

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land in the southern part of Carlton. The University consists of a Council of 31 members and a Convocation consisting of all graduates.

Statutory provision has been made for an endowment of £45,000 annually from 1st July, 1923. An additional grant of £8,500 for special purposes is to be made for each of the ten financial years commencing 1st July, 1923. Other grants are £6,500 for a School of Agriculture, £3,500 for a Veterinary School, and £2,500 for a Chair of Obstetrics: all of which are, however, now being subjected to a temporary reduction of 20 per cent. In addition to grants from the Government the council derives income from fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates and diplomas.

A University Students Loan Fund has been established to which a payment of £10,000 has been made from the Assurance Fund under the Transfer of Land Acts and a grant of £2,000 was made annually from the Consolidated Revenue Fund for five years from 1st July, 1923. Out of this Fund loans may be made to students who are nominated by a committee of three members of the Council appointed for the purpose of making nominations.

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. In the matter of large individual gifts from private persons the Melbourne University does not compare

favorably with other Universities. Still, the investments at present held as the result of private benefactions amount to about £562,000. In addition, gifts, which have been spent on buildings and equipment, amount to about £49,000.

Examinations. The system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was superseded in December, 1917, by examinations for School Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates. Under the regulations the rights of all candidates who have passed any subject of the junior or senior public examinations are reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1931 :—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1931.

	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
Examination—			
Intermediate	7,805	3,412	43·72
Leaving	4,699	1,877	39·94

There is included in the above, a number of candidates, in whose cases Headmasters' Certificates were accepted as satisfying the requirements of the examination, the numbers being—Intermediate 1,046; Leaving 551.

Degrees. The number of degrees taken in 1931 was 471, all of which were direct, as against an average of 468 per annum for the preceding five years. During those five years all the degrees obtained were direct and none *ad eundem*. Of the total of 13,047 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 2,080 have been conferred on women.

Students attending lectures, and undergraduates admitted. Of the 3,101 students who attended lectures in 1931, 957 were students in Arts, Education and Journalism, 275 in Laws, 222 in Engineering, 475 in Medicine, 276 in Science, 243 in Music, 50 in Dental Science, 420 in Commerce, 43 in Agriculture, 3 in Public Health, 75 in Architecture, 3 in Veterinary Science, and 12 in Public Administration, and 47 were doing Science Research Work. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the last five years was as follows:—1927, 664; 1928, 612; 1929, 621; 1930, 678; and 1931, 686.

**University
finance.**

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year 1931 is given below :—

**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE
UNIVERSITY, 1931.**

—	General Account.	Other Accounts.	All Departments.
Receipts—	£	£	£
Government Grants ..	40,500	28,876	69,376
Lecture, Degree, Examination, and other Fees ..	75,293	21,514	96,807
Other sources, including benefactions ..	14,206	60,528	74,734
Total	129,999	110,918	240,917
Expenditure	118,218	74,797	193,015

Included in the amounts shown above, the University received £28,050 from private benefactors, to be held in trust for scholarships and other purposes.

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The Trinity, Ormond, Queen's, and Newman Colleges are affiliated with the University. These colleges were established by the Church of England, Presbyterian, Methodist, and Roman Catholic Churches of Victoria respectively.

Information relating to the foundation and progress of these four colleges is given in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

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 Surgery.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

**University
Extension.**

Tutorial Classes organized by the Workers' Educational Association of Victoria are conducted in the city, suburbs, and country by the University Extension Board. In addition to these classes the Board has inaugurated a system of advice by correspondence on social and cultural subjects for the benefit of country students. This advice is not intended for those seeking to qualify for degrees. Its purpose is rather to cultivate knowledge of such subjects as will elevate the mind and fit the student the better to discharge the more social functions of his daily life and citizenship.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

**The
educational
system of
Victoria.**

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

Under the Act of 1872 education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that whether they attend or do not attend State schools, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being 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, on one or two days each week, to the children of the parents who desire that their children shall 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 December, 1910, an Act of Parliament of a most comprehensive and far-reaching character was passed. It marked a distinctive epoch in the history of education in Victoria, and laid the foundation of a complete national system from the infants' school to the highest educational institutions in the State.

