

Part 2

GOVERNMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

Constitution

Introduction

The present Constitution of Victoria derives from an Act passed by the Parliament at Westminster in 1855 and known in Victoria as The Constitution Act. That Act, together with *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958* (which consolidates the many constitutional provisions passed by the Victorian Parliament itself since 1855) provides the legal and constitutional background to a system of responsible Cabinet Government based on a legislature of two Houses, both elected upon adult suffrage. The Victorian Constitution has also been affected by the establishment of the Commonwealth Constitution by the *Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900*, by which legislative and executive powers upon certain specified matters were granted to the Commonwealth Parliament and Government, some of them exclusively, and provision was made that, in the case of inconsistency of valid laws, the Commonwealth law should prevail. In the result, the Parliament of Victoria may now make laws in and for Victoria upon all matters not exclusively granted to the Commonwealth by the Commonwealth Constitution; but upon some of these matters the Victorian law may be superseded by the passing of a Commonwealth Act. Local government, that is, the control exercised by municipal councils within their respective districts, is a matter of State law and wholly within the legislative control of the Victorian Parliament.

Governor

Under the Victorian Constitution, the ultimate Executive power is vested in the Crown and is exercised by the Governor as the Queen's representative.

The Governor's authority is derived from Letters Patent (issued in 1900 and amended in 1913) under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, from the Commissions of Appointment and from the Governor's Instructions issued under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet.

As the Queen's representative, the Governor summons and pro-rogues Parliament and at the beginning of each session outlines the Government's legislative programme in his opening speech. In the name of the Queen he gives assent to Bills which have passed all stages in Parliament, with the exception of those especially reserved for the Royal Assent. These include Bills dealing with special subjects such as divorce, or the granting of land and money to himself. His functions in relation to the Legislature are contained in the Constitution Act and the Constitution Act Amendment Act.

As head of the Executive, his functions are based on the Letters Patent, his Commission and the Royal Instructions. These empower him to make all appointments to important State offices other than those under the Public Service Act, to make official proclamations and to exercise the prerogative of mercy by reprieving or pardoning criminal offenders within his jurisdiction. These functions are carried out on the advice of his Ministers.

There are some matters, however, which require the special exercise of the Governor's discretion. Thus he alone must finally decide after taking advice of his Premier, whether to grant a dissolution of Parliament, and whether to call upon a member of Parliament to form a new Ministry. The Governor's powers in respect of the commissioning of a member of Parliament as Premier to form a new Ministry are set out more fully below under the section describing the Cabinet.

The Governor also has power to appoint a Deputy to exercise his functions as the Queen's representative during his temporary absence from the seat of Government whether within or outside Victoria.

In the execution of the powers and authorities vested in him, the Governor shall be guided by the advice of the Executive Council, which is a body created under the Governor's Instructions and which in practice gives effect to Cabinet and ministerial decisions. If in any case he shall see sufficient cause to dissent from the opinion of the said Council, he may act in the exercise of his said powers and authorities in opposition to the opinion of the Council, reporting the matter to the Queen without delay, with the reasons for his so acting.

This exercise of discretionary powers emphasizes the Governor's position as one above and beyond party politics and in extreme cases provides a safeguard of the Constitution. The general nature of his position is such that he is the guardian of the Constitution and bound to see that the great powers with which he is entrusted are not used otherwise than in the public interest.

On all official State occasions he performs the ceremonial functions as the representative of the Crown, and so becomes the focal point and the unifying symbol of the community.

General Sir Reginald Alexander Dallas Brooks, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., K.C.V.O., D.S.O., K.St.J., was Governor of Victoria from 1949 to 1963. The present Governor is Major-General Sir Rohan Delacombe, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O., who assumed office on 8th May, 1963.

A list of representatives of the Sovereign since the establishment of the Port Phillip District in 1839 is set out on pages 68 to 70 of the Victorian Year Book 1961.

Lieutenant-Governor

The Lieutenant-Governor is appointed to this office by a Commission from the Sovereign under the Sign Manual and Signet. In the Commission reference is made to the Letters Patent constituting the office of Governor, and the Lieutenant-Governor is expressly authorized and required by his Commission to administer the Government of the State of Victoria in the events dealt with in such Letters Patent, namely,

the death, incapacity, or removal of the Governor, or his departure from the State, or his assuming the administration of the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Lieutenant-Governor assumes control in any of these events by issuing a proclamation. He then becomes His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria.

However, should the Governor be only temporarily absent for a short period from the seat of Government or from the State (except when he administers the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia) he may, by an Instrument under the Public Seal of the State, appoint the Lieutenant-Governor as his Deputy.

The present Lieutenant-Governor is Lieutenant-General the Hon. Sir Edmund Francis Herring, K.C.M.G., K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., E.D.

Executive Council

Section 15 of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958* provides that officers appointed as responsible Ministers of the Crown shall also be members of the Executive Council, and provision for their appointment appears in the Letters Patent constituting the office of Governor.

The Executive Council, consisting of Executive Councillors under summons, namely, members of the current Ministry, usually meets weekly or as required. The quorum of three (3) comprises the Governor and at least two (2) Ministers. These meetings are of a formal nature and are presided over by the Governor or in his absence by his Deputy.

Where it is provided in the statutes that the Governor in Council may make proclamations, orders, regulations, appointments to public offices, &c., the Governor acts formally with the advice of the Executive Council, but actually in accordance with Cabinet or Ministerial decisions.

Cabinet

Formation and Composition of Cabinet

Victoria has followed the system of Cabinet Government evolved in Britain. The Queen's representative in Victoria, the Governor, acts by convention upon the advice of a Cabinet of Ministers, the leader of whom is called the Premier, although there is no mention of Cabinet as such in the Victorian Constitution.

The authority under which Victorian Ministers are appointed is contained in section 15 of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958*, which provides that the Governor may, from time to time, appoint up to fourteen (14) officers who are either members or capable of being elected members of either House of Parliament. No Minister shall hold office for a longer period than three months unless he is or becomes a member of the Legislative Council or the Legislative Assembly. This section further provides that not more than four (4) of such officers shall at any one time be members of the Legislative Council and not more than ten (10) members of the Legislative Assembly.

In practice, a Ministry remains in office only while it has the support of a majority in the Legislative Assembly, and when a change of Government occurs and a new Ministry is to be appointed, the Governor "sends for" that member of the Legislative Assembly who he thinks would be supported by a majority in that House and asks him whether he is able and willing to form a new Government with himself as leader. If that member can assure the Governor accordingly, he may then be commissioned by the Governor to form a Ministry.

The names of those persons who are chosen to serve in his Ministry are then submitted by the Premier-elect to the Governor for appointment by him as responsible Ministers of the Crown.

Powers of Cabinet

The Cabinet is responsible politically for the administrative acts of the Government, but the constitutional powers as set out in The Constitution Act and other Acts are vested in the individual Ministers and the Governor in Council, namely, the Governor with the advice of the Executive Council. Cabinet as such has no legal powers.

Government administration includes departments under direct ministerial control as well as certain public statutory corporations which are subject to varying degrees of ministerial direction. Ministers are sworn in with appropriate portfolios which indicate their particular responsibilities.

Functions and Methods of Procedure

Cabinet normally meets weekly or as occasion requires, in secret and apart from the Governor, to consider an agenda made up of matters submitted by the Premier and other Ministers. The Premier's Department prepares a draft agenda for each meeting; but the Premier himself is responsible for the final agenda and the order of items on the agenda.

There is in practice no Cabinet secretariat; but *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958* provides for the payment of a salary to any member of the Council or of the Assembly who is recognized as the Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet.

The recording of decisions is primarily the responsibility of the Parliamentary Secretary of the Cabinet. There is no special machinery for circulating Cabinet minutes. Where necessary, the Secretary to the Premier's Department issues the instructions; but, where a particular Minister is concerned, the Minister is normally responsible for the execution of Cabinet decisions.

In general, Cabinet decisions are given legal effect either by the appropriate Minister or by the Governor in Council.

Government

Ministries

Ministries, 1945 to 1963

The following is a list of the Premiers of the Governments from 1945 to 1963 :—

Ministry and Name of Premier	Date of Assumption of Office	Date of Retirement from Office	Duration of Office
			days
Albert Arthur Dunstan ..	18th September, 1943	2nd October, 1945	746
Ian Macfarlan, K.C. ..	2nd October, 1945	21st November, 1945	51
John Cain ..	21st November, 1945	20th November, 1947	730
Thomas Tuke Hollway ..	20th November, 1947	3rd December, 1948	380
Thomas Tuke Hollway ..	3rd December, 1948	27th June, 1950 ..	572
John Gladstone Black McDonald	27th June, 1950 ..	28th October, 1952	855
Thomas Tuke Hollway ..	28th October, 1952	31st October, 1952..	4
John Gladstone Black McDonald	31st October, 1952..	17th December, 1952	48
John Cain ..	17th December, 1952	31st March, 1955 ..	835
John Cain ..	31st March, 1955 ..	7th June, 1955 ..	69
Henry Edward Bolte ..	7th June, 1955 ..	Still in Office	

A list of Government officers administering Victoria from 1851 to 1855 and of Premiers of the Governments from 1855 to 1955 is set out on pages 72 to 74 of the Victorian Year Book 1961.

Present Ministry

The last triennial elections for the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly were held on 15th July, 1961.

At 30th June, 1963, the 61st Ministry led by the Hon. H. E. Bolte consisted of the following members :—

From the Legislative Assembly:

The Hon. H. E. Bolte ..	..	Premier and Treasurer
..	..	A. G. Rylah, E.D. .. Chief Secretary and Attorney-General
..	..	W. J. Mibus .. Minister of Water Supply and Minister of Mines
..	..	J. S. Bloomfield .. Minister of Education
..	..	H. R. Petty .. Commissioner of Public Works and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works
..	..	K. H. Turnbull .. Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, Minister of Soldier Settlement, Minister for Conservation, and President of the Board of Land and Works
..	..	G. O. Reid .. Minister of Labour and Industry, and Minister of Electrical Undertakings
..	..	M. V. Porter .. Minister for Local Government
..	..	A. J. Fraser, M.C. .. Minister of State Development
..	..	E. R. Meagher, M.B.E., E.D. .. Minister of Transport and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.

From the Legislative Council:

The Hon. G. L. Chandler, C.M.G.	Minister of Agriculture and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works
„ „ L. H. S. Thompson	.. Minister of Housing and Minister of Forests
„ „ R. W. Mack	.. Minister of Health
„ „ R. J. Hamer, E.D.	.. Minister of Immigration.

*Parliament***Introduction**

The Constitution Act, creating a Legislative Council and a Legislative Assembly, was assented to by Her Majesty in Council on the 21st July, 1855, and came into operation in Victoria on the 23rd November, 1855. Under this Act, Her Majesty was given power “by and with the advice and consent of the said Council and Assembly to make laws in and for Victoria in all cases whatsoever”. Certain of these unlimited powers, however, are now exercised by the Legislature of the Commonwealth of Australia.

The Legislative Council has 34 members elected from two-member provinces for six year terms and the Legislative Assembly has 66 members elected from single electorates for three year terms. Both Houses are elected on adult suffrage, and their powers are normally co-ordinate, although Money Bills must originate in the Legislative Assembly.

The provisions of the Constitution dealing with the Parliament have been frequently amended, as The Constitution Act gives the Victorian Parliament power to “repeal, alter or vary” the Act itself, provided that the second and third readings of certain amending Bills are passed by an absolute majority of both Houses. The most frequently amended sections of the Constitution dealing with the Parliament have been those setting out the relations between Council and Assembly, and the qualifications of candidates and voters. The right, extended in the original Constitution Act, to assume the privileges, immunities, and powers of the House of Commons (as they stood at that time) was taken up in 1857 by the first Act passed by the Victorian Parliament. These include very wide powers to punish contempt. The publication of parliamentary reports and proceedings was made absolutely privileged in 1890.

