

## PART VI.

### SOCIAL CONDITION.

#### THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and the Legislative Council of Victoria, the Royal assent having been given on 22nd January, 1853. The University consists of and is governed by a Council of 32 members and a Convocation consisting of all graduates. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated residential colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton.

Payment to the University of an annual endowment of £45,000 from 1st July, 1923, was provided for in the *University Act* 1923. In addition, a supplementary grant of £446,550 (£412,550 in 1952-53) was received for the year 1953-54. Other annual statutory grants and grants for special purposes were £19,350 (£19,500 in 1952-53) for a School of Agriculture, £24,000 (£24,000 in 1952-53) for a Veterinary School, £2,100 (£2,100 in 1952-53) for Research, £5,000 (£5,000 in 1952-53) for the Conservatorium of Music, £1,000 (£1,000 in 1952-53) for the University Extension work, £31,000 (£31,000 in 1952-53) for the Public Health Laboratory, £24,000 (£22,000 in 1952-53) for the Dental College, and £6,000 (£6,000 in 1952-53) for Brown Coal Research, bringing the total Government grant to £604,000 (£568,000 in 1952-53). The Commonwealth Government Grant for General purposes was £360,055 (£313,423 for 1953) for 1954, and the Council also derived income from fees paid for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. Further income was derived from endowments of various kinds, but most of these were for special purposes.

The University maintains Chairs either out of general revenue or from endowments, as follows: Accounting (G. L. Wood, Professor), Agriculture, Anatomy, Applied Mathematics, Architecture (The *Age* Professor), Bacteriology, Biochemistry, Botany and Plant Physiology, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Classical Philology, Commerce (Sydney Myer Professor), Commercial Law, Conservative Dental Surgery, Dental Science, Dental Prosthetics, Economics (Truby Williams Professor), Economic History, Education, Electrical Engineering, English Language and Literature, Fine Arts (The *Herald* Professor), French, Geology and Mineralogy, Germanic Languages, History, History

(Ernest Scott Professor), Jurisprudence, Mechanical Engineering, Medicine, Metallurgy, Music (The Ormond Professor), Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Organic Chemistry, Pathology, Pharmacology, Philosophy, Physics (Chamber of Manufactures Professor), Physiology, Political Science, Psychology, Public Law, Pure Mathematics, Semitic Studies (L. and A. Sicree Professor), Statistics, Surgery, Zoology. Research Chairs have been established in Economics (The Ritchie Professor), Experimental Medicine, and Metallurgy.

In addition, other departments, under the charge of an Associate-Professor, senior lecturer-in-charge, or other officer are Criminology, Forestry, History and Methods of Science, Languages (Science Courses), Medical Jurisprudence, Medicine, Meteorology, Mining, Physical Education, Russian, Social Studies, Statistics, Surgery, Surveying, Town and Regional Planning, and Veterinary Science.

The Annual fees payable by any student to the University in any year do not, in general, exceed £100. There are schemes in operation for financial assistance to students, based partly on academic merit and partly on a means test, by both State and Federal Governments, the latter including the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme for ex-servicemen and the Commonwealth Scholarships Scheme. In addition, the University makes loans in approved cases out of a Students' Loan Fund, established in 1923.

Fees include a small Union fee, payable by all students, who are thereby entitled to share in the corporate and social activities centred round the University Union. The student body, through its Students' Representative Council, has a large measure of self-government in all matters concerning the University Union. There is, in addition, a voluntary organization of the University graduates known as the Graduate Union.

Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. Trust Fund Investments at 31st December, 1954, amounted to £1,937,601 (£1,791,120 at 31st December, 1953). The total amount received by way of private benefaction in 1954 was £253,211 (£134,569 in 1953).

**Public Examinations.** The University, through a Schools' Board (on which the Education Department, the registered secondary schools, the University teaching staff, and the business community are represented), conducts examinations each year for the School Intermediate and the School Leaving Certificates. The appended tables give the results of the examinations for the years 1952, 1953, and 1954, when the total entrants (December and February examinations) numbered 16,525, 18,738, and 20,188 respectively.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS 1952 TO 1954.

Examination.	Number who Attempted to Pass Fully.	Number who Passed Fully (including Supplementary Examinations).	
		Total.	Percentage.
School Intermediate—			
1952 .. .. .	9,240	6,089	65·90
1953 .. .. .	10,895	7,288	66·89
1954 .. .. .	10,720	7,310	68·19
School Leaving—			
1952 .. .. .	5,387	3,666	68·05
1953 .. .. .	5,983	4,030	67·36
1954 .. .. .	6,882	4,552	66·14

NOTE.—Examinations are held in December of each year and Supplementary Examinations for School Leaving in February of the succeeding year.

Of the number who passed fully, 3,850 in 1952, 4,725 in 1953, and 4,891 in 1954 satisfied the requirements of the School Intermediate examination by submitting a Headmaster's certificate from an approved school. Corresponding figures for the School Leaving examination were 1,738, 1,929, and 2,238 respectively.

**Matriculation Examination 1952, 1953, and 1954.**

For many years prior to 1944, the University's matriculation qualification had been gained by the passing of the School Leaving Examination in a prescribed manner. Then, a new Matriculation Examination, to which the obtaining of the School Leaving Certificate is pre-requisite, was introduced, and the matriculation qualification is now gained primarily at this examination. Statistics of the Matriculation Examinations 1952, 1953, and 1954 are as follows :—

Candidates.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Total Entries .. .. .	3,943	3,998	4,178
Number who attempted to pass fully	2,639	2,556	2,700
Number who passed fully .. .. .	1,650	1,659	1,700
Percentage who passed fully .. .. .	62·52	64·91	62·96

**Under-graduates Admitted and Degrees Conferred.**

Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the three years 1952-1954 was as follows :—1952, 1,336; 1953, 1,374, and 1954, 1,358. The number of degrees taken during those

years was 1,149, 1,063, and 1,035, respectively. Of the total of 26,551 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 5,538 have been conferred on women.

The following table shows the number of full-time, part-time, and external students who attended the University during the period 1952-54:—

**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY—ENROLMENTS FOR PERIOD 1952-54.**

Year.	Full Course.	Part Course.	External.	Total.
1952 .. .. .	4,217	2,561	542	7,320
1953 .. .. .	4,128	2,429	471	7,028
1954 .. .. .	4,258	2,205	425	6,888

NOTE.—The number of women students included above is 1,536 in 1952, 1,620 in 1953, and 1,569 in 1954.

Enrolments by Faculties for the same three years are as follows:—

**MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY—ENROLMENTS BY FACULTIES FOR PERIOD 1952-54.**

Faculty.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Agriculture .. .. .	105	122	143
Architecture .. .. .	195	249	228
Arts .. .. .	1,652	1,969	1,936
Commerce .. .. .	814	790	779
Dental Science .. .. .	248	239	208
Education .. .. .	394	395	412
Engineering .. .. .	542	520	505
Journalism .. .. .	19	23	14
Law .. .. .	561	554	610
Medicine .. .. .	1,091	1,020	981
Music .. .. .	189	161	166
Physical Education .. .. .	45	56	42
Public Administration .. .. .	35	45	32
Research (post graduate) .. .. .	201	Incorporated in faculty totals	
Science .. .. .	703	813	763
Social Studies .. .. .	62	72	69
Total .. .. .	6,856	7,028	6,888

NOTE.—Total for 1952 does not include certain categories of miscellaneous students taking single subjects. Of these there were 464 in 1952.

**University Finance.** A statement of income and expenditure for the years ended 31st December, 1953 and 31st December, 1954, is given below :—

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1953 AND 1954.**

	1953.	1954.
GENERAL INCOME.		
State Government Grants—	£	£
General .. .. .	470,200	491,050
Other—except for buildings .. .. .	111,174	121,811
Commonwealth Government Grants and Re-imbursements—		
General .. .. .	313,423	360,055
Other—except for buildings .. .. .	47,322	63,931
Students' Fees—		
Lectures .. .. .	309,832	380,453
Other .. .. .	94,061	94,971
Public, Public Music Examination, and Certificate Fees ..	63,933	70,170
Bequests and Donations—other than for Capital purposes	62,641	80,470
Interest, Dividends, and Rent .. .. .	83,971	86,497
Other Receipts .. .. .	49,990	56,351
Total General Income .. .. .	1,606,547	1,805,759
GENERAL EXPENDITURE.		
	£	£
Salaries (including Research Scholarships) and Provident Fund	1,050,771	1,230,414
Apparatus and Laboratory Materials .. .. .	81,387	116,195
Books and Periodicals .. .. .	28,482	25,242
Examiners' Fees .. .. .	28,532	28,636
Exhibitions and Bursaries .. .. .	7,435	8,064
Furniture and Furnishings .. .. .	7,244	10,494
Pay-Roll Tax .. .. .	25,885	30,487
Payment of Students' Fees to Allied Institutions ..	68,056	69,583
Printing and Stationery .. .. .	28,521	33,436
Repairs, Alterations, and Grounds .. .. .	43,395	54,234
Service Charges—Electricity, Gas, Fuel, Water, Telephones	28,220	28,541
Other .. .. .	125,500	134,606
Total General Expenditure .. .. .	1,523,428	1,769,932
SPECIAL INCOME.		
	£	£
Donations and Bequests—for buildings or as endowments	71,928	172,741
Commonwealth Government Grant for Building .. .. .	..	70,000
State Government Grant for Building .. .. .	..	46,092
Total Special Income .. .. .	71,928	288,833
SPECIAL EXPENDITURE.		
	£	£
Buildings .. .. .	69,966	108,788
Demolition of Wilson Hall .. .. .	8,331	..
Total Special Expenditure .. .. .	78,297	108,788

NOTE.—The statement above covers all University Funds, some of which are available for specific purposes only. At 31st December, 1954, the accumulated deficit in the University General Fund was £96,489.

**Affiliated  
Colleges.**

There are four residential colleges for men affiliated with the University. Trinity, Ormond, Queen's, and Newman Colleges were established by the Church of England, the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches respectively. Janet Clarke Hall and St. Mary's Hall are colleges established for women students and attached to Trinity College and Newman College respectively. The University Women's College (not a Church foundation) was affiliated during 1937. Information relating to the foundation and progress of the colleges is given in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

**College of  
Dentistry.**

In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control and, in return, undertook to recognize the professional teaching of the College in connexion with the Degree of Bachelor of Dental Science. Particulars relating to the establishment of this College were published in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 and 517.

**University  
Library.**

With the exception of a small amount from endowments Library expenditure is met from University general funds. The total annual expenditure during the year ended 31st December, 1954, was £54,300 (£53,600 in 1953), (books, periodicals, binding and sundries £25,900 (£28,400 in 1953), and the balance in salaries and services). During the year 1954 the Library acquired, mainly by purchase, 2,600 (2,500 in 1953) periodicals, and added to its shelves about 9,469 (9,033 in 1953) bound volumes. Total book stocks were 205,601 volumes at the end of 1954 (196,680 in 1953).

**Canberra  
University  
College.**

The Canberra University College was established under an Ordinance of the Australian Capital Territory in 1929. While the administration is quite separate from that of the University, a temporary agreement exists whereby students of the College may in certain Faculties become external students of the University, take University examinations, and proceed to Melbourne degrees. Teaching appointments in the College are required to be approved by the University.

**University  
Extension.**

The University's responsibility for adult education has diminished with the formation of the Council of Adult Education, and continues as such only in the activities of an Extension Committee and the Melbourne University Association. The University does provide, however, for the matriculation, under special conditions, of adult persons over the age of 20 years who have shown aptitude for higher education as determined by psychological tests.

**Rehabilitation  
of  
Ex-Servicemen.**

The total number of Students attending the University, who were assisted, either as full-time or part-time students under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training scheme was 193 in 1954 (408 in 1953).

### VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

The Victorian College of Pharmacy, formerly known as the Melbourne College of Pharmacy, was established in 1880. It provides instruction in the subjects of the Apprenticeship Course of Studies set out in the Pharmacy Regulations, under Part III. of the Medical Act. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Victoria and is recognized by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a School of Pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with Part III. of the Medical Act for persons seeking to qualify as pharmaceutical chemists. It is the only institution providing such a course.

Information in regard to enrolment of students and subjects of the Pharmacy Course included in the curriculum was published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 226.

Until 1921, an annual grant was made by the State Government for the purpose of carrying on the work of the College. Since then the institution has been self-supporting, revenue being from students' fees, examination fees, &c. Substantial amounts have been voluntarily contributed by members of the Pharmaceutical Society from time to time for the purpose of additions and alterations to the College building.

The number of students attending the College from 1950 to 1954 is shown hereunder :—

Course.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Pharmacy .. .. .	506	528	537	603	546
Medical .. .. .	155	140	133	169	154
Post Graduate (Pharmacy) ..	20	10	12	9	21
Total .. .. .	681	678	682	781	721

Principal items of receipts and expenditure from 1950 to 1954 were :—

#### RECEIPTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
Lecture Fees .. .. .	17,337	17,206	23,515	31,254	31,073
Examination Fees .. .. .	716	842	925	839	860

## PAYMENTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and Fees to lecturers ..	6,854	6,789	8,701	11,379	14,035
Drugs and Chemicals .. ..	1,559	1,582	1,982	1,667	1,953
Administration and other Ex- penses .. .. .	11,054	14,192	19,272	16,221	13,700

## THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The  
Educational  
System of  
Victoria.

The present system of education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year.

Under the *Education Act* 1872, education to all willing to accept it was made "free, compulsory and secular"—free, because fees were not to be charged; compulsory, in the sense that, whether the children attend or do not attend State Schools, evidence must be produced that they are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, for the reason that no teacher is allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State School building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State School teachers to give religious instruction to the children of those parents who wish their children to receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two after, mid-day. In practice the actual hours of instruction in the smaller primary schools are from 9.15 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. with one hour for lunch, and in the larger primary schools from 9.15 a.m. to 4 p.m. with 1½ hours for lunch.

The *Education Act* 1910 marked a distinctive epoch in the history of education in Victoria, in that it laid the foundation of a complete national system from the infants' school to the highest educational institutions in the State.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act* 1928, parents or guardians of children of not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children to attend school on every school half-day in each week, unless there is a reasonable excuse within the meaning of section 25 (3) of the Act for non-attendance. Failure to comply with these provisions renders a parent or guardian liable for a first offence to a penalty of not more than Two pounds and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of not more than seven days, and for a second or

Compulsory  
Attendance.

any subsequent offence in respect of the same or any other child to a penalty of not less than Two pounds nor more than Five pounds, and in default of payment to imprisonment for a term of not more than fourteen days. Attendance Officers are appointed to ensure compliance with the compulsory attendance provisions of the Education Act. The school leaving age is to be raised to fifteen years on a day to be proclaimed.

**Free Subjects.** The elementary school subjects in which instruction is free are contained in a statement published in the *Year-Book* 1943-44, page 434.

Instruction is free also to approved students in secondary and technical schools. In secondary schools no fees are charged to full-time students who make satisfactory progress. Where single subjects are taken, or where the student has already failed in the work for the fourth, fifth, or sixth year as the case may be, moderate fees are charged.

Secondary school subjects include—English, French, German, Latin, Italian\*, Dutch\*, Japanese\*, Russian\*, Greek and Roman History, British History, History of British Empire, History of Australasia and the Pacific, Social Studies, Musical Appreciation, Agricultural Science, Domestic Science (including Cookery), General Science, Geography, Geology, Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Accounting, Mathematics (Arithmetic, Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry, Pure Mathematics, Calculus and Applied Mathematics), Art, Craftwork, Home Management, Dressmaking, Needlework, Mechanical Drawing, Commercial Principles, Commercial Practice, Shorthand and Typewriting and Physical Education.

No tuition fees are charged for the four years Junior Technical School course which leads to the Junior Technical School Certificate (third year) and the Intermediate Technical Certificate (fourth year). In senior technical schools free tuition may be granted to full-time students who possess the prescribed qualifications for entry to approved courses and maintain satisfactory progress. Senior courses available under these conditions include Applied Chemistry, Applied Science, Architecture, Engineering (Aeronautical, Automotive, Civil, Communication, Electrical, Mechanical, Mining, Metallurgical, Chemical), Metallurgy, Textiles, Commercial Subjects, Cookery and Institutional Management, Needlecrafts, Dressmaking, Art and Applied Art, Building and Pre-nursing.

**Conveyance Allowance.**

An allowance for conveyance of up to one shilling for each day's attendance at a State or registered primary school is granted to children between the ages of six and fourteen years whose residence is not less than three miles distant from the

---

\* Small classes held only at University High School each Saturday morning.

nearest existing State school in the case of a State primary school pupil or from the nearest existing registered primary school of the appropriate denomination in the case of a registered school pupil. In special cases the allowance is granted for the conveyance of children over fourteen years of age.

Pupils attending a State school established for mentally or physically handicapped children may be granted an allowance for conveyance irrespective of age, distance travelled, or fares incurred.

**Conveyance of Post-Primary Pupils.** Believing that the system of conveying groups of children from outlying districts to large educational centres is preferable to the establishment of small State secondary and technical schools, the Education Department decided, at the beginning of 1944, to provide a number of bus services and to defray the full cost of the transport of pupils conveyed.

During the year 1953-54 there were 751 (719 in 1952-53) school buses in operation and 27,850 (24,917 in 1952-53) pupils were conveyed to State and registered secondary and primary schools. The cost of these services was £1,124,131 (£1,036,820 in 1952-53).

An allowance for conveyance not exceeding £39 per annum is paid on behalf of a pupil attending a State secondary school provided the place of residence is not less than three miles from the nearest State school providing the required standard of education.

A similar allowance is paid on behalf of a pupil attending a registered secondary school provided the place of residence is not less than three miles from the school attended and that school is the nearest registered secondary school of the appropriate denomination.

**School Committees.** Under Act No. 2301 (now incorporated in the *Education Act* 1928, No. 3671) provision was made for the appointment of a school committee for each school, consisting of not more than seven persons. The members of school committees are nominated by the parents of children attending the school for which the committee is to be appointed. The main duties of such committees are—

- (a) to exercise a general oversight of the buildings and grounds, and to report to the Minister on their condition when necessary ;
- (b) to carry out any necessary work referred to the committee in connexion with maintenance or repair of or additions to the buildings ; and
- (c) to use every endeavour to induce parents to send their children to school regularly and punctually.

**Handicapped Children.** For children who are prevented by disabilities from obtaining full benefit from the ordinary schools, special educational facilities are provided. These include hospital schools, schools for children with physical handicaps, schools for the deaf, a school for epileptics, an open-air school for children of lowered vitality, a sight-saving class for partially sighted children, eight schools for mentally handicapped children, and correspondence and itinerant teaching services for home-bound pupils. Some of the schools are residential. Corrective gymnastics, speech therapy and remedial teaching are provided at special centres. The school medical officers and the Education Department's psychology branch and supervisors are closely in touch with the work being done.

**School Savings Banks.** The number of depositors at the 30th June, 1954 was 341,313 (320,985 at the 30th June, 1953), with a balance at credit amounting to £1,487,087 (£1,300,947 in 1953).

**Social Service Leagues.** Over 80 per cent. of State schools—primary, secondary and technical—are members. Cash received was £50,021 18s. Od. in 1954 (£48,322 6s. Od. in 1953). Value of goods was £25,832 15s. Od. in 1954 (£35,664 9s. Od. in 1953). Cash and goods were sent to State Schools' Relief Committee, United Nations Appeal for Children, appeals for handicapped children and adults, hospitals and other appeals.

**School Forestry and Horticulture.** In 1923 the Education Department introduced a school endowment scheme for Victorian schools.

With the assistance of the Lands Department and the Department of State Forests, areas of land in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for plantation purposes, and these are planted under commercial timber-trees, principally *pinus radiata*.

At 30th June, 1954, established plantations numbered 435 (424 in 1952-53), with a total area of approximately 3,510 acres (3,440 acres in 1952-53). During the planting season 10,360 (49,538 in 1952-53) pines, 1,775 (1,710 in 1952-53) sugar gums, and 2,055 (2,469 in 1952-53) other species were planted.

From the 1st July, 1953, to the 30th June, 1954, nineteen schools (22 in 1952-53) sold a total of 294,000 (604,000 in 1952-53) super feet of pine logs and 13 (22 in 1952-53) cunits of pulpwood. The total net value of timber sold was £2,251 (£4,027 in 1952-53), bringing the total net revenue since 1937 to £29,062 (£26,811 in 1952-53).

The Victorian State Schools' Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to schools. The society has established a nursery from which seedlings, shrubs, and many thousands of packets of seeds are distributed annually to schools throughout the State.

Both the Victorian State Schools' Horticultural Society and the School Forestry Branch do much to encourage the practical teaching of horticulture and forestry by the preparation of films and film strips, and by the provision of vacation schools for teachers.

**Young Farmers' Club.** For many years Young Farmers' Clubs have existed in the schools of Victoria, interesting pupils and young people generally in the agricultural and pastoral life of the community. Projects are established at school and at home by the members who, through them, aim to reach a more thorough understanding of their rural environment. Each club is controlled by a local committee and is under the leadership of the teacher of the school concerned.

Consolidated and group schools have taken the place of many rural schools, and although thereby many clubs have ceased to exist, the larger schools should afford opportunities for the development of strong clubs.

**School Broadcasts.** There has been a remarkable increase in the number of schools, both State and registered, taking part in school broadcasts. The first regular school broadcasts commenced in 1931. In that year 30 schools were equipped with radio receiving sets. By December, 1954, this number had increased to 2,443 including 1,996 State schools. Over 90 per cent. of State schools have receiving sets for broadcasts.

The increase was particularly rapid from 1946 to 1954 in which period the numbers doubled. Following are comparative figures for the five years ended December, 1954, showing the numbers of radio-equipped schools :—

Details.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Radio-equipped schools ..	2,250	2,242	2,314	2,381	2,443

During 1954, 26 broadcasts were available each week for primary and secondary schools.

**Music and Speech Training.** There are 32 members (40 in 1953) of the Music and Speech Training Staff, 28 Music (26 in 1953) and four Speech Training (fourteen in 1953). Two members of the Music and Speech Training Staff are attached to Melbourne Teachers' College, one to assist the Lecturer in Music and one to assist the Lecturer in Speech Training. Members also assist at the Teachers'

Colleges in Geelong and Bendigo. (In 1953, one member of the Music Staff was attached to Melbourne Teachers' College to assist the Lecturer in Music, one to Bendigo Teachers' College, and one to Geelong Teachers' College.) Three members (twelve in 1953) are attached to the various centres as follows:—

	1954.	1953.
Ballarat ..	—	1 Music, 1 Speech Training
Bendigo ..	—	2 Music, 1 Speech Training
Geelong ..	1 Music	1 Music, 1 Speech Training
Hamilton ..	—	1 Speech Training
Horsham ..	1 Music	1 Speech Training
Mildura ..	—	1 Music, 1 Speech Training
Shepparton ..	1 Speech Training	1 Speech Training

Twenty-six work in the metropolitan area; two of the music staff are teaching half-time; eight have obtained nominated courses, six for the Bachelor of Music Degree, one for the Bachelor of Arts Degree, and one for the Diploma of Education. One senior member is in charge of Fife and Recorder Bands.

(In 1953, 25 worked in the metropolitan area; four people had obtained nominated courses for the Bachelor of Music Degree, whilst one senior member was in charge of the Fife and Recorder bands, and one in charge of speech.)

Student-teacher classes in music and speech training are held at the Music Centre, State School No. 2365, Queensberry-street, Carlton. Correspondence tuition in speech is provided for country student teachers, and advanced classes to enable teachers to qualify for the Singing Teacher's Primary Certificate and Certificate of Competency in Speech Training are held at a metropolitan centre.

There are weekly broadcasts in music for both junior and post-primary grades.

The Education Department's Visual Education Centre possesses 1,301 (1,258 in 1953) motion picture films. Multiple copies of each title are now included in the library. Eleven metropolitan film circuits and eleven (ten in 1953) country circuits—Ballarat, Geelong, Castlemaine, Maryborough, Beechworth, Wangaratta, South Gippsland, Western District, Bendigo, Dandenong, Peninsula, Gippsland, and Eltham, serving 242 (226 in 1953) selected schools (primary, technical, and high) are operated each day. Over 28,000 pupils see films every week in Victorian schools. Films are lent to 211 (176 in 1953) schools with their own equipment and 16,857 (15,000 in 1953) reels of film were sent out in the year.

Over 390 (350 in 1953) teachers were trained as 16-mm. projectionists at the Visual Education Centre. Special screenings and guidance have been given to teachers at group meetings called by District Inspectors, and lectures have been given at teachers' colleges.

There are 1,636 (1,629 in 1953) departmental schools with film-strip projectors. The film-strip library contains 1,741 (1,668 in 1953) separate titles of which 591 (568 in 1953) were produced at the Centre, 16,857 (15,000 in 1953) of these latter film-strips were sent out in the last twelve months. Of the 1,150 film-strips in the lending library, the average rate of borrowing by 225 schools participating is 400 per month. Technical specifications for 150 (130 in 1953) radio installations have been prepared during the year.

Thirty-eight wall charts have been produced. Numerous requests have been received for advice and guidance on the purchase of suitable projection equipment. Teachers' film-group meetings continue to be held in Melbourne and Ballarat.

**Physical education.** The organization of physical education is in charge of an Organizer with a staff of 29 women and 40 men in 1953, and 31 women and 69 men assistants in 1954, all of whom work in metropolitan districts, post-primary schools, in large provincial centres or in country inspectorates.

The training of teachers is carried out by:—

- (a) regular visits to schools in the metropolitan area, the provincial cities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Maryborough and, from 1954 on, the inspectorate of Shepparton;
- (b) refresher classes in country inspectorates and vacation schools;
- (c) special classes of instruction for student teachers;
- (d) lectures and practical work in the teachers' colleges.

From these visits or classes of instruction, teachers are assisted in carrying out normal school programmes.

Three posture-corrective gymnasiums function in the metropolitan area for children with posture defects; they cater for a limited number of children from surrounding schools and are conducted under medical supervision by qualified physical educationists.

Folk dancing broadcasts are arranged and conducted by the staff on a fortnightly basis.

**School Orchestras.** Dandenong High School has a small orchestra; four high schools—MacRobertson Girls', Melbourne, University, and Northcote—have full orchestras, as have East Camberwell Girls' Secondary School and Footscray Technical School.

**School Bands.** There are eight brass bands (seven in 1953), 28 drum and fife bands (24 in 1953), and 28 recorder bands (eighteen in 1953) in schools.

**Teachers Colleges.** Teachers for primary schools are trained at the Melbourne, Toorak, Burwood, Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong Teachers' Colleges. Applicants who have gained the Leaving Certificate or passed in five leaving Certificate subjects including English, or their equivalents, may be admitted to a one-year, two-year or three-year course of training if they are seventeen years of age and have been recommended by the Recruitment Officer or a district inspector.

A one-year course for the Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate is available for adult applicants; the two-year course for the Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate is compulsory for applicants under 21 years of age; and the three-year course is for the Trained Infant Teacher's Certificate. The first year of this course can be taken at any college but the second and third years are available only at the Melbourne, Burwood, and Toorak Teachers' Colleges.

Qualified applicants who are under age are appointed as temporary student teachers until old enough to enter training. There is a mid-year intake of students to metropolitan colleges in addition to the beginning of the year intake at all colleges.

An extended course of training for one year is available at the Melbourne Teachers' College for teachers who have completed Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate and who wish to specialize in teaching mentally-handicapped children or in opportunity grades. At the end of the course the Trained Special Teacher's Certificate is awarded. Extended courses are also available for University courses in arts, science, commerce, engineering, music; for a diploma course in agriculture at Dookie or Longerenong Agricultural Colleges; for training as Teacher Librarians; for training as art and crafts teachers or as domestic arts teachers in consolidated schools; and for training as teachers of the deaf. The last course is taken at the Training Centre for Teachers of the Deaf at Kew.

Secondary studentships are awarded to matriculated students for a degree course at the University in arts, science, commerce, engineering or music, followed by the first year of the Bachelor of Education course. Graduates and under-graduates are also eligible for these studentships to complete their courses. These students are

attached to the Secondary Teachers' College at the University and when they have completed their courses they are appointed to secondary schools.

Teachers of art and crafts in secondary schools are trained at the Melbourne Teachers' College although part of their three-year course of training is taken at technical schools. Teachers of domestic arts in secondary schools are trained at "Larnook" Domestic Arts Teachers' College and they also attend classes at the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy and the Melbourne Teachers' College during their three-year course of training.

**Central  
Schools  
(post-  
primary).**

Fifteen central schools (post-primary) have been established in Victoria.

These schools have been provided for children who have completed the primary course and who have not gained admission to a secondary school or a junior technical school. The course of study is an extension of the primary school course and is arranged to assist pupils who desire to strengthen their claims for subsequent enrolment at a secondary or a junior technical school. However, the course specially aims at providing a general training for pupils who do not intend to enter secondary or junior technical schools.