**Free
subjects.**

The following are the subjects in which instruction is free:—English (literature, reading, recitation, spelling, writing, composition, grammar), mathematics (arithmetic, algebra, geometry), nature knowledge (geography, science, nature-study), hygiene, history and civics, manual work (drawing, needlework, woodwork, and other occupations such as modelling in clay or plasticine, paper folding and paper cutting, or brush drawing, or weaving with some material other than paper, for example, raffia), singing, physical training, and, where practicable, agriculture or horticulture for boys, cookery and domestic economy for girls, gymnastics, and swimming. Pupils buy their own books and material. Provision, however, is made for a free supply of books and material in necessitous cases.

**Compulsory
Clauses.**

Parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children (unless there is a "reasonable excuse") to attend school on every school half-day in each week. If they fail to make a child attend as provided they may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., nor more than 10s., for each such offence, or in default may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days. Attendance officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

Conveyance allowance. In cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the Department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the Department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school.

Correspondence tuition. In May, 1914, there was inaugurated in Victoria the system of correspondence tuition for children in remote districts. Sets of graded exercises are sent out fortnightly and subsequently returned to the Centre for correction. All the subjects of the course of study are thus taught, and with most successful results. Many children have reached the standard of the Intermediate Certificate without having any teaching except that given by post. For some years this tuition has been extended to include crippled and invalid children as well as children in remote districts. The total number enrolled for correspondence tuition in July, 1932, was 1,015.

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301 (now incorporated in the *Education Act* 1928, No. 3371) provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school. The main duties of these committees are given in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 199. The movement resulting in the formation of Mothers' Clubs has assumed great importance. These clubs have been responsible for raising many thousands of pounds for school improvement. Municipal Councils take the place of School Committees in High Schools.

Special schools. Special schools established for those for whom the ordinary school cannot provide include the Talbot School for Epileptics, the school for the blind, the school for the deaf and dumb, two schools for the feeble-minded, a school for child inmates of the Austin Hospital, a school for the inmates of the Convalescent Home of the Children's Hospital, the Children's Welfare Department School, the school for youthful prisoners in Pentridge Gaol, and a school for young constables at the Police Depot.

Drill, swimming, school gardens, &c. There were, on 30th June, 1931, 80 woodwork centres in operation, having an attendance of 7,550 boys; and 65 cookery centres, apart from those at the Domestic Arts Schools, with an attendance of 2,740 girls. Twelve Schools of Domestic Arts, attended by 3,188 girls, have been established. Swimming is taught in schools that have the necessary facilities. Drill is taught in all schools. During 1912 the system of physical training approved of by the Commonwealth military authorities was introduced. Nearly every State school now has its garden.

Patriotic Fund.

During the Great War a sum of £440,000 was raised for the Department's War Relief Fund. Particulars are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 333 and 334. The fund was closed in 1920. At the end of 1922, the balance of the fund, £84,910, was transferred to a body of seven trustees, who were empowered to expend the money for the benefit of seriously disabled soldiers and their dependants. To the 31st December, 1931, the following disbursements had been made:—£43,695 to alleviate distress, £20,323 under the housing scheme, and £13,132 granted on loan. On 30th June, 1932, there was a sum of £33,000 invested, and £1,436 to the credit of the general account.

Free Kindergarten Union.

The Department has subsidized this movement to the extent of £2,000 per annum, the amount for the year 1932-33 having, however, been reduced to £1,800. There are 28 kindergarten centres in which nearly 2,000 children below school age are enrolled.

School Forestry.

A scheme for the utilization of waste lands by the establishment of school plantations of hardwood and softwood trees was inaugurated in 1923. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. Up to 30th June, 1932, there were established 341 of these school plantations, with an area of 3,840 acres. Of this area 1,240 acres have been planted. During the past planting season 95,000 trees were planted.