The landmarks of Assembly suffrage were: 1857, manhood suffrage; 1899, plural voting abolished; and 1908, women’s franchise. Adult suffrage for the Council was introduced in 1950. Payment of members has also been frequently adjusted. The present complex scale makes extra payments to the Leader of the third party as well as to the Leader of the Opposition; Opposition and third party Whips and

the Deputy Leader of the Opposition are also specially rewarded. Electorates are graded as "metropolitan", "urban", "inner country", and "outer country", and receive different rates.

Parliament is summoned, prorogued, or dissolved by proclamation issued by the Governor. The duration of a Parliament depends upon the life of the Assembly (limited to three years), but may be ended by the Governor dissolving the Assembly before the expiration of that period. The Legislative Council cannot be dissolved except in special circumstances arising from disagreements between the two Houses. Its members are elected for six years, half of them retiring, but being capable of re-election, every three years. A session is that period between the summoning of Parliament and prorogation. When Parliament is prorogued all business on hand lapses and, if it is to be continued in the next session, it must be reintroduced.

There are three political parties at present (June, 1963) represented in the Parliament of Victoria: the Liberal and Country Party, the Labor Party, and the Country Party. Of the 34 members of the Legislative Council, seventeen belong to the Liberal and Country Party, nine to the Labor Party and eight to the Country Party. Of the 66 members of the Legislative Assembly, 39 belong to the Liberal and Country Party, eighteen to the Labor Party and nine to the Country Party. The Liberal and Country Party, having won the majority of seats at the general election of the Assembly in 1955 formed a Government which was returned to office at the last two general elections in 1958 and 1961. The Leader of that Party holds the office of Premier. The Labor Party forms the official Opposition Party, whilst the Country Party sits on the corner benches of the Government side of the Assembly.

Functions of Parliament

The functions of Parliament consist of passing legislation and taking action to make available finances or funds as required for State expenditure. Legislation can be initiated by any member of Parliament in either House with the exception that all Money Bills, such as Bills for imposing a duty, rate, tax, or impost, or Bills for appropriating any part of the revenue of the State, must originate in the Assembly on the motion of a Minister. They may be rejected, but not altered, by the Council. The Council, however, may suggest amendments in such Bills, provided these amendments will not have the effect of increasing any proposed charge or burden on the people and the Assembly may make the suggested amendments if they so desire. In practice, almost all Bills are introduced by the Government in office as a result of policy decisions taken in Cabinet.

Parliamentary Procedure

Parliament controls the Government in office by the Assembly's power, in the last resort, to pass a resolution of no-confidence in the Government or to reject a proposal which the Government considers so vital that it is made a matter of confidence. This would force

the Government to resign. Procedure of each House is governed by Standing Orders, Rules and practice, based mainly on the procedure of the House of Commons, and administered by the respective presiding officers : the President of the Legislative Council, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, and the respective Chairmen of Committees. The principal innovations in Assembly procedure are time limit of speeches and the elaborate ballot procedure at the opening of a new Parliament for the election of the Speaker.

The President of the Council holds office for the balance of the period for which he is elected as a member and may again be appointed if he retains his seat in the House. The election of a Speaker is the first business of a new Assembly after the members have taken the oath of allegiance. After this the Chairman of Committees is elected. The same order in debate is observed in Committee as in the House itself, the Chairman having final authority over all points of order arising when he is in the Chair.

The sittings of each House commence with the reading of the Lord's Prayer by the respective presiding officers, Before the business of the day, as set down on the Notice Paper, is called on, Ministers may be questioned on matters under their administrative control ; notices of motion, such as motions for the introduction of Bills, or motions of a substantive or abstract nature, are given ; petitions are presented ; papers are laid on the Table ; and messages from the Governor and from the other House are read. At this stage, members have the opportunity of moving a motion "that the House do now adjourn" which, under the Standing Orders, enables discussion on matters of urgent public importance.

Under "Orders of the Day" which now follows, Bills are dealt with in their various stages. All Bills, with the exception of the annual Appropriation Bill, when passed by both Houses are presented by the Clerk of the Parliaments to the Governor, who, acting on the advice of his "Council of Legislation", gives the Royal Assent. This advice is set out at the commencement of each Bill and is as follows:—"Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of Victoria." The Appropriation Bill is presented by the Speaker to the Governor for assent. Unless otherwise provided, all Acts come into force on the day of assent.

Parliamentary Committees

Introduction

The Committee is an instrument used to relieve the House of burdens for which it is not entirely suited. In general the same rules apply as to debate, order, etc., as in the House, but there is one very important difference, namely, that members are permitted to speak more than once to the same question. This gives the Committee greater scope and flexibility, and facilitates a more thorough examination and discussion of details.

The principal Committee is the Committee of the whole House. The other Committees, each of which comprise only a small number of members selected by the House, are Select Committees, Sessional Committees, Joint Committees, and Statutory Committees. All Committees are appointed for the consideration of a particular business and are always subject to the overriding authority of the House which appoints them. They function at the direction of the House, and in conformity with the Standing Orders of the House and the established practice relating to Select Committees. According to the nature of the Committee, they cease to exist either on the completion of their business, the Prorogation of Parliament, the dissolution of the Assembly, or the end of the Session.

Committee of the Whole House

The Committee of the whole House is in effect the House sitting as a Committee, with the Chairman of Committees presiding instead of the Speaker (in the Assembly) or the President (in the Council). It amounts to the House itself in the form of a Committee taking over the whole process of considering and amending Bills, and, in the Assembly only, of dealing with the preliminary consideration of proposals involving Government expenditure and charges.

Once the House has approved the principle of a Bill by agreeing to the second reading, it orders the Bill to be committed either forthwith, or on a future date, to a Committee of the whole House (or, occasionally, firstly to a Select Committee should the Bill be one requiring very detailed and technical examination). The Committee stage is one of the most important stages of every Bill, as the Bill is then examined clause by clause, necessary amendments are made, and the Bill is moulded into the form desired by Parliament.

On committal of a Bill, the Speaker (or the President in the Council) puts the formal question, "That I do now leave the Chair". When this is agreed to, the House automatically resolves itself into a Committee of the whole. The Chairman of Committees takes the Chair placed at the Table between the Clerk of the House and the Clerk-Assistant and, in the Assembly, the Mace is removed from its position on top of the Table and placed underneath. However, when the Order is read for the further consideration in Committee of a Bill on which the Committee had already made some progress, the Speaker (or the President) just leaves the Chair without putting any question. When the Committee reports the Bill, or reports having made progress in the Bill, the Speaker (or the President) resumes the Chair to receive the report from the Chairman (and in the Assembly the Mace is restored to its place on top of the Table).

In Committee of the whole House, when the business has been concluded, the Chairman puts the question that he report the Bill to the House either with or without amendment as the case may be, but if consideration is incomplete the question put by him is, "That he report the Committee have made progress in the Bill and ask leave to sit again". To ask leave to sit again is most important, since the Committee itself has no power to determine when it will sit again and must await

and abide by the direction of the House. Failure to seek or to be granted leave to sit again puts an end to the existence of the Committee and the Bill under consideration drops off the Notice Paper. It can be proceeded with no further unless and until the House restores it to the Notice Paper under special procedure laid down in the Standing Orders. The Committee is able, should it so desire, to end its own existence by merely carrying a resolution, "That the Chairman do now leave the Chair". As a consequence no report can be made and leave cannot be obtained to sit again.

Each Committee of the whole House other than the Committees of "Supply" and "Ways and Means", reference to which is made later, is regarded as being a separate body generally known by the title of the business with which it is concerned and ceasing to exist once it has concluded that business and made its report to the House. Sometimes the House finds it necessary to re-commit a Bill to a Committee of the whole House either as to the whole Bill or just as to a certain clause or clauses. The second Committee examines the Bill (or part) afresh, and makes its report, and being regarded as a different Committee to the first, may vary and even reverse decisions made by the first Committee.

The Chairman is responsible for the business of the Committee. He settles points of order as they arise, and while his rulings can be challenged in the Committee, they cannot be appealed against to the Speaker (or the President), but the Chairman may refer a question to the Speaker (or the President) for decision should he or the Committee so desire. He maintains order in the Committee, but disorder arising there can only be censured by the House on receipt of a report thereof from the Chairman. In the event of an equality of votes the Chairman must give a casting vote.

At the commencement of each Session, the Assembly appoints separate Committees of the whole House known as the Committee of Supply and the Committee of Ways and Means, both of which remain in existence throughout the Session, to deal with the preliminary consideration of proposals involving Government expenditure and charges. The Committee of Supply recommends appropriations from Consolidated Revenue to meet supply requirements submitted in the form of Estimates of Expenditure which, on being agreed to by the House, are referred to the Committee of Ways and Means, which in turn resolves that the sum agreed upon be granted out of Consolidated Revenue. The House then orders a Bill to be brought in to carry out the resolution. Such a Bill is referred to as a Supply Bill. To ensure that there will be sufficient money in the Consolidated Revenue to meet the various Supply Bills, the Government proposes certain taxes or charges and it is the function of the Committee of Ways and Means to consider these proposals and to report its decisions in the form of a resolution to the House. If the House agrees to the resolution, it orders a Bill to be brought in creating the tax or charge.

Select Committees

Select Committees are appointed to consider matters that require careful and detailed inquiry and the examination and weighing of evidence—requirements which are beyond the capacity or the inclination

of a numerous assembly—and to report their opinion for the assistance of the House. They are composed of a minimum of five members and a maximum of twelve in the Assembly (ten in the Council). The House selects the members either from names nominated by the mover of the motion for the appointment of the Committee or by ballot of the members of the House. If necessary, the House will give the Committee power to examine witnesses and to call for persons, papers and records. In special cases the Committee may examine witnesses on oath and, by leave of the House, may hear counsel.

Select Committees, unlike a Committee of the whole House, have full control over the days and hours of their meetings and may adjourn from time to time, but must obtain leave of the House to move from place to place should their inquiries require them to move beyond the precincts of the House. They cannot sit while the House itself is sitting, and Assembly Committees (without leave of the House) can sit only on days on which their House is appointed to sit. Their powers are limited to the specific terms of reference, but may at any time be extended or restricted by an instruction from the House. Select Committees appoint their own Chairman who votes only when there is an equality of votes. It is the Chairman's duty to prepare the report which is then considered by the Committee paragraph by paragraph, and when agreed upon, is brought up in the House by the Chairman. The report is ordered to lie on the Table or to be otherwise dealt with as the House may direct. Evidence taken by the Committee and documents presented to it cannot be published before they have been reported to the House.

All private Bills, unless ordered by the House to be dealt with as public Bills, must be referred to a Select Committee after being read a second time. Private Bills are introduced in the Assembly only, since the Council by Standing Order forbids their introduction in the Council.

Joint Committees

A Joint Committee is a Committee constituted as a small Select Committee of each House sitting together to consider matters of equal concern to both Houses and appointed pursuant to the Joint Standing Orders of both Houses. The proposal for a Joint Committee may originate in either House and the House desiring the Committee sends a Message to the other stating the object of the Committee, the number of members to serve on it, and the number to form a quorum. The House whose concurrence is desired names the time and place of meeting. The number of members of each House must be equal and the Chairman has a vote, but not a casting vote. The report is presented to both Houses—by the Chairman to the House to which he belongs, and to the other House by a member of that House deputed by the Committee.