**State Primary  
Schools, Teachers  
and Scholars**  
1950 to 1954.

The following table shows the number of State Schools, Teachers and Scholars for the period 1950-54:—

**VICTORIA—STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1950 TO 1954.**

Year.	Number of Schools at End of Year.*	Number of Teachers.†	Number of Scholars.*		
			Enrolled During the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
1950 (31st December) ..	2,016	7,336	221,102	164,096	194,906
1951 .. ..	1,949	7,271	233,026	173,316	205,888
1952 .. ..	1,927	7,253	246,727	188,683	221,234
1953 .. ..	1,908	7,790	262,404	203,302	232,875
1954 .. ..	1,893	8,053	276,380	212,154	245,604

\* Includes Post Primary classes. Excludes Correspondence School.

† Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 1,754 on 31st December, 1954. (1,765 on 31st December, 1953.)

**State Secondary Schools, Enrolment, and Attendance, 1952, 1953, and 1954.** The following table gives the enrolment and attendance for the years 1952, 1953, and 1954 :—

VICTORIA—STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1952, 1953, AND 1954.

Class of School.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.†		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
Central Schools* and Classes	1952	33	5,997	5,156	5,824
	1953	37	6,891	5,868	6,585
	1954	33	6,550	5,638	6,298
Higher Elementary Schools*	1952	39	4,343	3,615	4,129
	1953	38	4,276	3,543	4,029
	1954	35	3,911	3,300	3,693
Girls' Secondary Schools ..	1952	14	6,180	5,082	6,028
	1953	14	6,477	5,336	6,350
	1954	14	6,500	5,364	6,322
Junior Technical Schools† ..	1952	30	14,725	12,708	14,409
	1953	31	16,511	13,965	16,208
	1954	37	18,462	15,866	17,829
District High Schools ..	1952	55	26,998	23,554	26,124
	1953	60	30,149	25,770	28,850
	1954	72	34,573	30,226	33,256
Total ..	1952	171	58,243	50,115	56,514
	1953	180	64,304	54,482	62,022
	1954	191	69,996	60,394	67,398

\* Central Schools and Higher Elementary Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Primary Schools.

† Junior Technical Schools are worked in conjunction with Technical Schools.

‡ Excludes Correspondence School.

**Tuition by Correspondence.**

In addition to the foregoing, there were 1,924 pupils enrolled during 1954 for tuition by correspondence in primary and secondary courses, with a net enrolment of 961. Corresponding figures for 1953 were 1,896 and 928.

The following table shows the number of pupils attending State schools (senior technical schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (from six to fourteen years) during the years ended 31st December, 1952, 1953, and 1954.

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1952, 1953, AND 1954.

Class of School.	Year.	Under Six Years.	From Six to Fourteen Years.	Over Fourteen Years.	Total.
Primary .. .. .	1952	13,811	201,896	3,209	218,916
	1953	12,086	215,978	2,711	230,775
	1954	13,317	227,732	2,843	243,892
Central Schools (Post Primary) .. .. .	1952	..	1,190	1,128	2,318
	1953	..	1,140	960	2,100
	1954	..	809	903	1,712
Central Schools and Classes (Secondary) .. .. .	1952	..	4,502	1,322	5,824
	1953	..	5,143	1,442	6,585
	1954	..	4,684	1,614	6,298
Higher Elementary Schools	1952	..	2,221	1,908	4,129
	1953	..	2,117	1,912	4,029
	1954	..	1,877	1,816	3,693
Girls' Secondary Schools ..	1952	..	3,003	3,025	6,028
	1953	..	3,018	3,332	6,350
	1954	..	3,006	3,316	6,322
Junior Technical Schools ..	1952	..	6,466	7,943	14,409
	1953	..	6,936	9,272	16,208
	1954	..	8,013	9,816	17,829
District High Schools ..	1952	..	10,263	15,861	26,124
	1953	..	11,625	17,225	28,850
	1954	..	13,503	19,753	33,256
Pupils receiving tuition by correspondence ..	1952	53	812	142	1,007
	1953	50	739	139	928
	1954	53	739	169	961
Total .. .. .	1952	13,864	230,353	34,538	278,755
	1953	12,136	246,696	36,993	295,825
	1954	13,370	260,363	40,230	313,963

State secondary education.

The purpose of the higher elementary schools and of the district high schools is to provide secondary education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in primary schools.

The former are established in the smaller country centres and provide four years of secondary education up to the School Intermediate Certificate; if the number of pupils is sufficient, the course is extended by one year to the School Leaving Certificate. The high schools provide a course of six years up to the Matriculation examination of the University of Melbourne, the School Leaving Certificate being taken at the end of the fifth year. In both types of school provision is made for the teaching of practical subjects and thus a variety of courses is available. No tuition fees are charged except in the School Leaving Certificate and Matriculation forms and then a fee of £6 per annum is payable only when pupils have failed to make satisfactory progress and wish to repeat the year's work.

**Higher  
Elementary  
Schools.**

There are 35 (37 in 1953) higher elementary schools in which a four-year course up to the School Intermediate standard is provided. In a few such schools pupils may proceed as far as the School Leaving Certificate. The total number of pupils in attendance in higher elementary schools in February, 1954, was 3,785 (1,842 boys, 1,943 girls), (4,041—2,007 boys, 2,034 girls—in 1953). The decrease in attendance (256) in February, 1954, as compared with that in February, 1953, was mainly due to the fact that three higher elementary schools were proclaimed high schools as from January, 1954, and their enrolment figures were included in the total for high schools for that year, and excluded from that for higher elementary schools. One school conducting central classes was raised in classification at the beginning of 1954 to a higher elementary school.

**Central Schools  
and Classes  
(Secondary).**

In central schools in the metropolitan area and in schools with central classes in country centres a two-year preparatory course of secondary education is available. In a limited number of these schools instruction is available up to sub-intermediate standard. The total number of pupils in attendance in these schools in February 1954, was 6,245 (2,757 boys, 3,488 girls). This represents a total decrease of 887 over the total for 1953.

**Girls'  
Secondary  
Schools.**

There are fourteen girls' secondary schools of which eleven are in Melbourne and one each in Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. In February, 1954, there were 6,314 girls in attendance at these schools compared with 6,318 in 1953. All girls' secondary schools provide courses leading to the Proficiency Certificate (third year); nearly all prepare girls for the Girls' Secondary School Intermediate Certificate (fourth year); a few have begun to provide for a course leading to the Girls' Secondary School Leaving Certificate (fifth year).

There are 72 district high schools (59 in 1953), in all of which a five-year course is provided and in nearly all a six-year course. At the end of the fifth year pupils may obtain the School Leaving Certificate and at the conclusion of the sixth year they may qualify for Matriculation. The total number of pupils attending high schools in February, 1954, was 32,981 (15,603 boys, 17,378 girls). These numbers represent an increase of 4,759 pupils (2,099 boys, 2,660 girls) over the total for 1953.

### SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES.

At the beginning of 1954, scholarships were awarded as follows :—

Number and Kind.	Age Requirements of Candidates.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
1,050 Junior Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1954	4 years	School requisites allowances of— Form III., IV. £7 Form V. .. £8 Form VI. .. £10 and £25 towards fees at registered schools
650 Free Places at State secondary schools open to candidates attending State schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1954	4 years	School requisites allowances of— Form III., IV. £7 Form V. .. £8 Form VI. .. £10
100 Public Service Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools who will enter the Public Service	Not over 15½ years on 1st January, 1954	1 or 2 years	£25 p.a. (all schools) and school requisites allowances of Form IV. .. £7 Form V. .. £8 Form VI. .. £10
500 Leaving Certificate Bursaries open to candidates in attendance at State and registered schools who will become teachers	Not over 16½ years on 1st January, 1954	1 year ..	£50 p.a. towards cost of schooling; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance
250 Matriculation Bursaries open to candidates attending State and registered schools who will become teachers	Not over 17½ years on 1st January, 1954	1 year ..	£50 p.a. towards cost of schooling; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance
100 Diploma Bursaries open to candidates attending State and registered schools who will become teachers	No age limit	Up to 2 years	£50 per annum towards cost of schooling; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance
250 Intermediate Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 15½ years on 1st January, 1954	1 year ..	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £10 p.a.; also in certain cases up to £52 p.a. for maintenance

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES—*continued.*

Number and Kind.	Age Requirements of Candidates.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
220 Senior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State, technical, and registered schools.	No age limit	Up to 5 years	Free tuition at a senior technical school; also £30 p.a. in case of day scholars and £10 p.a. or £5 p.a. in case of evening scholars; also in certain cases up to £169 p.a. for maintenance
50 Senior Scholarships open to candidates attending State, registered and technical schools	Not over 18½ years on 1st January, 1954	Up to 6 years	£40 p.a. towards expense of course at University; also in certain cases up to £169 p.a. for maintenance
70 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to candidates attending State, registered, and technical schools	No age limit	Up to 6 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University; also in certain cases up to £169 p.a. for maintenance
10 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to officers (other than teachers) of the Government of Victoria	Not over 25 years on 1st January, 1954	Full length of approved course	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University. Leave on full pay to attend lectures and examinations
60 Free Courses at University of Melbourne open to teachers of Education Department	No age limit	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University

NOTE.—The same scholarships were available at the beginning of 1953.

**Technical Schools.**

The technical schools in the State were originally under the control of local school councils. In 1910, however, legislation was enacted which provided for all schools established after that year to be under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on the 30th June, 1954, was 43 (37 in 1953), of which 29 have been established since the passing of the *Education Act 1910*. The gross enrolment for the year 1954 comprised 18,283 (16,527 in 1953) junior and 39,579 (38,186 in 1953) senior students.

Victorian technical schools provide practical laboratory and workshop training, together with instruction in the principles of science and art, as applied to industries. They also give instruction in subjects connected with or preparatory to industrial, commercial, agricultural, mining, and domestic pursuits.

Full-time day and evening professional courses are provided in the various branches of engineering, mining, metallurgy, architecture, applied chemistry, applied physics, textiles, art and applied art, commercial work, foremanship work, and institutional management. Full-time and part-time day and evening trade courses are also available in trades connected with electrical and mechanical engineering, motor, building, furniture, printing, bootmaking, food trades, textiles, and women's industries.

Associated with every technical school, with the exception of the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Melbourne Technical College, the William Angliss Food Trades School, the Melbourne School of Printing and Graphic Arts, and the Melbourne Textile School, is a full-time day junior technical or preparatory section, which provides for a four-years' course of study. In six country high schools there are junior technical sections, while five private schools (two metropolitan and three country) teach the junior technical school course. The private schools are open to inspection by Departmental officers.

Pupils who have completed either the sixth or seventh grade course in a primary school are eligible for admission to Form I. in a junior technical school. Entrance is by recommendation from the primary school. Where there is a shortage of accommodation, an entrance examination, which is open to all schools, both State and private, may be held.

Those who fail to attain entry may do so after further study in a primary school or in special post-primary classes. Primary school pupils who complete the eighth-grade course may be admitted to Form II.

The junior school course is of four years' duration. After the satisfactory completion of Form III., pupils are eligible for the award of the Junior Technical Certificate, the recognized pre-requisite for apprenticeship in most trades. The Intermediate Technical Certificate may be obtained after an additional year's satisfactory work. This certificate is issued either in an unendorsed form or marked "Diploma Entrance Standard". The needs of the trades or artistic occupations may be served by the ordinary certificate (English being a compulsory requirement), while the "Diploma Entrance Standard" requires, *inter alia*, passes in English, Mathematics, and Science.

Certain senior technical schools—the Melbourne Technical College, the Swinburne Technical College (Hawthorn), the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong), the Bendigo and Ballarat Schools of Mines, and the Footscray and Caulfield Technical Schools, and twelve schools in some of the larger country centres—are general-purpose schools, providing full day and evening professional courses, and full-time and part-time day and evening trade apprenticeship and commercial courses. In the country centres specialized instruction is given, such as at Geelong in textile, wool classing and sorting, and

architecture, and at Ballarat and Bendigo, in mining, and at several schools in full-time or part-time form utility courses adapted to the needs of the local district.

In the metropolitan area there are also twelve senior schools giving a wide range of part-time training including that for apprentices in proclaimed trades under the Apprenticeship Commission. The latter training is in general of four years' duration and is conducted on a part-time basis by day with opportunities for further study in the evening classes. The William Angliss Food Trades School, the Melbourne School of Printing and Graphic Arts and the Melbourne Textile School are mono-technical institutions for apprentices.

The technical courses for women's industries are the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy and the Box Hill Girls' Technical School, and there are also women's classes at Ballarat, Brighton, Castlemaine, Daylesford, Echuca, Bairnsdale, Wangaratta, Maryborough, Prahran, Sale, Shepparton, Sunshine, Warrnambool, and Wonthaggi Technical Schools, the Swinburne Technical College (Hawthorn), and the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong). There are junior technical schools for girls associated with the schools at Ballarat, Box Hill, Brighton, Sunshine, Prahran, Swinburne (Hawthorn), Wonthaggi, Maryborough, Sale, and Warrnambool.

Fees in technical schools range from 10s. per term per subject (elementary grades) to £8 per term for advanced courses.

No fees are charged in junior technical schools and free tuition is available to all qualified students undertaking full-time approved courses in senior technical schools, provided a satisfactory standard of attainment is maintained.

Living allowances up to £169 per annum are also available to senior technical scholarship holders under certain conditions subject to a means test.

*Teacher-Training.*—During 1951, a new system of recruiting mathematics, science, art, cookery, needlework, and commercial teachers for technical schools was begun. Formerly these were recruited from holders of teaching scholarships. The new scheme provides for a course of training, which includes a technical school diploma, two years of industrial experience, and one year teacher-training at the Technical Teachers' College.

Bursaries, carrying an annual allowance of £50, are awarded for the first two years of the diploma course, whilst studentships, carrying liberal allowances adjusted in accordance with the cost of living, are awarded for the remainder of the training period. During 1954, 59 (57 in 1953) such studentships were awarded.

The system of recruiting teachers of trade subjects remains unaltered. Tradesmen with at least ten years' experience, including apprenticeship, are selected for an evening course of two years' duration in the theory and practice of teaching.

*Expenditure.*—Government expenditure on each technical school during the five years ended 1953-54 is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1949-50 TO 1953-54.

School.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale .. .. .	7,284	11,409	8,605	6,406	8,822
Ballarat .. .. .	36,764	51,290	57,737	77,733	73,743
Bendigo .. .. .	36,856	42,758	47,946	57,055	66,378
Box Hill .. .. .	9,855	7,424	13,672	10,563	10,184
Box Hill Girls' .. .. .	2,659	7,212	4,088	5,239	11,776
Brighton .. .. .	12,442	16,797	14,945	17,977	17,436
Brunswick .. .. .	7,495	9,808	15,555	14,448	15,527
Castlemaine .. .. .	12,243	17,365	17,394	20,776	22,039
Caulfield .. .. .	17,140	24,874	31,178	29,561	29,712
Chelsea .. .. .	..	..	..	..	13,150
Coburg .. .. .	..	..	..	..	56,384
Collingwood .. .. .	25,799	29,643	43,655	53,724	47,877
Dandenong .. .. .	..	..	..	..	50,316
Daylesford .. .. .	4,484	6,705	3,318	5,174	3,334
Echuca .. .. .	15,465	22,184	16,924	19,715	16,548
Essendon .. .. .	8,415	8,715	13,124	14,939	17,960
Ferntree Gully .. .. .	..	..	..	..	51,664
Footscray .. .. .	56,647	62,636	61,790	49,611	55,029
Geelong (Gordon Institute of Technology)	60,196	73,308	99,942	129,488	193,770
Hawthorn (Swinburne Technical College)	71,441	92,597	132,346	132,879	138,532
Heidelberg .. .. .	..	..	..	..	53,517
Jordanville .. .. .	..	..	..	..	40,395
Maryborough .. .. .	3,743	16,448	5,191	5,526	5,913
Melbourne—	..	..	..	..	..
Emily McPherson College of Domestic	..	..	..	..	..
Economy .. .. .	22,017	19,565	23,672	23,980	20,039
Melbourne Technical College .. .. .	201,446	278,336	374,748	496,119	504,815
School of Printing and Graphic Arts .. .. .	12,456	18,405	6,594	7,242	14,883
Melbourne Textile School .. .. .	2,697	3,093	2,940	2,988	66,620
Wm. Angliss Food Trades School .. .. .	3,644	2,269	6,615	5,191	4,298
Mildura .. .. .	..	22,200	..	..	..
Moorabbin .. .. .	..	..	..	..	48,605
Oakleigh .. .. .	6,493	7,132	17,745	21,322	10,629
Prahran .. .. .	17,911	42,569	39,813	48,306	82,053
Preston .. .. .	20,010	27,501	34,837	17,118	17,507
Richmond .. .. .	9,433	14,225	14,438	15,361	16,027
Sale .. .. .	11,954	13,748	9,886	20,196	34,355
Sandringham .. .. .	6,235	51,950	63,715	28,698	9,321
Shepparton .. .. .	..	..	..	7,426	13,399
South Melbourne .. .. .	7,547	13,852	10,813	14,075	16,425
Stawell .. .. .	8,414	11,982	5,927	6,931	8,506
Sunshine .. .. .	10,043	17,674	11,144	16,209	19,408
Wangaratta .. .. .	14,391	26,090	12,829	10,095	8,144
Warrnambool .. .. .	6,552	10,583	12,784	11,694	25,011
Wonthaggi .. .. .	9,416	8,982	5,579	6,281	30,654
Yallourn .. .. .	6,071	16,153	19,074	14,900	13,878
Other Votes for Technical Schools .. .. .	104,771	144,559	139,465	193,781	244,235
Miscellaneous .. .. .	17,338	15,006	68,058	6,920	43,062
Salaries (Departmental teachers) .. .. .	597,676	739,630	896,372	1,071,013	1,216,773
	1,485,493	2,006,677	2,364,958	2,696,600	3,468,653

**Royal  
Melbourne  
Technical  
College  
Foundation.**

Royal Melbourne Technical College (formerly known as the Working Men's College) was founded in the year 1882. The Hon. Francis Ormond (honoured as the College Founder) in the previous year publicly announced that he would donate £5,000, contingent upon a similar amount being subscribed by the citizens of Melbourne, for the establishment of a Technical College in Melbourne. He further stipulated that the Government should provide a site. The resolution, which led to the foundation of the College, was moved by Judge Higinbotham at a public meeting in the Town Hall. The resolution read: "That it is desirable to found a Working Men's College for the promotion of general education and technical training". The scheme was approved and public subscriptions sought by an enthusiastic band of workers. The money was eventually subscribed, the Government donated the site, a provisional governing Council was appointed, and the first building erected and opened in June, 1887. Over 900 students had enrolled in single subjects by the end of that year.

The Working Men's College was the first technical school to be established in Melbourne, and it is not altogether incorrect to add in Victoria, for though the Schools of Mines in Ballarat and Bendigo were opened a decade or more before, they were schools of mines whose single aim was the teaching of mining engineering and related subjects and not training and teaching craftsmen.

Since its inception the College enrolment has grown from 600 to 16,000 students, and its accommodation has increased from eleven class rooms to 16 acres of studios, laboratories, workshops, and lecture rooms.

On the first day of July, 1954, a little more than 70 years after the founding, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. conferred the title "Royal" upon the College and authorized the use of the Royal Cypher on the College Diplomas—a worthy tribute to one whose chief ambition was to help those who were willing to help themselves, and who selected for the College motto the words "Perita Manus: Mens Exulta"—a skilled hand and a cultivated mind.

**Government  
of Royal  
Melbourne  
Technical  
College.** The Provisional Council 1882-1887 was replaced by a permanent Council of 17 members in 1887 representative of the following interests:—The Government, 2; The University, 2; The Public Library, 2; The Founder of the College, 2; The Town Hall Council, 2; Subscribers, 6. These, with the Founder, comprised the governing council of 17 members. Later, when more Government financial assistance was needed, it was given on condition that the Government representatives be increased to seven members. The Council was accordingly enlarged to 22 and to-day its constitution consists of the following

representatives:—Government, 7; University, 2; Executors of the Founder, 2; Trades Hall Council, 4; Chamber of Manufacturers, 1; Chamber of Commerce, 1; Victorian Federation of Employers, 1; Australian Natives' Association, 1; Royal Victorian Institute of Architects, 1; Victorian Automobile Chamber of Commerce, 1; City of Melbourne Council, 1.

The Council is responsible for the control of the College, appointment of staff, and administration of its funds.

**Finance of the College.**

From its inception the Government granted an annual subsidy to assist in financing the College. In 1898, eleven years after the College opened, the Government subsidy was £2,600, whilst £3,000 was received in fees from 1,800 students in attendance in that year. In 1902 the Government grant was £5,500 and fees from students £7,500. In 1954 fees amounted to £116,343 (£108,501 in 1953) (excluding fees for correspondence courses) and the Government grant was £426,510 (£392,936 in 1953).

For some years the members of the Council, as trustees, were personally liable for the College finance. The College Council in 1904 took steps to convert the College into a limited liability company, which it remains to-day, the financial liability of its Council members being limited to £1 per member.

The income of the College is derived from the Government grant, fees, interest on various investments, rent and income earned by its various services to Industry, Government Bodies, and other Schools.

**College Courses of Instruction.** The College provides courses of instruction in three broad fields associated with Industry, namely: Applied Science, Applied Art and Commerce. It offers, in these three major fields, courses of three general types, namely: Trade Courses, Technicians' Courses, and Professional Courses. In addition, it offers Special Courses and Courses by Correspondence.

*Professional Courses.*—Professional Diploma Courses, both full time and part-time, are offered in the three divisions of Applied Art, Technology, and Commerce. The major courses provided in these fields of study are the following: **ENGINEERING**—Electrical, Mechanical, Civil, Automotive, Communication, Production, Mining, Aeronautical Engineering, and Land Surveying; **METALLURGY**—Primary Metallurgy and Metallurgical Engineering; **CHEMISTRY**—Applied Chemistry, Chemical Engineering; **PHYSICS**—Applied Physics and Instrument Technology; **ARCHITECTURE**—Architecture, Building Construction, Interior Design, Quantity Surveying; **ART**—Painting, Sculpture, Advertising, Industrial Design, Book Production, Gold and Silversmithing, Pottery, Printed Textiles; **COMMERCE**—Accountancy, Management, Public Administration, Real Estate Management.

For students who can attend part-time only, evening courses are offered. Usually a lower Certificate Course is provided as well as a more advanced Diploma Course.

Tuition for diploma courses is regarded in general as teaching to a level or standard which is recognized by professional bodies as satisfactory for entry to their institutions, and so giving professional standing to successful students.

Institutions recognizing College diplomas are :—

- Australian Institute of Cartographers.
- Australian Society of Accountants.
- Institution of Automotive and Aeronautical Engineers.
- Institution of Engineers, Australia.
- Institute of Metallurgists (London).
- Institution of Production Engineers.
- Institution of Radio Engineers, Australia.
- Royal Australian Chemical Institute.
- Royal Australian Institute of Architects.

The course of instruction does not necessarily cease at the level required for recognition by, and entrance to, the appropriate professional institution. This level is the minimum which all diploma courses must reach, but many extend beyond this minimum.

*Recognition of Associate Courses by the University of Melbourne.*—Although the Associate diploma course was planned as a terminal course of study as far as essential technology was concerned, the general level is equal to that of the second year of a University engineering course.

By arrangement with the University of Melbourne, students who complete the full-time Associate diploma course in Civil, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering, and are recommended by the Principal, are admitted to the third year of the corresponding course at the University.

*Fellowship Diploma.*—Industrial leaders made requests over many years for a course which would carry a man further than the two years post-matriculation study necessary for the Associate diploma.

It was stressed by industrialists that when they required research men or designers for their staffs they chose a suitable University graduate, because a University training aimed at producing men interested in making original contributions to science and engaging in pure research.

However, there were many situations which called for services of men skilled in technology or the application of science to industry.

The prime requisite in every case was the ability to make factories increase production irrespective of the product.

To accomplish this, something more than the content of the usual diploma was necessary. Production planning, work methods, management principles, and the strategic use of horsepower were necessary to take a project from the laboratory or draughting room to the production line, and produce it competitively.

In developing professional courses, the College ensured that every school responsible for a professional course was supported by an appropriate trade department with fully equipped workshops and staffed by men having an intimate knowledge of the requirements of industry.

One year of additional full-time study was provided as from 1946, and those students who successfully complete the course are awarded the Fellowship diploma, admitted to Fellowship of the College, and permitted the use of the letters, F.R.M.T.C.

The additional subjects increased the mathematical and technological content of the course, provided guided experience in research and industrial projects, showed the necessity for effective management, and, to preserve balance, the Humanities coverage was extended.

It was necessary to standardize the Fellowship diploma against other awards to assist employers and students, particularly overseas students who ultimately return to their own countries.

The duration of the Fellowship course is three years from the accepted British matriculation level, and the content is such that the academic subject syllabuses parallel those for the University of London External Examinations B.Sc. course in the appropriate branch of Engineering.

In addition, there are management, production and industrial subjects which cannot be equated to those in University courses of study.

*Technicians' Courses.*—These courses are distinct from the trade courses in that they do not lead to competency in any skilled trade or craft, nor, on the other hand, do they reach the standard of technical knowledge demanded by the professional course. They are therefore intermediate in character, giving to the successful student the skill and knowledge required for a technical occupation, and, as evidence of this, a Certificate is issued. The entrance standard to such courses varies, but in general requires Intermediate Certificate.

*Trade Courses.*—These are courses of instruction complementary to trade experience leading to competency in a skilled craft or trade. Most skilled trades are under the control of the Apprenticeship Commission, and this body prescribes the details of the courses of

instruction, which are of four to five years' duration, and accompany the period of apprenticeship. The minimum educational standard for entrance is the Junior Technical Certificate.

Apprentice Trade Classes are offered in a large number of skilled crafts and trades, including Engineering, Building, Constructional and Applied Art. Post-Apprenticeship courses and classes are also offered in many of the Trade Groups.

*Special Courses.*—In addition to these diploma, technicians, and trade courses, a number of short courses is offered, intended to enhance the efficiency of persons who are engaged in work associated with the calling in which the course is given. Such courses, for example, as Concrete, Diesel Engines, Plastics Technology, Shop Inspection, Timber Roofing, belong to this category.

*Correspondence Courses.*—Finally, through its Correspondence School, the College offers a large number of courses of instruction in art and commercial subjects, in mathematics, physics, and in literary, technical and trade subjects.

*Teaching by Correspondence.*—The Correspondence School provides technical education for those students who, because of distance, physical disability or shift-work, are unable to attend College classes. This important section of the College provides professional, technician and trade courses through the mail for students who are distributed over a wide area of the Pacific as well as Australia. The groups include Navy, Army and R.A.A.F. personnel abroad or in remote areas of Australia, or ex-service men completing rehabilitation training. Disabled civilians are assisted by the Social Service section of the Department of Labour and National Service to learn a trade by correspondence, and so become self-supporting.

Apprentices who are employed in towns where there are no suitable technical school classes learn the theoretical aspects of their trades by postal tuition. In many instances such students attend the College in person once a year for a concentrated course of practical instruction in the workshops or laboratories.

The correspondence courses are designed in such a way that a complete year's work can be accomplished by 250 hours study.

The demand for technical training in South East Asian countries has resulted in many students making application to attend classes in Australia. To assist the Commonwealth Government in this project the College has established a Division of External Studies. The Division avails itself of the conjoint facilities of the Correspondence School and the relevant professional Schools such as Engineering, Science or Art. The students take the first-year subjects such as mathematics, physics, and draughting, by correspondence tuition. The scheme enables the Government to assess students' capabilities before assisting them to attend classes in Australia.

The Division of External Studies is responsible for all extra-mural activities, including public lectures, correlation of class and correspondence courses, and T.W.I. (Training Within Industry) programmes.

The College arranges for staff from the Management School to visit factories and other industrial establishments to train foremen and supervisors, and develop training within industry.

In addition, Royal Melbourne Technical College provides certain classes as its own special contribution to adult education.

**Service to Other Schools.** All departments of the College are encouraged to give the utmost assistance to Industry and to other Technical Schools. Technical Schools must be closely linked with Industry for successful work and can best win the full support of Industry by giving assistance whenever this is sought. It is a College policy to give any assistance in its power to other Technical and Departmental Schools.

**Service to Industry.** This is given by teaching, professional advice, testing and research. It is impracticable to give in full detail the assistance given by each department. The following, however, sets out in detail the service given by the Test Section of the Mechanical, Electrical, and Civil Engineering Department of the College :

(1) *Metals*.—Tension, Compression, Cross-breaking, Cold bend, Hardness (Vickers, Brinell, Shore, and Rockwell), Impact, Ductility, Elasticity (Machining of specimens if necessary).

(2) *Concrete*.—Compression, Cross-breaking, Hardness, Resistance to (a) water penetration ; (b) fire ; (c) acids, &c. Mix determination (S.A.A.), preparation of specimens where necessary.

(3) *Bricks*.—Building blocks and non-metallic building materials generally. (See Concrete.)

(4) *Concrete Aggregates, &c.*—Suitability, presence of injurious impurities. Sieve analysis, Design of mixes, Suitability of supply water.

(5) *Meters, Gauges, Electrical Instruments, &c.*—Calibration and checking.

(6) *Machine Design and Stress Problems*.—Experimental Stress Analysis Laboratory.

