 1955-1966 the Commissioner of Patents is also Registrar of Trade Marks. Provision is made for the registration of users of trade marks and for their assignment with or without the goodwill of the business concerned. A new classification of goods was adopted in 1958, and trade marks registered under repealed Acts are reclassified on renewal. Under the *Designs Act* 1906-1968 the Commissioner of Patents is also Registrar of Designs.

#### TRADE MARKS AND DESIGNS: AUSTRALIA, 1967 TO 1971

|                      | 1967  | 1968  | 1969  | 1970  | 1971  |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Trade marks—         |       |       |       |       |       |
| Received . . . . .   | 7,537 | 8,301 | 9,246 | 9,117 | 8,866 |
| Registered . . . . . | 5,333 | 4,612 | 4,809 | 5,823 | 5,710 |
| Designs—             |       |       |       |       |       |
| Received . . . . .   | 1,627 | 1,769 | 1,975 | 2,007 | 1,977 |
| Registered . . . . . | 1,833 | 1,614 | 1,440 | 1,604 | 1,578 |

## Copyright

Copyright is regulated by the Commonwealth *Copyright Act* 1968, which came into force on 1 May 1969. On that date Australia ratified its adherence to the Brussels revision of the Berne Copyright Convention and to the Universal Copyright Convention, whereby citizens of member countries are accorded protection by complying with the convention formality requiring proprietors to place on their works the symbol © together with their name and the year of first publication, in such a manner and location as to give reasonable notice of their claim of copyright in the works so identified. The new legislation contains no provision for the registration of copyright, and the Copyright Office ceased to exist on 1 May 1969. Copyright is now administered by the Attorney-General's Department.