Occasionally the Government may desire an important matter to be examined or investigated by a Joint Select Committee of both Houses particularly if it is a matter of such magnitude that consideration would necessarily continue for a protracted period, possibly beyond the likely

duration of the Session of Parliament at the time. It, therefore, submits a Bill to Parliament requiring the Houses to appoint the Committee, fixing the number of members to serve on it (not necessarily an equal number from each House), the powers and functions of the Committee, as well as its duration, and providing for reports to be made to both Houses. Such a statutory Committee, unlike the ordinary Joint Select Committee, would not lapse on a Prorogation of Parliament, which has the effect of completely cutting off any uncompleted business of the Session. Parliament, of course, can either accept or reject the Bill or make such amendments to it as it deems proper. (See also Sessional Committees.)

Sessional Committees

Several Select Committees are set up at the beginning of each Session either pursuant to the Standing Orders of the House or pursuant to Statute, and continue in existence throughout the Session. Some are separate Committees of each House and others Joint Committees of both Houses. Each House appoints its own Printing Committee and Standing Orders Committee. The Public Accounts Committee is appointed by the Assembly; while the Statute Law Revision, Subordinate Legislation, and House and Library Committees are Joint Committees of both Houses. The purpose of each Committee can be gathered from its title. Thus the Printing Committee considers matters relating to the printing to be executed by order of the House and selects and arranges for the printing of returns and papers presented to the House; the Standing Orders Committee draws up the Standing Orders and amendments thereto for adoption by the House and approval by the Governor; the Public Accounts Committee deals principally with the examination of the public accounts and, where necessary, draws the attention of the Assembly to them (it also deals with any question of finance referred to it by the Assembly); the Statute Law Revision Committee examines anomalies in the law, proposals for the consolidation of the statutes and proposals in legal Bills referred to it by either House; the Subordinate Legislation Committee examines regulations and rules, etc., made pursuant to statute and draws the attention of Parliament to anything it considers irregular; and the House Committee has the management of the Parliamentary Refreshment Rooms and the Parliament Gardens and the maintenance, renewal, and extension of the Parliament Buildings. The Library Committee has the care and management of the Parliament Library.

Private Legislation

An article dealing with this subject will be found on pages 86–87 of the Victorian Year Book 1962.

Money Bills

An article dealing with this subject will be found on pages 73 to 75 of the Victorian Year Book 1963.

Members of the State Parliament

Legislative Council

The following list shows members of the Legislative Council at 30th June, 1963 :—

Member	Province	Number of Electors on Rolls	Number of Electors Who Voted	Total Percentage of Electors Who Voted
Bradbury, The Hon. Archibald Keith	North-Eastern ..	50,548	48,045	95·05
Cameron, The Hon. Sir Ewen	East Yarra ..	131,509	122,836	93·41
Chandler, The Hon. Gilbert Lawrence, C.M.G.	Southern ..	213,166	201,617	94·58
Dickie, The Hon. Vance Oakley	Ballaarat ..	57,149	54,726	95·76
Elliot, The Hon. Douglas George	Melbourne ..	44,990	40,672	90·40
Feltham, The Hon. Percy Victor, M.B.E.	Northern ..	53,405	51,476	96·39
Galbally, The Hon. John William	Melbourne North	147,606	140,166	94·96
Gawith, The Hon. Charles Sherwin	Monash ..	93,699	85,760	91·53
Grigg, The Hon. Thomas Henry	Bendigo ..	60,082	57,788	96·18
Hunt, The Hon. Alan John	South-Eastern ..	123,546	116,941	94·65
McArthur, The Hon. Sir Gordon	South-Western ..	78,816	74,692	94·77
* Vacant	Melbourne West	97,267	91,719	94·30
Mack, The Hon. Ronald William	Western ..	56,731	54,665	96·36
Mansell, The Hon. Arthur Robert	North-Western ..	46,689	44,793	95·94
May, The Hon. Robert William	Gippsland ..	75,273	71,019	94·35
Thompson, The Hon. Lindsay Hamilton Simpson	Higinbotham ..	121,354	114,175	94·08
Tripovich, The Hon. John Matthew	Doutta Galla ..	103,026	96,392	93·56

* The Hon. B. Machin died on 24th June, 1963.

Members of the Legislative Council who did not come up for election at the last triennial election on 15th July, 1961, are shown in the following table :—

Member	Province
Byrne, The Hon. Murray	Ballaarat
Byrnes, The Hon. Percy Thomas	North-Western
Fulton, The Hon. William Oliver	Gippsland
Garrett, The Hon. William Raymond, A.F.C., A.E.A. ..	Southern
Gross, The Hon. Kenneth Samuel	Western
Hamer, The Hon. Rupert James	East Yarra
Mair, The Hon. William Phillip	South-Eastern
Merrifield, The Hon. Samuel	Doutta Galla
Nicol, The Hon. Graham John	Monash
O'Connell, The Hon. Geoffrey John	Melbourne
Smith, The Hon. Arthur	Bendigo
Swinburne, The Hon. Ivan Archie	North-Eastern
Thom, The Hon. Geoffrey Walter	South-Western
Todd, The Hon. Archibald	Melbourne West
Walters, The Hon. Dudley Joseph	Northern
Walton, The Hon. John Malcolm	Melbourne North
Warner, The Hon. Sir Arthur George, K.B.E.	Higinbotham

President: The Hon. Sir Gordon McArthur.

Chairman of Committees: The Hon. Sir Ewen Cameron.

Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council :
R. S. Sarah, Esquire.

Legislative Assembly

The following list shows members of the Legislative Assembly at 30th June, 1963. It also includes details of electoral districts and voting at the last general election, which was held on 15th July, 1961 :—

Member	District	Number of Electors on Rolls	Number of Electors Who Voted	Total Percentage of Electors Who Voted
Balfour, James Charles Murray, Esquire	Morwell ..	22,946	21,816	95·08
Birrell, Hayden Wilson, Esquire	Geelong ..	21,758	20,401	93·76
Bloomfield, The Hon. John Stoughton	Malvern ..	19,098	17,404	91·13
Bolte, The Hon. Henry Edward	Hampden ..	20,975	20,211	96·36
Borthwick, William Archibald, Esquire	Scoresby ..	30,627	29,032	94·79
Brose, The Hon. Richard Keats	Rodney ..	22,401	21,419	95·62
Christie, Vernon, Esquire ..	Ivanhoe ..	23,626	22,273	94·27
Clarey, Reynold Arthur, Esquire	Melbourne ..	15,758	14,096	89·45
Cochrane, Leslie James, Esquire	Gippsland West	22,382	21,279	95·07
Crick, George Roy, Esquire	Grant ..	38,649	36,321	93·98
Darcy, Thomas Anthony, Esquire	Polwarth ..	24,794	23,732	95·72
Divers, William Thomas, Esquire	Footscray ..	20,222	19,341	95·64
Dunstan, Roberts Christian, Esquire, D.S.O.	Mornington ..	28,189	26,273	93·20
Evans, Alexander Thomas, Esquire	Ballaarat North	22,585	21,613	95·70
Evans, Bruce James, Esquire	Gippsland East ..	21,537	20,151	93·56
Fennessy, Leo Michael, Esquire	Brunswick East	16,987	15,683	92·32
Floyd, William Laurence, Esquire	Williamstown ..	19,193	18,001	93·79
Fraser, The Hon. Alexander John, M.C.	Caulfield ..	21,439	19,697	91·87
Gainey, Richard John, Esquire, M.B.E.	Elsternwick ..	20,589	19,486	94·64
Galvin, The Hon. Leslie William	Bendigo ..	21,894	21,151	96·61
Garrison, Peter Wolseley, Esquire	Hawthorn ..	18,722	17,187	91·80
Gibbs, George Sampson, Esquire	Portland ..	22,756	21,925	96·35
Gillett, Robert Max, Esquire	Geelong West ..	25,869	24,457	94·54
Holden, Jack Bruce, Esquire	Moonee Ponds ..	20,225	19,141	94·64
*Holding, Allan Clyde, Esquire	Richmond ..	17,549	14,744	84·02
Holland, Kevin Myles Stephen, Esquire	Flemington ..	18,471	17,274	93·52
Hyland, The Hon. Sir Herbert John Thornhill	Gippsland South	23,424	22,100	94·35
Jenkins, Dr. Henry Alfred	Reservoir ..	27,588	26,504	96·07

* Elected at a by-election on 12th May, 1962, *vice*, W. J. Towers, deceased, 18th March, 1962.

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—*continued*

Member	District	Number of Electors on Rolls	Number of Electors Who Voted	Total Percentage of Electors Who Voted
Lovegrove, Denis, Esquire	Fitzroy ..	17,203	15,633	90·87
Loxton, Samuel John Everett, Esquire	Prahran ..	18,295	16,892	92·33
MacDonald, James David, Esquire	Burwood ..	21,578	20,444	94·74
McDonald, The Hon. Sir William John Farquhar	Dundas ..	21,766	20,987	96·42
Manson, James Williamson, Esquire	Ringwood ..	35,337	33,910	95·96
Meagher, The Hon. Edward Raymond, M.B.E., E.D.	Mentone ..	26,167	24,694	94·37
Mibus, The Hon. Wilfred John	Lowan ..	20,793	19,968	96·03
Mitchell, The Hon. Thomas Walter	Benambra ..	23,039	21,806	94·65
Moss, The Hon. George Colin	Murray Valley ..	23,051	22,081	95·79
Mutton, Charles, Esquire ..	Coburg ..	21,501	20,460	95·16
Petty, The Hon. Horace Rostill	Toorak ..	18,757	16,838	89·77
Porter, The Hon. Murray Victor	Sandringham ..	26,818	25,659	95·68
Rafferty, Joseph Anstice, Esquire	Ormond ..	24,799	23,638	95·32
Reid, The Hon. George Oswald	Box Hill ..	30,533	28,661	93·87
Reid, Leonard Stanley, Esquire, D.F.C.	Dandenong ..	37,575	35,539	94·58
Ring, Eugene Cornelius, Esquire	Preston ..	26,512	25,126	94·77
Rossiter, John Frederick, Esquire	Brighton ..	20,878	19,552	93·65
Rylah, The Hon. Arthur Gordon, E.D.	Kew	21,462	19,727	91·92
Scanlan, Alan Henry, Esquire	Oakleigh ..	23,142	22,011	95·11
Schintler, George Roy, Esquire	Yarraville ..	21,859	20,765	95·00
Scott, Gordon Lincoln, Esquire	Ballaarat South	21,531	20,595	95·65
Snider, Baron David, Esquire	St. Kilda ..	18,580	16,771	90·26
Stirling, Harold Victor, Esquire	Swan Hill ..	19,703	18,992	96·39
Stokes, Russell Newton, Esquire	Evelyn ..	30,817	28,946	93·93
Stoneham, The Hon. Clive Phillip	Midlands ..	23,306	22,441	96·29
Suggett, Robert Harris, Esquire	Moorabbin ..	30,799	29,512	95·82
Sutton, Patrick Keith, Esquire	Albert Park ..	17,415	16,131	92·63
Tanner, Edgar Stephen, Esquire, C.B.E., E.D.	Ripponlea ..	19,498	17,710	90·83
Taylor, Alexander William, Esquire, E.D.	Balwyn ..	27,107	25,483	94·01
Trewin, Thomas Campion, Esquire	Benalla ..	20,915	19,944	95·36
Turnbull, Campbell, Esquire	Brunswick West	19,472	18,262	93·79
Turnbull, The Hon. Keith Hector	Kara Kara ..	19,521	18,809	96·35

MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—*continued*

Member	District	Number of Electors on Rolls	Number of Electors Who Voted	Total Percentage of Electors Who Voted
Wheeler, Kenneth Henry, Esquire	Essendon ..	24,434	23,320	95·44
*Whiting, Milton Stanley, Esquire	Mildura ..	20,870	19,538	93·62
Wilcox, Vernon Francis, Esquire	Camberwell ..	20,642	19,205	93·04
Wilkes, Frank Noel, Esquire	Northcote ..	20,171	19,134	94·86
†Wilton, John Thomas, Esquire	Broadmeadows ..	46,665	42,525	91·13
Wiltshire, Raymond John, Esquire	Mulgrave ..	46,023	43,664	94·87

* Elected at a by-election on 27th October, 1962, *vice*, N. Barclay, deceased, 11th September, 1962.