(7) *Machines, Motors, Engines, Pumps, &c.*—Tests as required.

(8) *Fluid Flow Investigations in the Fluid Mechanics Laboratory*.—The equipment of the Laboratory includes a wind tunnel of 4 ft. 6 in. x 2 ft. 6 in. working section capable of producing an air stream of 250 ft. per sec. velocity and a fluid channel of 5 ft. x 3 ft. section

with a maximum discharge of 50 cu. sec., together with a smaller wind tunnel, smaller channel and reservoirs and incidental equipment. The Laboratory carries out tests on hydraulic structures, flow-meters, aircraft and vehicle shapes, ventilation of industrial buildings, &c.

*Special tests* will always be catered for within the limits of our equipment. Services are approved by:—

- (a) Lloyd's Register of Shipping (1) above;
- (b) Melbourne City Council with regard to Mix Determination of Concrete (2) above;
- (c) Navy Office;
- (d) Aeronautical Inspection Department;
- (e) Department of Army.

The Radio Research Laboratory similarly provides a valued service to Industry, to Commonwealth and State Government Departments and to various authorities. The Welding Department supplies a crack detection service to those industries requiring such assistance.

Practically all departments give service of some kind, depending upon their resources. It might be of interest to relate that the Applied Physics Department tests pearls for jewellers by X-ray diffraction methods, to determine whether they are natural or cultured, and the Metrology Section of the Production Engineering Department is the test authority of the Customs Department for "precision" of lathes.

Details relating to the College during the years 1950 to 1954 are shown in the following table:—

ROYAL MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1950 TO 1954.

	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Individual students enrolled—					
Males .. .. .	12,719	12,132	12,984	13,667	13,412
Females .. .. .	1,460	1,665	1,964	1,992	2,284
Total .. .. .	14,179	13,797	14,948	15,659	15,696
Number of classes .. .. .	813	836	874	929	964
Number of Instructors .. .. .	820	772	656	719	979
Salaries paid to Instructors £	183,579	219,761	269,525	305,050	326,459
Government grant .. .. . £	198,044	261,912	356,990	392,936	426,510
Fees received during the year* £	84,347	83,425	95,363	108,501	116,343
Average fee per student per year ..	119s.	120s. 11d.	127s. 7d.	138s. 7d.	148s. 3d.

\* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £12,421 in 1950, £11,936 in 1951, £14,267 in 1952, £16,560 in 1953, and £16,199 in 1954. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

## STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During 1953-54, expenditure by and on behalf of the Education Department of Victoria, as published in the Report of the Minister of Public Instruction, together with the payment by the Treasury to the University (less that for Bacteriological Laboratory Services) totalled £21,842,651 (£18,954,562 in 1952-53). This amount includes expenditure from loan moneys and the cost of pensions and gratuities, but excludes the interest paid by the State on loans for education purposes (particulars of which are not available), payroll tax, superannuation paid on behalf of officers in the Defence Forces, and expenditure on School Medical and Dental services. Comparative figures for each of the years 1949-50 to 1953-54 were as follows:—

VICTORIA—STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION,  
1949-50 TO 1953-54.

Expenditure on—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
<b>Primary and Secondary Education—</b>					
Primary (including Special Sub-jects) .. .. .	£ 4,692,714	£ 5,507,613	£ 6,737,726	£ 8,086,111	£ 8,750,364
Secondary .. .. .	1,439,293	1,793,182	2,298,781	2,804,573	3,068,823
Buildings and Land .. .. .	1,503,016	1,923,579	2,592,948	2,595,075	3,524,776
<b>Technical Education—</b>					
Junior and Senior Schools .. .. .	1,271,913	1,595,328	1,968,331	2,338,933	2,580,599
Buildings and Land .. .. .	190,972	377,703	355,035	307,514	858,624
Training of Teachers .. .. .	376,136	508,624	769,803	1,019,469	1,222,490
Administration .. .. .	213,612	265,219	321,996	367,119	369,261
Pensions .. .. .	237,971	310,423	324,897	362,371	440,585
General Expenditure .. .. .	231,379	323,198	396,074	444,455	431,718
<b>University—</b>					
Special Appropriations, &c. .. .. .	458,543	453,931	554,725	625,451	584,246
Scholarships and Bursaries, &c. .. .. .	11,290	7,086	5,953	8,491	11,116
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>10,626,839*</b>	<b>13,065,886*</b>	<b>16,326,269*</b>	<b>18,954,562*</b>	<b>21,842,651*</b>
<b>Per Head of Population .. .. .</b>	<b>£ s. d. 4 17 11</b>	<b>£ s. d. 5 16 10</b>	<b>£ s. d. 7 1 10</b>	<b>£ s. d. 8 0 6</b>	<b>£ s. d. 9 0 3</b>

\* Excluding (a) pay-roll tax, £139,485 in 1949-50, £175,641 in 1950-51, £213,060 in 1951-52, £253,508 in 1952-53, and £281,354 in 1953-54; (b) superannuation paid on behalf of officers in Defence Forces, £16 in 1951-52, £112 in 1952-53, and £50 in 1953-54; and (c) expenditure on School Medical and Dental Services, £36,025 in 1949-50, £53,538 in 1950-51, £91,322 in 1951-52, £163,636 in 1952-53, and £198,674 in 1953-54.

In addition to the expenditure shown in the preceding table, fees, donations, &c., amounting to £220,196 in 1949-50, £236,730 in 1950-51, £252,926 in 1951-52, £304,794 in 1952-53 and £245,283 in 1953-54 were retained and expended by the various technical school councils.

In the following statement the expenditure shown has been confined to that relating to primary and secondary education in State schools, i.e., excluding the amount expended on technical education :—

**VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION—STATE SCHOOLS  
(EXCLUDING TECHNICAL SCHOOLS), 1952-53 AND 1953-54.**

Classification.	General Expenditure.		Primary Education.		Secondary Education.		Correspondence School.		Teachers' Colleges.		Total Expenditure.	
	1952-53.	1953-54.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1952-53.	1953-54.	1952-53.	1953-54.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Administration . . .	231,372	227,164	79,831	84,181	23,260	24,083	1,418	1,676	1,376	1,621	337,257	338,725
Cost of Co-ordinate Activities (Attendance Branch) . . .	..	..	18,604	17,325	..	..	..	..	..	..	18,604	17,325
Cost of Instruction . . .	188,028	161,436	6,623,639	7,178,907	2,011,155	2,228,530	54,714	57,311	166,634	189,611	9,044,170	9,815,795
Operation of School Plant (Cleaning, &c.) . . .	822	743	404,495	422,565	98,185	115,877	696	650	8,870	8,754	513,068	548,589
Maintenance of School Plant (Repairs, &c.) . . .	98	159	488,186	525,420	87,862	79,879	556	141	8,831	17,958	585,533	623,557
Auxiliary Costs (Transport Allowances, Scholarships, &c.) . . .	254,444	268,758	541,116	598,028	548,146	583,759	174	111	834,821	1,005,895	2,178,701	2,456,551
Fixed Charges (Pensions, Rents, &c.) . . .	363,083	441,157	24,728	24,975	5,066	5,262	77	61	332	544	393,286	471,999
Capital Expenditure (Pur- chase of Land and Buildings) . . .	352	50	2,015,086	2,226,026	473,883	1,196,832	177	..	89,194	82,032	2,578,692	3,504,940
Total . . .	1,038,199	1,099,467	10,195,685	11,077,427	3,247,557	4,234,222	57,812	59,950	1,110,058	1,306,415	15,649,311	17,777,481

**COUNCIL OF PUBLIC EDUCATION.**

The Council of Public Education is appointed under Section 83 of the *Education Act* 1928. Its chief functions relate to the registration of teachers and schools under Part VI. of the Act, and to ensuring that schools under this part are registered and properly staffed, and that persons employed therein are registered as teachers or have been granted temporary permission to teach.

Part VI. of the Act relates to schools other than State schools. "School" is defined as "An assembly at appointed time of three or more persons between the ages of six years and eighteen years for the purpose of their being instructed by a teacher or teachers in all or any of the undermentioned subjects, namely :—

Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, English or other language, mathematics, history, any natural or experimental or applied science, bookkeeping, shorthand, accountancy ;  
but 'school' does not include the University of Melbourne or any college affiliated therewith or any assembly of persons, all of whom are members of not more than two families, or any State school, or any school aided by the State, or any school in any part of Victoria declared by the Governor in Council to be a sparsely populated district for the purposes of this Act".

A person may not teach in a school any of the subjects named above unless he is registered or has obtained the express permission of the Council to teach temporarily.

A recent amendment of the Act now makes it possible for qualified teachers, if they so desire, to be registered as teachers of Art, Art and Crafts, Music, or Physical Education. Such registration is not compulsory.

Statistical information relating to registered schools is obtained from the annual return made by each school to the Council of Public Education. Particulars of the registered schools operating during 1953 and 1954 (excluding commercial colleges) are shown in the following tables :—

Registered  
schools,  
teachers and  
pupils, 1953  
and 1954.

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—ENROLMENT (IN AGE GROUPS) IN DENOMINATIONAL AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1953 AND 1954.

	Number of Schools.		Number of Teachers.		Gross Enrolment.						Net Enrolment.					
					Under 6 Years.		Between 6 and 14 Years.		Over 14 Years.		Under 6 Years.		Between 6 and 14 Years.		Over 14 Years.	
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.		
Denominational—																
Roman Catholic	366	374	1,937	2,013	5,795	6,044	69,395	75,916	9,765	10,345	5,582	5,801	64,787	71,307	9,563	10,198
Church of England	35	34	632	639	782	795	7,528	7,506	3,842	4,022	776	771	7,373	7,363	3,818	4,008
Presbyterian	15	15	281	299	390	355	3,196	3,447	2,194	2,311	386	352	3,122	3,393	2,171	2,304
Methodist	4	4	149	159	147	144	1,623	1,961	1,546	1,350	147	144	1,617	1,945	1,542	1,347
Other	22	21	127	134	202	161	1,943	1,976	417	442	198	161	1,925	1,963	415	442
Undenominational	47	46	323	340	1,151	1,065	3,599	3,428	1,605	2,240	1,143	1,054	3,495	3,352	1,547	2,197
Total	489	494	3,440	3,584	8,467	8,564	87,284	94,228	19,369	20,710	8,232	8,283	82,319	89,323	19,056	20,496

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—GROSS ENROLMENT 1953 AND 1954.

	Total.					
	1953.			1954.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Denominational—						
Roman Catholic .. .. .	42,210	42,745	84,955	46,443	45,862	92,305
Church of England .. .. .	5,771	6,381	12,152	5,694	6,629	12,323
Presbyterian .. .. .	3,263	2,517	5,780	3,360	2,753	6,113
Methodist .. .. .	1,037	2,279	3,316	1,074	2,381	3,455
Other .. .. .	1,295	1,267	2,562	1,367	1,212	2,579
Undenominational .. .. .	1,862	4,493	6,355	2,321	4,406	6,727
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>55,438</b>	<b>59,682</b>	<b>115,120</b>	<b>60,259</b>	<b>63,243</b>	<b>123,502</b>

The gross and net enrolments of State and registered schools (excluding commercial colleges) in sexes and age groups are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—STATE AND REGISTERED SCHOOLS, 1953 AND 1954.

	Gross Enrolment.						Net Enrolment.					
	Males.		Females.		Total.		Under 6 Years.		Between 6 and 14 Years.		Over 14 Years.	
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
State Schools .. .. .	172,303	182,378	156,301	165,422	328,604	348,300	12,136	13,370	246,696	260,363	36,993	40,230
Registered Schools .. .. .	55,438	60,259	59,682	63,243	115,120	123,502	8,232	8,283	82,319	89,323	19,056	20,496

NOTE.—In addition, State Senior Technical Schools had a gross enrolment of 34,900 males in 1954 (35,511 in 1953) and 14,778 females (14,304 in 1953.)

### COUNCIL OF ADULT EDUCATION.

The Council of Adult Education, established by the Adult Education Act of 1946, is a body of not more than twenty members, four of whom are *ex-officio*.

The functions of the Council as set down in the Act are:—

- (a) to advise the Minister on matters of general policy relating to Adult Education ;
- (b) to report to the Minister on methods or developments in Adult Education which, in its opinion, should be introduced ;
- (c) to plan and supervise the administration and development of Adult Education and to assist other bodies engaged in such work ;
- (d) to exercise such powers and to carry out such duties as are conferred or imposed on the Council by the Act.

The Council receives an annual statutory grant of £25,000 which is supplemented by receipts from its own activities. The balance in the Adult Education Fund at 30th June, 1954, was £54 3s. 2d.

The Council's activities can be briefly summarised in the following tables:—

#### VICTORIA—ADULT EDUCATION—LECTURE CLASSES, 1952, 1953 AND 1954.

Lecture Classes	1952		1953		1954	
	Autumn Term	Spring Term.	Autumn Term.	Spring Term.	Autumn Term.	Spring Term.
Courses Offered ..	61	17	67	19	61	25
Students Enrolled ..	2,739	948	3,239	1,015	3,176	1,408

#### VICTORIA—ADULT EDUCATION—DISCUSSION GROUPS, PERFORMANCES, ETC., GIVEN, RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS, 1951-52, 1952-53 AND 1953-54.

Details.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.
Discussion Groups—			
Number of Groups .. ..	221	201	218
Students Enrolled .. ..	2,875	2,090	2,400
Performances, &c., Given—			
Music .. ..	123	88	53
Drama .. ..	51	142	149
Ballet and Dance Recitals .. ..	41	82	..
Art Exhibitions .. ..	37	52	50
Residential Schools—			
Country .. ..	1	1	1

**PUBLIC LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS, &c.****Public  
Library of  
Victoria.**

The Library's book collections provide two distinct services, viz., the Reference Library and the Lending Library—the latter being subdivided into a Metropolitan Section and a Country Section. At 30th June, 1954, the Reference Library contained 616,921 (607,876 at 30th June, 1953) volumes including 34,810 (34,380 at 30th June, 1953) bound volumes of newspapers and 98,793 (97,776 at 30th June, 1953) pamphlets. The Lending Library, which is also free to readers, contained 90,950 (85,202 at 30th June, 1953) volumes in the Metropolitan Section at the same date and issued 274,351 (291,566 in 1952-53) volumes to 15,225 (20,391 at 30th June, 1953\*) readers during the year ended 30th June, 1954. The Country Section, which also includes the Travelling Libraries box service, contained 39,228 (37,542 at 30th June, 1953) volumes and during the year despatched 52,567 (46,960 in 1952-53) books to individual readers and, in bulk loans, to libraries situated in the rural areas.

**Free Library  
Service Board.**

The Free Library Service Board was established by the Victorian Government in 1947 to assist in the promotion of Adult and Children's Municipal Public Libraries throughout the State.

The Board offers both financial and technical advisory assistance to Councils which maintain libraries in accordance with prescribed standards. Financial assistance is in the form of a pound for pound subsidy in respect of a Council's annual expenditure on its library service provided such expenditure is not less than the equivalent of 1s. per head of the resident population of the Municipality. Country Libraries share in an additional Country Library Grant of £8,000, and a special Establishment and Regional Library Grant of £10,000.

A further grant of £4,000 is also available to all approved Childrens Libraries which are conducted, or assisted by Municipal Councils.

Library subsidy paid to Councils by the Board since its inception in 1947-48 amounts to £463,555. For the year 1953-54, £117,120 (£98,435 in 1952-53) was paid as subsidy and a total amount of £214,398 (£175,870 in 1952-53), including Councils' own expenditure, was expended on Municipal Libraries for the year. The average total expenditure per person (including Government Grant) in the Municipalities concerned, was four shillings and sevenpence (four shillings and sixpence in 1952-53).

During the year 1953-54, 60 (56 in 1952-53) Councils in Victoria representing a population of 1,122,000 (973,000 in 1952-53) received library subsidy.

Book collections totalling 583,000 (492,000 in 1952-53), covering a comprehensive range of subjects, are available in each instance and are being added to constantly. The Board assists materially in this

\* The second year of a biennial registration.

aspect of library service by distributing each month to all Municipal Libraries, classified book lists of new and forthcoming publications in all fields from which librarians can make their selections easily and quickly.

During the year ended 30th September, 1954, registered borrowers numbered 186,000 (160,000 in 1952-53), including children. This represents 20 (17 in 1952-53) per cent. of the total number of persons serviced by libraries for that period. Book issues were 3,605,000 (3,248,000 in 1952-53) for the same year.

The following tables give some statistics relating to libraries subsidized by the Free Library Service Board for the years 1952-53 and 1953-54.

### MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY THE FREE LIBRARY SERVICE BOARD, 1952-53.

Municipality.	Population.	Amount Contributed by Council. (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Government Grants (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Expenditure on Library Service (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Expenditure per Head of Population (Excluding Regional and Establishment Grant).	Number of Books in Library (as at 30th Sept., 1953)	Number of Registered Borrowers Including Children (as at 30th Sept., 1953).	Number of Book Issues (During Year ended 30th Sept., 1953).
		£	£	£	s. d.			
<i>(a) Metropolitan.</i>								
Box Hill City .. .. .	34,000	3,901	3,952	7,853	4 7	24,057	13,529	190,196
Brighton City .. .. .	43,772	4,941	4,992	9,933	4 6	15,381	10,333	167,954
Coburg City .. .. .	65,000	3,250*	3,301	6,551	2 0	6,400	2,986	25,126
Collingwood City .. .. .	27,755	2,134	2,185	4,319	3 1	12,840	3,660	47,405
Footscray City .. .. .	60,000	3,000*	3,000	6,000	2 0	7,028	1,858	59,137
Hawthorn City .. .. .	40,000	3,815	3,866	7,681	3 10	22,829	6,782	171,365
Heidelberg City .. .. .	52,000	4,975	5,026	10,001	3 10	11,252	4,010	85,891
Kew City .. .. .	36,618	2,068	2,119	4,187	2 3	22,234	8,102	167,457
Northcote City .. .. .	46,620	2,737	2,788	5,525	2 3	15,848	6,291	138,236
Port Melbourne City .. .. .	13,500	1,450	1,501	2,951	4 4	11,775	1,995	66,564
Prahran City .. .. .	63,000	4,409	4,459	8,868	2 10	40,000	11,845	170,139
Preston City .. .. .	53,000	2,686	2,736	5,422	2 1	21,045	7,065	166,124
Sandringham City .. .. .	34,000	3,400*	3,400	6,800	4 0			
South Melbourne City .. .. .	44,604	2,686	2,736	5,422	2 5	23,070	8,507	204,237
Sunshine City .. .. .	32,000	1,600*	1,650	3,250	2 0	4,667		
Total Metropolitan .. .. .	645,869	47,052	47,711	94,763	3 1	239,026	86,963	1,659,831

\* Estimated expenditure 1952-53.

MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY THE FREE LIBRARY SERVICE BOARD, 1952-53—continued.

Municipality.	Population.	Amount Contributed by Council (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Government Grants (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Expenditure on Library Service (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Expenditure per Head of Population (Excluding Regional and Establishment Grant).	Number of Books in Library (as at 30th Sept., 1953).	Number of Registered Borrowers Including Children (as at 30th Sept., 1953).	Number of Book Issues (During Year ended 30th Sept., 1953).
		£	£	£	s. d.			
<i>(b) Rural.</i>								
Alexandra Shire .. .. .	4,000	275	998	1,273	3 9	8,052	1,300	28,747
Avoca Shire .. .. .	2,500	125*	700	825	3 0	..	..	..
Bacchus Marsh Shire .. .. .	3,400	250*	407	657	3 10	..	..	..
Bairnsdale Shire .. .. .	8,500	995	1,203	2,198	5 2	3,936	834	17,000
Ballaarat City .. .. .	39,850	2,017	2,225	4,242	2 2	32,618	8,980	183,846
Ballarat Shire .. .. .	4,300	250	458	708	3 3	1,900	88	1,900
Bendigo City .. .. .	28,800	1,440	1,648	3,088	2 2	15,987	8,778	140,814
Bright Shire .. .. .	4,000	200	408	608	3 5	..	1,115	32,441
Castlemaine Town .. .. .	6,300	450	658	1,108	3 9	7,916	2,051	74,976
Colac Town .. .. .	7,150	726	934	1,660	4 8	5,472	2,694	48,423
Creswick Shire .. .. .	3,570	255	463	718	4 0	1,834	639	14,284
Echuca Borough .. .. .	5,000	483*	691	1,174	4 0	..	..	..
Euroa Shire .. .. .	4,600	583	791	1,374	6 0	5,733	2,016	27,790
Flinders Shire .. .. .	12,000	600*	2,000	2,600	2 0	..	..	..
Geelong City .. .. .	21,300	2,654	2,862	5,516	5 2	17,759	7,741	119,247
Geelong West City .. .. .	17,000	850	1,058	1,908	2 5	6,980	2,101	37,902
Horsham City .. .. .	6,900	850	1,058	1,908	5 6	10,920	2,916	66,470

Social Condition.

## MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY THE FREE LIBRARY SERVICE BOARD, 1952-53—continued.

288

Victorian Year-Book, 1952-53 and 1953-54.

Municipality.	Population.	Amount Contributed by Council (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Government Grants (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Expenditure on Library Service (Year ended 30th June, 1953).	Total Expenditure per Head of Population (Excluding Regional and Establishment Grant).	Number of Books in Library (as at 30th Sept., 1953).	Number of Registered Borrowers Including Children (as at 30th Sept., 1953).	Number of Book Issues (During Year ended 30th Sept., 1953).
		£	£	£	s. d.			
<i>(b) Rural—continued.</i>								
Kerang Shire .. .. .	8,000	845	1,053	1,898	4 9	6,407	2,452	46,109
Kowree Shire .. .. .	4,500	400*	557	957	4 3	..	..	..
Mansfield Shire .. .. .	4,000	500	708	1,208	3 6	..	724	18,918
Mildura City .. .. .	10,000	1,477	1,685	3,162	6 4	17,778	5,115	100,629
Mildura Shire .. .. .	17,500	3,461	3,669	7,130	8 2	10,490	3,125	68,510
Mirboo Shire .. .. .	1,630	117	285	402	4 11	6,155	138	11,695
Morwell Shire .. .. .	12,000	600	808	1,408	2 4	5,576	1,180	52,184
Newtown and Chilwell City .. .. .	11,000	980	1,687	2,667	3 11	14,655	1,660	65,907
Oneco Shire .. .. .	2,150	600*	1,400	2,000	11 2	..	..	..
Phillip Island Shire .. .. .	1,200	175	382	557	9 3	5,906	228	£
Ripon Shire .. .. .	2,950	155	355	510	3 6	2,316	738	14,946
Ruthergien Shire .. .. .	3,000	900*	1,607	2,507	13 5	2,125	651	13,618
Sebastopol Borough .. .. .	2,400	120	290	410	3 5	1,434	357	6,107
Shepparton City .. .. .	10,000	500*	707	1,207	2 5	..	..	..
Stawell Borough .. .. .	5,000	532	1,474	2,006	5 1	7,389	804	35,196
Towong Shire .. .. .	4,025	300*	1,056	1,356	3 9	1,000	..	..
Upper Murray Shire .. .. .	2,760	250	457	707	5 1	1,000	350	5,902
Violet Town Shire .. .. .	1,400	245	452	697	10 0	1,365	389	6,669
Wangaratta Borough .. .. .	7,500	500	1,707	2,207	3 4	9,708	3,424	66,552
Warragul Shire .. .. .	7,000	350	557	907	3 7	4,709	1,485	17,692
Warrnambool City .. .. .	10,750	1,648	1,855	3,503	6 6	16,782	3,060	112,167
Wodonga Shire .. .. .	6,000	330	1,287	1,617	2 11	5,300†	891	12,193†
Yallourn Town .. .. .	10,233	2,128	2,835	4,963	8 8	13,530	4,148	122,652
Yea Shire .. .. .	2,500	267	474	741	5 11	..	704	16,388
Total Rural .. .. .	326,668	30,383	45,909	76,292	4 11	252,732	72,876	1,587,874
Total Victoria .. .. .	972,537	77,435	93,620	171,055	4 6	491,758	159,839	3,247,705

† Estimated.

§ Not available.

|| Includes Regional Development and Establishment Grants.

\* Estimated expenditure, 1952-53.

MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY FREE LIBRARY SERVICE BOARD, 1953-54.

Municipality.	Population.	Amount Contributed by Council (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Government Grants (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Expenditure on Library Service (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Expenditure per Head of Population (Excluding Regional and Establishment Grant).	Number of Books in Library (as at 30th Sept., 1954).	Number of Registered Borrowers Including Children (as at 30th Sept., 1954).	Number of Book Issues (During Year ended 30th Sept., 1954).
		£	£	£	s. d.			
<i>(a) Metropolitan.</i>								
Box Hill City .. .. .	35,781	4,246	4,309	8,555	4 9	28,113	15,056	178,997
Brighton City .. .. .	44,016	2,980	3,043	6,023	2 9	18,744	12,070	186,124
Camberwell City .. .. .	100,000	5,000*	5,000	10,000	2 0	..	..	..
Coburg City .. .. .	67,375	3,300	3,363	6,663	2 0	15,846	6,776	161,661
Collingwood City .. .. .	27,889	2,376	2,439	4,815	3 5	15,706	4,233	43,417
Footscray City .. .. .	58,343	3,000	3,063	6,063	2 1	13,752	2,350	57,156
Hawthorn City .. .. .	40,930	3,677	3,740	7,417	3 7	25,110	6,922	165,415
Heidelberg City .. .. .	53,840	5,025	5,088	10,113	3 9	17,533	6,000	107,766
Kew City .. .. .	36,800	6,378	6,441	12,819	7 0	25,298	9,469	193,944
Northcote City .. .. .	46,620	3,151	3,214	6,365	2 9	17,944	6,000	133,009
Port Melbourne City .. .. .	14,500	3,737	3,800	7,537	10 5	13,849	2,324	68,457
Prahran City .. .. .	63,000	3,608	3,671	7,279	2 4	51,000	13,792	184,096
Preston City .. .. .	62,416	2,740	2,803	5,543	1 9	23,743	8,470	157,292
Sandringham City .. .. .	35,000	3,400*	3,400	6,800	3 10	..	..	..
South Melbourne City .. .. .	44,502	6,239	6,302	12,541	5 7	23,785	10,078	208,634
Sunshine City .. .. .	32,000	1,600	1,664	3,264	2 0	8,523	3,665	65,813
Total Metropolitan .. .. .	763,012	60,457	61,340	121,797	3 9	298,946	107,205	1,911,781

MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY THE FREE LIBRARY SERVICE BOARD, 1953-54—continued.

Municipality.	Population.	Amount Contributed by Council (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Government Grants (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Expenditure on Library Service (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Expenditure per Head of Population (Excluding Regional and Establishment Grant).	Number of Books in Library (as at 30th Sept., 1954).	Number of Registered Borrowers Including Children (as at 30th Sept., 1954).	Number of Book Issues (During Year ended 30th Sept., 1954).
		£	£	£	s. d.			
<i>(b) Rural.</i>								
Alberton Shire .. .. .	5,400	600*	1,440	2,040	4 5	..	..	..
Alexandra Shire .. .. .	3,950	285	1,004	1,289	4 0	9,188	3,085	59,736
Ararat City .. .. .	7,025	352*	1,354	1,706	2 0	..	..	..
Ararat Shire .. .. .	4,500	225*	1,475	1,700	2 0	..	..	..
Avoca Shire .. .. .	2,500	125*	313	438	3 6	..	..	..
Bacchus Marsh Shire .. .. .	3,720	250*	406	656	3 3	..	..	..
Bairnsdale Shire .. .. .	9,000	718	937	1,655	3 8	4,243	942	43,904
Ballaarat City .. .. .	41,425	2,553	5,022	7,575	2 7	38,201	11,035	171,430
Ballarat Shire .. .. .	4,300	250	469	719	3 4	..	..	..
Bendigo City .. .. .	30,000	1,885	2,104	3,989	2 8	17,256	8,874	161,546
Bright Shire .. .. .	4,800	240	459	699	2 11	2,748	1,246	24,999
Castlemaine Town .. .. .	6,300	600	819	1,419	4 6	8,683	2,209	55,157
Colac Town .. .. .	7,350	1,068	1,287	2,355	6 5	6,324	2,646	49,757
Creswick Shire .. .. .	3,500	205	424	629	3 6	2,049	687	11,686
Echuca Borough .. .. .	5,000	500*	719	1,219	4 10	3,040	..	..
Euroa Shire .. .. .	4,800	1,057	1,276	2,333	9 9	6,319	2,297	28,337
Flinders Shire .. .. .	13,500	4,000*	4,063	8,063	11 10	9,378	1,877	17,301

MUNICIPAL LIBRARIES SUBSIDIZED BY THE FREE LIBRARY SERVICE BOARD, 1953-54—continued.