Medical Inspection.

The need for the medical inspection of school children has received widespread recognition, and the Victorian Education Department has followed the lead of progressive countries by appointing medical inspectors. They consist of seven full-time school medical officers and four district health officers. The latter perform part-time school medical inspection duties as well as the duties they are entrusted with by the Health Department. There is also one full-time school nurse employed. The medical officers devote their time to investigating the hygienic condition of school premises and the physical and mental condition of the pupils, and to giving instruction to teachers.

A dental clinic has been established and is under the charge of three full-time school dentists with five dental attendants. Great service is being rendered by this clinic. In addition, four dentists, with attendants, are travelling from school to school in country districts, while another dentist and dental attendant have been appointed to work four months each year at Bendigo, four months at Ballarat, and four months at Geelong.

Three of the travelling dentists referred to have been provided with well-equipped dental motor vans, and are thereby enabled to reach the children of schools remote from railway lines.

Teachers' remuneration and classification.

Under the provisions of Act No. 3416, assented to on 24th December, 1925, teachers in elementary schools are divided into five classes. This Act also provides that at least half of the male teachers shall be in classes above the Fifth Class in certain ratios. The salaries of males, excluding junior teachers, range from £156 to £600, and those of females, excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, range from £120 to £480.

Teachers in schools other than elementary are included in a Classified Roll for the Secondary Schools Division. This roll contains five classes for men and five classes for women. Excluding rates for junior teachers which are the same as those for elementary schools, salaries for teachers on the Secondary Roll range from £192 to £650 per annum for men and from £168 to £528 per annum for women.

No definite ratio was provided in the Act for the Secondary Division, but the number in each class is determined by the Public Service Commissioner after report from the Committee of Classifiers, Secondary Schools Division.

State schools, teachers, and scholars, 1872 to 1930.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872.

STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE 1872 TO 1930.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
1872	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1880	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1909-10 ..	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1920 (31st Dec.)	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1926 " ..	2,529	6,715	255,779	174,494	221,592
1927 " ..	2,564	7,166	258,205	175,624	223,215
1928 " ..	2,566	7,172	257,562	178,031	225,946
1929 " ..	2,601	7,448	258,872	180,274	226,659
1930 " ..	2,598	*7,665	260,319	184,228	228,756

* In addition to these teachers, 444 were temporarily employed on 31st December, 1930.

State Secondary
Schools—
Enrolment and
attendance.

The enrolment and attendance at State secondary schools are as follow :—

STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1930.

	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.		
		Enrolled during the Year.	In average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).
Central Schools*	38	5,705	4,706	5,504
Higher Elementary Schools	47	4,919	3,955	4,818
Girls' Schools and Schools of Domestic Arts	12	3,246	2,723	3,188
Junior Technical Schools†	26	7,335	6,043	7,264
High Schools	37	13,264	11,668	13,077
Total	160	34,469	29,095	33,851

* Central Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Elementary Schools.

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

Ages of State
school scholars.

The following table shows the number and percentage of children attending State schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year ended 31st December, 1930 :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1930.

	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	Total.
Elementary Schools	18,610	198,432	11,714	228,756
Central Schools .. .. .	..	3,813	1,691	5,504
Higher Elementary Schools .. .. .	..	2,383	2,435	4,818
Schools of Domestic Arts .. .. .	..	1,522	1,666	3,188
Junior Technical Schools .. .. .	..	2,774	4,490	7,264
High Schools .. .. .	..	4,895	8,182	13,077
Total	18,610	213,819	30,178	262,607
Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrolments between the various types of schools	18,610	213,165	29,862	261,637

REGISTRATION OF TEACHERS AND SCHOOLS.

Registration
of teachers
and schools.

All private schools and teachers of private schools are required to be registered by the Council of Public Education in accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act* 1928.

The chief functions of the Council are to see that (1) only qualified persons are employed in private schools; and (2) that private schools meet requirements in hygienic matters.

Registered
schools, 1929
and 1930.