† Elected at a by-election on 4th August, 1962, *vice*, H. E. Kane, deceased, 30th May, 1962.

Speaker : The Hon. Sir William John Farquhar McDonald.

Chairman of Committees : Joseph Anstice Rafferty, Esquire.

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly : John Archibald Robertson, Esquire.

Number of Parliaments and Their Duration

During the period 1856 to 1963 there have been 42 Parliaments. The Forty-second Parliament was opened on 1st August, 1961. A table showing the duration in days of each Parliament (1856 to 1927), the number of days in session, and the percentage of the latter to the former was published in the Year Book for 1928–29, page 21. Similar information for the Twenty-ninth to the Thirty-ninth Parliaments (1927 to 1955) was published in the Year Book for 1952–53 and 1953–54, page 31. As from the commencement of the Thirty-eighth Parliament (20th June, 1950), information about the duration of each Parliament, the number of sittings of each House, and the percentage of the latter to the former is shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—DURATION OF PARLIAMENTS AND NUMBER OF SITTINGS OF EACH HOUSE

Number of Parliament	Period	Duration of Parliament *	Sittings			
			Legislative Assembly		Legislative Council	
			Number of Sittings	Percentage of Sittings to Duration	Number of Sittings	Percentage of Sittings to Duration
		days				
Thirty-eighth ..	1950–52	865	131	15·1	81	9·4
Thirty-ninth ..	1952–55	852	92	10·8	61	7·2
Fortieth ..	1955–58	1,038	139	13·4	99	9·5
Forty-first ..	1958–61	1,059	150	14·2	103	9·7

Calculated from the date of opening to the date of dissolution of the Parliament.

Cost of Parliamentary Government

The following table reviews the expenditure arising from the operation of Parliamentary Government in Victoria. It comprises the State Governor, the Ministry, the Legislative Council, the Legislative Assembly, and electoral activities. It does not attempt to cover the expenditure on State administration generally.

The table shows this expenditure for the State for the years ended 30th June, 1954 to 1963. In order to avoid incorrect conclusions about the cost of the Governor's establishment, it is pointed out that a large part of the expenditure (with the exception of the item "Salary") under the general heading "Governor" represents official services.

Parliamentary salaries and allowances were amended as from 6th October, 1954. Prior to that date, the President of the Legislative Council and the Chairman of Committees, the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly and the Chairman of Committees, and Ministers of the Crown received salaries and allowances only in connection with their offices. Under the new legislation, however, these persons receive salaries and allowances as members of Parliament in addition to those connected with their offices. These former amounts are included under "Parliament".

VICTORIA—COST OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT (£)

Year Ended 30th June—	Governor		Ministry	Parliament		Electoral	Royal Commissions, Select Committees, etc.	Total
	Salary	Other Expenses*		Salaries of Members	Other Expenses†			
1954 ..	6,000	55,608	35,144	133,120	154,227	31,763	3,399	419,261
1955 ..	6,000	41,320	27,258	193,814	163,436	101,531	2,180	535,539
1956 ..	6,000	49,143	22,213	225,202	182,257	88,810	13,315	586,940
1957 ..	6,000	54,749	22,584	225,202	241,524	36,547	12,749	599,355
1958 ..	7,500	58,152	22,934	222,400	238,497	103,561	7,761	660,805
1959 ..	7,500	58,984	‡38,037	237,846	267,224	101,422	14,248	725,261
1960 ..	7,500	62,400	‡39,544	284,291	251,010	30,046	20,608	695,399
1961 ..	7,500	60,768	‡41,583	279,794	274,464	59,565	24,817	748,491
1962 ..	7,460	75,773	35,254	281,239	294,586	147,961	27,894	870,167
1963 ..	7,500	84,534	‡46,010	282,816	306,971	44,982	51,370	824,183

* Includes salaries of staff and maintenance of house and gardens.

† Includes cost of members' railway passes, parliamentary staff and maintenance.

‡ Includes cost of oversea conferences in Ministry costs.

State Acts Passed During 1962

The following Acts were passed by State Parliament during the year ended 31st December, 1962 :—

No.		No.	
6851	Racing (Anzac Day) Act permits the holding of picnic race-meetings on Anzac Day	6866	Administration and Probate (Amendment) Act amends section 86 of the Administration and Probate Act 1958
6852	Railways (Thomson River Bridge) Act divests the ownership of a railway bridge over the Thomson River from the Victorian Railways Commissioners to the President, Councillors, and Ratepayers of the Shire of Narracan	6867	Statute Law Revision Act revises the Statute Law
6853	Business Names Act repeals the 1958 Act and substitutes a new Consolidated Act	6868	Tottenham to Brooklyn Railway Construction Act
6854	Melbourne Cricket Ground Act alters the existing boundaries of the Melbourne Cricket Ground	6869	Kerang (Alexander Park) Land Act authorizes the leasing of portion of certain land in the Parish of Kerang
6855	Evidence (Amendment) Act removes certain ambiguity from the 1958 Act	6870	Forests (Amendment) Act provides that any forest officer may order the clearance of inflammable material adjacent to forest land
6856	Railways (Industrial Awards) Act provides that the relevant Federal award for service grants and retiring gratuity payments to employees shall apply	6871	Melbourne Harbor Trust Lands Act grants the Trust title to certain land and makes provision for return to the Crown of other land that it does not require
6857	Children's Welfare (Assistance) Act extends child maintenance payments in certain circumstances	6872	Dried Fruits (Expenses and Finances) Act empowers the Dried Fruits Board to invest its surplus funds in securities and authorizes payment of allowances and expenses to the Board's officers
6858	National Parks Act reserves certain lands of the Crown as sites for national parks	6873	Housing (Home Builders' Account) Act amends the Housing Act 1958
6859	Consolidated Revenue Act	6874	Supreme Court (Interest on Judgments) Act empowers judges to allow interest on judgments in actions for debt and damages
6860	Land (Industrial Grants) Act provides for the granting of Crown lands for industrial expansion outside the Metropolitan Area	6875	The Constitution Act Amendment (Postal Voting) Act amends the 1958 Act
6861	Revocation and Excision of Crown Reservations Act revokes the reservation and Crown grants of certain Crown lands required for other purposes	6876	Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Government Guarantee) Act provides a Government guarantee to subscribers to the Board's future loans
6862	Standard Insurance Company Limited Act relates to claims against and liabilities incurred by the Standard Insurance Company Limited	6877	Stock (Artificial Breeding) Act regulates the artificial breeding of stock
6863	The Constitution Act Amendment (Statute Law Revision Committee) Act increases attendance fees of members of the Statute Law Revision Committee	6878	Tattooing Act amends the Health Act 1958 and Police Offences Act 1958
6864	Dog (Registration Discs) Act amends the Dog Act 1958	6879	Unclaimed Moneys Act amends the law providing for the payment of unclaimed moneys into the Consolidated Revenue
6865	Game (Black Swans) Amendment Act extends the open season for black swans		

STATE ACTS PASSED DURING 1962—*continued*

No.		No.	
6880	Cancer (Facilities) Act authorizes medical officers of the Cancer Institute Board to treat private patients	6899	Railways (Yallourn Tracks) Act authorizes the Victorian Railways Commissioners to operate train services upon land owned by the State Electricity Commission at Yallourn
6881	Road Traffic (Traffic Control Items) Act amends the Road Traffic Act 1958	6900	Marine Stores and Old Metals (Corporations) Act increases the licence fees payable by collectors and dealers under the said Act
6882	Consolidated Revenue Act	6901	Judges' Pension Act reduces the period during which a judge of the Supreme Court or County Court must serve in order to qualify for a pension
6883	Health (Sampling of Foods) Act amends the Health Act 1958	6902	Trustee Companies (Amalgamation) Act approves the amalgamation of certain trustee companies
6884	Crimes (Detention) Act relates to certain persons ordered to be detained during the Governor's pleasure	6903	Entertainments Tax (Partial Abolition) Act abolishes entertainments tax on all admissions other than to horse, pony, and trotting races
6885	Fisheries (Noxious Fish) Act imposes heavier penalties for releasing non-indigenous or noxious fish into Victorian waters	6904	Adult Education Act alters the constitution of the Council of Adult Education
6886	Subordinate Legislation Act amends numerous Acts and provides for the publication of all statutory rules	6905	Marine (Board Membership) Act alters certain requirements necessary for membership of the Marine Board of Victoria
6887	Country Fire Authority (Amendment) Act increases the penalty for failure to comply with a direction to remove fire hazards	6906	Grain Elevators (Borrowing Powers) Act increases the maximum sum which may be borrowed by the Grain Elevators Board
6888	Local Government (Amendment) Act amends the Local Government Act 1958	6907	Teaching Service (Residences) Act regulates the allocation of residences to members of the Teaching Service
6889	Poisons Act re-enacts the law relating to the possession, sale, and use of poisons or deleterious substances	6908	Brighton (Cramer-street) Land Act provides for the closing of Cramer-street in the City of Brighton
6890	Probate Duty Act consolidates and amends the law relating to probate duty	6909	Co-operative Housing Societies Act amends the 1958 Act
6891	County Court (Judges) Act removes the previously existing restriction of the number of County Court judges	6910	Stamps (Amendment) Act makes amendments in the Principal Act. Among these it frees municipalities from the payment of stamp duty
6892	Consolidated Revenue Act	6911	Soil Conservation and Land Utilization Act amends the 1958 Act
6893	Bairnsdale (Unimproved Rating Poll) Act	6912	Beaufort Lands Act reserves certain land in the Parish of Beaufort for municipal purposes
6894	Local Authorities Superannuation (Equipment and Services) Act empowers the Local Authorities Superannuation Board to obtain office and business equipment	6913	Second-hand Dealers (Amendment) Act increases the fees payable for licences issued under the said Act
6895	Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Borrowing Powers) Act increases the borrowing powers of the Board		
6896	Agricultural Colleges (Financial) Act establishes a Stock Trading Account for each of the agricultural colleges		
6897	Portland Harbor Trust (Borrowing Powers) Act increases the borrowing powers of the Trust		
6898	Superannuation (Railway Service) Act amends the Superannuation Act 1958		

STATE ACTS PASSED DURING 1962—*continued*

No.		No.	
6914	Agricultural Education (Continuation) Act extends the period during which the University of Melbourne is to receive payment for agricultural education and research		Act 1958 or the Co-operative Housing Societies Act 1958
6915	Trustee (Variation of Trusts) Act gives the Court power to vary trusts where beneficiaries are under some disability	6929	Land Tax (Exemptions and Rates) Act relates to certain exemptions from land tax and inserts new rates of land tax
6916	Foreign Judgments Act enforces in Victoria judgments given in other countries which accord reciprocal treatment to judgments given in Victoria	6930	Education (School Committees) Act amends the Education Act 1958
6917	Sale of Human Blood Act prohibits unauthorized trading in human blood	6931	Public Works Loan Application Act sanctions the issue and application of Loan money for Public Works
6918	Weights and Measures (Amendment) Act amends the 1958 Act	6932	Kew and Heidelberg Lands (Amendment) Act substitutes the city of Northcote for the city of Heidelberg as one of the municipalities to have two representatives as trustees for the Yarra Bend National Park
6919	Supreme Court (Registrar) Act abolishes the office of Registrar and Keeper of the Records of the Supreme Court	6933	Home Finance Act re-enacts with amendments the earlier Home Finance Acts
6920	Administration and Probate (Family Provision) Act enables provision to be made of the estate of a person dying intestate for the maintenance and support of his dependants	6934	Water Supply Loan Application Act
6921	Returned Servicemen's Badges Act amends the 1956 Act	6935	Children's Welfare (Reception Centres) Act provides reception centres for the accommodation and maintenance of children
6922	Shrine of Remembrance Site (Trustees) Act increases the number of trustees of the Shrine by three	6936	Consolidated Revenue Act
6923	Melbourne Harbor Trust (Port of Melbourne) Act amends the interpretation of "the Port" so that there may be included lands declared to be part of the Port of Melbourne	6937	State Forests Loan Application Act
6924	Marriage (Property) Act amends Part VIII. of the Marriage Act 1958	6938	Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage (Amendment) Act increases the maximum amount which the Trust may borrow
6925	Superannuation (Pensions) Act amends the Superannuation Act 1958	6939	Friendly Societies (Amendment) Act amends the Friendly Societies Act 1958
6926	Bank Holidays (Saturday) Act authorizes the closing of banks on Saturdays	6940	Local Government (Further Amendment) Act amends the Local Government Act 1958
6927	Housing Advances and Loans (Procurator Fees) Act prohibits estate agents and solicitors from charging procurator fees in respect of advances obtained for clients	6941	Railway Loan Application Act
6928	Housing Advances and Loans (Improper Commissions) Act makes it an offence for any person to receive a commission for the allocation of a loan under the Building Societies	6942	Licensing (Temporary Restaurant Licences) Act grants a temporary restaurant licence to the Exhibition Building Trustees
		6943	Country Roads (Amendment) Act amends the Country Roads Act 1958
		6944	Fruit and Vegetables (Amendment) Act amends the Fruit and Vegetables Act 1958
		6945	Public Works Committee (Special Exemption) Act permits a member of the Committee to vote on a particular matter in which he may be interested
		6946	Coroners (Medical Expenses) Act enables the fee to be paid to any medical practitioner for conducting a post-mortem examination or giving evidence at an inquest to be prescribed

STATE ACTS PASSED DURING 1962—*continued*

No. 6947	Land (Special Grants) Act grants certain lands to the Trustees of the Sisters of Charity and to the National Fitness Council of Victoria respectively	No. 6963	Trustee (Mortgages) Act establishes two-thirds as the proportion of value of property beyond which a trustee may not lend
6948	Consolidated Revenue Act	6964	Milk and Dairy Supervision (Amendment) Act ensures that milk purchased for any purpose other than liquid consumption should be paid for on the basis of its butterfat content
6949	Queen's College Land Act authorizes the transfer of a portion of the land occupied by Queen's College to the Trustees of St. Hilda's College	6965	Milk Board (Amendment) Act empowers the Milk Board to control the installation of milk vending machines and requires them to be licensed
6950	Road Traffic (Recovery of Penalties) Act amends the Road Traffic Act 1958	6966	Boilers Inspection (Amendment) Act amends the Boilers Inspection Act 1958
6951	County Court (Amendment) Act amends the County Court Act 1958	6967	Health (Amendment) Act amends the law in regard to offensive trades and food vending machines
6952	Glenaladale National Park Act establishes a national park in the Parish of Glenaladale	6968	Parliamentary Contributory Superannuation Act establishes a new system of superannuation for all members of Parliament in Victoria
6953	Young Women's Christian Association of Australia Incorporation Act incorporates that Association and vests certain property in it	6969	The Zinc Corporation, Limited (Amendment) Act amends the Zinc Corporation, Limited Act 1961
6954	Racing (Dog Racing Control Board) Act increases the number of members appointed to the Board from five to seven	6970	Probate Duty (Reduction) Act amends the Probate Duty Act 1962
6955	Barley Marketing (Amendment) Act extends the operations of the Barley Marketing Act 1958 for a further three years to the 1965-66 season	6971	Adoption of Children (Property) Act amends the Adoption of Children Act 1958
6956	Country Fire Authority (Amendment) Act defines the respective spheres of responsibility of the Forests Commission and the Country Fire Authority	6972	Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts (Amendment) Act grants additional power to the First Mildura Irrigation Trust
6957	Police Regulation Act amends the Police Regulation Act 1958	6973	Building Contracts (Deposits) Act requires a builder to bank any deposit over £100 received by him, in the joint names of himself and the owner
6958	Justices (Amendment) Act amends the Justices Act 1958	6974	Sewerage Districts (Polls) Act empowers the Governor in Council to make regulations as to postal voting for any sewerage authority elections
6959	Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Amendment) Act revises the Victorian law as to registration of marriages in the light of the Commonwealth Marriage Act 1961 and the Commonwealth Matrimonial Causes Act 1959	6975	Sale of Land Act amends and adds to the law relating to the sale of land
6960	The Constitution Act Amendment (Statute Law Revision Committee) Act amends Part VI. of the Constitution Act Amendment Act 1958	6976	Forests (Further Amendment) Act amends the Forests Act 1958
6961	Statute Law (Further Revision) Act corrects errors and omissions in the Statute Law	6977	Consolidated Revenue Act
6962	Racing (Amendment) Act allows the postponement of any metropolitan race-meeting in certain circumstances		

Electoral System

Introduction

Electoral Basis of the Two Houses

When first constituted, the Legislative Council or Upper House was composed of 30 members, aged 30 years and over, and possessed of freehold of the annual value of £500. Property qualifications were abolished by the *Legislative Council Reform Act* 1950, and, today, the main qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council is the attainment of the age of 21 years. A similar provision applies to the Legislative Assembly.

Victoria is divided, for Legislative Council purposes, into seventeen Provinces, each represented by two members, elected for six years—one in each Province retiring every three years by rotation—except at a general election following on the dissolution of the Council, when one-half of the members are to be elected for only three years. (See Fig. 6.)

For Legislative Assembly purposes, the State is divided into 66 Electoral Districts, each returning one member. Members are elected for three years, unless Parliament is dissolved before this period.

Redistributions of Electoral Districts for the Legislative Assembly

Under the *Electoral Districts Act* 1953, provision was made for a redivision of the State to be carried out on the basis of each of the 33 Commonwealth Electoral Divisions in Victoria being divided into two Electoral Districts for the Assembly. The first general election conducted on the basis of electorates so created took place on the 28th May, 1955. The *Electoral Districts Act* 1953 (now incorporated into *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1958) also provided for recurrent redivisions on the same basis to be made whenever there is any alteration in the number of Commonwealth Electoral Divisions in Victoria, or in any of its boundaries, subject to the proviso that no such redivision shall be made if the whole number of members of the Legislative Assembly would be reduced as a result.

Apart from the redivision mentioned above, the only other redivision made following the *Electoral Districts Act* 1953, took place in 1956 and the general elections of 31st May, 1958, and 15th July, 1961, were held on the basis of the 66 Electoral Districts created as a result. (See Fig. 7.)

Enrolment of Electors

Enrolment on the electoral roll is compulsory for every person, of the age of 21 years or over, who is a natural-born or naturalized subject of the Queen and who has resided in Australia for six months continuously, and in Victoria for at least three months. The electoral rolls for the State are compiled by the Commonwealth Electoral authorities under a joint Commonwealth–State agreement, each

VICTORIA LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STATE ELECTORAL PROVINCES

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| A. Melbourne | J. South-Western |
| B. Melbourne West | K. Ballarat |
| C. Dousta Galla | L. Bendigo |
| D. Melbourne North | M. North-Eastern |
| E. East Yarra | N. Gippsland |
| F. Monash | O. Western |
| G. Higinbotham | P. North-Western |
| H. South-Eastern | Q. Northern |
| I. Southern | |

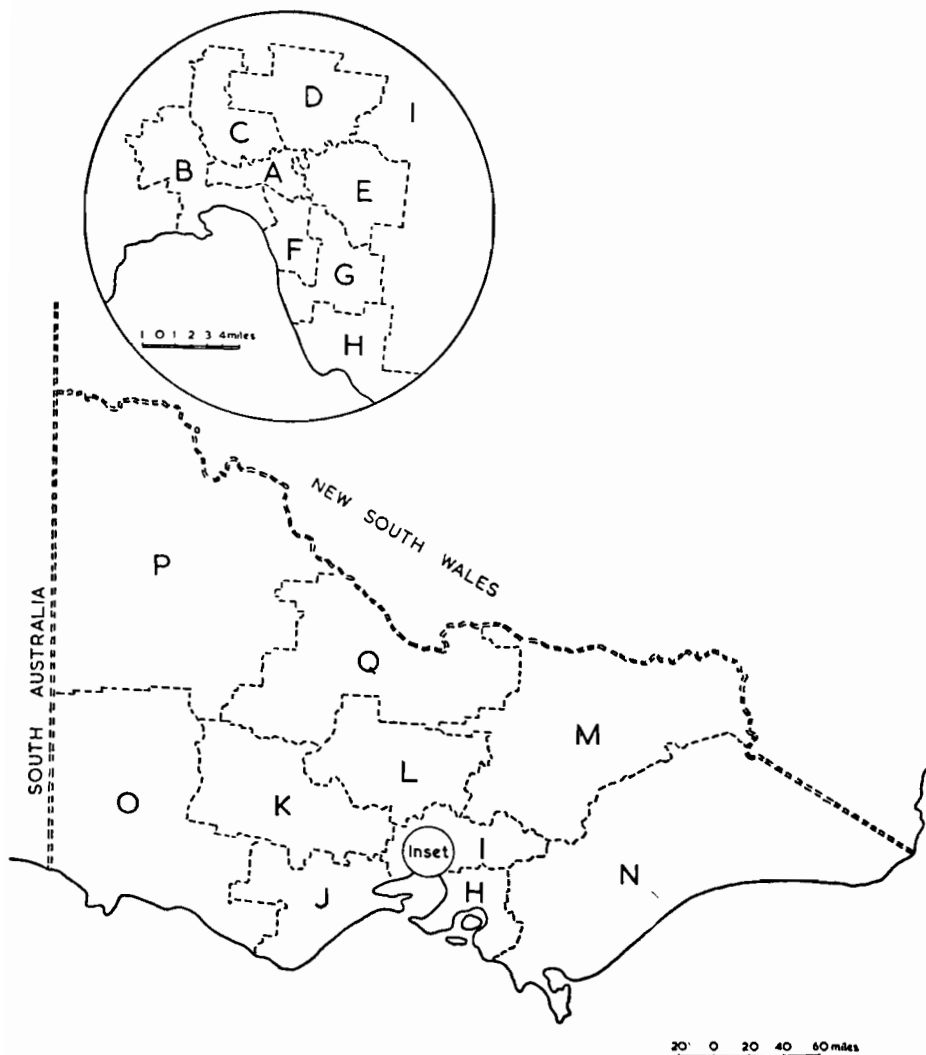


FIGURE 6.—Map of Victoria and inset of Melbourne Metropolitan Area showing State electoral provinces.

VICTORIA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

STATE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS

- | | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Brunswick East | 23. Balwyn | 45. Geelong |
| 2. Fitzroy | 24. Kew | 46. Geelong West |
| 3. Melbourne | 25. Camberwell | 47. Ballarat South |
| 4. Flemington | 26. Burwood | 48. Ballarat North |
| 5. Brunswick West | 27. Malvern | 49. Midlands |
| 6. Coburg | 28. Caulfield | 50. Bendigo |
| 7. Northcote | 29. Oakleigh | 51. Benalla |
| 8. Ivanhoe | 30. Ormond | 52. Benambra |
| 9. Richmond | 31. Elsternwick | 53. Gippsland East |
| 10. Hawthorn | 32. Brighton | 54. Gippsland South |
| 11. Toorak | 33. Moorabbin | 55. Morwell |
| 12. Prahran | 34. Sandringham | 56. Gippsland West |
| 13. St. Kilda | 35. Grant | 57. Polwarth |
| 14. Ripponlea | 36. Broadmeadows | 58. Hampden |
| 15. Albert Park | 37. Evelyn | 59. Portland |
| 16. Williamstown | 38. Box Hill | 60. Dundas |
| 17. Yarraville | 39. Ringwood | 61. Lowan |
| 18. Footscray | 40. Scoresby | 62. Kara Kara |
| 19. Moonee Ponds | 41. Mulgrave | 63. Mildura |
| 20. Essendon | 42. Dandenong | 64. Swan Hill |
| 21. Reservoir | 43. Mentone | 65. Rodney |
| 22. Preston | 44. Mornington | 66. Murray Valley |

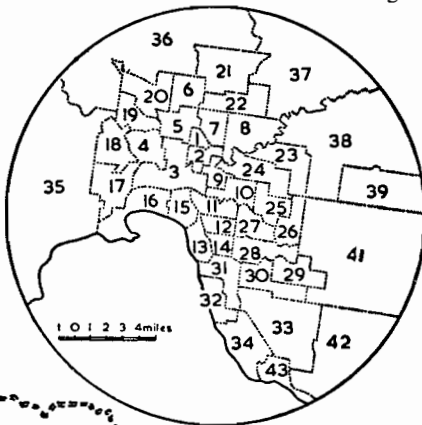
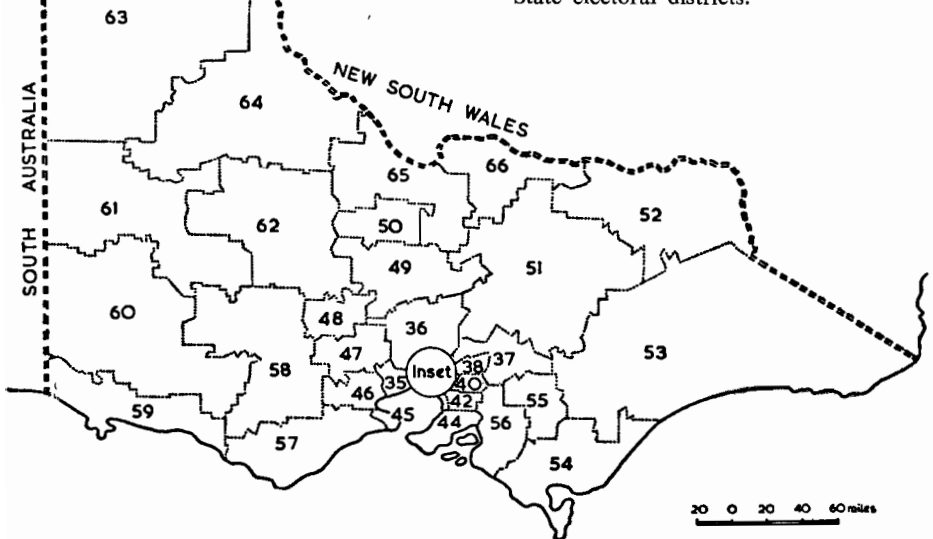


FIGURE 7.—Map of Victoria and inset of the Melbourne Metropolitan Area showing State electoral districts.



Government paying half the cost of compilation. All Federal and State parliamentary elections in Victoria are conducted on the basis of these joint rolls.

The compilation of the rolls is aided by the fact that the respective Legislative Council Provinces and Electoral Districts, as well as the Commonwealth Electoral Divisions, are subdivided into 297 common Subdivisions, which form the basic units for enrolment on the joint Commonwealth-State of Victoria rolls.

Number of Enrolments on the Joint Rolls

Since 1924, when the Joint Rolls Arrangement was made between the Commonwealth of Australia and the State of Victoria, the electoral rolls prepared and maintained by the Commonwealth Electoral Officer for Victoria have been used at all Commonwealth elections and elections for the Legislative Assembly of Victoria.

The *Legislative Council Reform Act 1950*, which came into force on 1st November, 1951, provided in substance for all electors for the Legislative Assembly to be automatically enrolled also for Legislative Council elections.

The Joint Rolls Arrangement was therefore appropriately amended and, since 1952, the joint rolls have been used in Victoria for all Commonwealth elections and State parliamentary elections, whether for the Legislative Assembly or the Legislative Council.

VICTORIA—ELECTORS ENROLLED ON JOINT ROLL

Year Ended 30th June—							Number of Electors Enrolled
1959	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,506,476
1960	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,522,481
1961	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,554,856
1962	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,588,633
1963	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,596,807

Voting Features at State Elections

There is no plural voting at elections for either the Legislative Council or the Legislative Assembly. Provision for voting by post by electors who are ill or temporarily absent from their electorates and are within any part of Australia, or in Great Britain, or New Zealand, is made at elections for both Houses, and there is also a system of "absent" voting whereby any elector, who is not able to record a vote within his own subdivision, is enabled to record a vote at any polling booth open in Victoria on the day of the poll. In addition, a method of so-called "unenrolled voting" has been instituted, under which an elector whose name has been omitted from the official electoral rolls in error is enabled to record a vote upon making a prescribed declaration.

Voting at elections for both Houses is compulsory and is conducted under an adaptation of Ware's system of preferential voting.

This system of preferential voting at Victorian parliamentary elections was provided for by statute in 1911 for Legislative Assembly elections, in 1921 for Legislative Council triennial elections, and in 1936 for Legislative Council general elections following directly upon a dissolution of the Council in consequence of disagreements or deadlock between the two Houses. Under this system a voter is required to number the candidates in order of preference on the ballot-paper, the figure "1" being written opposite the name of the candidate whom the elector wishes to be returned, and sequential figures (2, 3, 4, &c.) indicating his relative degree of preference being written opposite the names of the other candidates. Where an elector has indicated his order of preference for all candidates except one, he is deemed to have given his last contingent vote or preference to such candidate.

Where only two candidates are involved, the candidate who receives an absolute majority (i.e., half the number of formal votes cast plus one) is declared elected. Similarly, where there are more than two candidates, if one of them receives an absolute majority on the count of first preferences, then he is declared elected.

Where no absolute majority is attained by a candidate at the count of first preference votes, the candidate who has received the fewest first preference votes is declared defeated, and his ballot-papers examined and his second preferences allotted to the candidates to whom they relate. The process of excluding the candidate with the lowest number of votes and distributing his ballot-papers according to the preferences shown on them to the unexcluded or continuing candidates is followed until one candidate attains an absolute majority.

At a general election for the Legislative Council when two members are required to be elected for each Province, the election of the first member is carried out as above. In the case of the election of the second member, however, a slight variation of procedure is necessary. The first step is to take the ballot-papers of the *first elected* candidate and allot the second preferences on them to the candidates to whom they relate. The remaining candidates begin the counting process with their own first preferences plus the second preferences allotted in the distribution of the elected candidate's ballot-papers. If one of the remaining candidates has an absolute majority, he is declared elected to the second vacancy. If no candidate has an absolute majority, the candidate with the fewest first preference votes is declared defeated and his second preferences distributed to the various continuing or unexcluded candidates to whom they refer.

The process of excluding the lowest candidate and distributing his ballot-papers according to the preferences on them to unexcluded or continuing candidates is followed until one candidate attains an absolute majority.

At a general election for the Legislative Council, the candidate first elected is entitled to hold the seat for six years, the candidate next elected holds his seat for three years.

Parliamentary Elections

Legislative Assembly

At the Legislative Assembly election of 15th July, 1961, there were contests in all of the 66 Electoral Districts and in 65 of them there were more than two candidates engaged.

In 32 of these contests the successful candidate had an absolute majority of the total first preferences recorded and consequently no distribution of further preferences was necessary. After the necessary distribution of second or subsequent preferences had been completed in the other 34 contests, the leading candidate, on the first count, was elected in 21 instances but was defeated in the remaining thirteen instances.

The following table shows the voting in general elections held for the Legislative Assembly since 1927 :—

VICTORIA—VOTING AT GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

Year of Election	Whole State		Contested Electorates			
	Electors Enrolled	Electors Enrolled	Votes Recorded		Informal Votes	
			Number	Percentage of Voters	Number	Percentage of Total Votes Recorded
1927 ..	993,211	850,494	780,399	91·76	15,125	1·94
1929 ..	1,029,170	682,190	639,368	93·72	6,934	1·08
1932 ..	1,055,301	729,332	687,042	94·20	9,663	1·41
1935 ..	1,099,251	904,191	853,470	94·39	14,150	1·66
1937 ..	1,136,596	848,680	797,430	93·96	10,938	1·37
1940 ..	1,162,967	841,864	786,359	93·41	12,287	1·56
1943 ..	1,261,630	1,015,750	883,679	87·00	22,876	2·59
1945 ..	1,276,949	1,019,063	896,561	87·98	18,689	2·08
1947 ..	1,345,530	1,291,515	1,206,815	93·44	16,102	1·33
1950 ..	1,362,851	1,294,159	1,221,734	94·40	13,901	1·14
1952 ..	1,402,705	1,119,486	1,047,671	93·59	18,991	1·81
1955 ..	1,422,588	1,402,806	1,318,937	94·02	28,934	2·19
1958 ..	1,478,065	1,478,065	1,392,813	94·23	24,760	1·78
1961 ..	1,554,856	1,554,856	1,467,862	94·41	35,937	2·45

NOTE : Detailed statistics are available in publications issued by the Chief Electoral Officer for Victoria.

The following table shows certain particulars of the representation in the Legislative Assembly in which general elections have been held since 1927:—

VICTORIA—PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATION

Year of Election	Number of Members of Legislative Assembly	Population per Member	Proportion of Persons Enrolled to Total Population	Number of Electors Enrolled on Date of Election	Average Number of Electors per Member
			per cent.		
1927 ..	65	26,500	57·7	993,211	15,280
1929 ..	65	27,300	58·0	1,029,170	15,833
1932 ..	65	27,800	58·4	1,055,301	16,235
1935 ..	65	28,250	59·8	1,099,251	16,912
1937 ..	65	28,550	61·2	1,136,596	17,486
1940 ..	65	28,950	61·8	1,162,967	17,892
1943 ..	65	30,300	64·0	1,261,630	19,410
1945 ..	65	30,900	63·5	1,276,949	19,645
1947 ..	65	31,700	65·3	1,345,530	20,700
1950 ..	65	33,800	62·1	1,362,851	20,967
1952 ..	65	36,300	59·4	1,402,705	21,580
1955 ..	66	38,100	56·6	1,422,588	21,554
1958 ..	66	41,300	54·2	1,478,065	22,395
1961 ..	66	44,398	53·1	1,554,856	23,558

Proportion of Voters at Elections

The first general election for the Legislative Assembly was held in 1856. The proportion of voters to electors of contested districts at each of the general elections held since that year for the Legislative Assembly is found on page 86 of the Victorian Year Book 1961.

Legislative Council

The Legislative Council consists of 34 members representing seventeen Provinces. Voting in elections held for the Legislative Council since 1928 is shown in the next table. At the triennial election of 15th July, 1961, there were contests in all of the seventeen Provinces and in all of them there were more than two candidates engaged.

In six of these the successful candidate had an absolute majority of the total first preferences recorded and consequently no distribution of further preferences was necessary. After the necessary distribution of second or subsequent preferences had been completed in the other eleven contests, the leading candidate, on the first count, was elected in nine instances but was defeated in the remaining two.

The following table shows particulars of elections for the Legislative Council :—

VICTORIA—VOTING AT ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Year of Election	Whole State	Contested Provinces					
		Electors Enrolled	Electors Enrolled	Votes Recorded		Informal Votes	
				Number	Percentage of Voters	Number	Percentage of Total Votes Recorded
1928 ..	444,278	268,164	85,372	31·84	1,388	1·63	
1931 ..	470,349	239,975	93,244	38·86	595	0·64	
1934 ..	469,395	160,980	47,375	29·43	799	1·69	
1937 ..	447,694	265,194	208,925	78·78*	3,055	1·46	
1940 ..	471,843	235,784	178,666	75·78	2,823	1·58	
1943 ..	465,637	117,584	83,568	71·07	2,135	2·55	
1946 ..	517,719	393,907	291,295	73·95	5,912	2·03	
1949 ..	550,472	384,188	299,111	77·86	4,272	1·43	
1952 ..	1,395,650†	1,078,959	994,190	92·14†	22,595	2·27	
1955 ..	1,430,130	1,216,010	1,112,951	91·52	23,189	2·08	
1958 ..	1,488,293	1,387,097	1,283,665	92·54	22,085	1·72	
1961 ..	1,554,856	1,554,856	1,467,482	94·38	46,697	3·18	

* The increase in the percentage of voters is accounted for by voting having been made compulsory for all resident electors by Act No. 4350, passed on 10th December, 1935.

† The increases in enrolments and percentages of voters are due to the operation of Act No. 5465, which was passed on 11th November, 1950, and abolished the former Legislative Council ratepayers and general rolls. Instead, every person enrolled for Legislative Assembly purposes became automatically entitled and required to vote at Legislative Council elections.

Parliamentary By-election

The following are details of a by-election held between 4th August, 1962, and 30th June, 1963 :—

Legislative Assembly—

27th October, 1962 : Mr. M. S. Whiting was elected for Mildura Electoral District.

Further References

Chief Electoral Officer for Victoria—*Various Publications Giving Detailed Statistics of State Elections.*

Department of Political Science, University of Melbourne—*The Government of Victoria* (1958).

Victorian Members of the Federal Parliament

The following are the Senators elected for Victoria sitting in the Senate as at 30th June, 1963 :—

Breen, Marie Freda, O.B.E.
 Cohen, Samuel Herbert, Q.C.
 Cormack, Magnus Cameron
 Gorton, The Hon. John Grey
 Hannan, George Conrad
 Hendrickson, Albion
 Kennelly, The Hon. Patrick John
 Sandford, Charles Walter
 Wade, The Hon. Harrie Walter
 Wedgwood, Ivy Evelyn

The Victorian Members in the House of Representatives and the electorates they represent as at 30th June, 1963, are shown below :—

Member	Constituency*
Beaton, Noel Lawrence	Bendigo
Benson, Samuel James, R.D.	Batman
Bryant, Gordon Munro	Wills
Buchanan, Alexander Andrew	McMillan
Cairns, James Ford	Yarra
Calwell, The Hon. Arthur Augustus	Melbourne
Chipp, Donald Leslie	Higinbotham
Courtney, Frank	Darebin
Crean, Frank	Melbourne Ports
Davis, Francis John	Deakin
Erwin, George Dudley	Ballaarat
Fox, Edmund Maxwell Cameron	Henty
Fraser, John Malcolm	Wannon
Haworth, The Hon. William Crawford	Isaacs
Holt, The Rt. Hon. Harold Edward	Higgins
Holten, Rendle McNeilage	Indi
Howson, Peter	Fawkner

VICTORIAN MEMBERS IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—*continued*

Member	Constituency*
Jess, John David	La Trobe
Kent Hughes, The Hon. Sir Wilfrid Selwyn, K.B.E., M.V.O., M.C., E.D.	Chisholm
King, Robert Shannon	Wimmera
Lindsay, Robert William Ludovic	Flinders
Mackinnon, Ewen Daniel	Corangamite
McEwen, The Rt. Hon. John	Murray
McIvor, Hector James	Gellibrand
Menzies, The Rt. Hon. Sir Robert Gordon, K.T., C.H., Q.C.	Kooyong
Nixon, Peter James	Gippsland
Opperman, The Hon. Hubert Ferdinand, O.B.E.	Corio
Peters, Edward William	Scullin
Pollard, The Hon. Reginald Thomas	Lalor
Snedden, Billy Mackie	Bruce
Stokes, Philip William Clifford, E.D.	Maribyrnong
Turnbull, Winton George	Mallee
Whittorn, Raymond Harold	Balaclava

* The population as disclosed by the Census taken on 30th June, 1961 necessitated further representational changes, Victorian representation becoming 34. The necessary redistribution of boundaries to bring these into effect has not yet been approved by the Commonwealth Parliament.

*Agent-General for Victoria in the United Kingdom
and Northern Ireland*

Functions

The functions of the Office of the Agent-General for Victoria are now much wider and more diversified than they were when the Office was created under the *Immigration Act 1863*. The chief object of the Office in 1863 was to induce a greater number of persons in Great Britain and Ireland to emigrate to Victoria. Today, although the promotion of immigration is still included, the duties of the Agent-General range over a wide field. They were set out in detail in the *Agent-General's Act 1945* and are unaltered in the *Agent-General's Act 1958*, of which section 6 reads as follows :—

- (1) The Agent-General shall act as representative and resident agent of Victoria in the United Kingdom.
- (2) The functions of the Agent-General shall include—
 - (a) the promotion of the sale of primary products of Victoria ;
 - (b) the promotion of the sale of the products of secondary industries of Victoria and the stimulation of interest in the extension of existing, and the establishment of new, secondary industries in Victoria ;
 - (c) the fostering of trade between the United Kingdom and Victoria ;

- (d) the dissemination of knowledge of, and the encouragement of special interest in, Victoria ;
 - (e) the promotion of emigration to Victoria ;
 - (f) the dissemination of information for the purpose of attracting tourists to Victoria ;
 - (g) co-operation with Agents-General of other States of the Commonwealth of Australia and with the High Commissioner of the Commonwealth of Australia ; and
 - (h) the carrying into effect of any direction of the Governor in Council in relation to the above matters or affecting the representation of Victoria in the United Kingdom.
- (3) At least once in every three months the Agent-General shall furnish to the Governor in Council a report on the exercise of his functions and on any matters which may affect the representation of Victoria in the United Kingdom.

History

The first Agent-General for Victoria, who took up office on 1st December, 1868, was the Hon. George Frederick Verdon, C.B. (afterwards Sir George Verdon, K.C.M.G., C.B.). In 1872, the Agent-General's Act was passed, limiting the appointment to a period of not more than three years and removing a previous restriction that no previous member of Parliament could be appointed, unless he had ceased to be a member for six months. Various amendments of the Agent-General's Act were made until 1945 ; but, apart from the alteration of the title to " the Agent-General for Victoria in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ", the Act remained substantially the same, dealing almost entirely with the functions of the Agent-General with respect to emigration and the duties of emigration commissioners acting in the United Kingdom under the Agent-General.

However, one of the sections of the Act provided that the Agent-General should carry out the instructions of the Governor in Council, and, in 1904, the then Agent-General (Sir John Taverner) was instructed to reorganize the Agent-General's Office upon a commercial basis, so that the development of markets for Victorian produce, the dissemination of useful knowledge regarding the State, and the correction of misapprehensions as to its peoples and resources might be the chief functions. Although subsequent Acts made no mention of these functions and continued to repeat the duties of the Agent-General as dealing with emigration to Victoria, the Office of the Agent-General dealt more and more with commercial and financial matters and less with emigration.

Present-day Activities

As the representative of Victoria, the Agent-General and his officers deal with contracts, purchases, shipping, and other services for all Government Departments and semi-Government instrumentalities. Over the last three years to 30th June, 1961, the sum of £3·77 mill. was paid through the Agent-General's Office in this connexion. In addition, an amount of £6·138 mill. was paid out in respect of loan interest. The value of consignments shipped during the same period amounted to £8·614 mill.

During the course of a year, the Agent-General's Office is also called upon to secure tenders for a variety of equipment and materials required by State Departments and instrumentalities.

Many representatives from State Government Departments and instrumentalities visit Britain and the Continent on business each year, and itineraries, interviews, and secretarial assistance are arranged for them through the Agent-General's Office.

A further activity of the Agent-General's Office, in conjunction with the Victorian Department of Agriculture, is the administration of the Overseas Christmas Food Parcels Scheme which the Department sponsors each year. This work involves the despatch and receipt of some thousands of letters to recipients in Britain, plus the administrative work in connexion with the despatch of the gift parcels which now number over 3,000 per annum. Numerous requests are received from solicitors and others concerned with legal matters on the operation of Victorian law, the main subjects of which relate to marriage, divorce, deaths, probate duty, company registration and stamp duties, and these are investigated and information supplied.

Another activity concerns the extension of postal voting facilities for Victorian State elections to Victorian citizens visiting Britain. The Agent-General's Office plays an important role in the distribution of application forms and postal ballot-papers to these visitors.

The Agent-General also arranges for visitors from Victoria to see various places of interest and attend various functions, and helps them with employment, accommodation, and other problems.

The promotion of the sale of primary products and the fostering of trade are carried out in co-operation with the High Commissioner of Australia in London and the representatives of the various Commonwealth London Boards and by personal contacts and addresses to Chambers of Commerce and manufacturers throughout Britain.

The Agent-General's Office at Victoria House (London) has three large display windows on the ground floor of the building which provide excellent opportunities for the display of products and photographs depicting the State's primary and secondary industries and activities of State instrumentalities.

Over recent years, emphasis has been given to the attraction of capital and industry to Victoria from Britain. This has been greatly assisted by visits by the Premier and other Ministers from Victoria, and by the work of the Victoria Promotion Committee.

A modern Library and Information Section is established at Victoria House. This service is of assistance to industrialists interested in extending their operations to Victoria, to prospective migrants, and to students. Many of the general activities of the Agent-General's Office, such as the sending of literature to schools, business firms, and banks in Britain, help disseminate knowledge about Victoria and encourage tourists to visit the State. A film library is also maintained and all material in the library may be borrowed free of charge by approved societies and organizations.

Support is provided for "Australia Clubs" which have been formed in the industrial areas of Britain and Northern Ireland, for enabling prospective migrants to meet and learn of Australia. Opportunity is taken to keep the Victorian viewpoint before members of the "Australia Clubs" by providing literature and films. Frequent visits to the "Australia Clubs" are made by the Agent-General and his officers. Addresses are given to the members and questions answered.

The Agents-General for the States and the High Commissioner for Australia co-operate freely and meet together monthly at Australia House.

Victorian Government Departments

Government administration in Victoria is carried on through a variety of administrative agencies. The Government departments proper and the large statutory corporations administer most of the governmental activities, and there are also small regulatory or advisory bodies or committees set up under statute for specific limited purposes.

Departments

The central administration of the State is carried on by fifteen departments, which are the instruments of ministerial action.

All but three of the departments are organized on a functional basis, that is, all their activities are related in some way to a general function; but the Premier's Department, Chief Secretary's Department, and the Treasury are heterogeneous units comprising a wide variety of dissimilar activities.

Further Reference

A full list of departments and their functions will be found on pages 93 to 99 of the Victorian Year Book 1963.

Government Instrumentalities

The term "Instrumentalities" is limited to statutory bodies which are not departments even though some are administered within or associated with departments.

The general form of the instrumentalities is a constituent statute, a controlling Board or Commission appointed by the Governor in Council, freedom from direct Ministerial control over day-to-day administration (but subject to governmental or Ministerial control in matters of major policy) and, subject in some cases to the approval of the Governor in Council or the Minister, control over the appointment of staff and the determination of salaries and other conditions of employment. Financial arrangements differ considerably.

The largest of the instrumentalities are engaged in public utility or developmental fields of activity, for example, Railways Commissioners, State Electricity Commission, Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board, and Country Roads Board.

The following statement lists the instrumentalities according to the Minister under whom each instrumentality is administered, and shows which instrumentalities are staffed by members of the Public Service and, in these cases, the department with which the instrumentality is associated :—

Minister	Instrumentalities with Public Service Staffs and Department with which the Instrumentality is Associated		Other Instrumentalities
	Department	Instrumentality	
Premier ..	Premier's ..	National Parks Authority Public Service Board Tourist Development Authority	Gas and Fuel Corporation Latrobe Valley Development Advisory Committee
Treasurer ..	Treasury ..	Home Finance Trust Superannuation Board Tender Board	State Savings Bank
Chief Secretary	Chief Secretary's	Aborigines Board Free Library Service Board Parole Boards Police Classification Board Police Discipline Board Premiums Committee Traffic Commission Trustees, Institute of Applied Science Trustees, National Gallery Trustees, National Museum Trustees, State Library Workers Compensation Boards Youth Advisory Council	Country Fire Authority Dog Racing Control Board Exhibition Trustees Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board Trotting Control Board Zoological Board

Minister	Instrumentalities with Public Service Staffs and Department with which the Instrumentality is Associated		Other Instrumentalities
	Department	Instrumentality	
Attorney-General	Law ..	Companies Board Auditors Board Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board Patriotic Funds Council	Council of Legal Education
Minister of Transport	.. ..	.. ..	Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board Railways Commissioners Transport Regulation Board
Minister of Agriculture	Agriculture	Dairy Produce Board Milk Board Milk Pasteurization Committee Stock Medicines Board	Grain Elevators Board Inland Meat Authority <i>Marketing Boards :-</i> Chicory Dried Fruits Egg and Egg Pulp Maize Onion Seed Beans
Minister of Water Supply	Water Supply	State Rivers and Water Supply Commission*	Geelong Water Works and Sewerage Trust Latrobe Valley Water and Sewerage Board Various Local Water and Sewerage Authorities Various River Improvement and Drainage Trusts
Minister of Mines	Mines ..	Board of Examiners for Mine Managers Board of Examiners for Engine Drivers Coal Mine Workers' Pension Tribunal Coal Miners' Accident Relief Board Sludge Abatement Board	
Minister of Education	Education ..	Council of Public Education Teachers' Tribunal	Council of Adult Education
Commissioner of Public Works	Public Works	Marine Board ..	Architects Registration Board Country Roads Board Geelong Harbor Trust Commissioners Melbourne Harbor Trust Commissioners Portland Harbor Trust Commissioners

* This statutory corporation also appeared in the 1963 issue of the Victorian Year Book as a Government department which it is only for the purposes of personnel administration under the Public Service Act.

Minister	Instrumentalities with Public Service Staffs and Department with which the Instrumentality is Associated		Other Instrumentalities
	Department	Instrumentality	
Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey	Crown Lands and Survey	Surveyors' Board Vermin and Noxious Weeds Destruction Board	
Minister of Soldier Settlement	.. ..	.. .. .	Rural Finance and Settlement Commission
Minister for Conservation	Premier's ..	Soil Conservation Authority	
Minister of Labour and Industry	Labour and Industry	Apprenticeship Commission Industrial Safety Advisory Council State Relief Committee Wages Boards	
Minister of Electrical Undertakings	.. ..	.. .. .	State Electricity Commission
Minister for Local Government	Local Government	Building Regulations Committee Municipal Auditors Board Municipal Building Surveyors Board Municipal Clerks Board Municipal Electrical Engineers Board Municipal Engineers Board Local Government Advisory Board Valuers' Qualifications Board	Local Government Superannuation Board Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Town and Country Planning Board
Minister of Housing	Treasury ..	Housing Commission	
Minister of Forests	State Forests	Forests Commission*	
Minister of Health	Health ..	Advisory Committee to Mental Health Authority Cinematograph Operators Board	Anti-Cancer Council Cancer Institute Board Fairfield Hospital Board Hospitals and Charities Commission

* This statutory corporation also appeared in the 1963 issue of the Victorian Year Book as a Government department which it is only for the purposes of personnel administration under the Public Service Act.

Minister	Instrumentalities with Public Service Staffs and Department with which the Instrumentality is Associated		Other Instrumentalities
	Department	Instrumentality	
Minister of Health— <i>cont.</i>	Health— <i>cont.</i>	Clean Air Committee Commission of Public Health Consultative Council for Influenza Consultative Council for Maternal Mortality Consultative Council for Poliomyelitis Consultative Council for Quarantinable Diseases Consultative Council for Revision of British Pharmacopoeia Food Standards Committee Mental Health Authority (Medical officers not subject to Public Service Act) Plumbers and Gasfitters Board Poisons Advisory Committee Proprietary Medicines Advisory Committee Superintendents' Committee Tuberculosis Advisory Committee	Trustees, Cemeteries Various Professional and Occupational Registration Boards :— Dental Registration Dietitians' Registration Hairdressers' Registration Masseurs' Registration Medical Nurses' Council Opticians' Registration Pharmacy

Further References

Further information about Victorian Government Instrumentalities will be found on pages 102 to 110 of the Victorian Year Book 1962.

History of State Government Departments

The first of a series of short, comprehensive histories of the State Government Departments appeared on pages 100 to 104 of the 1963 Victorian Year Book and described the development of the Chief Secretary's Department. This second article deals with the Premier's Department.

History of Premier's Department

Until the 29th May, 1883, the Premier's Office was a branch of the Chief Secretary's Department as there was at that time no paid post of Premier. The Chief Secretary was regarded as the Prime or first Minister but received only the salary for his portfolio of Chief Secretary.

Whilst the Chief Secretary held the dual role of Premier and Chief Secretary, no inconvenience was felt with this arrangement, but when the Premiership was held by another Minister such as the Treasurer or the Attorney-General, administrative difficulties were experienced.

On the 22nd March, 1883, the then Secretary to the Premier, Mr. E. I. Thomas, prepared a document which resulted in an Order in Council on the 29th May, 1883, creating the Premier's Department.

In this document Mr. Thomas argued that previously the Chief Secretary's Department had comprised two distinct sets of functions—the administration of the departments constituting the Chief Secretary's Division of the Service as shown in the Estimates, and the functions which fell to it through its being the Department of the Prime Minister. These two functions were really distinct in their nature and, moreover, were incongruous and inconvenient when the Minister of the Department was not Premier. He argued further, that when the Chief Secretary is not Premier, the Chief Secretary's Department is what in England is called the Home Department. As such, it embraced the internal economy of Government, excepting those Departments which, being either technical or otherwise special, form the domain of separate Ministers, and thus the Chief Secretary is really the Secretary for the Home Department administering such departments as Police, Gaols and Penal Establishments, Public Health, Hospitals for the Insane, Industrial and Reformatory Schools, the scientific departments, Audit Office, etc.—in other words, all that is not either technical or otherwise special.

The functions of the Premier, it was pointed out, are quite distinct from these and consist of those in which he acts as Head of the Administration—communicating with the Governor on behalf of the Ministry as a whole, as Head of the Government representing it externally, i.e., to other colonies and other Governments, and dealing with matters submitted by the Council or rulings by other Ministers. A resolution of functions, it was felt, would have the advantages that the Premier would have a department of his own in which his special functions as Premier would be located instead of their being in the office of another Minister. Furthermore, the records would always be in one place.

On the 29th May, 1883, the Governor in Council approved the following :—“ In view of the fact that the Premier is very frequently not Chief Secretary, it is submitted to His Excellency the Governor in Council that that part of the business of the Chief Secretary's Office which especially appertains to the Head of the Administration be separated from the Chief Secretary's Office, and attached to a distinct department, to be called the Premier's Department. In addition to the main functions outlined above, the department was to deal with any matter that may relate to the Public Service as a whole, not merely to a particular division or department, issuing Cabinet circulars and generally attending upon the Cabinet, and any matter which, on future experience, it may be decided that it is desirable to attach to the Premier's Office.”

Eight years later, during 1891, a wordy battle was fought between the Secretary to the Premier's Department (Mr. E. I. Thomas) and the Under Treasurer (Mr. H. F. Eaton) for the right to administer the

Public Service Act. A Cabinet Committee appointed to inquire into the disagreement was unanimous that the Public Service Board would be transferred to the Premier's Department to accord with the principle expressed in the Order in Council of 1883.

In 1894, the Chief Secretary also assumed the portfolio of Premier and the Premier's Department was abolished and again became the Premier's Office, a branch of the Chief Secretary's Department. The staffs of both the Premier's Office and the Public Service Board were transferred to the Chief Secretary's Department and the administration of the Public Service Act was transferred by Order in Council.

In 1917, a Royal Commission into the Public Service recommended that the Premier's Office be transferred to the Treasury and in 1928 the Under Treasurer (Mr. H. A. Pitt) also recommended to the Treasurer that the Premier's Office be attached to the Treasury on the grounds that "finance is now so closely interwoven with the more important phases of local government that it seems probable that, as a general rule, the Premier will be Treasurer". The transfer was effected as from the 1st July, 1928.

On the 23rd December, 1936, the Governor of Victoria appointed the Honorable A. A. Dunstan, M.L.A., to be Premier and Treasurer (without salary) and the *Appropriation Act* 1936 created the Premier's Department for the second time. This upheld the contention of Mr. E. I. Thomas, Secretary to the Premier, when in 1891 he maintained that an Act of Parliament was not necessary to establish a new Ministerial position. "If the Governor by his constitutional power appoints to a Ministerial Office the office is thereby created *ipso facto*. It was so with the Office of Minister of Mines in 1860 and with that of Minister of Justice in 1861."

An Order in Council dated 2nd February, 1937, transferred the staff of the Premier's Office and the Office of the Public Service Board from the Treasury to the Premier's Department and the Governor's Office and Audit Office from the Chief Secretary's Department to the Premier's Office as from the 23rd December, 1936.

In July, 1948, the staff of the Premier's Department associated with the Decentralization of Industries was transferred to the Department of Labour, and again transferred to the Premier's Department in March, 1949, as the State Development Division. Its name was changed to Regional Planning and Decentralization Division in 1950 and subsequently to the Division of State Development.

The functions of the Premier's Office are Cabinet Secretariat ; channel of communication with the British Government, the Commonwealth Government, State Governments, governments of other countries ; the conduct of correspondence with the public on subjects affecting the Government generally, and matters administered by the

Premier ; arrangements for Royal visits, and special State ceremonial functions ; the conduct of departmental business and staff matters of the two Houses of Parliament ; letters of introduction and credentials for Victorian residents travelling abroad, and the arrangements and supervision of air travel for all government departments. The other branches are Executive Council and Office of the Governor ; Agent-General's Office (*Agent-General Act 1945*) ; Public Service Board Office (*Public Service Act 1946*) ; Auditor-General's Office (*Audit Act 1928*) ; Division of State Development ; State Film Centre and Tourist Development Authority. Statutory bodies placed within the Department for administrative purposes are the Soil Conservation Authority (*Soil Conservation and Land Utilization Act 1947*), Public Service Board (*Public Service Act 1947*) and National Parks Authority (*National Parks Act 1956*).