Municipality.	Population.	Amount Contributed by Council (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Government Grants (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Expenditure on Library Service (Year ended 30th June, 1954).	Total Expenditure per Head of Population (Excluding Regional and Establishment Grant).	Number of Books in Library (as at 30th Sept., 1954).	Number of Registered Borrowers Including Children (as at 30th Sept., 1954).	Number of Book Issues (During Year ended 30th Sept., 1954).
		£	£	£	s. d.			
Geelong City .. .. .	21,526	2,181	2,399	4,580	4 3	19,280	4,721	108,961
Geelong West City .. .. .	17,567	1,276	1,495	2,771	3 4	8,911	3,083	102,970
Horsham City .. .. .	7,000	856	1,075	1,931	5 6	12,171	3,277	65,287
Kerang Shire .. .. .	8,500	845	1,064	1,909	4 6	7,049	2,502	39,795
Kowree Shire .. .. .	4,550	400	619	1,019	4 6	..	..	..
Mansfield Shire .. .. .	4,000	331	549	880	4 5	..	..	..
Mildura City .. .. .	10,536	3,189	3,408	6,597	12 6	13,746	6,020	98,807
Mildura Shire .. .. .	16,700	2,435	2,654	5,089	6 1	12,632	4,683	65,368
Mirboo Shire .. .. .	1,630	174	393	567	7 1	7,125	220	10,221
Morwell Shire .. .. .	12,000	764	983	1,747	3 4	6,567	590	52,151
Newtown and Chilwell City .. .. .	11,200	1,072	1,291	2,363	4 3	14,788	3,393	100,996
Oneco Shire .. .. .	2,200	110*	110	220	2 0	..	..	..
Phillip Island Shire .. .. .	1,200	175	394	569	9 6	5,411	241	\$
Ripon Shire .. .. .	2,950	145	353	498	3 4	..	789	15,088
Rutherford Shire .. .. .	3,068	758	977	1,735	11 4	2,007	464	12,226
Sebastopol Borough .. .. .	2,800	120	303	423	3 0	1,485	..	..
Shepparton City .. .. .	12,000	600*	819	1,419	2 4	..	..	..
Stawell Borough .. .. .	5,000	367	586	953	3 4	7,963	1,758	34,895
Towong Shire .. .. .	4,000	300	518	818	4 1	1,833	408	8,167
Upper Murray Shire .. .. .	2,783	186	405	591	4 3	..	..	..
Violet Town Shire .. .. .	1,357	245	464	709	10 5	1,693	466	6,310
Wangaratta Borough .. .. .	10,000	500	1,219	1,719	2 5	10,711	2,141	99,371
Warragul Shire .. .. .	8,000	800	1,019	1,819	4 7	5,707	1,676	26,125
Warrnambool City .. .. .	11,000	1,480	1,699	3,179	6 0	17,851	3,260	118,635
Wodonga Shire .. .. .	6,000	419	1,638	2,057	3 6	\$	960	\$
Yallourn Town .. .. .	11,170	1,913	2,632	4,545	7 3	15,160	3,045	104,482
Yea Shire .. .. .	3,500	267	485	752	4 4	..	..	..
Total Rural .. .. .	359,397	36,821	53,122	89,943	4 11	284,519	79,185	1,693,708
Total Victoria .. .. .	1,122,409	97,278	114,462	211,740	4 7	583,465	186,390	3,605,489

§ Not available.

|| Includes Regional Development and Establishment Grants.

\* Estimated expenditure, 1953-54.

Social Condition.

**National Gallery**

The National Gallery of Victoria contains the most comprehensive collection of works of art in the southern hemisphere. The various collections embrace pictures, sculpture prints, European furniture, glass, silver and porcelain, Oriental sculpture, bronzes and porcelain, &c.

At 30th June, 1954, the oil paintings numbered 989 (970 at 30th June, 1953), water colours, drawings, etchings, and engravings 7,505 (7,440 at 30th June, 1953) and art museum items 7,251 (7,200 at 30th June, 1953).

During the year ended 30th June, 1954, exhibits acquired by purchase numbered 70, at a cost of £5,839 (51, at a cost of £3,556, in 1952-53). Exhibits acquired by gift or exchange numbered 97 in 1953-54, valued at £35,020, the Trustees of the Felton Bequest providing £34,495 of that amount, (107 in 1952-53, valued at £7,286, including Felton Bequest £4,543).

The National Gallery Art School was attended during the year 1953-54 by a daily average of 36 students (46 during 1952-53). There were no students under Commonwealth Reconstruction Training in 1954, (1 in 1953).

**National Museum.**

The National Museum of Victoria, founded in 1854, is housed in the eastern section of the Public Library block. Its collections, which amount to several million specimens, comprise natural history, geology, and ethnology. Included among the collections are the famous Baldwin Spencer collection of central and Northern Australian ethnology, the Lyell collection of Australian Butterflies and Moths, the H. L. White collection of Australian birds' skins and eggs, the Bassett Hull collection of Chitons, and the Gatliff collection of Australian Marine Mollusca.

On exhibition are to be seen 20 dioramas illustrating Australian aborigines and Australian natural history studies.

**Museum of Applied Science.**

The Museum originally known as the Industrial and Technological Museum was founded in 1870. In 1944, the name was changed to the Museum of Applied Science of Victoria. It is housed in the Queen's Hall of the Public Library block.

The exhibits, which comprised 23,701 (23,573 on 30th June, 1953) separate items on the 30th June, 1954, cover applied and economic aspects of all branches of science.

Worthy of special mention are sectioned steam, aero and car engines (many of which may be operated by visitors), electrical equipment, the atomic energy working display, operating electronic devices, the Askew bequest of time measurement instruments, the ship and aircraft models, the arms collection, the metallurgy and economic geology collection, agricultural implements, animal products,

the biological wax model collection, the timber specimens and numerous industrial displays. Special temporary exhibitions are arranged from time to time, featuring topical items or scientific anniversaries.

Among the many interesting historical exhibits may be seen a primitive model, said to have been made by the inventor, William Symington, of the "Charlotte Dundas," the first practical steamboat (1802). The first motor car imported into Australia (1897), the first Australian made aeroplane to fly (1910), and a replica of Leeuwenhoek's microscope with which germs were first seen in 1673, are also on display.

A recently established section deals with preventive medicine. Its community value continues to grow as new additions are made.

In the museum workshops and laboratories the preparation of up-to-date exhibits on physics, chemistry and biology receives special attention.

Regular demonstrations of the 8-in. refracting telescope are conducted in conjunction with the Astronomical Society of Victoria, enabling visitors to see the night sky through high-grade equipment.

### **THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.**

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1846, is situated on the south side of the Yarra River. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Adjoining the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Shrine, the Domain, the former Observatory, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres.

### **ZOOLOGICAL BOARD OF VICTORIA.**

The gardens of the Zoological Board of Victoria are situated in Royal Park, on the northern side of the city of Melbourne. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a zoological garden, and the rest in deer paddocks and spacious lawns for the convenience of visitors. Most of the large animals of the world are represented there, as well as many native animals.

### **HOUSING COMMISSION.**

The history of events leading up to the appointment of the Housing Commission, together with an epitome of the provisions of the *Housing Act 1937* and the *Slum Reclamation and Housing Act 1938*, will be found in the *Year-Book* for 1937-38, pages 224 and 225. The initial operations of the Commission are summarized in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39.

The Commission's activities are spread over both metropolitan and country centres. The present policy of the Commission is that one-third of all houses erected shall be built in country centres and that particular attention shall be paid to the needs of centres in which industry has been established under the Government's decentralization plans.

Up to 30th June, 1954, 136 areas, including 98 in the country, have been developed by the Commission and 24,093 houses provided thereon. In addition, 3,477 houses are in various stages of construction or contracts have been let. These figures include projects which have been determined for the Government-sponsored construction of houses for Victoria in accordance with the agreement made between the Commonwealth and State Governments. At 30th June, 1954, these houses numbered 26,809 (23,252 at 30th June, 1953), allocated as follows:—

Houses.	Metropolitan.		Country.	
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
Completed .. .. .	11,075	13,129	8,100	9,636
Under construction .. ..	1,135	1,345	1,221	1,144
Contracts let (work not started)	444	575	944	413
Plans in preparation .. ..	..	..	333	567
Total .. .. .	12,654	15,049	10,598	11,760

In its normal housing programme to 30th June, 1954, the Commission has expended £64,317,749 (£52,806,098 to 30th June, 1953)

Gross revenue for rents for the year ended 30th June, 1954, amounted to £2,815,352 (£2,204,957 to 30th June, 1953), against which £60,368 (£44,416 for year ended 30th June, 1953) was allowed for rental rebates.

During the year a further 556 (520 to 30th June, 1953) sub-standard houses were dealt with. Repairs were ordered in respect of 285 (291 to 30th June, 1953) houses. The remaining 271 (229 to 30th June, 1953) houses were considered beyond repair and were declared to be unfit for human habitation and in due course will be ordered to be demolished. The majority will be deferred, however, until the restrictions imposed by the Building Operations and Building Materials Control Act are lifted.

Apart from the direct improvement to houses occasioned by the Commission's orders for repairs the regulations have effected indirect improvement in the general condition of rented houses:

**CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES.**

The law relating to co-operative housing societies is contained in the Co-operative Housing Societies Acts, which constitute the first Victorian legislation dealing with the financing of home building and purchase on a purely co-operative basis. The Principal Act, No. 5055 of 1944, which was brought into operation on 5th September, 1945, authorizes societies to raise loans and to make advances to their members for the purchase of land and the erection of homes thereon or for the erection of homes on land already owned by them. By Act No. 5357, assented to on 21st December, 1948, the scope of operations of societies was extended to include the making of advances to members for the purchase of existing dwellings, meeting charges for street-making and sewerage installation, and effecting additional permanent improvements.

An outline of the method of operation of these societies appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1945-46, pages 433-435.

The first society to be incorporated under the Act was registered on 15th October, 1945. At 30th June, 1954, there were 250 (234) societies on the register, of which 58 (59) had adopted a notional term of 22½ years, 124 (124) a notional term of 30½ years, 2 (2) a notional term of 24 years, 4 (NIL) a notional term of 25 years, 1 (1) a notional term of 26 years, 20 (21) a notional term of 30½ years and 41 (27) a notional term of 31 years. Figures in parentheses relate to the year ended 30th June, 1953.

The regional distribution of societies, based on the situation of the registered office, was as follows: Metropolitan and Outer Metropolitan 173 (161), Urban 22 (21), and Country 55 (52).

The following statement gives particulars relating to membership and operations of societies as at 30th June of each of the five years 1950 to 1954:—

Details.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Number of Societies Registered ..	144	174	204	234	250
Number of Members ..	12,996	17,272	20,778	22,648	23,697
Number of Shares Subscribed ..	318,493	478,561	634,943	744,530	811,343
Nominal Share Capital Subscribed ..	£17,241,606	£25,969,440	£31,059,654	£39,477,299	£42,767,419
Number of Advances Approved ..	6,799	10,060	13,667	16,235	18,498
Amount of Advances Approved ..	£9,135,437	£15,001,917	£22,420,857	£28,354,759	£38,675,058
Number of Indemnities Given and Subsisting ..	1,369	1,741	2,116	2,256	2,540
Amount of Indemnities Subsisting ..	£113,240	£162,168	£212,043	£237,049	£288,187
Number of Government Guarantees Executed ..	138	165	193	227	249
Amount of Government Guarantees Executed ..	£17,110,000	£23,420,000	£30,305,000	£37,614,000	£41,354,000
Number of Dwelling-houses Completed ..	4,046	6,711	10,092	13,010	15,691
Number in Course of Erection ..	2,786	4,165	4,917	5,168	5,337

### FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Legislation,  
1928-1954.

The principal legislative provisions relating to friendly societies are contained in the *Friendly Societies Act 1928*, a summary of which was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 (pages 383-387). Amending Acts were passed in 1934, 1938, 1946, and 1951. The main provisions of the 1934 amending Act were published in the *Year-Book* for 1934-35, page 213, those of the 1938 Amending Act in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39, page 237, those of the 1946 Amending Act in the *Year-Book* for 1945-46, page 436, and those of the 1951 Amending Acts in the *Year-Book* for 1951-52, page 509.

On the 1st January, 1952, the Commonwealth scheme of subsidies to members of approved hospital funds came into operation. On 1st July, 1953, the Commonwealth Medical Benefit Scheme to subsidize medical benefits to approved organizations registered under the *National Health Act 1953*, came into force. In Victoria, most of the friendly societies have made arrangements to ensure that their members participate in the benefits of these schemes. Some of the societies have made provision for new classes of members covering medical and hospital benefits only. Participation in the schemes has resulted in large increases in the amounts paid to members in respect of medical services and hospital benefits.

The legislative supervision exercised over friendly societies has had a very beneficial effect. There are 30 friendly societies in Victoria which are required by the statute to have made a quinquennial valuation of their assets and liabilities by an actuary. The latest valuation reports show that all societies have a ratio of assets to liabilities in excess of 20s. in the £.

Since the year 1908, all the actuarial valuations of the assets and liabilities of societies have been made by the Government Statist, who is required by statute to be a fully qualified actuary.

Progress of  
Friendly  
Societies.

The following table shows the number and classification of members of Victorian Friendly Societies at 30th June, 1953 and 1954.

Classification of Membership.	Males.		Females.		Total.	
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
Sick, funeral, and endowment benefit ..	168,278	166,348	11,567	11,272	179,845	177,620
Medical and hospital benefit (including widows) ..	10,095	21,856	11,167	14,460	21,262	36,316
Honorary (no benefit) ..	1,961	1,689	2,005	1,897	3,966	3,586
Grand Total ..	180,334	189,893	24,739	27,629	205,073	217,522

During the five years ended June, 1954, there was a net decrease of 25,677 in the number of members contributing for sick, funeral and endowment benefits; this decrease was about 12.6 per cent. of the number of such members at the beginning of the period. From June, 1952, to June, 1954, the number of members (including widows), contributing for medical and hospital benefits only, increased from 17,864 to 36,316 or slightly more than 50 per cent. This increase was due to the implementation of the Commonwealth medical and hospital benefits schemes. The total funds, exclusive of those of dispensaries and specially authorized societies, increased during the period of five years ended June, 1954, by £1,160,616, or slightly more than 14 per cent. to £9,333,793. The funds are well invested. The average rate of interest obtained on the total funds for the year 1953-54 was 3.80 per cent.

The statement which follows contains information (exclusive of that relating to dispensaries and specially authorized societies) in regard to Friendly Societies in Victoria for the five years 1949-50 to 1953-54.

There are juvenile branches connected with some of the societies, but the information in regard to these has not been considered of sufficient importance to be included hereunder:—

**VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—MEMBERSHIP, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS, 1949-50 TO 1953-54.**

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Number of societies .. .. .	108	107	122	150	142
Number of branches .. .. .	1,449	1,436	1,412	1,397	1,377
Number of sick, funeral, and endowment benefit members at end of year	200,131	193,851	177,227	179,845	177,620
Number of medical and hospital benefit members (including widows) at end of year	61,389	70,726	17,864	21,262	36,316
Number of members who received sick pay	44,565	41,620	39,165	36,599	38,069
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	493,140	478,943	468,022	462,388	473,603
Deaths of sick and funeral benefit members	2,506	2,360	2,488	2,398	2,426
Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits	647	649	643	605	635
Receipts—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	£ 526,680	£ 535,254	£ 496,856	£ 493,747	£ 524,951
Medicine and Management Funds and Medical Services Funds ..	704,889	694,855	796,543	763,211	1,271,281
Other Funds .. .. .	417,376	475,426	206,952	402,343	428,176
Less Inter-fund Transfers ..	143,796	122,384	88,647	162,210	168,725
Total receipts .. .. .	1,505,149	1,583,151	1,411,704	1,497,091	2,055,683

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—MEMBERSHIP, RECEIPTS,  
EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS, 1949-50 TO 1953-54—*continued.*

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Expenditure—	£	£	£	£	£
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	422,301	398,677	361,295	421,366	421,130
Medicine and Management Funds and Medical Services Funds ..	688,860	684,840	682,183	792,151	1,081,298
Other Funds .. .. .	330,038	388,374	257,423	279,193	368,795
Less Inter-fund Transfers ..	143,796	122,384	88,647	162,210	168,725
Total Expenditure .. .. .	1,297,403	1,349,507	1,212,254	1,380,500	1,702,498
Excess of Receipts over Expenditure	207,746	233,644	199,450	166,591	353,185
Amount of Funds—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	6,534,511	6,671,088	6,806,649	6,879,030	6,982,851
Medicine and Management Funds and Medical Services Funds ..	418,556	428,571	542,931	513,991	703,974
Other Funds .. .. .	1,427,856	1,514,908	1,484,437	1,587,587	1,646,968
Total Funds .. .. .	8,380,923	8,614,567	8,814,017	8,980,608	9,333,793
Disposal of Funds—					
Amounts Invested—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	6,514,295	6,652,707	6,782,686	6,867,320	6,968,192
Medicine and Management Funds and Medical Services Funds .. .. .	412,822	420,351	529,232	504,020	694,011
Other Funds .. .. .	1,406,209	1,497,757	1,459,560	1,569,832	1,633,336
Amounts Uninvested—					
All Funds .. .. .	47,597	43,752	42,539	39,427	38,252

NOTE.—The figures given above for "Other Funds" include all monetary transactions of societies other than ordinary friendly societies.

The following statement shows the amounts disbursed by societies (excluding dispensaries and specially authorized societies) in sick pay, funeral and mortuary benefits, endowments, medical services, medicine, and hospital benefits, during each of the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54.

Nature of Benefit.	Year ended 30th June—		
	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£
Sick-pay .. .. .	273,099	268,673	277,849
Funeral and Mortuary .. .. .	64,281	64,163	66,818
Endowment .. .. .	16,089	15,243	15,577
Medical Services* .. .. .	421,471	375,754	618,759
Medicine .. .. .		137,200	128,829
Hospital† .. .. .		20,856	53,624
			105,028

\* Includes Commonwealth subsidies, £231,811 in 1953-54.

† Includes Commonwealth subsidies, £528 in 1951-52, £14,645 in 1952-53, and £36,542 in 1953-54.

**Cost of Management.** The cost of management in all ordinary societies for the year 1953-54 amounted to £331,151, being 16.99 per cent. of the total receipts compared with 19.65 per cent. for 1952-53 and 18.23 per cent. for 1951-52.

**Sickness and mortality experience.** The following statement shows in regard to members of societies (other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature) the average number of effective members, and the number of weeks of sickness in respect of which claims for sick-pay were granted for the years 1934-35, 1939-40, 1944-45, and for each of the last five years. The statement also shows the number of weeks of sickness per effective member, the number of deaths of members, and the number of deaths per 1,000 effective members:—

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—SICKNESS AND MORTALITY EXPERIENCE.

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.*	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.	
		Number.	Per Average Effective Member.*	Number.	Per 1,000 Average Effective Members.*
		weeks	weeks days		
<i>Male Societies.†</i>					
1934-35 .. .. .	130,152	424,341	3 2	1,732	13.31
1939-40 .. .. .	146,832	463,033	3 1	1,974	13.44
1944-45 .. .. .	158,563	421,570	2 4	2,128	13.42
1949-50 .. .. .	155,821	440,838	2 5	2,225	14.28
1950-51 .. .. .	151,245	428,686	2 5	2,080	13.75
1951-52 .. .. .	140,606	419,338	3 0	2,233	15.88
1952-53 .. .. .	130,108	408,526	3 1	2,075	15.95
1953-54 .. .. .	126,070	416,657	3 2	2,098	16.64
<i>Female Sections and a Female Society.</i>					
1934-35 .. .. .	12,318	30,414	2 3	56	4.55
1939-40 .. .. .	15,163	36,490	2 3	69	4.55
1944-45 .. .. .	16,454	35,476	2 1	87	5.29
1949-50 .. .. .	12,580	33,790	2 4	87	6.92
1950-51 .. .. .	11,758	32,538	2 5	83	7.06
1951-52 .. .. .	10,397	31,187	3 0	84	8.08
1952-53 .. .. .	9,099	29,837	3 2	96	10.55
1953-54 .. .. .	8,497	29,754	3 3	85	10.00

\* Effective members are those entitled to claim sick and funeral benefits.

† Under this sub-heading are included particulars relating to female members of societies which have not separate sick funds for female members.

The average period of sickness per effective male member fell gradually from three weeks two days in 1934-35 to two weeks four days in 1942-43. This average period was maintained until 1946-47 when there was an increase to two weeks five days. This period

remained constant until 1951-52 when there was an increase to three weeks. Further increases in 1952-53 and 1953-54 raised the period to three weeks two days in the latter year.

The trend of sickness per average effective female member followed closely that of male members during the period 1932-33 to 1946-47. In subsequent years there has been a gradual increase in the average period.

**Friendly Societies Dispensaries.**

At the end of 1953-54 there were 34 (33 in 1952-53) United Friendly Societies' Dispensaries registered, under the Friendly Societies Acts of Victoria, as separate friendly societies. There was also one society consisting of these registered friendly societies' dispensaries. The chief object for which the dispensaries are established is to provide the societies with a means of supplying medicine and medical and surgical appliances to their members and to persons claiming through members. The number of members connected with the dispensaries at the end of 1953-54 was 102,323 (107,931 in 1952-53). As the greater portion of the receipts and expenditure of the dispensaries are interwoven with those of the medical and management funds of the ordinary friendly societies, they are not given here.

The assets and liabilities of the dispensaries at the end of 1953-54 amounted to £456,709 (£431,358 in 1952-53) and £34,356 (£36,400 in 1952-53) respectively. The assets consisted of freehold property, £150,402 (£145,409 in 1952-53); stock, fittings, and sundry debtors, £199,946 (£194,353 in 1952-53); cash £67,192 (£53,137 in 1952-53); securities, £34,844 (£29,034 in 1952-53); and mortgages, £4,325 (£4,425 in 1952-53). The liabilities consisted of mortgages, £2,737 (£2,465 in 1952-53); sundry creditors, £24,919 (£25,176 in 1952-53); and bank overdrafts, £6,700 (£8,759 in 1952-53).

**Specially Authorized Societies.**

The First Amending Act of 1951 (No. 5538) provided that certain societies registered under the Friendly Societies Statute of 1865 and still in existence were deemed to be registered under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1928. Because their objects are different from those of ordinary friendly societies their registration is specially authorized under a separate section of the Act. At the end of 1953-54 there were four (four in 1952-53) societies (which were known as Total Abstinence Societies) registered under this section. Their membership was 99 (101 in 1952-53) and their assets and liabilities amounted to £61,706 (£62,461 in 1952-53) and £4,130 (£4,017 in 1952-53) respectively.

### FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

**Labour Legislation.** The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female in a factory for more than eight hours in any day. This Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working. Since 1873 the definition of "factory" has been broadened until now it includes any place in which mechanical power exceeding one-half horse-power is in use or in which two or more persons are engaged in any manufacturing process. In some circumstances, one or more persons constitutes a factory even where no mechanical power is used. The general recognition of the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and safety of the workers has been expressed in many further legislative enactments.

The industrial legislation formerly included in the Factories and Shops Acts has been revised and amended from time to time and the most important of the amendments have been noted in earlier editions of the *Year-Book*. It has now been consolidated in the *Labour and Industry Act 1953*.

**Number of Factories.** At December, 1954, there were 16,294 factories registered in which 312,735 persons were employed as compared with 16,036 factories employing 299,772 persons in 1953.

**Closing Hours of Shops.** The hours for closing of shops fixed under the *Labour and Industry Act 1953* in both metropolitan and country districts, as defined in the said Acts, were published in the *Year-Book 1945-46*. There were no alterations during 1953 or 1954 to closing hours, but the *Labour and Industry Act 1953* fixed an opening hour of 8 a.m. with certain exceptions.

**Registration of Shops.** Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915. At the end of that year there were 26,401 registered shops with 25,632 employees. The annual registration fee is based on the number of persons employed in the shop, the minimum fee being five shillings.

Registered shops are divided into 25 classes. During the year 1954, there was an increase compared with 1953 of 293 shops, and an increase of 2,415 workers. Particulars of the shops registered and numbers of workers therein are given in the following table.

VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBERS OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1953 AND 1954 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES).

302

Victorian Year-Book, 1952-53 and 1953-54.

Class of Shop.	Port Phillip Region.				Other Regions.				Whole State.			
	1953.		1954.		1953.		1954.		1953.		1954.	
	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.
Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry ..	4,362	10,331	4,300	9,953	1,770	4,199	1,734	4,133	6,132	14,530	6,034	14,086
Booksellers, Newsagents ..	1,001	2,793	1,019	2,849	315	976	332	1,015	1,316	3,769	1,351	3,864
Boot Dealers ..	402	1,395	430	1,447	259	662	237	655	661	2,057	667	2,102
Boot Repairers ..	489	616	517	677	262	332	287	364	751	948	804	1,041
Butchers ..	1,330	4,328	1,384	4,310	654	2,226	684	2,314	1,984	6,554	2,068	6,624
Chemists ..	696	2,490	766	2,716	335	1,238	340	1,244	1,031	3,728	1,106	3,960
Crockery ..	48	185	48	190	6	12	2	4	54	197	50	194
Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites ..	1,313	4,888	1,385	5,139	1,400	4,259	1,456	4,319	2,713	9,147	2,841	9,458
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat ..	738	2,293	766	2,213	164	425	183	453	902	2,718	949	2,666
Drapery and Men's Clothing ..	3,072	18,144	3,044	18,644	1,071	5,163	1,024	5,352	4,143	23,307	4,068	23,996
Electrical and Radio ..	490	1,495	496	1,516	348	934	380	1,024	838	2,429	876	2,540
Fancy Goods Dealers ..	430	2,922	481	3,348	164	1,175	171	1,365	594	4,097	652	4,713
Fish ..	421	871	432	893	80	168	90	195	501	1,039	522	1,088
Florists ..	383	817	401	858	82	177	85	191	465	994	486	1,049
Fruit and Vegetable ..	1,717	3,799	1,672	3,672	724	1,953	689	1,811	2,441	5,752	2,361	5,483
Fuel and Fodder ..	571	1,219	494	962	212	655	205	643	783	1,874	699	1,605
Furniture ..	582	2,673	586	2,670	198	789	211	849	780	3,462	797	3,519
Grocers ..	3,124	7,799	3,079	7,891	2,165	7,575	2,109	7,597	5,289	15,374	5,188	15,488
Hairdressers ..	1,661	3,601	1,600	3,584	777	1,465	791	1,494	2,438	5,066	2,391	5,078
Hardware ..	894	3,988	932	4,388	647	2,305	702	2,466	1,541	6,293	1,634	6,854
Jewellery ..	348	948	348	980	170	410	174	486	518	1,358	522	1,466
Leathergoods ..	140	338	144	309	96	137	92	143	236	475	236	452
Musical Instruments ..	31	318	32	324	24	60	20	53	55	378	52	377
Tobacconists ..	843	1,461	673	1,126	179	801	175	292	1,022	1,762	848	1,418
Mixed Trades and Shops not classified ..	1,805	3,698	2,022	4,095	883	1,921	945	2,156	2,688	5,619	2,967	6,251
Total 1953 and 1954* ..	26,891	83,410	27,051	84,754	12,985	39,517	13,118	40,618	39,876	122,927	40,169	125,372
Total 1952* ..	26,836	83,203	..	..	12,785	38,599	..	..	39,621	121,802	..	..

\* Since 1946 figures have been compiled in relation to the thirteen regions adopted by the Central Planning Authority. It is not practicable now to publish figures for the metropolitan district alone as the Port Phillip Region includes the whole of such metropolitan district and several adjoining municipalities in addition.

**Wages  
Boards.**

The Wages Board method of fixing wages and of settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria and was incorporated in an Act of Parliament introduced in the year 1896. A Board may be appointed for any trade or branch thereof. Each Board consists of an even number of members and a chairman. Originally, each Board was composed of equal numbers of employers and employees, with a qualification that each representative should be actively engaged in the trade concerned. However, under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1934, this qualification was modified to permit of a paid officer of any corporation, public body, or association of employers being nominated as one of the members to represent employers and, if such officer is appointed, then one of the representatives of the employees on that Board shall likewise be an officer of the trade union concerned.

The *Labour and Industry Act* 1953 requires a Board to determine that the wages rates and piecework prices fixed in any determination made by it shall be automatically adjusted, at prescribed periods, to accord as nearly as practicable with the variation in the cost of living, as indicated by such retail price index-numbers published by the Commonwealth Statistician as the Board considers appropriate.

The *Labour and Industry Act* 1953 gives Wages Boards the same powers relating to wages and conditions of labour as those incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These powers enable Wages Boards to make determinations concerning any industrial matter whatsoever in relation to any trade or branch of trade for which such board has been appointed and, in particular, to determine all matters relating to—

- (a) work and days and hours of work ;
- (b) pay, wages and reward ;
- (c) privileges, rights and duties of employers and employees ;
- (d) the mode, terms and conditions of employment or non-employment ;
- (e) the relations of employers and employees ;
- (f) the employment or non-employment of persons of any sex or age ;
- (g) the demarcation of functions of any employees or class of employees ; and
- (h) all questions of what is fair and right in relation to any industrial matter having regard to the interests of the persons immediately concerned and of society as a whole.

Wages Boards are not empowered to determine any matter relating to the preferential employment or dismissal of persons as being or as not being members of any organization, association, or body.

On 31st December, 1954, there were 219 (216 on 31st December, 1953) Wages Boards existent or authorized.

### THE BASIC WAGE.

The first basic wage, as such, was declared in 1907 by **Basic Wage—  
Melbourne.** Mr. Justice Higgins, President of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration. The rate of wage declared was 7s. per day or £2 2s. per week for Melbourne, and by virtue of the fact that it had been determined in connexion with H. V. McKay's Sunshine Harvester Works it became popularly known as the "Harvester Wage."

In 1913 the Court took cognizance of the Retail Price Index-Numbers compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician covering food, groceries, and the rent of all houses ("A" series), and thereafter the basic wage was adjusted in accordance with variations disclosed by that index.

An amount known as the "Powers three shillings" was added in 1922 to the weekly rate of wage for the purpose of securing to the worker, during a period of rising prices, the full equivalent of the "Harvester" standard. The system of making regular quarterly adjustments of the basic wage was also instituted in that year.

In 1931, in view of the depressed financial conditions prevailing, the Court reduced all wages under its jurisdiction by 10 per cent.

In consequence of continued applications from organizations of employees for the cancellation of the order providing for the 10 per cent. reduction, the Court in its judgment of 5th May, 1933, transferred the basis of fixation and adjustment of wages to a new set of Index Numbers—Harvester—All Items Index ("D" Series). This award was made applicable only to workers who had suffered the full 10 per cent. reduction.

The judgment of the Arbitration Court relative to the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1934 ordered a vital change in the method of calculating the basic wage. The "Harvester" standard supplemented by the "Powers three shillings" was superseded by the "All Items" Index Numbers ("C" Series) as the measure for assessment and adjustment of the basic wage and the 10 per cent. reduction of wages—mentioned above—was removed.

As a result of the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1937, the Arbitration Court prepared and issued its own series of retail price index numbers. This is based upon and corresponds with the Commonwealth Statistician's "All Items" series, but it is specially numbered for convenience in the adjustment of the basic wage. Provision was also made for the addition of a "fixed loading" of six shillings to the existing wage, payable in two instalments.

Applications by organizations of employees for an increase in the basic wage prescribed by awards of the Arbitration Court were considered at the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1940-41. The Court was of the opinion that the application should not be dismissed but should stand over for further consideration.

Pending the hearing and final determination of the claims which had already been lodged and of such claims as may in the near future be lodged by unions in respect of their several awards for a full review of the basic wage, the Arbitration Court, in its Basic Wage (Interim) Inquiry of 13th December, 1946, decided that, by way of interim award or interim order for variation as may be appropriate in each case, there shall be an immediate increase of 7s. per week in the present "needs" portion (93s.) of the Court's basic wage for the Weighted Average index number of the Six Capital Cities for the September quarter 1946.

The Arbitration Court, as a result of the Basic Wage Inquiry of 1949-50, decided to increase the basic wage by 20s. per week. At the same time the "prosperity" loading was incorporated in the new wage at a uniform amount throughout Australia of 5s. As a result the basic wage payable in Melbourne was increased by 19s. per week as from the first full pay period after 1st December, 1950. The female basic wage was increased from 54 per cent. to 75 per cent. of the male rate.

Following the hearing of the Basic Wage and Standard Hours Case, the Arbitration Court decided, on 12th September, 1953, to discontinue the automatic adjustment to the basic wage. The last quarterly wage adjustment made was based on the Court Series Index Numbers for June Quarter 1953 and became payable as from the first full pay period in August, 1953.

The Arbitration Court held Basic Wage Inquiries in 1955-56 and 1957. Resulting from these inquiries the Court increased the basic wage by ten shillings per week as from June 1956 and a further increase of ten shillings per week was made in May, 1957.

Basic weekly rates of wage in Melbourne for the years 1929 to 1938 are shown on page 374 of the 1946-47 *Year-Book*. The following table outlines the changes since March, 1939.

MELBOURNE—BASIC WEEKLY WAGE.  
(Adult Males.)

Commencing Date.	Basic Wage.	Commencing Date.	Basic Wage.
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
1939—		1949—	
March .. .. .	3 19 0	February .. .. .	6 3 0
June .. .. .	4 1 0	May .. .. .	6 5 0
December .. .. .	4 0 0	August .. .. .	6 8 0
1940—		November .. .. .	6 10 0
February .. .. .	4 1 0	1950—	
May .. .. .	4 2 0	February .. .. .	6 14 0
August .. .. .	4 4 0	May .. .. .	6 17 0
1941—		August .. .. .	7 0 0
February .. .. .	4 6 0	November .. .. .	7 3 0
May .. .. .	4 7 0	December† .. .. .	8 2 0
November .. .. .	4 8 0	1951—	
1942—		February .. .. .	8 10 0
February .. .. .	4 9 0	May .. .. .	8 17 0
May .. .. .	4 12 0	August .. .. .	9 9 0
August .. .. .	4 14 0	November .. .. .	9 19 0
November .. .. .	4 17 0	1952—	
1943—		February .. .. .	10 9 0
February .. .. .	4 18 0	May .. .. .	10 12 0
August .. .. .	4 19 0	August .. .. .	11 4 0
November .. .. .	4 18 0	November .. .. .	11 8 0
1944—		1953—	
February .. .. .	4 17 0	February .. .. .	11 9 0
August .. .. .	4 18 0	May .. .. .	11 12 0
1946—		August‡ .. .. .	11 15 0
August .. .. .	4 19 0	1956—	
December* .. .. .	5 6 0	June .. .. .	12 5 0
1947—		1957—	
February .. .. .	5 7 0	May .. .. .	12 15 0
August .. .. .	5 8 0		
November .. .. .	5 9 0		
1948—			
February .. .. .	5 13 0		
May .. .. .	5 15 0		
August .. .. .	5 17 0		
November .. .. .	6 0 0		

\* Increased by interim judgment.

† Increase due to Basic Wage Inquiry.

‡ On 12th September, 1953, the Arbitration Court decided to discontinue the automatic adjustments to the basic wage which remained constant until June, 1956, when the Court increased the wage by ten shillings per week, and a further increase of ten shillings per week was granted in May, 1957.

Prior to 1934, the basic wage for Victoria differed only slightly from that for Melbourne. In its judgment in that year, the Court made special reference to the basic wage payable in industries outside the metropolitan area, and it ruled that, except in certain specified districts where the cost of living appeared to be correctly indicated by the local "All Items"

Basic Wage—  
Outside  
Metropolitan  
Area.

Index Numbers, or where known circumstances indicated that the general rule should not apply, the basic wage for provincial places should be a constant three shillings per week less than that for the metropolitan district in the same State. Special provision was made also for assessing or adjusting the wage in certain places.

### RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

The "C" Series (all items) of retail price index-numbers for Melbourne is compiled by the Commonwealth Statistician. This series comprises the costs of food, groceries, rents of four and five-roomed houses, clothing, and miscellaneous expenditure, and is applied to the majority of awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in accordance with its judgment of 17th April, 1934. It was superseded by an index number of the Court's own construction as described in the Report of the "Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937". The weighted average for the six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period, 1923-27, expressed as 1,000, is the basis of comparison in the following table:—

#### MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS, "C" SERIES, "ALL ITEMS," 1914-1953.

Period.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. "All Items."	Year.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. "All Items."
November, 1914 ..	671	1942 .. ..	1100
November, 1921 ..	1003	1943 .. ..	1139
Years 1923-1927 ..	990	1944 .. ..	1135
1929 ..	1017	1945 .. ..	1135
1930 ..	956	1946 .. ..	1149
1931 ..	846	1947 .. ..	1188
1932 ..	813	1948 .. ..	1294
1933 ..	789	1949 .. ..	1415
1934 ..	801	1950 .. ..	1565
1935 ..	824	1951 .. ..	1880
1936 ..	844	1952 .. ..	2170
1937 ..	868	1953 .. ..	2285
1938 ..	896	1954 .. ..	2288
1939 ..	924	1955 .. ..	2365
1940 ..	964	1956 .. ..	2567
1941 ..	1008		

## APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

Under the *Apprenticeship Act* 1928 (No. 3636), which was proclaimed on 8th May, 1928, an Apprenticeship Commission was appointed to administer the Act and to supervise apprenticeship in trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades thereunder.

The proclaimed apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in each of the years 1950 to 1954 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROCLAIMED APPRENTICESHIP TRADES  
1950 TO 1954.

Trade.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Plumbing and Gasfitting .. .. .	992	1,006	1,041	1,223	1,359
Carpentry and Joinery .. .. .	1,521	1,790	2,093	2,285	2,415
Painting, Decorating, and Sign-writing .. .. .	223	196	200	217	211
Plastering .. .. .	17	20	23	48	49
Printing .. .. .	860	865	874	950	1,031
Electrical .. .. .	1,284	1,314	1,422	1,600	1,704
Motor Mechanics .. .. .	942	1,139	1,398	1,838	2,047
Bootmaking .. .. .	329	322	276	355	428
Moulding .. .. .	87	80	80	94	94
Engineering .. .. .	1,980	1,817	1,847	2,069	2,259
Fibrous Plastering .. .. .	121	113	122	128	140
Boilermaking and/or Steel Construction .. .. .	67	72	110	182	208
Sheet Metal .. .. .	116	105	90	108	134
Bread Making and Baking .. .. .	78	72	55	54	45
Pastrycooking .. .. .	91	92	73	85	90
Butchering and/or Small Goods Making .. .. .	312	329	347	444	532
Cooking .. .. .	14	14	18	27	24
Hairdressing .. .. .	746	672	619	634	638
Aircraft Mechanics .. .. .	49	67	57	58	76
Bricklaying .. .. .	31	35	56	72	92
Electroplating .. .. .	19	17	12	10	11
Dental Mechanics .. .. .	19	24	33	27	27
Watchmaking .. .. .	14	15	26	30	35
Furniture .. .. .	..	..	13	180	268
Radio Tradesman .. .. .	..	..	4	19	36
Instrument Making .. .. .	..	..	..	5	25
Silverware and Silver Plating .. .. .	..	..	..	..	8
Vehicle Industry .. .. .	..	..	..	..	130
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>9,912</b>	<b>10,176</b>	<b>10,889</b>	<b>12,742</b>	<b>14,116</b>

Since the inception of the Commission, 22,839 apprentices have completed their terms of apprenticeship.

The following table shows the trades or groups of trades which have been proclaimed together with the date and area of proclamation in respect of each trade:—

VICTORIA—APPRENTICESHIP TRADES PROCLAIMED.

Trade.	Area.	Date of Proclamation.
<i>Building Trades.</i>		
Plumbing and Gasfitting .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	10.10.28
	Ballarat and Geelong .. .. .	23.3.38
	Remainder of State .. .. .	27.7.49
Carpentry and Joinery .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	28.11.28
	Remainder of State .. .. .	9.7.47
Painting, Decorating, and Signwriting	Metropolitan .. .. .	28.11.28
	Plastering .. .. .	28.11.28
Fibrous Plastering .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	17.2.37
Bricklaying .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	18.12.46
<i>Metal Trades.</i>		
Engineering .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	1.4.36
	Geelong .. .. .	25.6.41
	Remainder of State .. .. .	7.11.45
Electrical Mechanic .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	17.7.29
	Remainder of State .. .. .	1.11.44
Electrical Fitter and Armature Winder	Metropolitan .. .. .	17.7.29
	Remainder of State .. .. .	12.5.48
Motor Mechanics .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	5.3.30
	Remainder of State .. .. .	30.3.49
Moulding .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	13.1.32
Boilermaking .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	1.12.37
Sheet Metal .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	25.5.38
Electroplating .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	7.5.47
Aircraft Mechanic .. .. .	Whole State .. .. .	16.10.46
Radio Tradesman .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	15.1.52
Instrument Making .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	3.6.52
Silverware and Silver-Plating Trades ..	Metropolitan .. .. .	9.6.53
Vehicle Industry .. .. .	Whole State .. .. .	15.12.53
<i>Food Trades.</i>		
Bread .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	14.12.38
Pastrycooking .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	14.12.38
Butchering .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	11.10.39
Cooking .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	8.5.40
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>		
Bootmaking Trades .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	13.1.32
Printing and Allied Trades .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	27.2.29
	Remainder of State .. .. .	25.6.41
Hairdressing .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	3.12.41
Dental Mechanic .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	10.12.47
Watchmaking .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	3.11.48
Furniture Trades .. .. .	Metropolitan .. .. .	25.3.52

NOTES.—1. "Metropolitan District" is as defined by Proclamation under the Apprenticeship Acts. 2. Some Proclamations have been varied from time to time.

## THE COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE.

The Commonwealth Employment Service was established under Section 47 of the *Re-Establishment and Employment Act 1945*, and under the *Social Services Legislation Declaratory Act 1947*.

The Principal function of this Service, as set out in Section 48 of the first-mentioned Act, is to provide services and facilities in relation to employment for the benefit of persons seeking to obtain employment, or to engage labour, and to provide facilities to assist in bringing about and maintaining a high and stable level of employment throughout the Commonwealth. The Act also gives the service a number of specific functions in relation to the re-establishment of ex-servicemen.

The Service also assists in the administration of the Unemployment and Sickness Benefits, provided under the *Social Services Consolidation Act 1947-1953*, as well as the Re-employment Allowance, provided under the *Re-Establishment and Employment Act* for certain classes of discharged members of the Forces. All persons who wish to claim unemployment benefits or re-employment allowances must register with a District Employment Office which is responsible for checking claims and for certifying whether or not suitable employment can be offered.

In addition to giving advice on employment problems through a network of District Employment Offices, the Service provides free vocational guidance in each State other than New South Wales by means of a staff of qualified psychologists. (In New South Wales a similar service is provided by the New South Wales Department of Labour, Industry, and Social Welfare which acts as agent for the Service in this field). While vocational guidance is available to any individual, it is provided particularly for juveniles entering employment for the first time, for ex-servicemen, and for physically and mentally handicapped persons. Invalid pensioners being considered by the Department of Social Services for training under the provisions of the *Social Services Consolidation Act 1947-1953*, are examined by the Vocational Guidance Branch before training is provided.

Under the Scheme initiated by the International Refugee Organization for the re-settlement of Displaced Persons from Europe following the 1939-45 War, the Commonwealth Employment Service is responsible for placing the workers amongst these people in employment where their services will be of most use in increasing production. Late in 1951 when the Organization had largely achieved its humanitarian work, it was replaced by the Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration, and the flow of Displaced Persons migrants has since ended.

Towards the middle of 1950 the Service assumed a new responsibility, that of placing in employment migrants from Great Britain under the Commonwealth-Nominated Migration Scheme. Following the agreements entered into with the Dutch, West German, and Italian Governments for the entry of selected European workers into the country, the Commonwealth Employment Service has undertaken the initial placement of such persons. Late in 1952, this service was extended to immigrants from some other European countries, including Greece and Austria, whose passage is arranged by the Inter-governmental Committee for European Migration under agreements between that Committee and the Commonwealth.

Since early in 1951, the Commonwealth Employment Service has been responsible for the registration, medical examination, interview, and call-up of young men for training in the Armed Forces under the *National Service Act 1951-1953*, which is administered by the Department of Labour and National Service. The Service is also responsible for administering the provisions of the Act relating to the protection of the rights of National Service trainees in relation to their civil employment.

In association with its placement activities, the Commonwealth Employment Service carries out regular surveys of the labour market in all areas and supplies detailed information on the employment situation to Government Departments and instrumentalities and to the public. In order to assist in making effective placements, job analysis studies of Australian occupations are also made.

The service operates within the Employment Division of the Department of Labour and National Service, and is under the control of the Permanent Head of that Department. It functions on a decentralized basis. The Central Office is in Melbourne. In each State a Regional Administrative Office of the Department is controlled by a Regional Director, who is responsible for the effective operation of the Commonwealth Employment Service and other Regional elements of the Department.

In the Victorian Region there are now sixteen District Employment offices in the metropolitan area and fourteen in various country centres. There are also four part-time offices, and a number of agents in country towns who work in conjunction with the District Employment Officer controlling the area in which the agent is located.

Special offices for dealing with particular types of labour, and a Vocational Guidance Section are located at the headquarters of the Victorian Regional Office in Melbourne.

Particulars relating to the major activities of the Service during the five years ended 30th June, 1954, are given in the following table:—

Details.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.
Applications for employment*	103,601	98,010	112,271	144,391	111,261
Number placed in employment ..	74,189	69,062	62,077	58,877	61,702
Number of vacancies notified	121,847	115,935	89,113	80,691	105,295
Vacancies at 30th June ..	47,611	51,666	13,720	8,880	15,343

\* Includes unemployed persons and persons already in employment who are seeking improved positions.

### HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES COMMISSION.

**Hospitals and Charities Commission.** Prior to 1864, Public Hospitals in Victoria were very few, unorganized as a State service, of extremely limited scope and capacity and dependent for finance almost entirely on charitable contributions.

Legislation of 1864 brought in a small measure of State control in that it required all charities to be registered and provided certain rules for the election of Committees, but made no demands for improvement or reform in the service. From 1881 until 1923, centralized control of public hospitals was limited to the activities of a Government-appointed Inspector assisted by an Advisory Council of four other members. The inadequacy of this was apparently realized in 1890, when a Royal Commission on Charitable Institutions recommended "the appointment of a Central Board of Charity to allocate the Government grants to the various districts and have general control of all charities within the colony". This recommendation was not implemented until 1923, when the *Hospitals and Charities Act* 1922, brought into being the Charities Board of Victoria. The Board, which commenced to function on 1st July, 1923, consisted of fourteen honorary Members (increased to sixteen in 1939), the Secretary and Chief Executive Officer being the Inspector of Charities. From its inception until 1st July, 1944 (when the "Ministry of Health" Act was proclaimed), the Charities Board of Victoria came under the Department of the State Treasurer but from that date the Minister of Health became the Governmental authority.

The Board had extensive responsibilities and powers of control over the activities of charities supported by and seeking the voluntary contributions of the public. To increase the usefulness of the Public Hospitals and as an aid in determining the relative amounts of Governmental subsidy to be paid, the Board classified them as Metropolitan and Country, the latter being graded into Base Hospitals (A and B Grades), District Hospitals and Cottage

**Hospitals.** By a system of zoning and the establishment of an adequately equipped Base Hospital in each zone, much was done to improve Hospital facilities.

With the proclamation of the *Hospitals and Charities Act 1948*, the Charities Board of Victoria ceased to exist and the Hospitals and Charities Commission became its successor. Consisting of three full-time Commissioners (and staff), it assumed office on 15th November, 1948, with an important programme of future development.

**Functions of  
Hospitals and  
Charities  
Commission.**

The Commission's powers and responsibilities include the following:—

1. To recommend payment of Maintenance and Capital subsidies to registered Institutions and Benevolent Societies;
2. To investigate for the Minister any matters relating to administration under the Act;
3. To inspect subsidized Institutions and their management;
4. To temporarily control and administer a Hospital in which the Committee of Management ceased to exist;
5. To appropriately control the location, accommodation and bed allocation in Hospitals and other institutional building works;
6. To advise upon and approve the erection of new buildings and the alteration of existing ones;
7. To determine (after consultation with the Nurses' Board) what Hospitals should be used for nurse training and the standards of nursing staff for Hospitals;
8. To establish preliminary schools for nursing trainees;
9. To classify Medical Staffs of Hospitals;
10. To establish and maintain a bureau to assist the admission of patients to Hospitals;
11. To establish and maintain ambulance services;
12. To promote—
  - (a) Collective Buying of standard equipment, furnishings and supplies;
  - (b) Administrative Training Scheme;
  - (c) Post-graduate Training of Nurses;
13. Administration of Private Hospitals—under the *Health (Hospitals) Act 1948*, which came into operation on 1st July, 1951.
14. Administration of Commonwealth Hospital Benefits—by arrangement with the Commonwealth authorities.

**Building.** When completed, the Commission's building programme, including new Hospitals and Benevolent Homes and extensions to existing ones, will provide approximately an additional 4,500 beds, boiler houses, nurses' homes and special departments.

The programme includes the development of Hospitals on a regional basis, the establishment of group laundries and central training schools for nurses. In addition to this, works to the extent of £34,000,000 are in course of planning and will be commenced progressively as circumstances permit.

**Finance.** The Hospitals and Charities Fund is established at the Treasury and into it are paid—

- (1) Moneys appropriated by Parliament (now fixed under the *Hospitals and Charities Act 1948*, at £800,000);
- (2) Special Appropriations by Parliament.

In the year 1953-54 the Government paid £6,553,978 (£6,032,453 in 1952-53) into the Fund for allocation to registered Institutions and Societies. In addition, £1,296,475 (£1,368,331 in 1952-53) was available from the Commonwealth Hospital Benefits Fund for Distribution to Institutions for Maintenance.

In making recommendations to the Minister as to what sums of money from Hospitals and Charities Fund should be paid to each subsidized institution or benevolent society in any financial year, matters such as the following are taken into consideration:—

- (a) The financial position of such institution or benevolent society and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the financial year other than that from the Fund.
- (b) The probable net receipts and expenditure for the financial year.
- (c) The actual number of persons relieved during the preceding financial year.
- (d) The average number of beds (if any) occupied during the preceding financial year and the average cost per bed.
- (e) The average length of stay of each in-patient during the preceding financial year.
- (f) The general conditions and management.

In addition Capital Funds to the extent of £4,240,284 (£2,676,532 in 1952-53) were spent in the year 1953-54, on the Commission's building programme, and the purchase of plant, equipment, furnishings and fittings.

	1952-53.	1953-54.
	£	£
Loan Fund .. .. .	2,650,000	4,240,004
Hospital Benefit Fund .. .. .	16,828	280
Surplus Revenue .. .. .	2,704	..
Hospitals and Charities Fund Capital .. .. .	7,000	..
	2,676,532	4,240,284

**Hospitals and Accommodation.** The growth of Public Hospital services throughout Victoria is indicated by the following table:—

**VICTORIA—POPULATION, NUMBER OF HOSPITALS, AND NUMBER OF BEDS, 1836 TO 1954.**

Year.	Population (Estimated at 31st December).	Number of Hospitals (functioning).	Number of Beds (including Private and Intermediate Sections).
1836 .. ..	224	..	..
1840 .. ..	10,291	1	20
1850 .. ..	76,162	1	20
1862 .. ..	551,338	19	1,037
1870 .. ..	723,925	26	1,574
1880 .. ..	858,605	34	2,202
1890 .. ..	1,133,728	34	2,094
1900 .. ..	1,196,213	42	2,470
1910 .. ..	1,301,408	44	2,896
1920 .. ..	1,527,909	53	3,774
1930 .. ..	1,792,605	63	4,678
1940 .. ..	1,914,918	64	7,122
1950 .. ..	2,237,182	91	8,930
1951 .. ..	2,299,538	93	9,112
1952 .. ..	2,366,719	96	9,237
1953 .. ..	2,416,035	103	9,732
1954 .. ..	2,480,877	109	10,152

**Number of Institutions and Societies.** At 30th June, 1954, the Commission had on its register 951 (919 at 30th June, 1953) institutions and societies as under:—

	1953.	1954.
Hospitals .. ..	132	136
Benevolent Homes and Hostels .. ..	53	55
Children's Homes .. ..	50	51
Foundling and Rescue Homes .. ..	19	19
Organizations for Welfare of Boys and Girls .. ..	85	93
Creches and Kindergartens .. ..	85	84
Bush Nursing Centres .. ..	16	17
Ambulance organizations .. ..	62	68
Relief organizations .. ..	87	88
Miscellaneous organizations .. ..	89	95
Private Hospitals .. ..	241	245
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	919	951
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**The Citizens  
Welfare  
Service of  
Victoria.**

Incorporated under the Hospitals and Charities Act, controlled and managed by a Committee elected by contributors each year at the Annual Meeting, maintained entirely by voluntary gifts and inheriting the experience and traditions of the Charity Organization Society of Melbourne, the Citizens Welfare Service of Victoria, with the aid of a skilled staff, offers advice and practical help to troubled citizens.

The functions fulfilled by the Citizens Welfare Service are—

1. A Family Casework Agency—

- (a) providing a skilled service to citizens finding themselves in any sort of trouble or difficulty which may be eased or removed through experienced advice and friendly co-operation.
- (b) providing assistance in cash or kind for citizens whose material needs can not be met from any statutory, voluntary or other source.
- (c) offering skilled investigation and advisory co-operation to other welfare agencies and to the community generally.

2. A *Citizens Advice Bureau* carried on as a centre of advice or guidance to citizens generally, irrespective of economic position.

3. *Student Training*, providing facilities for practical training of students from the University Social Studies Department.

Every client seeking the assistance of the C.W.S. is assured of complete privacy and confidence in his relationship with the agency.

Some of the circumstances which give rise to a need for a skilled casework service are—domestic difficulties which threaten family unity; problems of unmarried or expectant mothers; difficulties created by desertion or death of the bread-winner; financial anxieties arising from money-lending, cash-order, hire purchase, or other debts; problems arising from sickness or injury as, for instance, the need of artificial limbs, invalid chairs and other expensive surgical appliances; circumstances involving the transfer of families or individuals to the country, to other States, or overseas.

The following table shows Receipts and Expenditure, and the number of cases dealt with, during the five years ended on 30th June, 1954 :—

Details.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts .. .. .	5,524	7,849	5,918	5,931	6,003
Expenditure .. .. .	5,697	8,368	7,982	7,643	6,873
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Cases dealt with .. .. .	710	767	823	1,424	945

## PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

Information relating to receipts, expenditure, accommodation, and inmates of public hospitals and charitable institutions (subsidized) in Victoria during the years ended 31st March, 1953 and 31st March, 1954, is contained in the following tables. The numbers, in respect of indoor and outdoor patients, refer to the "cases" treated and not to persons. It is considered probable that some persons obtained relief or became inmates at more than one establishment, but there is no information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

### VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, YEARS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1953 AND 31ST MARCH, 1954.

Institution.	Number of Institutions.		Receipts.										Expenditure (including Cost of Out-patients).	
			From Government.		Contributions from—				Other.‡		Total Receipts.			
					In-patients or Inmates.		Out-patients.							
			1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.		
			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Special Hospitals† ..	9	9	2,238,683	2,526,619	111,752	169,958	128,865	139,575	530,132	627,105	3,009,432	3,463,257	3,190,929	3,381,065
General Hospitals— Metropolitan ..	11	11	3,256,992	3,727,782	216,133	328,501	118,963	141,963	550,269	823,063	4,142,357	5,021,309	4,401,678	5,061,215
Country ..	82	85	3,048,494	3,407,924	171,944	263,759	90,522	112,070	1,263,258	1,397,468	4,574,218	5,181,221	4,660,303	5,256,754
Auxiliary Hospitals*	2	2	269,191	293,583	30,988	51,734	7,962	10,434	20,307	22,212	328,448	377,963	307,653	365,121
Fairfield Hospital (Fever division and Chest unit) ..	1	1	129,047	135,989	..	..	..	..	66,330	76,134	195,377	212,123	195,124	193,712
Convalescent Homes	2	1	5,589	5,817	2,381	2,074	..	..	2,771	1,403	10,741	9,294	12,978	10,004
Sanatoria ..	3	3	644,809	634,924	..	..	..	..	..	2,345	644,809	637,269	644,809	637,269
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses ..	11	13	3,622,139	4,249,679	..	..	..	..	15,932	19,315	3,638,071	4,268,994	3,638,071	4,268,994
Total ..	121	125	13,214,944	14,982,317	533,198	816,026	346,312	404,042	2,448,999	2,969,045	16,543,453	19,171,430	17,051,545	19,174,134

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE,  
YEARS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1953 AND 31ST MARCH, 1954—*continued.*

318

*Victorian Year-Book, 1953-53 and 1953-54.*

Institution.	Number of Institutions.		Receipts.										Expenditure (including Cost of Out-patients).	
			From Government.		Contributions from—				Other.		Total Receipts.			
					In-patients or Inmates.		Out-patients.							
					1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.						
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.			£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Infants' Homes ..	6	7	41,893	49,489	10,013	9,499	..	..	37,160	47,054	89,066	106,042	120,309	118,746
Children's Homes ..	35	34	155,772	229,391	55,315	67,098	..	..	199,375	301,592	410,462	598,081	499,075	655,091
Maternity Homes ..	4	4	6,111	5,684	15,304	14,461	..	..	7,741	4,065	29,156	24,210	30,361	23,915
Rescue Homes ..	4	4	6,591	7,120	18,137	22,173	..	..	81,301	78,807	106,029	108,100	104,046	94,876
Benevolent Homes ..	9	9	735,624	767,151	105,994	136,913	..	..	76,133	58,165	917,751	962,229	1,030,599	963,655
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions ..	2	2	8,230	8,478	9,904	10,124	..	..	195,892	202,380	214,026	220,982	221,085	233,381
Benevolent Societies	38	33	3,635	3,559	..	..	..	..	12,819	12,527	16,454	16,086	15,285	13,891
Hostels for the Aged	8	7	43,142	37,062	28,209	34,938	..	..	28,074	26,787	99,425	98,787	102,348	90,517
Miscellaneous .. ..	..	..	263,923	298,967	149,639	148,048	2,006	2,778	483,917	506,766	899,485	956,559	886,216	972,665
Total .. ..	..	..	1,264,921	1,406,901	392,515	443,254	2,006	2,778	1,122,412	1,238,143	2,781,854	3,091,076	3,009,324	3,166,737
Grand Total .. ..	..	..	14,470,865	16,389,218	925,713	1,259,280	348,318	406,820	3,571,411	4,207,188	10,325,307	22,262,506	20,060,969	22,340,871

\* Includes General Division of Fairfield Hospital.

† Special Hospitals are those that have accommodation for specific cases only or for women and/or children exclusively. They comprise:—The Austin (for Cancer and Chronic diseases), Children's, Eye and Ear, Dental, Queen Victoria, Women's, Caritas Christi Hospice (for the Dying), Talbot Colony for Epileptics, and Airlie (Maternity).

‡ Includes receipts from the intermediate and private sections of Public Hospitals.

§ Includes £170,908 for Mental Defectives' Branch in 1953-54 (£160,454 in 1952-53).

NOTE.—Receipts and Expenditure of Fairfield Hospital (fever division and chest unit), Sanatoria and Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses are for years ended 30th June, 1953 and 1954.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, SANATORIA, ETC., DURING THE  
YEARS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1953 AND 31ST MARCH, 1954.

Institution.	Receipts.													
	Maintenance Receipts.								Capital Receipts.				Total Receipts.	
	Government.		Contributions from In-patients and Out-patients.		Intermediate and Private Patients' Section.		Other.		Government.		Other.			
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Special Hospitals	2,081,160	2,089,054	240,617	309,533	85,330	98,879	301,300	313,340	157,523	437,565	143,493	214,886	3,009,432	3,463,257
General Hospitals—														
Metropolitan ..	2,400,669	2,738,482	335,096	470,464	216,320	308,110	197,448	183,692	856,323	939,300	136,501	331,261	4,142,357	5,021,309
Country ..	2,091,933	2,118,917	262,466	375,829	794,422	880,501	297,998	273,351	956,561	1,289,007	170,838	243,616	4,574,218	5,181,221
Auxiliary Hospitals	255,951	285,463	38,950	62,168	..	..	16,103	12,189	13,240	8,120	4,204	10,023	328,448	377,963
Fairfield Hospital (Fever division and chest unit)*	129,047	135,989	..	..	..	..	66,330	76,134	..	..	..	..	195,377	212,123
Convalescent Homes	5,539	5,817	2,381	2,074	..	..	2,771	1,403	..	..	..	..	10,741	9,294
Sanatoria* ..	533,819	589,229	..	..	..	..	..	2,345	110,990	45,695	..	..	644,809	637,269
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses*	2,845,869	3,234,417	..	..	..	..	15,932	19,315	776,270	1,015,262	..	..	†3,638,071	†4,268,994
Total ..	10,344,037	11,197,368	879,510	1,220,063	1,096,072	1,287,490	897,891	881,769	2,870,907	3,784,949	455,036	799,786	16,543,453	19,171,430

\* Year ended 30th June. † Includes £170,908 for Mental Defectives' Branch in 1953-54 (£160,454 in 1952-53).

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, SANATORIA, ETC., DURING THE  
YEARS ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1953 AND 31ST MARCH, 1954.

320

*Victorian Year-Book, 1952-53 and 1953-54.*

Institution.	Expenditure.													
	In-patients, Expenditure on—						Out-patients, Total Aggregate Cost.		Total Cost of All Patients.		Capital Expenditure.		Total Expenditure.	
	Salaries and Wages.		Other (including Extraordinary Expenditure).		Total.		1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.								
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Special Hospitals	1,392,545	1,552,219	865,071	887,054	2,257,616	2,439,273	421,490	457,764	2,679,106	2,897,037	511,823	484,028	3,190,929	3,381,065
General Hospi- tals—														
Metropolitan	1,592,117	1,858,158	1,005,621	1,224,343	2,597,738	3,082,501	536,323	598,761	3,134,061	3,681,262	1,267,617	1,379,953	4,401,678	5,061,215
Country ..	2,024,024	2,284,076	1,141,462	1,265,948	3,165,486	3,550,024	151,581	160,890	3,317,067	3,710,914	1,343,236	1,545,840	4,660,303	5,256,754
Auxiliary Hospitals ..	164,799	194,229	101,176	114,295	265,975	308,524	29,524	32,549	295,499	341,073	12,514	24,048	307,653	365,121
Fairfield Hospital (Fever division and chest unit)* ..	127,871	127,153	67,253	66,559	195,124	193,712	..	..	195,124	193,712	..	..	195,124	193,712
Convalescent Homes ..	7,856	6,899	5,122	3,105	12,978	10,004	..	..	12,978	10,004	..	..	12,978	10,004
Sanatoria* ..	305,848	348,291	227,971	243,283	533,819	591,574	..	..	533,819	591,574	110,990	45,695	644,809	637,269
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses* ..	1,399,481	1,633,554	1,462,320	1,620,178	2,861,801	3,253,732	..	..	2,861,801	3,253,732	776,270	1,015,262	†3,638,071	†4,268,994
Total ..	7,014,541	8,004,579	4,875,996	5,424,765	11,890,537	13,420,344	1,138,918	1,249,964	13,029,455	14,679,308	4,022,450	4,494,826	17,051,545	19,174,134

\* Year ended 30th June. † Includes £170,908 for Mental Defectives' Branch in 1953-54 (£160,454 in 1952-53).

Income of  
Charitable  
Institutions.

The receipts of public hospitals and charitable institutions in the State under various headings for the year ended 31st March, 1953, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1952-53.

Receipts.	Public Hospitals.	Convalescent Homes, Mental Hospitals* and Sanatoria.*	Infants' Homes.	Children's Homes.	Maternity and Rescue Homes.	Hostels for the Aged.	Benevolent Homes.	Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Grants including Hospital Benefits Fund .. .. .	8,942,407	4,266,959	31,452	91,697	11,223	43,142	735,624	8,230	267,558	14,398,292
Child Endowment .. .. .	.. .. .	5,578	10,441	64,075	1,479	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	81,573
Municipal Grants and Contributions .. .. .	93,083	80	246	484	60	13	998	521	118,164	213,640
Annual Subscriptions .. .. .	104,238	204	2,935	24,577	916	2,535	4,990	31,097	45,226	216,718
Proceeds of Entertainments .. .. .	108,200	.. .. .	5,628	7,996	101	.. .. .	6,472	28,119	9,867	166,383
Hospital Sunday and Lord Mayor's Fund .. .. .	74,567	538	1,376	3,138	969	1,072	7,461	1,065	5,999	96,185
Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests .. .. .	775,561	1,361	21,139	71,390	7,137	23,221	42,617	68,817	149,514	1,160,757
Contributions of In-patients or Inmates .. .. .	530,817	2,381	10,013	53,315	33,441	28,209	105,994	9,904	149,639	925,713
Contributions from Out-patients .. .. .	346,312	.. .. .	.. .. .	49,618	77,905	.. .. .	.. .. .	31,449	2,006	348,318
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	19,716	791	495	6,540	19,389	.. .. .	158,972
Income from Investments .. .. .	57,342	283	3,105	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	967	108,628
Fees from Intermediate and Private Patients .. .. .	1,096,072	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	1,096,072
Other Sources .. .. .	121,233	16,237	2,731	22,456	1,163	738	7,055	15,435	166,999	354,047
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>12,249,832</b>	<b>4,293,621</b>	<b>89,066</b>	<b>410,462</b>	<b>135,185</b>	<b>99,425</b>	<b>917,751</b>	<b>214,026</b>	<b>915,939</b>	<b>19,325,307</b>

\* Year ended 30th June.

NOTE.—Children's Welfare Department is not included in above table.

Social Conditions.

The receipts of public hospitals and charitable institutions in the State under various headings for the year ended 31st March, 1954, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1953-54.

Receipts.	Public Hospitals.	Convalescent Homes, Mental Hospitals* and Sanatoria.*	Infants' Homes.	Children's Homes.	Maternity and Rescue Homes.	Hostels for the Aged.	Benevolent Homes.	Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Grants including Hospital Benefits Fund .. ..	10,091,897	4,884,489	39,887	166,946	11,396	37,062	767,151	8,478	302,526	16,309,832
Child Endowment .. ..		5,931	9,602	62,445	1,408	..	..	..	..	79,386
Municipal Grants and Contributions .. ..	107,842	54	176	393	5	..	871	426	127,965	237,732
Annual Subscriptions .. ..	87,094	218	2,946	17,159	430	1,617	4,460	40,790	56,825	211,539
Proceeds of Entertainments .. ..	91,356	..	6,426	19,906	..	..	4,613	30,721	8,870	161,892
Hospital Sunday and Lord Mayor's Fund .. ..	71,720	450	1,637	4,336	901	..	7,700	1,228	2,740	90,712
Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests .. ..	1,109,180	430	28,414	170,562	5,261	23,975	25,271	75,120	111,417	1,549,630
Contributions of In-patients or Inmates .. ..	813,952	2,074	9,499	67,098	36,634	34,938	136,913	10,124	148,048	1,259,280
Contributions from Out-patients .. ..	404,042	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,778	406,820
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour .. ..	63,654	61	3,623	57,247	75,185	..	..	11,922	..	144,354
Income from Investments .. ..	..	..	..	21,906	860	..	..	..	..	117,691
Fees from Intermediate and Private Patients .. ..	1,287,490	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,287,490
Other Sources .. ..	127,646	21,850	3,832	10,083	230	718	10,002	21,256	210,531	406,148
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>14,255,873</b>	<b>4,915,557</b>	<b>106,042</b>	<b>598,081</b>	<b>132,310</b>	<b>98,787</b>	<b>962,229</b>	<b>220,982</b>	<b>972,645</b>	<b>22,262,506</b>

\* Year ended 30th June.

NOTE.—Children's Welfare Department is not included in above table.

**Charitable Institutions—  
receipts and  
expenditure.**

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions during each year of the period 1950–1954, is given in the following table. For the year ended 31st March, 1954, Government Grants and Child Endowment represented 73·6 (74·9 for the year ended 31st March, 1953) per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments 1·0 (1·1 for 1952–53) per cent.; contributions of in-patients, inmates, and out-patients 7·5 (6·6 for 1952–53) per cent.; charitable contributions (subscriptions, entertainments, collections, Lord Mayor's Fund, &c.) 9·1 (8·5 for the year ended 31st March, 1953) per cent.; and receipts from all other sources 8·8 (8·9 for 1952–53) per cent.

**VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1949–50 TO 1953–54.**

Heading.	Year ended 31st March—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Receipts.</i>					
Government Grants .. .. .	6,495,973	8,868,148	11,616,562	14,398,292	16,309,832
Hospital Benefits Fund .. .. .		*	*	*	*
Child Endowment .. .. .	72,845	76,749	71,531	81,573	79,386
Municipal Grants and Contributions .. .. .	170,085	178,512	222,084	213,649	237,732
Annual Subscriptions .. .. .	163,695	174,746	186,367	216,718	211,539
Entertainments, &c. .. .. .	128,101	151,674	157,252	166,383	161,892
Hospital Sunday and Lord Mayor's Fund .. .. .	58,964	77,203	88,186	96,185	90,712
Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests .. .. .	617,161	976,017	1,041,819	1,160,757	1,549,650
Patients' and Inmates Contributions .. .. .	441,022	618,321	790,392	1,274,031	1,666,100
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour .. .. .	79,810	100,642	166,721	158,972	144,354
Income from Investments .. .. .	100,228	99,954	103,505	108,628	117,691
Intermediate and Private Sections of Public Hospitals .. .. .	509,124	619,677	803,710	1,096,072	1,287,490
Other Sources .. .. .	362,051	189,397	216,500	354,047	406,148
<b>Total Receipts .. .. .</b>	<b>9,199,059</b>	<b>12,131,040</b>	<b>15,464,579</b>	<b>19,325,307</b>	<b>22,262,506</b>
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Maintenance (In-patients or Inmates) .. .. .	6,987,860	8,550,630	11,510,801	14,156,695	15,880,810
Out-patients (Public Hospitals) .. .. .	576,519	720,841	949,543	1,141,315	1,251,593
Extraordinary .. .. .	95,777	121,388	221,758	257,389	290,054
Capital (Building, &c.) .. .. .	1,907,748	2,983,750	4,238,492	4,505,470	4,918,414
<b>Total Expenditure .. .. .</b>	<b>9,657,904</b>	<b>12,376,609</b>	<b>16,920,594</b>	<b>20,060,869</b>	<b>22,340,871</b>

\* Included in Government Grants.

NOTE.—Children's Welfare Department is not included in above table.

Accommodation and Inmates.

The next table shows the bed provision and the actual number of inmates maintained in institutions during the years ended 31st March, 1953 and 31st March, 1954.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ACCOMMODATION AND INMATES, 1952-53 AND 1953-54.

Institution.	Number of Beds in—				Daily Average of Occupied Beds in Public Section.		Total Treated in—				Out-patients (including Casualties) Persons Treated.	
	Public Section.		Intermediate and Private Section.				Public Section.		Intermediate and Private Section.			
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
Special Hospitals ..	1,920	2,148	144	144	1,473·0	1,624·5	38,884	43,505	4,159	4,394	130,319	133,081
General Hospitals—												
Metropolitan ..	1,790	2,380	384	516	1,549·4	1,979·2	33,037	49,122	10,221	13,974	177,407	193,891
Country ..	3,052	5,134	1,957	2,043	1,710·6	3,056·7	39,247	92,977	50,504	51,804	119,174	115,082
Auxiliary Hospitals ..	485	490	..	..	420·1	460·9	7,587	7,831	..	..	5,081	5,784
Fairfield Hospital (Fever division and Chest unit)† ..	424	424	..	..	120·9	116·0	2,658	2,188	..	..	..	..
Convalescent Homes ..	78	45	..	..	44·0	22·5	503	397	..	..	..	..
Sanatoria† ..	665	665	..	..	579·6	660·8	1,130	1,323	..	..	..	..
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses‡ ..	6,838	7,287	..	..	6,913·0	7,078·0	9,637	9,759	..	..	..	..
<b>Total Hospitals</b>	<b>15,247</b>	<b>18,573</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>12,810·6</b>	<b>14,998·6</b>	<b>132,683</b>	<b>207,102</b>	<b>64,884</b>	<b>70,172</b>	<b>431,981</b>	<b>447,838</b>

† Year ended 30th June, 1953 and 1954.

‡ Year ended 31st December, 1952 and 1953.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ACCOMMODATION AND INMATES,  
1952-53 AND 1953-54—*continued.*

Institution.	Number of Beds.				Daily Average.		Accommodated during Year.			
	For Children.		For Adults.				Children.		Adults.	
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
Infants' Homes .. ..	414	420	76	95	480·8	457·5	1,016	1,080	247	254
Children's Homes .. ..	3,153	3,065	..	..	2,591·5	2,500·5	4,169	3,961	..	..
Maternity Homes .. ..	131	101	154	136	246·2	115·4	782	630	862	693
Rescue Homes* .. ..	..	..	..	..	409·0	403·4	..	..	..	..
Benevolent Homes .. ..	..	..	2,700	2,695	2,465·2	2,541·7	..	..	4,887	4,746
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions* .. ..	..	..	..	..	233·7	235·9	..	..	..	..
Hostels for the Aged. .. ..	..	..	234	248	195·7	227·5	..	..	324	371

\* Details as to children and adults not available. Totals for 1953:—

	<i>Beds.</i>	<i>Accommodated.</i>
Rescue Homes .. .. .	.. 466	552
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions	.. 188	344

Totals for 1954:—

	<i>Beds.</i>	<i>Accommodated.</i>
Rescue Homes .. .. .	.. 466	539
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions	.. 208	361

## HOSPITAL BENEFITS SCHEME.

**Public Hospitals.** The existing agreement between the Commonwealth and the State, in relation to the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth to the State in respect of persons treated in public hospitals, was authorized by the *Commonwealth Hospital Benefits Act 1951* and the *Victorian Hospital Benefits Act 1952* (No. 5662).

For the year ended 30th June, 1954, total payments by the Commonwealth to the State amounted to £1,760,603 (£1,843,557 in 1952-53) of which £987,573 (£867,162 in 1952-53) was on account of public wards. Since 1st July, 1948, the Hospital Benefits Rate was increased from 6s. to 8s. per day.

**Private Hospitals.** The agreement above-mentioned related wholly to public hospitals but the Commonwealth Act also provided that "the regulations may make provision for and in relation to payments by the Commonwealth of hospital benefits, at such rates and subject to such conditions as are prescribed in respect of patients in private hospitals as defined by the regulations".

Such regulations, which are administered in Victoria by the Hospitals and Charities Commission, provide for hospital benefit at the rate of 8s. per day, to be allowed as a deduction from the hospital accounts of qualified patients in approved hospitals.

Payments made to private hospitals in Victoria under the scheme for the year ended 30th June, 1954, amounted to £464,128 (£458,398 in 1952-53).

The following table shows the Hospital Benefit payments by the Commonwealth Government to the State on account of Victorian Hospitals :—

## VICTORIA—HOSPITAL BENEFIT PAYMENTS, 1950 TO 1954.

Payments on Account of—	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Public Hospitals—</b>					
Capital Works ..	..	..	211,008	16,828	280
Public Beds ..	807,433	860,601	561,681	867,162	987,573
Non-public Beds ..	226,759	230,444	248,460	501,160	308,902
Total ..	1,034,192	1,091,045	1,021,149	1,385,159	1,296,755
<b>Private Hospitals ..</b>	461,156	461,150	470,133	458,398	464,128
<b>Grand Total ..</b>	1,495,348	1,552,195	1,491,282	1,843,557	1,760,883

**Additional Benefits.** Commonwealth Statutory Rules No. 119 of 11th October, 1951, introduced an Additional Benefit of 4s. per day (i.e., additional to the 8s. per day mentioned before) payable to "approved" private hospital patients who are "qualified" and are members of an "approved" Hospital Contributory Fund. The Additional Benefits are paid by the Hospital Contributory Funds which are reimbursed by the Commonwealth.

### PHARMACEUTICAL BENEFITS.

Under the provisions of the *Commonwealth National Health Act* 1953, the Commonwealth reimburses through the State, the cost of pharmaceutical benefits supplied free of charge to all patients in Public Hospitals.

Payments to hospitals to the 30th June, 1954, totalled £292,913.

### GENERAL HOSPITALS, ETC.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals. Descriptive details of the Alfred, St. Vincent's and Prince Henry's Hospitals will be found on pages 277-279 of the *Year-Book* 1942-43 and of the Royal Melbourne Hospital on page 482 of the *Year-Book* 1943-44.

**Cancer Institute.** The *Cancer Institute Act* 1948 (No. 5341) incorporating the Cancer Institute was proclaimed on 29th March, 1949 and is described in the preamble as—

"an Act relating to the establishment and management of a Cancer Institute for the purposes of research into and treatment of cancer and allied conditions and for other purposes".

The objects for which the Institute is established are as follows:—

1. Provision of facilities for research.
2. Undertaking such research.
3. Special training of persons to undertake such research.
4. Provision of out-patient and in-patient treatment.
5. Provision of special clinics at any hospital within the meaning of the *Hospital and Charities Act* 1948.
6. Hostels for out-patients undergoing treatment at the Institute.
7. Provision of teaching facilities for medical students, post-graduate instruction for medical practitioners and instruction to nurses and technicians.

The title "Cancer Institute" is used for all official purposes, but that portion of the Institute in contact with patients uses the registered name "Peter MacCallum Clinic".

The Institute occupies premises at the corner of William and Little Lonsdale Streets, Melbourne, which have been temporarily reserved by the Government for the purposes of the Institute.

Since the Act came into operation on 29th March, 1949, extensive building works have been carried out to provide for the requirements of the Institute. At this date further construction is proceeding to provide additional hospital beds, hostel accommodation and the installation of a 4 M.E.V. Linear Accelerator.

Statistics of services in operation for the year ended 30th June, 1956, include the following:—

Centre.	Out-patient Attendances.	X-ray Treatments.
Melbourne .. .. .	14,158 (William-street)	50,794
Clinics at Country Hospitals .. .. .	3,837	(Included above)
Visiting Nursing Service .. .. .	16,976 (Total visits paid)	..

At present there is accommodation for 32 in-patients with a daily average of 24 occupied beds. When the reconstruction of the buildings is completed this total will be increased to 110 beds, exclusive of 12 beds available in the hostel at Heidelberg for patients from the country centres.

Out-patients who are unable to use public transport are brought to the Clinic by an ambulance service organised and maintained by the Institute.

This institution, formerly known as The Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, dates from 1904 when the first patient was admitted. Its early history and later development are recorded in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 259.

During the year 1947-48 legislation was enacted enabling the Hospital to treat general medical and surgical patients. At 30th June, 1954, 228 (the same as 30th June, 1953), beds were available for patients in the General Division.

The Hospital is an approved training school for nurses in association with other major hospitals, and has a fully-equipped preliminary training school through which all probationer nurses pass before taking up ward duty.

**Fairfield  
Hospital.**

The following table outlines important details relative to the finance and inmates of the Fairfield Hospital during the five years ended 30th June, 1954 :—

Details.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Receipts .. ..	£162,061	£199,724	£284,024	£355,016	£373,947
Expenditure .. ..	£172,760	£201,093	£300,328	£343,785	£365,232
Total cases treated ..	4,071	3,840	4,148	4,647	4,268
Admissions .. ..	3,845	3,641	3,929	4,405	4,024
Daily average of occupied beds ..	202	189	245	251	249
Deaths .. ..	46	47	47	46	45

### BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

**Bush Nursing.** Bush nursing centres are distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At 31st March, 1954, there were 56 (57 at 31st March, 1953) centres including 43 (44 at 31st March, 1953) hospitals supplying 451 (432 at 31st March, 1953) beds employing approximately 135 (147 at 31st March, 1953) trained nurses and 34 (29 at 31st March, 1953) partly-trained nurses. During the year ended 31st March, 1954, the total number of cases attended by Bush Nurses was 25,889 (24,414 at 31st March, 1953). The 43 (44 at 31st March, 1953) hospitals admitted 11,079 (9,620 at 31st March, 1953) in-patients and treated 8,958 (10,063 at 31st March, 1953) out-patients.

Details of the receipts and expenditure of bush nursing centres for the years ended 31st March, 1952, 1953 and 1954 are shown in the following table :—

### VICTORIA—BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

	Year ended 31st March—		
	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£
<b>RECEIPTS.</b>			
Grants—			
Government .. ..	94,111*	111,273*	96,803*
Municipalities .. ..	619	1,131	744
Collections, Donations, &c. .. ..	36,063	63,256	52,849
Proceeds from entertainments .. ..	10,763	9,040	6,278
Patients' fees .. ..	118,587	144,012	146,204
Members' fees .. ..	17,457	18,410	18,215
Interest and rent .. ..	888	719	519
Miscellaneous .. ..	3,027	2,888	3,866
<b>Total receipts .. ..</b>	<b>281,515</b>	<b>350,729</b>	<b>325,478</b>

VICTORIA—BUSH NURSING CENTRES—*continued.*

	Year ended 31st March.		
	1952.	1953.	1954.
<b>EXPENDITURE.</b>			
Salaries—			
Nurses (paid to Central Council) ..	95,096	97,280	103,116
Other .. .. .	59,825	70,715	73,047
Provisions, fuel, lighting, &c. .. .. .	53,427	59,080	60,637
Surgery and medicine .. .. .	7,125	8,299	8,847
Repairs and Maintenance .. .. .	9,644	12,996	13,426
Furniture and equipment .. .. .	11,237	14,242	9,501
Printing, stationery, &c. .. .. .	9,431	7,655	7,925
Insurance, rent, bank charges, &c. ..	1,210	1,152	1,594
Miscellaneous .. .. .	3,348	7,717	6,694
Loan and interest repayments .. .. .	295	2,823	3,522
Land and buildings .. .. .	30,574	60,241	49,571
Alterations and additions .. .. .	3,153	3,072	8,015
<b>Total expenditure .. .. .</b>	<b>284,365</b>	<b>345,272</b>	<b>345,895</b>

\* Includes £37,376 received under the Hospital Benefits Scheme for 1952, £40, and £36,330 for 1954.

## RED CROSS SOCIETY, VICTORIAN DIVISION.

The Victorian Division of the Australian Red Cross Society is responsible for all Red Cross Service and activities throughout the State of Victoria.

Under the Royal Charter, the Society's objects (in addition to specific war-time activities) are: "the improvement of health, the mitigation of suffering and the prevention of disease".

A voluntary organisation, sustained by public subscription, the Division's primary function in war-time is to provide supplementary service to sick or wounded service personnel, prisoners of war and their dependants. Such services range from hospital services, the provision of convalescent homes, and various welfare services to assist the restoration of health and fitness of those suffering from their war service.

In peace-time the organisation's responsibilities continue in caring for the welfare of ex-service personnel discharged medically unfit, and their dependants. In addition, under the terms of its Charter, the Society undertakes many community services such as the Blood Transfusion Service, Handcrafts, Hospital Visiting and Library Services in civilian hospitals, transport for ex-service patients and civilian out-patients, and the maintenance of two homes—"Rockingham" for repatriation patients and "Lady Dugan Red Cross Home" for children and young women from the country who need after-care treatment for poliomyelitis or cerebral palsy.

Particular attention is given to the problems of the disabled ex-servicemen or women with a view to the utmost rehabilitation possible in each case.

The governing body of the Division is the Council, which is constituted as follows:—The President (the wife of the State Governor); the Deputy President (the wife of the Lieutenant-Governor); the wife of the Premier; a person nominated by the State Government; the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of the City of Melbourne; the principal medical officer in Victoria, R.A.N.; The Deputy Director Medical Service, Southern Command; the Principal Medical Officer, Southern Area; the Senior Medical Officer, Repatriation Commission; nominee of the Returned Sailors Soldiers and Airmen's Imperial League of Australia, Victorian Branch; 45 other members of the Division elected at the Annual Meeting, and 15 elected by the Divisional Council.

The following figures give some indication of the continuing nature and scope of the work:—

VICTORIA—RED CROSS SOCIETY, 1949-50 TO 1953-54.

Details.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Income .. .. .	£ 177,609	199,402	253,181	279,036	291,859
Expenditure .. .. .	£ 235,941	246,518	328,372	275,992	257,990
Gross Expenditure over Income	£ 58,332	47,116	75,191	..	..
Gross Income over Expenditure	£ ..	..	..	8,044	33,869
Accumulation Account ..	£ 822,432	777,522	705,695	540,191	596,398
Expenditure on—					
Blood Transfusion Service ..	£ 41,787	39,898	65,332	58,507	59,080
Convalescent Homes and Hostels*	£ 58,980	66,257	88,479	68,707	54,062
Handicraft and Curative Training	£ 13,953	13,905	15,754	9,325	9,002
Social Service and Welfare†	£ 15,003	12,704	14,892	15,138	13,182
Service and Repatriation Hospitals	£ ..	..	..	..	..
including Recreation Centres	£ 22,583	25,573	26,491	20,727	21,135
Civilian Hospitals and Civilian Relief	£ 8,196	7,251	8,009	8,150	8,816
Red Cross Branches and Companies	No. 383	468	451	458	463
Junior Red Cross Circles	No. 84	94	120	173	175
Blood Donations .. .. .	No. 27,962	33,587	38,500	39,131	41,152
Blood Distributed .. .. .	pints 17,288	18,604	24,023	28,195	33,791
Serum Distributed .. .. .	litres 2,288	1,904	2,336	2,164	2,310
Volumes in Red Cross Libraries	No. 33,858	35,680	34,360	33,083	34,061
Transport Mileage .. .. .	223,167	287,438	318,316	322,328	317,237
Admissions to Convalescent Homes	.. 2,354	2,043	2,097	..	814

\* Excluding buildings.

† In relation to ex-service personnel.

TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX AND SANATORIA.

Nursing and Medical Services attached to metropolitan and country Tuberculosis Chest Clinics supervise patients in Melbourne, Bendigo, Ballarat, and Geelong. Country tuberculosis nurses (5) continue to visit notified cases of tuberculosis and contacts in the Health areas and arrange for Mantoux testing of children.

The following table shows the accommodation of, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in Sanatoria during the years ended 31st December, 1953 and 31st December, 1954:—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA—ACCOMMODATION, ETC.—YEARS ENDED  
31ST DECEMBER, 1953 AND 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

Sanatorium.	Accommodation.				Admissions.				Discharges.				Deaths.			
	1953.		1954.		1953.		1954.		1953.		1954.		1953.		1954.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Metropolitan																
Greenvale .. .. .	..	236	..	236	70	127	71	117	24	149	66	130	2	4	3	4
Gresswell .. .. .	192	..	192	..	226	..	306	..	203	..	295	..	4	..	10	..
Stonnington (Annexe) .. .. .	48	..	48	..	133	345	87	160	132	391	81	189	16	1	10	4
Heatherton .. .. .	70	198	70	198												
Henry Watson House .. .. .	..	38	..	38												
Austin .. .. .	96	50	96	50	226	235	201	198	228	230	190	198	5	4	5	3
Fairfield Chest Unit .. .. .	25	25	25	25	15	189	..	131	16	154	..	113	..	..	..	3
Royal Park—Dunstan Chalet .. .. .	19	..	19	..	14	..	12	..	12	..	18	..	2	..	2	..
Country—																
Bendigo Chalet .. .. .	14	10	14	10	17	14	13	14	19	4	12	17	1	..	1	1
Ballarat Chalet .. .. .	10	10	10	10	21	19	19	12	18	22	17	10	3	2	1	2
Hamilton Chalet .. .. .	7	7	7	7	7	7	12	9	5	7	8	5	..	..	..	..
Horsham Chalet .. .. .	7	7	7	7	7	10	12	12	8	9	15	14	1	2	..	..
Wangaratta Chalet .. .. .	7	7	7	7	12	10	12	7	14	7	6	5	..	..	..	1
Mildura Chalet .. .. .	7	7	7	7	8	11	12	1	11	12	6	3	..	..	1	..
Sale Chalet .. .. .	20	20	20	20	17	34	22	15	27	26	20	28	..	2	1	..
Warrnambool Chalet .. .. .	7	13	7	13	5	15	14	12	13	12	9	..	..	2	1	..
Mooroopna Chalet .. .. .	15	14	15	14	32	6	23	11	15	19	18	24	..	3	..	..
Geelong Chalet .. .. .	15	15	15	15	18	16	18	22	23	19	15	21	..	1	1	2
Total .. .. .	559	657	559	657	831	1,008	834	721	768	1,061	779	766	34	19	37	21

In addition, nearly 400 beds are provided by the Commonwealth Repatriation Department for the accommodation of ex-service men and women at Heidelberg and Macleod.

X-ray Surveys of metropolitan and country populations are progressing, ten mobile units being in the field to date. Approximately 2,026,000 persons have been X-rayed.

The following table illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the years ended 31st December, 1953 and 31st December, 1954 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX ACTIVITIES, 1953 AND 1954.

Type of Service.	Metropolitan.				Country—	
	Central.		Prahran.		Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.	
	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.	1953.	1954.
New cases applying ..	3,635	6,508	2,205	2,257	1,137	1,174
Re-attendances (Old and New Cases) .. .. .	28,673	40,653	5,821	5,354	6,600	6,529
Visits to Patients' Homes by Nurses .. .. .	10,765	10,599	280	430	1,702	2,118
X-ray Examination—Films—						
Large .. .. .	15,189	22,327	5,644	4,684	4,524	4,945
Micro .. .. .	4,619	3,900	3,992	3,247	..	..
Screens .. .. .	2,331	1,567	..	..	340	227
A.P. Refills (Attendances) ..	4,260	1,604	..	..	406	164

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during each of the years 1945 to 1954 is given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—ATTENDANCES OF PATIENTS AT TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX.

Period.	Bureau.					Total.
	Central.	Prahran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Ballarat.	
Year ended 30th June—						
1945 .. .. .	25,232	588	950	1,874	694	29,338
1946 .. .. .	25,400	783	1,230	1,765	775	29,953
1947 .. .. .	27,389	1,694	1,495	1,613	836	33,027
1948 .. .. .	29,187	4,398	1,911	1,159	870	37,525
1949 .. .. .	30,603	7,403	2,164	1,299	767	42,236
Year ended 31st December—						
1950 .. .. .	34,599	6,029	3,340	1,096	1,617	46,681
1951 .. .. .	31,792	5,003	3,215	1,842	1,471	43,323
1952 .. .. .	33,048	5,734	3,287	1,893	1,338	45,300
1953 .. .. .	28,673	5,821	3,117	2,098	1,176	40,885
1954 .. .. .	40,653	5,354	2,599	2,459	1,471	52,536

**MENTAL HYGIENE AUTHORITY.**

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Mental Hygiene Authority for the years 1952, 1953 and 1954:—

**VICTORIA—PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE MENTAL HYGIENE AUTHORITY, 31ST DECEMBER, 1952, 1953 AND 1954.**

Location.	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (—).	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (—).
	1952.	1953.		1953.	1954.	
In State Hospitals .. ..	6,539	6,725	+ 186	6,725	6,758	+ 33
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals .. ..	903	900	— 3	900	709	— 191
Boarded Out .. ..	254	297	+ 43	297	309	+ 12
Absent Without Leave .. ..	11	14	+ 3	14	19	+ 5
In licensed Private Mental Homes .. ..	17	11	— 6	11	..	— 11
On Trial Leave from licensed Private Mental Homes .. ..	4	2	— 2	2	..	— 2
<b>Total Number of Certified Insane .. ..</b>	<b>7,728</b>	<b>7,949</b>	<b>+ 221</b>	<b>7,949</b>	<b>7,795</b>	<b>— 154</b>
<b>In Receiving Institutions .. ..</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>+ 7</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>— 26</b>
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>7,833</b>	<b>8,061</b>	<b>+ 228</b>	<b>8,061</b>	<b>7,881</b>	<b>— 180</b>
<b>Voluntary Boarders .. ..</b>	<b>323</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>+ 60</b>	<b>383</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>+ 111</b>
<b>Military mental cases, Bundoora (not included in other statistics)</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>+ 29</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>263</b>	<b>— 10</b>

There was a net decrease of 190 in the number of patients on the registers at the end of 1954, compared with 1953, made up of decreases of 154 certified insane, 26 in Receiving Institutions and 10 military mental cases, with an increase of 111 in voluntary boarders.

(There was a net increase of 317 in the number of patients on the registers at the end of 1953, compared with 1952, made up of increases of 221 certified insane, 60 voluntary boarders, 7 in Receiving Institutions and 29 military mental cases.)

The number of admissions to State Mental Hospitals for each of the years 1950 to 1954 was as follows:—

**VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—ADMISSIONS, 1953 AND 1954.**

Year.	Direct Admissions.			From Receiving Houses.			Total Admissions.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1953 .. ..	119	82	201	611	606	1,217	1,418
1954 .. ..	104	86	190	480	483	963	1,153

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, State Mental Hospitals for each of the years 1950 to 1954 are given below :—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—DISCHARGES AND DEATHS, 1950 TO 1954.

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1950 .. ..	217	220	437	235	251	486	923
1951 .. ..	260	310	570	269	294	563	1,133
1952 .. ..	272	340	612	274	290	564	1,176
1953 .. ..	374	300	674	257	258	515	1,189
1954 .. ..	372	389	761	254	279	533	1,294

**CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.**

Wards of Children's Welfare Department and Department for Reformatory schools.

This Department is responsible for the supervision of (a) children committed as wards of the Children's Welfare Department pursuant to the provisions of the Children's Welfare Act, and (b) those committed as wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools under the provisions of Part II., Division 2, Crimes Act (Juvenile Offenders).

Wards of the Children's Welfare Department.

In the main these represent children who have been committed through the Children's Courts under one or other of the several definitions of a "neglected child" (section 18), children committed to the Department on the application of relatives, &c., on the grounds that they are without means of support (section 24), and children who *ipso facto* become wards on default in payment by their parents under the Infant Life Protection provisions of the Act (section 103).

According to the circumstances existing at the time of committal, the children are boarded out for payment in private foster homes or with relatives, or are placed in institutions. Only one institution is governmentally controlled, viz., the Department's Receiving Depot at Royal Park, which is used as a clearing house. The remaining institutions are conducted by the various religious denominations or private charitable committees, and a capitation fee is paid for wards maintained therein.

With children in private foster homes or with relatives, boarding out payments do not continue beyond school leaving age (14 years). The children are then placed "on probation", i.e., without cost with their foster parents or relatives, or are placed in employment in service situations. Children in institutions are in due course either returned to their relatives or friends "on probation," transferred to private foster homes, or placed in service situations or other employment.

To provide ex-institutional inmates and wards of the Children's Welfare Department with suitable accommodation and guidance until they reach the self-supporting stage, several institutions are now conducting hostels for boys and girls under the Government Subsidy scheme agreed on in 1945. Under this plan the Children's Welfare Department subsidises each hostel to the extent of the difference between an inmate's contributions for board (i.e., the balance of his earnings after liberal deduction therefrom for pocket money, clothing reserve, &c) and the ascertained average weekly cost per head over all hostels of maintaining an inmate. An initial outfit allowance of £15 for boys and £12 10s. for girls is granted and fares to work, school fees, &c., are also met by the State. Expenditure on renovations and additions to premises is shared by the Government on the basis of a £2 for £1 grant.

The following hostels are at present operating under the plan:—

Name of Hostel.	Location.	Sex.	Management.
Lyndon Lodge .. ..	Auburn .. ..	Boys	Salvation Army
The Palms .. ..	Hawthorn .. ..	Boys	Burwood Boys' Home
St. Vincent de Paul's .. ..	South Melbourne	Boys	St. Vincent de Paul's Boys' Orphanage
Ballarat Orphanage .. ..	Ballarat .. ..	Boys	Ballarat Orphanage
Y.C.W. .. ..	Albert Park .. ..	Boys	Young Christian Workers' Association
Padua Hall .. ..	Kew .. ..	Boys	Franciscan Fathers
Church of England Girls' .. ..	Brighton .. ..	Girls	Church of England Girls' Home
McAuley House .. ..	South Melbourne	Girls	St. Vincent de Paul's Girls' Orphanage
St. Martin's House .. ..	Canterbury .. ..	Boys	St. John's Home for Boys
Homecrafts .. ..	East Melbourne	Girls	Mission of St. James and St. John

The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Children's Welfare Department at the end of each of the five years, 1950-1954:—

**VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—  
LOCATION OF WARDS.**

Year.	Boarded Out in Foster Homes.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	At Royal Park Depot.	In Government Subsidized Hostels.	In Other Institutions.	Total.
1950 ..	457	788	210	131	95	1,565	3,246
1951 ..	419	559	182	176	74	1,567	2,977
1952 ..	392	554	169	197	38	1,645	2,995
1953 ..	381	571	159	147	98	1,651	3,007
1954 ..	391	718	143	165	100	1,463	2,980

Boys committed as wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools are transferred for training as early as possible to the private reformatory school appropriate to their religion. They then come under the legal guardianship of the superintendent of the school who, in due course, may return them to their friends or relatives (who are required to enter into a good behaviour bond) or place them at service or in other employment. The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools at the end of each of the five years 1950-54.

VICTORIA—DEPARTMENT OF REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—  
LOCATION OF WARDS.

Year.	At Royal Park Reformatory School.	In Other Reformatory Schools.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	In Government Subsidized Hostels.	Total.
1950 ..	2	71	60	4	5	142
1951 ..	9	86	71	2	3	171
1952 ..	1	78	69	3	13	164
1953 ..	..	72	71	2	14	159
1954 ..	..	48	87	4	2	141

Part II. of the Children's Welfare Act (Infant Life Protection) provides that no person shall, for payment or reward, retain or receive into her care or charge in any home any infant under the age of five years for the purpose of nursing or maintaining such infant apart from its parents for more than three consecutive days, or for the purpose of adopting such infant, unless such person and such home are registered by the Department (section 95). Exemptions from the operation of this section in the case of a relative or for other special reasons may be granted by the Minister (section 107). Payments are to be made through the Secretary and in no other way (section 103). If payments fall into arrears for four weeks the child *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Children's Welfare

Infant Life Protection.

Department (section 103). The following is a statement of the operations of this part for the years ended 31st December, 1953 and 1954 :—

	1953.	1954.
Children already placed at 1st January .. .. .	303	235
Children placed during year .. .. .	532	485
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>720</b>
Discharged from operations of Part II. during year—		
Custody resumed by parent .. .. .	465	352
Made wards through arrears .. .. .	49	58
Deaths .. .. .	3	1
Attained five years of age .. .. .	43	31
Adopted .. .. .	40	37
Under supervision at 31st December .. .. .	235	241

Part III. of the *Maintenance Act* 1928 enables a mother whose child is without sufficient means of support, and who is unable to provide or to obtain by any available legal proceedings sufficient means of support for such child, to apply in the prescribed form to the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department for assistance for or towards the child's maintenance. "Child" means any person under the maximum age provided under the Education Acts at which attendance at school ceases to be compulsory.

The number of children in respect of whom assistance under the Maintenance Act was being afforded at the 31st December in the years 1950 to 1954, and the total amount of such assistance paid in each year, together with the average payments per child per week are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—MOTHERS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE UNDER THE MAINTENANCE ACT, 1950-1954.

Year.	Number of Children Assisted.	Total Amount of Assistance Payments.	Average Payment per Child per Week.
		£	s. d.
1950 .. .. .	2,119	62,457	10 9
1951 .. .. .	1,919	58,997	11 11
1952 .. .. .	2,048	70,193	14 10
1953 .. .. .	2,238	86,789	15 10
1954 .. .. .	2,478	105,181	17 10

## CHILD MIGRATION.

In implementation of the migration policy of the Commonwealth and State Governments, the Commonwealth Government in 1946 passed the Immigration (Guardianship of Children) Act which lays down the procedure to be adopted with respect to migrant children. The Act defines an immigrant child as any person under the age of 21 years who enters Australia unaccompanied by a relative and not for the purpose of living with a relative. Legal guardianship of such children is vested in the Minister for Immigration, who may delegate his powers under the Act to a State Authority. In so far as concerns immigrant children received into Victoria, such delegation has been conferred on the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department.

To further develop the flow of immigrant children to Australia, the Act referred to authorizes the Minister for Immigration to approve of organizations who are willing to act as custodians of such children. The intention is that organizations so approved will recruit suitable children in the United Kingdom and be responsible, under the supervision of the Minister and the State Authority, for their accommodation, care, education, and training. To avoid the utilization by migrant children of accommodation already established for Australian children, the State and Commonwealth Governments have each agreed to contribute to approved organizations one-third of the capital cost of the additional premises essential for United Kingdom children. In addition, an approved organization will receive the following *per capita* grants for the maintenance of migrant children:—

United Kingdom Government	10s. per week (sterling).
Commonwealth Government	10s. per week (Child Endowment).
State Government .. .. .	6s. per week.

The United Kingdom and State Government contributions are payable to age 14 years, or to any higher age not exceeding 16 years provided the children are still in the care of the organization and at school.

The following have applied to become approved organizations to receive child migrants and are now in active operation:—

- Northcote Training Farm, Bacchus Marsh.
- Nazareth House, Camberwell.
- Presbyterian Social Service Committee, "Durringhile", Tatura.
- Methodist Homes for Children, Cheltenham.
- St. John's Home for Boys, Canterbury.

The financial operations of the Children's Welfare Department for the years ended 31st December, 1952, 1953 and 1954, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—  
FINANCIAL OPERATIONS, YEARS ENDED 31st  
DECEMBER, 1952, 1953 AND 1954.

	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£
<b>EXPENDITURE.</b>			
<b>Children's Welfare Department—</b>			
Boarded-out children .. ..	83,006	104,011	140,347
Royal Park Depot .. ..	127,537	134,947	144,748
Subsidies to Hostels .. ..	4,139	3,437	1,262
Service Outfits .. ..	5,094	3,589	4,440
Department for Reformatory Schools ..	6,457	8,209	10,741
<b>Maintenance Act—</b>			
Children .. ..	70,194	86,789	105,181
Widows .. ..	337	320	338
<b>Migrant Children—</b>			
Payments to Approved Organizations	2,395	2,099	2,336
General Maintenance Items (Medical attention, School requisities, &c.)	6,913	13,136	7,672
Administration .. ..	52,081	53,995	60,048
Gross Expenditure .. ..	358,153	410,532	477,113
<b>RECEIPTS.</b>			
Maintenance Collections .. ..	21,604	21,697	21,099
Child Endowment .. ..	5,346	4,097	3,877
Miscellaneous Receipts .. ..	4,203	9,682	8,769
Net Expenditure .. ..	327,000	375,056	443,368

**THE VICTORIAN SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.**

The Society, dating back to 1896, is the only welfare agency in Victoria which exists specifically for the purpose of befriending children who are suffering from ill-treatment or gross neglect of their parents or guardians.

The objects of the Society are—

- (1) to protect children from cruelty and neglect;
- (2) to assist in the enforcing of laws for the protection of neglected and ill-treated children;
- (3) to befriend any child who, for any reason, stands in need of friendly service.

The methods adopted by the S.P.C.C. are—

- (1) cases of suspected ill-treatment or neglect of children are promptly investigated by experienced and sympathetic officers;
- (2) subsequent action is designed to secure the welfare of the children concerned. Prosecution of parents is a last resort. Every effort is made to hold families together. Constant inspectorial visitation achieves splendid results in many homes;
- (3) All complaints are treated with strict confidence.

The Society brightens the homes of many children in ways such as these—(1) Improving home environment; (2) Rebuilding broken homes; (3) Securing maintenance from defaulting parents; (4) Removal of children where necessary to better homes; (5) Arranging adoptions, and (6) Preventing child exploitation.

The number of cases investigated during the year ended 30th June, 1954, was 469 (506 during the year ended 30th June, 1953). Of these cases neglect alleged represented 60 per cent. (65); cruelty alleged 8 per cent. (6); behaviour problems 8 per cent. (9); miscellaneous cases involving welfare of children 24 per cent. (20). The corresponding percentages for the 506 cases dealt with in the year ended 30th June, 1953, appear in brackets.

The following table shows the Receipts, Expenditure, and number of cases dealt with during the five years ended 30th June, 1954:—

Details.	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts .. .. .	3,579	3,439	3,125	2,625	2,873
Expenditure .. .. .	1,944	1,972	2,264	2,455	2,594
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Cases investigated .. .. .	590	486	472	506	469

**MATERNAL AND INFANT WELFARE.**

The Maternal and Infant Welfare Movement commenced in Victoria with the establishment of Infant Welfare Centres in 1917.

These Centres are maintained by municipalities and subsidized by the Government. They are staffed by specially qualified sisters.

On the 31st December, 1954, there were 202 (200 in 1953) municipalities maintaining 515 (503 in 1953) centres, 134 (135 in 1953), of which were in the metropolitan area. During the twelve months prior to that date, 117,631 (114,450 in 1953) individual infants and children attended the centres. A service is now being provided for Migrant Hostels and Camps in the metropolitan and rural areas.

Vans have been provided for seven mobile services so that with the Victorian Baby Health Centres Association Travelling Baby Health Centre in the Mallee, a mobile service is provided for eight sparsely populated areas. An additional service for mothers in the "outback" is provided by the Department's Correspondence Scheme with its enrolments during the past year of 66 expectant mothers and 845 new babies.

**Ante Natal.** Ante Natal medical supervision centres, subsidized by the Government, were established in 1945, and now operate in 21 municipalities. During the year ended 31st December, 1954, 6,515 (6406 in 1953) individual expectant mothers paid 34,082 (35,534 in 1953), visits to these centres. Advice on pre-natal hygiene is also available in all Infant Welfare Centres.

**Pre-School.** At the 31st December, 1954, 207 (197 in 1953) Free Kindergartens, with an enrolment of approximately 10,977 (10,252 in 1953) children of pre-school age, were in receipt of subsidies from the Department of Health. In addition to £125,698 (£107,448 in 1953) paid to individual kindergartens and play centres the Kindergarten Training College received a grant of £10,000 (£10,000 in 1953). This College provides tuition for 184 (165 in 1953) students.

Pre-School Play Centres are now subsidized by the Government and function under the supervision of the Department of Health. Ninety-nine of these centres had been established by 31st December, 1954.

**Creches.** There are fourteen day nurseries supported by Government subsidies, voluntary effort and money derived from Trust funds. The children are admitted as a rule from the age of six weeks to six years. The total attendances for the year ended 31st December, 1954, were 94,999 (105,567 in 1953).

The total Government subsidy paid to Crèches and Day Nurseries amounted to £24,178 (£21,831 in 1953).

A child care course of one year's duration for students on nursing bursaries who are too young to commence nursing training is conducted by this Department. Students work in crèches and kindergartens and attend a weekly course of lectures arranged by this Department.

**Capital Grants.** Capital grants are available for Infant Welfare and Pre-School buildings on a £2 for £1 basis with a maximum grant of £2,250. Where a combined centre is erected a separate grant is given for each service.

Particulars of Infant Welfare Centres for the five years 1950-1954, are given in the following table:—

**VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.**

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
Municipalities .. ..	187	191	192	200	202
Centres .. .. .	443	466	479	503	515
Nurses in centres ..	205	214	220	227	234
Home visits .. ..	91,969	99,553	106,327	105,086	105,459
Total individual children ..	102,254	104,893	110,766	114,450	107,631
Total attendances ..	1,005,996	999,336	1,052,117	1,098,189	1,096,907

**Infant Welfare and Mothercraft Nurses.** There are nine Infant Welfare and Mothercraft training schools for nurses. Of these schools which are supported by voluntary organizations and church bodies, four only train Infant Welfare nurses.

Since the inauguration of the Department of Health Mothercraft Nurses' examinations in 1930, 2,057 trainees had satisfactorily passed to the end of December, 1954. The number of Mothercraft nurses who passed the examination during the year ended 31st December, 1954, was 136 (127 in 1953). Since the coming into force of the Mothercraft Nurses Act in February, 1951, 816 nurses have been registered.

During the year 1954, seven (8 in 1953) Mothercraft nurses received Department of Health certificates for pre-school Mothercraft nursing. One hundred and sixteen (109 in 1953) nurses have received certificates since the course was inaugurated in 1942.

There were 1,771 Infant Welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 31st December, 1954.

### SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICES.

**School  
Medical  
Services.**

Medical inspection of school children was established in 1909, one of the objectives being to examine medically each child in the State, three times during its school life.

At the routine inspection each child is weighed and measured, eyesight and hearing tested, and defects of teeth, throat, skin and posture noted. The child is undressed and examined as for life assurance, advised *re* general hygiene, cleanliness, &c. A school nurse assists each medical officer at the examination and is also responsible for the sending of defect notices to the parent. In many cases she also interviews the mother either at the school or in the home, thus acting as liaison between medical officer, parent, and teacher. School nurses also visit metropolitan schools at regular intervals to examine for pediculosis, cleanliness, and infectious skin conditions.

Special classes or schools are provided by the Education Department for physically and mentally handicapped children, such as the partially sighted, partially deaf, under-nourished, those with minor postural defects, speech handicaps, mentally retarded, &c. Children attending these classes are referred by the School Medical Officers and kept under regular medical supervision during their school career. Many children are given special appointments at headquarters on account of behaviour problems, truancy, &c. These cases are also investigated by a school nurse and, if necessary, sent on to the appropriate psychiatric clinic.

Visits to State Schools within the metropolitan area are maintained regularly. Extension of the service to children attending Registered Primary Schools in metropolitan districts and country areas, as medical staff became available, was agreed upon, in April, 1950, and these schools are now included in the regular itineraries.

**School Dental  
Service.** The School Dental Service was instituted as a section of the School Medical Service with the appointment of two dentists in 1921, increasing to nine in 1925, when dental treatment was afforded to children attending schools in the inner industrial suburbs of Melbourne and certain country districts.

Treatment was commenced in the first year of the child's school life and repeated regularly until 12 years of age, i.e. over the transition period during which the deciduous teeth are lost and the permanent teeth (except the "wisdom" teeth) are erupted.

In Melbourne, the children were brought to the School Dental Centre. In provincial districts, a convenient school was used as a temporary centre for the district, while rural areas were served by three dental vans, each equipped as a dental surgery.

Loss of staff during the World War II. period curtailed activities until 1951 when the dental service was established as a separate Division in the Health Department, and expansion of the service, with resumption and extension of previous activities was commenced.

The Central School Dental Centre was transferred to larger premises in 1951, and a second centre opened in North Fitzroy in 1953. Children are transported from schools to these centres by a contract bus service, for dental treatment which includes general anaesthetics administered by a medical officer of the School Health Service.

Three dental vans and three semi-trailer (two surgery) units were added to the mobile service by 1953, and the country service with these units extended through the Mallee, Gippsland and East Gippsland Regions, and parts of the Goulburn, Upper Goulburn, and Port Phillip Regions. A further two semi-trailers added in 1954 enabled extensions to be made into the Loddon and Corangamite Regions.

Dental care is also provided for homes, orphanages, and other institutions, and special groups of physically handicapped and mentally retarded children.

The Staff of the Dental Division comprised:—

	December 1953,	December 1954,
Dentists .. .. .	30	32
Dental Attendants .. .. .	30	37
Nursing Sisters .. .. .	1	2
Others .. .. .	4	6

The dental treatment was provided for 44,000 children in 1953, and for 48,000 in 1954.

#### MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The Lord Mayor's Fund was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, and was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930. The Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund was formed in 1873 and remained in operation until the year 1923, when the Hospital Saturday section was merged with the Lord Mayor's Fund, the Hospital Sunday section remaining a separate fund, but being carried on in close co-operation with the Lord Mayor's Fund. Since the date of the inauguration of the latter fund, subscriptions and donations amounting to £2,908,357 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £515,529.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1944-45 to 1953-54 were as follows:—

Year ended 30th June—	Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
1945 .. .. .	141,340	26,725	168,065
1946 .. .. .	112,716	22,910	135,626
1947 .. .. .	112,181	22,605	134,786
1948 .. .. .	110,298	21,291	131,589
1949 .. .. .	103,763	24,468	128,231
1950 .. .. .	148,354	23,091	171,445
1951 .. .. .	142,588	27,535	170,123
1952 .. .. .	147,841	28,595	176,436
1953 .. .. .	175,795	31,318	207,113
1954 .. .. .	172,195	32,027	204,222

**St. John Ambulance Association.**

The work carried on by this Association is described in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and of the injured. During the year ended 31st December, 1954, 3,766 (3,858 in 1953) students were instructed in first aid and nursing and of these 2,865 (2,803 in 1953) received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association in 1883, 166,369 (163,244 to 1953) persons have received awards. The Association medallion has been awarded to 14,917 (14,799 to 1953) students.

The following table shows various particulars relating to the Association's activities during each of the five years 1950 to 1954:—

Details.	Year ended 30th September—	Year ended 31st December—			
	1950.	1951.	1952.	1953.	1954.
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts .. .. .	5,651	3,949	5,240	4,995	6,009
Expenditure .. .. .	5,271	2,885	4,505	3,815	4,782
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Students Instructed .. .. .	4,551	3,792	3,500	3,858	3,766
Certificates Issued .. .. .	3,386	2,718	2,632	2,803	2,865

**Victorian Civil Ambulance Service.** The St. John Ambulance Association established the first ambulance transport service in the State of Victoria in the year 1886, and continued to operate it until the year 1916. The Council of St. John Ambulance Association then decided that much better results could be obtained if they separated the main object "That of teaching First Aid to the Injured" from the transport of sick or injured persons. They, therefore, formed a Company with its title "Victorian Civil Ambulance Service". This Company was registered under the "Companies Acts" as a Company "Not for Profit". This action completely separated the control, finance, and operation of the transport service from the St. John Ambulance Association.

The Victorian Civil Ambulance Service Council applied to the State Government for a subsidy, and when this was granted they then became responsible to the Charities Board of Victoria for the conduct of the Service.

This Company's registration continued until the year 1936, when at the request of the Charities Board of Victoria, the Service, without suspending operations, went into voluntary liquidation and by order of the Governor in Council became an incorporated body under the Hospitals and Charities Act.

The objects of the Society as outlined in the Constitution are:—

- (a) To organize, conduct, and control the work of rendering First Aid to, and the transport of, sick and injured persons within the State of Victoria, and to assist other persons, societies and institutions engaged in the same or similar work, and in particular the St. John Ambulance Association (Victoria Centre) and the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Victoria District).
- (b) To establish, conduct, and control ambulance centres and/or divisions or branches of the Society's service in any part of the State of Victoria.

The Society is managed by an Honorary Committee and Honorary Officers. The Committee is representative of the contributors:— St. John Ambulance Association and Brigade; Victorian Civil Ambulance Service (Country Division); Melbourne City Council; and Metropolitan Municipalities.

The registered Office and Headquarters is at 217 Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, from which point, all ambulance calls are dealt with. Sub-stations are situated in Prahran, Mordialloc, Footscray, Fairfield, Dandenong, and Camberwell. The forty-three ambulances attached to the Metropolitan Division are fitted with two-way wireless, thus greatly increasing the efficiency of the Service.

The Country Division of the Ambulance Service was established in the year 1923, by the opening of Country Branches at Yarram, Beechworth and Yarra Junction. Funds for this purpose were made

available from the "Edward Wilson Trust". As further grants were made available from the same source, more branches were opened and during the year ended 31st March, 1954, 42 branches, possessing 42 ambulances, operated throughout the State.

The locations of the Country Branches are shown hereunder:—

Alexandra	Flinders	Orbost
Apollo Bay	Goroke	Robinvale
Ararat	Heyfield	Rushworth
Beechworth	Kerang	St. Arnaud
Benalla	Korumburra	Seymour
Bright	Kyabram	Stawell
Camperdown and Heytesbury	Lakes Entrance	Tallangatta
Castlemaine	Leongatha	Terang
Chelsea	Lorne	Upper Yarra
Cobram	Maffra	Warracknabeal
Daylesford	Mansfield	Woodend
Echuca	Mornington	Wood's Point
Erica	Nhill	Yarram
Euroa	Noojee	
	Omeo	

During the year 1954, District Ambulance Services were formed at Horsham, Mildura, Sale, Swan Hill, Wangaratta and Warragul. These branches now cease to be part of the Victorian Civil Ambulance Service.