According to the latest available information relating to registered schools, the number of such schools increased from 501 in 1929 to 502 in 1930, whilst the number of instructors increased from 2,249 in 1929 to 2,400 in 1930. The number of individual scholars was 65,418 in 1929 and 68,556 in 1930. Particulars of registered schools 1872 to 1928 appear in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 203, and for the year 1929 in the *Year-Book* for 1930-31, page 181.

Number and
ages of pupils
in registered
schools.

The number and ages of pupils in attendance at registered schools are shown hereunder :—

NUMBER AND AGES OF PUPILS IN ATTENDANCE AT
REGISTERED SCHOOLS ON 31st DECEMBER, 1930.

Age of Pupils.					Gross Enrolment.	Number of Individual Pupils (estimated).
Under 6 years	..	..	..	..	5,639	5,090
Between 6 and 14 years	..	..	..	..	55,646	49,860
Above 14 years	..	..	..	..	14,659	13,606
Total	..	..	..	..	75,944	68,556

Scholars
attending
State and
registered
schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 21 per cent. of the scholars during 1930 attended registered schools, and that the balance, 79 per cent., attended State primary and secondary schools.

Ages of
children in
all schools.

After allowance has been made for duplicate enrolment caused by the attendance of children at both State schools and registered schools it is estimated that the number of individual children at school during the year was as follows :—

NUMBER (ESTIMATED) OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN UNDER
INSTRUCTION AT SCHOOL DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1930.

Under 6 years of age	..	..	23,412
Between 6 and 14 years of age	..	..	258,803
Above 14 years of age	..	..	42,758
Total	..	..	324,973

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN STATE SCHOOLS.

At the request of the Joint Council for Religious Instruction in Day Schools, circulars were sent in 1923 by the Education Department to all head teachers requesting the furnishing of information in respect to religious instruction in State schools. A summary of the particulars supplied is given on page 371 of the *Year-Book*, 1928-29.

DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOLS.

District High Schools. A statement appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, pages 204 and 205, showing the nature of these schools and the purposes for which they exist.

There are 37 district high schools, four of which are specially equipped for the teaching of agriculture in addition to providing other courses of secondary education. During the term ended 31st December, 1930, there were in attendance at these schools 11,668 pupils, of whom 6,502 were boys and 5,166 were girls.

University High School. For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers the institution now known as the University High School was opened in 1910, and the school was specially staffed by lecturers in methods of teaching in addition to the teachers of the ordinary form subjects of secondary schools.

HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

Higher Elementary Schools and Classes. On 31st December, 1930, there were forty-seven higher elementary schools. During the term ended 31st December, 1930, there were in attendance at these schools 3,955 pupils, of whom 2,156 were boys and 1,799 were girls. Education in the higher elementary schools is free throughout the course, which extends over two or four years.

There were also thirty-eight schools, principally in the metropolitan area—known as “Central” schools—in which a preparatory course of secondary education was provided. These were attended by 4,706 pupils in 1930.

The purpose of the district high school and the higher elementary school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in elementary schools, and are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years, a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their several careers in life.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

The Minister of Public Instruction made available the following scholarships at the beginning of 1932 :—

- 100 Junior Scholarships.
- 44 Senior Scholarships.
- 50 Junior Technical Scholarships.
- 105 Senior Technical Scholarships.

Particulars of the age requirement of candidates, the periods of tenure, and the annual values of the scholarships are given on pages 369 and 370 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29.

The Minister also made available 75 free places in prescribed courses at the Melbourne University, 70 of which were open to candidates attending district high schools, technical schools, and registered secondary schools, and 5 to officers (other than teachers) in the employment of the Government of Victoria. Each year also there are 15 free places available for specially selected certificated teachers who teach half time and attend the University for half time. The number of such teachers must not exceed 60 in any one year.

As well as the value of exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations at the University to those awarded free places, an allowance up to £50 for maintenance may be granted in special cases.

In addition to the scholarships mentioned, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum or for transit up to £5 per annum, may be granted to enable pupils who show special capacity and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances, to attend district high schools, higher elementary schools, schools of domestic arts, central schools, central classes and technical schools. Free tuition is allowed also to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers attending district high schools or technical schools.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Technical schools. The whole of the technical schools in the State, prior to 1910, were under the control of local councils. Legislation passed in that year provided for the schools being brought under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1931, was 29, the gross enrolment being 7,335 junior and 18,475 senior students.

The aim of the Victorian technical schools is to provide pre-vocational and vocational courses of training in industrial subjects, and, as far as possible, to provide for the training of the expert technologist. The various branches of engineering and its subdivisions, mining, metallurgy, technical and agricultural chemistry, subjects connected with the building trades (including architecture) and with other trades, applied art, commercial subjects and those connected with household economy are included in their syllabuses. Trade courses correspond to the period of apprenticeship, which extends over five years.

The larger technical schools, such as the Working Men's College, the Swinburne Technical College, the Gordon Technical College, Geelong, and the Ballarat and Bendigo Schools of Mines, have an extensive curriculum embracing the most important industrial subjects. Of the smaller schools, some in country districts have courses in mining, agricultural, building, and engineering subjects as well as courses in drawing and applied art work. The technical schools for women's industries are the College of Domestic Economy, the Box Hill school and technical departments in the Swinburne, Ballarat, Prahran, Sunshine, and Brighton Schools.

The fees per term range from 5s. per subject to £24 per course of subjects per annum.

The following is a statement of the Government expenditure on each technical school during the five years ended 1930-31:—

**GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS,
1926-27 TO 1930-31.**

Name.	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.
	£	£	£	£	£
*Ararat	7	..	..	..	..
Bairnsdale	4,104	4,100	4,104	4,000	3,546
Ballarat	20,597	24,244	24,970	22,263	20,133
†Beechworth	1,090	1,499	1,146	507	..
Bendigo	27,655	14,308	13,802	13,490	13,001
Box Hill	6,093	4,692	5,187	5,152	5,016
Brighton	19,523	14,311	14,020	14,621	13,583
Brunswick	11,206	12,556	13,361	12,751	11,628
Castlemaine	12,124	7,881	6,854	7,653	6,617
Caulfield	11,869	15,462	13,914	14,474	13,559
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy	4,987	16,000	9,827	6,546	5,900
Collingwood	19,169	16,780	24,744	18,246	17,802
Daylesford	2,429	2,889	3,119	3,124	3,166
Echuca	3,426	3,366	4,568	4,544	4,201
Footscray	16,463	19,712	17,847	18,152	16,810
Geelong (Gordon Tech. Col.)	20,659	15,065	14,858	17,685	15,389
Glenferrie (Swinburne Tech. Col.)	25,842	24,824	25,623	27,430	26,407
Maryborough	12,420	15,692	8,256	8,319	8,096
Melbourne (Working Men's Col.)	40,376	44,246	43,624	73,265	56,965
Prahran	8,964	11,763	10,138	10,849	10,183
Richmond	9,314	9,784	15,081	17,427	8,831
Sale	7,771	4,043	3,601	5,005	4,115
South Melbourne	13,208	13,119	12,332	13,087	12,316
Stawell	3,247	3,502	3,616	4,434	3,778
Sunshine	5,529	6,500	6,393	6,669	5,777
Wangaratta	4,582	16,749	4,606	5,579	5,365
Warrnambool	5,819	5,891	6,679	7,415	7,528
West Melbourne	16,116	15,568	17,058	15,659	14,529
Wonthaggi	6,971	7,016	8,144	6,938	6,364
Yallourn .. .. .	..	698	1,008	1,614	1,477
Other votes for technical schools	4,968	5,478	5,505	5,718	5,686
Miscellaneous	5,829	4,681	4,822	6,913	3,340
Total	352,357	362,419	348,807	379,529	331,108

* Closed 31st August, 1926.

† Closed 31st December, 1929.

THE TRAINING OF TEACHERS.

Teachers' College. