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PREFACE

By the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Parliament of the Commonwealth is empowered, subject to the Constitution, 'to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth, with respect to . . . Census and statistics.' In the exercise of the power so conferred, a Census and Statistics Act was passed in 1905, and in the year following the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics was created. The first Official Year Book was published early in 1908. The publication here presented is the fifty-eighth Official Year Book issued under the authority of the Commonwealth Government.

In the various chapters of the Year Book, and in the special index which precedes the general index, there are references to special articles, background material and items of historic interest which have appeared in previous issues.

Among new or revised material included in this issue, the following items may be especially mentioned.

Chapter 6. International Relations. A note on Australia's membership of OECD, page 118.

Chapter 7. Population. Preliminary results from the 1971 Census of Population and Housing, including selected characteristics, *see* Appendix. Population projections to the year 2000, page 142.

Chapter 9. Housing and Building. Preliminary statistics from the 1971 Census of Population and Housing are included in the Appendix.

Chapter 10. Labour, Wages and Prices. Results of the May 1971 survey of weekly earnings, showing a classification of adult male employees into earnings groups, page 252. A dissection between overtime and ordinary time earnings, and classifications according to industry, State and employment category are shown.

Chapter 11. Overseas Transactions. Summary statistics from a new series of surveys of overseas borrowing are included in the Appendix.

Chapter 12. Transport, Communication and Travel. A note on the activities of the Australian Transport Advisory Council, page 331.

Chapter 13. Welfare Services. Results of surveys of age, invalid and widow pensioners conducted in 1970 and 1971 by the Department of Social Services in New South Wales and Victoria, page 411. A short note on the role of voluntary agencies in Australian social welfare, page 417.

Chapter 18. Public Finance. The Public Finance and Local Government chapters have been combined and reorganised to give a better account of the financial roles of the three levels of government: Commonwealth, State and local. The statistics are on a basis consistent with the Australian national accounts. There is a section dealing with public borrowing at all levels. For the time being the chapter includes some information previously given in the Local Government chapter relating to services provided by specific State authorities, such as roads and bridges, water and sewerage, and harbour boards; some of this material may be relocated in future issues.

Chapter 19. Education, Cultural Activities, and Research. The section dealing with expenditure on education has been expanded a little. A summary table on page 670 shows expenditure by the public and private sectors.

Chapter 20. Employment and Unemployment. Results of a survey of multiple jobholding conducted in May 1971, page 707.

Chapter 28. The Territories of Australia. A summary of Government policy in relation to the advancement of Aborigines in the Northern Territory, page 957.

Chapter 29. Miscellaneous. An article on metric conversion in Australia.

The usual series of graphs has been updated.

The material in the Year Book has been carefully checked throughout, but I shall be grateful to those who will be kind enough to point out defects or make suggestions.

Most of the statistics contained in this volume relate to the years ended June or December 1971. More detailed statistics on subjects dealt with in the Year Book are available in the various annual reports published by this Bureau, and more recent statistics are contained in the *Digest of Current Economic Statistics* (monthly), the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics*, the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*, and in other publications issued monthly, quarterly, half-yearly, or yearly. The last pages of this volume contain a list of current and recent printed publications available for purchase, showing issue numbers, dates, and prices.

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Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics,
Canberra, A.C.T. 2600. December 1972

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SYMBOLS AND OTHER FORMS OF USAGE IN THIS YEAR BOOK

The following *symbols*, where shown in tables, mean:

- n.a. —not available
- . . —nil or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable
- p —preliminary—figure or series subject to revision
- r —figure or series revised since previous issue
- n.e.i.—not elsewhere included
- n.e.c.—not elsewhere classified
- n.s. —not stated
- m.—males; f.—females; p.—persons
- Break in continuity of series (where drawn across a column between two consecutive figures).

A blank space in a column of figures means that the figure concerned is not yet available.

The following *abbreviations* are used for the titles of the Australian States and Territories and the Commonwealth of Australia: N.S.W. (New South Wales), Vic. (Victoria), Qld (Queensland), S.A. (South Australia), W.A. (Western Australia), Tas. (Tasmania), N.T. (Northern Territory), A.C.T. (Australian Capital Territory), Aust. (Australia), Cwlth (Commonwealth).

In general, the *statistics in this volume relate to the States and Territories of the Commonwealth of Australia*, i.e. they exclude particulars of the External Territories of Australia, which, however, are specifically dealt with in Chapter 28, The Territories of Australia. A few series elsewhere include particulars of Papua New Guinea because of the nature of the subject-matter—these series are indicated.

Yearly periods shown as e.g. 1971 refer to the year ended 31 December 1971; those shown as e.g. 1970–71 refer to the year ended 30 June 1971. Other yearly periods are specifically indicated. The range of years shown in table headings, e.g. 1901 to 1970–71, indicates the period covered, but does not necessarily imply that each intervening year is included.

Values are shown in Australian dollars (\$) or \$A) or cents (c) unless another currency is specified.

Reference numbers. In the introductory paragraphs to most chapters a list of relevant publications is shown. In each case the reference number is shown in brackets and this should be quoted when ordering Bureau publications.

Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

Unless otherwise indicated, the *British system of weights and measures* is used. The weights and measures used in recording production, etc. of different commodities are as follows:

| | | |
|---------------------|---|---|
| Bushel (bus) | = | approximately 2,218 cubic inches |
| Gallon (gal) | = | Imperial gallon of approximately 277 cubic inches |
| Pound (lb) | = | pound avoirdupois |
| Cental | = | 100 pounds |
| Hundredweight (cwt) | = | 112 pounds |
| Ton | = | Long ton of 2,240 pounds |
| Short ton | = | 2,000 pounds |
| Bale (of wool) | = | approximately 300 pounds |
| Barrel (crude oil) | = | approximately 35 imperial gallons |

Cereals, fruit and certain other products are generally recorded in bushels. While the weight of a bushel varies according to the nature of the product, it is also subject to considerable variation for individual products on account of such things as variety and method of packing. However, average bushel equivalent weights, as set out below, may be used for the conversion of each of these products to pounds weight avoirdupois.

BUSHEL WEIGHTS
(lb per bushel)

| <i>Product</i> | <i>lb per bushel</i> | <i>Product</i> | <i>lb per bushel</i> | <i>Product</i> | <i>lb per bushel</i> |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|
| Apples | 42 | Maize | 56 | Pineapples | 42 |
| Apricots | 48 | Mandarins | 48 | Plums and prunes | 58 |
| Bananas | 56 | Mangoes | 40 | Pollard | 20 |
| Barley | 50 | Millet | 60 | Potatoes | 60 |
| Beans (dry) | 60 | Mustard seed | 50 | Quinces | 42 |
| Beans, French (green) | 20 | Nectarines | 50 | Rape | 56 |
| Bran | 20 | Nuts, other than peanuts | 40 | Raspberries | 30 |
| Canary seed | 56 | Oats | 40 | Rice | 42 |
| Cherries | 48 | Onions | 56 | Rye | 60 |
| Clover seed | 60 | Oranges | 48 | Safflower | 40 |
| Custard apples | 35 | Panicum | 60 | Setaria | 60 |
| Figs | 44 | Papaws | 24 | Sorghum | 60 |
| Flax seed (pure seed) | 56 | Passion fruit | 34 | Soya beans | 60 |
| Flour | 56 | Peaches | 45 | Strawberries | 30 |
| Grapefruit | 42 | Peanuts | 22 | Sunflower seed | 33 |
| Grass seed (most varieties) | 20 | Pears | 45 | Tares | 60 |
| Lemons | 48 | Peas, field (dry) | 60 | Tomatoes | 48 |
| Loquats | 45 | Peas in pod (green) | 28 | Wheat | 60 |
| Lucerne seed | 60 | Persimmons | 44 | | |