The following table furnishes information relating to the activities of the Victorian Civil Ambulance Service from 1st April, 1949, to 31st March, 1954:—

#### VICTORIAN CIVIL AMBULANCE SERVICE.

Details.	1949-50.	1950-51.	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Metropolitan—					
Stations .. .. .	5	5	7	7	7
Officers .. .. .	80	90	104	132	150
Ambulances .. .. .	27	33	35	38	43
Calls .. .. .	47,529	51,044	58,071	62,740	73,624
Accidents attended .. .. .	8,741	9,787	10,106	9,913	8,845
Mileage .. .. .	499,397	552,739	570,355	588,524	746,216
Patients conveyed without pay- ment .. .. .	10,518	18,380	23,355	26,099	26,588
	£	£	£	£	£
Receipts* .. .. .	49,042	61,030	94,775	122,876	165,895
Government Grant (Main- tenance) .. .. .	1,500	2,625	9,625	10,500	11,628
Expenditure .. .. .	50,163	66,170	97,298	124,137	171,330
Country—	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Stations .. .. .	47	48	46	46	42
Ambulances .. .. .	48	52	47	47	42
Calls .. .. .	7,383	5,199	3,394	3,046	2,694
Mileage .. .. .	211,538	168,304	155,401	157,295	137,235

\* Includes Government Grant.

**Royal Humane Society.**

The objects of the Royal Humane Society of Australasia were published in the *Year-Book* for 1942-43, page 295.

During the year ended 30th June, 1954, 84 (115 in 1952-53) applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 23 (33 in 1952-53) certificates of merit, 35 (29 in 1952-53) bronze medals, and 8 (10 in 1952-53) silver medals were granted.

**Royal Life Saving Society.**

With the object of minimizing the loss of life from drowning, a branch of the Royal Life Saving Society was established in Melbourne in 1904. A statement of the aims of the society was published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 237.

During the year ended 31st May, 1954, the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 7,148 (8,702 in 1952-53); the total income was £3,210 (£2,714 in 1952-53) and the expenditure £2,939 (£2,186 in 1952-53).

**Society for the Protection of Animals.**

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1954, 1,480 (1,283 in 1952-53) cases were dealt with, of which 315 (382 in 1952-53) were connected with cruelty to horses and 628 (519 in 1952-53) to dogs. There were 36 (26 in 1952-53) prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, and fines were imposed in 30 (24 in 1952-53) instances. The receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1954, amounted to £13,934 (£9,115 in 1952-53) and the expenditure to £14,243 (£14,228 in 1952-53).

**COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL SERVICES.**

The Social Services Consolidation Act (No. 26 of 1947) which came into operation on 1st July, 1947, and which has since been amended by Nos. 38 and 69 of 1948, No. 16 of 1949, Nos. 6 and 26 of 1950, No. 22 of 1951, Nos. 41 and 107 of 1952 and No. 51 of 1953, repealed the various legislative enactments relating to Age (previously Old-age), Invalid and Widows' Pensions, Maternity Allowances, Child Endowment, and Unemployment and Sickness Benefits and, while following in general the Acts repealed, considerably liberalized many of their provisions.

The history and details of the legislation relating to the pensions and allowances covered by the Consolidation Act will be found in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

All benefits are paid out of the National Welfare Fund. This is financed by annual appropriations from Consolidated Revenue of amounts equal to the expenditure from the Fund. Total expenditure in Victoria on payment of benefits provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act for the year ended 30th June, 1954, was £36,863,003 (£35,551,051 in 1952-53).

## AGE PENSIONS.

**Eligibility and Rate of Pension.**

*Persons Eligible.*—Men, 65 years of age and over, and women, 60 years of age and over, who have resided in Australia for a continuous period of twenty years. Any periods of absence during which a person's home remained in Australia, and absences in certain other circumstances, are counted as residence. Absence in a Territory of the Commonwealth does not break continuity of residence.

*Persons Disqualified.*—

- (a) Aliens (except women who, prior to marriage, were British subjects).
- (b) Any person who has deprived himself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension.
- (c) Any person, except a blind person, in receipt of income of £5 10s. per week or more, or £11 per week for a married couple. See "Effect of Income" below as to income disregarded. See "Blind Persons" below for provisions relating to the blind.
- (d) Any person who owns property, including cash or money in bank, to the value of more than £1,250 (£2,500 for married persons). The value of a home, furniture and personal effects is disregarded, also surrender values of life assurance policies up to £750, the capital value of any contingent interest, the present value of any reversionary interests, certain interests in the estates of deceased persons, and the amount of any Commonwealth war gratuity.
- (e) Any person who is not of good character, is not deserving of a pension, who has deserted his wife (or her husband) or children for six months or upwards immediately preceding the date of the claim.

*Aboriginal Natives.*—Pensions may be granted only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who have been granted exemption from State control laws or who, in any State where exemption is not provided for, are considered suitable persons to receive pensions by virtue of character, standard of intelligence, and social development.

*Maximum Rate of Pension.*—£182 per annum (£3 10s. per week).

**Effect of Income.**

Permissible income is £104 per annum (£2 per week). Any income in excess of this amount is deducted from the pension. The income of a married person is deemed to be half the total income of husband and wife. A special income provision applies to married couples where one member is not a pensioner. In the case of a married couple, only one of whom is a pensioner,

permissible income is now £5 per week thus making the total of income plus pension £8 10s. per week. Where the joint income from other sources exceeds £5 per week, the pension is reduced by half the amount of the excess income, but the total amount which may be received by way of pension and other income cannot exceed £11 per week.

“Income” does not include gifts or allowances from children or parents, benefits from friendly societies, payments in respect of illness, infirmity or old-age from any trade union, the value of State food relief, child endowment or other payments for or in respect of children, benefits under the Hospital Benefits, Pharmaceutical Benefits, and Tuberculosis Acts and interest on Commonwealth war gratuities.

Additional income of £26 per annum (10s. per week) is allowed in respect of each dependent child under 16 years of age, less the amount of any payment (apart from child endowment and child's allowance) received for the child.

The annual rate of pension is reduced by £1 for every complete £10 of the net value of property (excluding the home, &c.) above £150 up to £450, and by £2 for every complete £11 of the remainder (if any) of the value of the property. The value of property of a married person is deemed to be half the total value of property of husband and wife.

*Blind Persons.*—Blind persons are eligible to receive, free of means test, a pension of £3 per week provided other conditions of eligibility are satisfied. Additional pension up to 10s. per week may be paid subject to the income means test applicable to blind persons which allows income of £10 per week before pension is reduced. The property means test is the same as for age and invalid pensions.

## INVALID PENSIONS.

*Persons Eligible.*—Persons 16 years of age and over, who have resided in Australia for a continuous period of five years, and who are permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind. For the purposes of the residential qualification, the position in regard to absences is the same as for age pensions.

A person is deemed to be permanently incapacitated for work if the degree of his permanent incapacity is not less than 85 per cent. The claimant must have become permanently incapacitated or permanently blind while in Australia or during a temporary absence from Australia, but this condition is waived if he has resided in Australia continuously or otherwise for not less than twenty years.

*Persons Disqualified.*—

- (a) The same as in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) for age pensions.
- (b) A person who is not deserving of a pension.
- (c) A person who has an enforceable claim against any person under any law or contract, for adequate compensation in respect of his permanent incapacity or blindness.

*Aboriginal Natives.*—The same as for age pensions.

*Maximum Rate of Pension.*—The same as for age pensions.

*Effect of Income and property.*—The same as for age pensions.

*Blind Persons.*—See details of means test under Age Pensions.

**Wife's Allowance.** An allowance, not exceeding £91 per annum (£1 15s. per week), may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner (or age pensioner who is permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind) if she is living with her husband and is not receiving an invalid or age pension or a service pension. The rate of the allowance is affected by income and property on the same basis as an age or invalid pension.

**Child's Allowance.** An allowance of £29 18s. per annum (11s. 6d. per week) in respect of one child under the age of sixteen years may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner, or age pensioner who is permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind, if she is living with her husband and has the custody, care and control of the child and is not receiving a service pension. This allowance may be granted where the wife is ineligible on account of income or property for a wife's allowance.

A child's allowance may also be granted to any invalid pensioner who has the custody, care and control of a child under the age of sixteen years, but where both husband and wife are invalid pensioners (living together) the child's allowance is payable only to the wife.

**Funeral Benefits.** A funeral benefit of £10, or the actual cost of the funeral if less than £10, is payable to the person who has paid, or is liable to pay, the cost of the funeral of an age or invalid pensioner or a claimant who, but for his death, would have been granted an age or invalid pension.

Where the cost of the funeral has been partly met by a payment from a contributory funeral benefit fund (other than a contributory funeral benefit fund of a friendly society), funeral benefit is payable to the extent of the amount by which the cost of the funeral exceeded the amount paid from the fund, but not exceeding £10. Funeral benefit is not payable to a person administering a contributory funeral benefit fund.

The number of funeral benefits paid during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1954, was 8,269 (7,537 in 1952-53), the total cost being £82,317 (£70,483 in 1952-53).

**Pensioners, 1944-45 to 1953-54.** The numbers of age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1954, were as follows:—Age pensioners—men, 29,799 (28,493 in 1952-53); women, 68,411 (64,860 in 1952-53); total, 98,210 (93,353 in 1952-53). Invalid pensioners—men, 8,977 (8,281 in 1952-53); women, 6,905 (6,738 in 1952-53); total, 15,882 (15,019 in 1952-53).

The numbers of age and invalid pensioners and the amount expended as at 30th June, for each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1954, are shown in the following statement:—

VICTORIA—AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS,  
1944-45 TO 1953-54.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Pensioners at End of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.*
	Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
				£
1945 .. .. .	67,240	12,598	79,838	5,604,739
1946 .. .. .	69,308	13,599	82,907	6,822,535
1947 .. .. .	74,770	14,673	89,443	7,350,132
1948 .. .. .	78,057	15,165	93,222	9,144,961
1949 .. .. .	81,753	15,575	97,328	10,244,132
1950 .. .. .	84,831	14,328	99,159	10,783,587
1951 .. .. .	86,210	13,977	100,187	11,958,534
1952 .. .. .	87,845	13,973	101,818	14,448,996
1953 .. .. .	93,353	15,019	108,372	17,475,838
1954 .. .. .	98,210	15,882	114,092	19,978,458

\* Includes payments to Benevolent Asylums and Hospitals for maintenance of pensioners, and to pensioner inmates of these institutions and from 1943-44 includes allowances to wives of invalid pensioners.

### REHABILITATION.

Treatment and training are provided for suitable persons receiving, or qualified for, invalid pensions, unemployment or sickness benefits or tuberculosis allowances.

The pension, benefit, or allowance continues during treatment. When training is commenced a rehabilitation allowance is paid (on the same scale as invalid pension, with allowances for wife and child), together with a training allowance of £1 5s. per week.

Fares and living away from home allowances may also be paid.

A person undergoing treatment or training may be provided with artificial replacements, surgical aids and appliances, also with books, equipment and tools of trade costing not more than £30. He is, however, required to pay the cost of any such article which he retains for his own use, but payment may be made by small instalments after he has commenced employment.

Expenditure on Community Rehabilitation during the year ended 30th June, 1954, was £155,675 (£167,424 in 1952-53).

### WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Eligibility and Rates of Pension.

*Persons Eligible.*—A widow's pension is payable to a woman according to the following qualifications:—

Class A.—A Widow who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years. Maximum pension £3 15s. 0d. per week.

Class B.—A Widow, not less than 50 years of age, who has not the custody, care and control of a child under the age of 16 years. Maximum pension £2 17s. 6d. per week.

Class C.—A Widow, under 50 years of age, who has not the custody, care and control of a child under 16 years, but is in necessitous circumstances within 26 weeks after the death of her husband. Maximum pension £2 17s. 6d. per week (payable for not more than 26 weeks immediately after death of husband).

Class D.—A Woman whose husband has been serving a term of imprisonment for at least six months, and who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years, or is not less than 50 years of age. Maximum pension £2 17s. 6d. per week.

The term "widow" includes, in appropriate cases, a deserted wife, a divorcee, a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane, and certain dependent females under conditions specified by the Act.

No woman may receive at the same time both a widow's pension and an age pension or an invalid pension.

The residential qualification is five years' continuous residence in Australia immediately prior to the date of lodgment of the claim. This period is reduced to one year where the claimant and her husband were residing in Australia when the husband died. Absences in certain circumstances may be regarded as periods of residence.

Widows' pensions are payable subject to a means test which operates on both income and property.

A widow in Class A, B, or D may have income (from all sources) amounting to £104 per annum, and still receive a full pension. Where the income exceeds £104 per annum the pension is reduced by the amount of the excess.

Additional income of £26 per annum (10s. per week) is allowed in respect of each dependent child under 16 years of age, less the amount of any payment (apart from child endowment) received for the child.

A Class B or Class D widow may have property (excluding her home, &c.) to the value of £159 and receive a full pension subject to any deduction on account of excess income. The annual rate of pension is reduced on a sliding scale where the value of such property exceeds £159 but is less than £1,250. If a woman in Class B or D has property (excluding her home, &c.) valued at more than £1,250 she is disqualified for a pension.

There is no sliding scale for reduction of pension in respect of the value of the property owned by a widow in Class A, but she is ineligible for a pension if she owns property (excluding her home, &c.) worth more than £1,500. A widow in Class A may thus have property valued at any amount up to £1,500 in addition to her home, &c., and receive a pension of £195 per annum, subject to any deduction on account of excess income.

The above provisions do not apply to a Class C widow who is entitled to a pension only if she is in necessitous circumstances.

The definitions of "income" and "property" for widows' pensions purposes are the same as those for age pensions.

*Persons Disqualified.*—In addition to disqualifications arising from certain income and property, the following persons are also disqualified from receiving widows' pensions :—

- (a) Aliens (except women who, prior to marriage, were British subjects).
- (b) Any claimant who has deprived herself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension.
- (c) A deserted wife or a divorcee who has not taken reasonable action to obtain maintenance from her husband or former husband.
- (d) A woman who is in receipt of an age or invalid pension or a war widow's pension.
- (e) A woman who is not of good character or deserving of a pension.

The number of widow pensioners and the amount expended as at 30th June, for each year during the ten years ended 30th June 1954, are shown in the following statement:—

VICTORIA—WIDOWS' PENSIONS, 1944-45 TO 1953-54.

Year ended 30th June—	Number of Widow Pensioners.	Amount Paid in Pensions.
		£
1945 .. .. .	12,614	799,652
1946 .. .. .	12,748	899,747
1947 .. .. .	12,311	941,734
1948 .. .. .	11,259	1,022,432
1949 .. .. .	11,164	1,120,589
1950 .. .. .	11,060	1,099,158
1951 .. .. .	10,631	1,195,631
1952 .. .. .	10,222	1,390,309
1953 .. .. .	10,173	1,534,582
1954 .. .. .	9,827	1,567,098

RECIPROCITY WITH THE UNITED KINGDOM.

An agreement between the Governments of the United Kingdom and Australia came into operation on 7th January, 1954.

Former residents of the United Kingdom living in Australia and receiving United Kingdom retirement or contributory old-age pensions are entitled generally, subject to the means test and other conditions apart from residence, to have their United Kingdom pension supplemented by an Australian pension to bring the total up to the rate for Australian citizens.

The requirement of twenty years' continuous residence is waived in all cases.

Widows' pensions, invalid pensions, child endowment, and unemployment and sickness benefits are also covered by the agreement.

In return, the United Kingdom grants insurance credits based on residence in Australia to all persons who become permanently resident in the United Kingdom, thus giving them eligibility for the various United Kingdom benefits.

There is also provision to enable Australian age and widow pensioners or recipients of child endowment to receive their pensions or endowment while temporarily absent in the United Kingdom.

RECIPROCITY WITH NEW ZEALAND.

A reciprocal scheme exists between the Commonwealth and New Zealand with regard to age, invalid, and widows' pensions, child endowment and unemployment and sickness benefits, covering both permanent and temporary change of residence.

Residence in one country counts as residence in the other in relation to entitlement to benefits in which a residential qualification applies.

### MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

**Persons Eligible.** A maternity allowance is payable to a woman who, at the date of giving birth to a child is residing in Australia, or is in Australia and satisfies the Director-General of Social Services that she intends to remain in Australia.

The allowance is payable in respect of a birth which occurred on board a ship proceeding from a port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth to another port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth. The allowance is also payable in respect of a birth which occurred on board a ship proceeding to Australia, provided the mother has not received and is not entitled to receive a maternity benefit in respect of the birth under the law of any other country.

Payment may be made in respect of the birth of a stillborn child, or a child which lived for less than twelve hours, if the period of intra-uterine life of the child was not less than five and a half calendar months.

(Payment may be made to qualified Australians temporarily abroad who fulfil particular requirements.)

There is no means test.

*Alien Mothers.*—Payment may be made to an alien mother if—

- (a) she was a British subject prior to her marriage, or
- (b) she or her husband resided in Australia for at least twelve months immediately prior to the birth of the child. Payment in respect of a birth which occurs within twelve months after the mother's arrival in Australia may be made at the end of that twelve months, unless the Director-General is satisfied that the woman is likely to remain in Australia, in which case it may be paid immediately.

*Aboriginal Natives.*—Payment may be made only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who have been granted exemption from State control laws or who, in any State where exemption is not provided for, are considered suitable persons to receive the allowance by virtue of character, standard of intelligence, and social development.

Allowances which may be paid are as follows:—

- (a) Where there are no other children—£15.
- (b) Where there are one or two other children—£16.
- (c) Where there are three or more other children—£17 10s.

**Amount of Allowances.**

“Other children” means children born prior to the birth which is the subject of the claim, who, on the date of that birth, are under the age of sixteen years and of whom the claimant has the custody, care and control.

An extra £5 is paid for each additional child in multiple births.

An advance payment of £5 on account of a maternity allowance may be made, upon application, four weeks prior to the expected date of the birth. The balance is payable immediately after the birth.

Details of allowances granted during the ten years ended 30th June, 1954, are shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—MATERNITY ALLOWANCES GRANTED, 1944-45  
TO 1953-54.

Year ended 30th June—	Number Granted During Year.	Amount Paid in Allowances During Year.	Total Claims Granted.	Total Amount Paid in Allowances.
		£		£
1945 .. ..	40,582	647,970	960,323	5,580,375
1946 .. ..	40,991	649,648	1,001,314	6,230,023
1947 .. ..	50,730	787,843	1,052,044	7,017,866
1948 .. ..	46,027	744,232	1,098,071	7,762,098
1949 .. ..	46,309	732,621	1,144,380	8,494,719
1950 .. ..	49,035	777,920	1,193,415	9,272,639
1951 .. ..	50,210	807,030	1,243,625	10,079,669
1952 .. ..	52,144	835,643	1,295,769	10,915,312
1953 .. ..	55,297	872,085	1,351,066	11,787,397
1954 .. ..	54,219	874,376	1,405,285	12,661,773

Maternity allowances became payable from 10th October, 1912. A survey of the legislative enactments affecting maternity allowances during the period 1912-1944 appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1944-1945, page 456.

### CHILD ENDOWMENT.

The Commonwealth Government commenced to pay child endowment in July, 1941, at the rate of 5s. per week for each dependant child in excess of one under the age of 16 years in each family. From 26th June, 1945, the weekly amount was increased to 7s. 6d., and, from 9th November, 1948, to 10s. Amending legislation passed in June, 1950, provided endowment for the first child under 16 years of age at the rate of 5s. per week from 20th June, 1950. The rate for each additional child under that age is 10s. per week. Endowment of 10s. per week is paid in respect of all children under 16 years of age in approved institutions. The total amount paid in Victoria for the year ended 30th June, 1954, was £13,164,984 (£13,995,987 in 1952-53).

## VICTORIA—CHILD ENDOWMENT.

AS AT 30TH JUNE, 1952, 1953, AND 1954.

Rate per Endowment Period (Four Weeks).	Number of Claims.		
	1952.	1953.	1954.
£1 (one child family) .. ..	124,933	125,601	127,261
£3 (two child family) .. ..	110,806	115,622	120,031
£5 (three child family) .. ..	50,446	53,767	56,232
£7 (four child family) .. ..	19,730	21,206	22,404
£9 (five child family) .. ..	7,169	7,696	8,261
£11 (six child family) .. ..	2,771	2,888	2,908
£13 (seven child family) .. ..	955	1,001	1,075
£15 (eight child family) .. ..	474	469	537
£17 (nine child family) .. ..	193	183	179
£19 (ten child family) .. ..	75	91	100
£21 (eleven child family) .. ..	21	20	15
£23 (twelve child family) .. ..	12	12	14
£25 (thirteen child family) .. ..	4	3	3
£27 (fourteen child family) .. ..	2	2	2
Total claims current .. ..	317,591	328,561	339,022
Number of endowed children .. ..	642,693	672,525	699,220
Average number of endowed children per claim .. ..	2.02	2.047	2.062
Average annual liability per claim .. ..	£ s. d. 39 12 4	£ s. d. 40 4 4	£ s. d. 40 12 6

NOTE.—Figures in the above table exclude endowment in respect of children in institutions who numbered 4,795 in 1952, 4,710 in 1953 and 4,734 in 1954.

## UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Males, over 16 and under 65 years of age, and females, over 16 and under 60 years of age, who have been resident in Australia for the twelve months immediately preceding a claim for benefit or satisfy the Director-General of Social Services that they intend to remain permanently in Australia, are eligible to receive benefits. A person in receipt of an age, invalid, or widow's pension or a service pension (as distinct from a war pension) under the Australian Soldier's Repatriation Act, is ineligible for benefit.

*Unemployment Benefit.*—In order to qualify for an unemployment benefit a person must establish that he—

- (a) is unemployed and that his unemployment is not due to his being a direct participant in a strike ;
- (b) is capable and willing to undertake suitable work ; and
- (c) has taken reasonable steps to obtain such work (registration with the local Commonwealth District Employment Officer is necessary).

*Sickness Benefit.*—In order to qualify for a sickness benefit a person must establish that he—

- (a) is temporarily incapacitated for work by reason of sickness or accident ; and
- (b) has thereby suffered a loss of salary, wages, or other income.

*Married Women.*—A married woman is not qualified to receive a sickness benefit if it is reasonably possible for her husband to maintain her. Where her husband is able to maintain her only partially, benefit may be paid at such rate as the Director-General considers reasonable in the circumstances.

*Aboriginal Natives.*—Benefit may be paid only to those aboriginal natives of Australia who are considered suitable by reason of character, standard of intelligence and social development.

**Rates of Benefit.**

The weekly rates of benefit and limits of other permissible income are shown in the following table:—

**AUSTRALIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.**

Age and Conjugal Condition.	Maximum Weekly Benefit.				Permissible Weekly Income.
	Claimant.	Dependent Spouse.	One Child.	Total.	
Unmarried—	s.	s.	s.	s.	s.
16 years and under	}	30	..	30	}
17 years ..					
17 years and under	}	..	..	40	}
18 years ..					
18 years and under	}	..	..	50	}
21 years ..					
21 years and over	}	40	5	95	}
Married .. ..					

NOTE.—When an unmarried or widowed person has the custody, care, and control of, or maintains a child under the age of sixteen years, the total benefit may be increased by 5s. per week.

Additional benefit (not exceeding £2 per week) may be paid in respect of a claimant's housekeeper where no such benefit is payable in respect of his wife, provided there are one or more children under sixteen years of age in the home and the woman is substantially dependent on the claimant but is not employed by him.

**Effect of Income.** Any income in excess of the permissible income shown in the preceding table is deducted from the rate of benefit.

For unemployment benefit purposes, the income of the claimant and his spouse and the unearned income of any children under the age of sixteen years living with them are taken into account but where the claimant and his spouse are permanently separated any income received by the spouse may be disregarded.

"Income" does not include child endowment or other payments for or in respect of children, or benefits under the Hospital Benefits, Pharmaceutical Benefits, and Tuberculosis Acts.

For sickness benefit purposes, there is disregarded £2 per week of any payment received from an approved friendly society or other similar approved body in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable.

**Compensation.** For sickness benefit purposes, any amount received, or which a claimant is entitled to receive, in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable, by way of compensation (including Workers' Compensation), damages, or payments under any law (except those for which a claimant has made contributions) is not taken into account as income but is deducted from the rate of sickness benefit otherwise payable. Pending the determination of a claim for compensation, damages, &c., sickness benefit may be paid subject to the condition that the whole or any part of the benefit shall be repaid to the Commonwealth out of any compensation, damages, &c., recovered.

**Payment of Benefit.** Unemployment benefit is payable from and including the seventh day after the day on which the claimant became unemployed or lodged his claim, whichever is the later, and continues only so long as he is able and willing to undertake suitable work and is otherwise qualified.

Sickness benefit is payable from and including the seventh day after the day on which the claimant became incapacitated, provided a claim is lodged within six weeks after that day. If the claim is not lodged within six weeks, payment commences from the date of lodgment of the claim except where the Director-General determines otherwise.

**Vocational  
Training.**

A claimant for unemployment or sickness benefit or a person receiving benefit may be required to undergo a course of vocational training as a condition to the grant of benefit or continuance of payment.

**Special  
Benefit.**

A special benefit may, at the discretion of the Director-General, be granted to a person not qualified for unemployment or sickness benefit and who is not in receipt of any age, invalid, or widow's pension, or a service pension, if by reason of age, physical or mental disability, or domestic circumstances, or for any other reason, he is unable to earn a sufficient livelihood for himself and his dependants, if any.

The following table gives particulars of claims, amounts paid, &c., during the years ended 30th June, 1953 and 1954:—

**VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS  
DURING THE YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1953 AND  
1954.**

	1953.		1954.	
	Claims Granted.	Benefits Paid.	Claims Granted.	Benefits Paid.
Unemployment ..	39,245	£ 923,732	9,590	£ 507,676
Sickness .. ..	11,046	370,354	12,843	405,414
Special .. ..	8,123	140,566	8,313	127,041
Total ..	58,414	1,434,652	30,746	1,040,131

**REPATRIATION.**

An outline of the activities leading up to the formation of the Commonwealth Repatriation Commission appears in *Commonwealth Year-Books* Nos. 15 page 931 and 17 page 598. The main activities of the Commission in 1951-52 were confined to the grant, review and assessment of war and service pensions, the provision of medical treatment, payment of re-employment allowances, vocational training, renewal and repair of artificial replacements and surgical appliances, the grant and review of sustenance and living allowances and the administration of the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.

Particulars of war and service pensions in Victoria are shown below :—

VICTORIA—WAR AND SERVICE PENSIONS,  
1944-45 TO 1953-54.

Year ended June—	Members of Forces.	Dependants.		Total.	Amount Paid during Year.
		Of Incapacitated Members.	Of Deceased Members.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	£
<i>War Pensions.</i>					
1945 .. ..	30,138	37,334	10,755	78,227	3,245,026
1946 .. ..	36,020	43,849	13,157	93,026	3,640,063
1947 .. ..	39,711	48,101	13,167	100,979	4,081,324
1948 .. ..	41,931	51,648	13,285	106,864	4,436,021
1949 .. ..	44,025	55,737	13,486	113,248	5,249,295
1950 .. ..	46,553	61,297	13,743	121,593	5,857,536
1951 .. ..	49,115	69,054	13,730	131,899	7,303,282
1952 .. ..	51,045	75,486	13,735	140,266	9,184,196
1953 .. ..	52,785	81,464	13,817	148,066	9,918,742
1954 .. ..	54,213	86,456	13,941	154,610	10,600,721
<i>Service Pensions.</i>					
1945 .. ..	2,145	770	378	3,293	163,715
1946 .. ..	2,296	713	393	3,402	206,275
1947 .. ..	2,589	751	383	3,723	239,649
1948 .. ..	2,793	822	370	3,985	288,084
1949 .. ..	2,736	781	373	3,890	322,659
1950 .. ..	2,784	735	364	3,883	347,274
1951 .. ..	2,696	715	356	3,767	332,924
1952 .. ..	2,661	757	368	3,786	382,584
1953 .. ..	3,029	846	398	4,273	503,946
1954 .. ..	3,308	909	409	4,626	601,579

Further statistical details relating to repatriation for the years 1951-52, 1952-53 and 1953-54 are as follows:—

—	1951-52.	1952-53.	1953-54.
	No.	No.	No.
Medical Treatment—			
Repatriation In-patients at end of year ..	1,774	1,664	1,468
In-patients treated in Institutions operated by the Repatriation Department—*			
Repatriation cases .. .. .	8,837	9,364	9,377
Service Personnel, &c. .. .. .	2,315	2,081	1,864
Admissions of Repatriation cases to insti- tutions operated by other authorities ..	888	1,162	1,287
Attendances of Out-patients* .. .. .	108,495	86,117	87,252
	£	£	£
Medical treatment expenditure .. .. .	2,343,731	2,591,779	2,759,758
Soldiers' children education expenditure ..	57,936	71,175	90,711

\* Due to a change in the basis of compilation, these figures are not strictly comparable with figures for previous years.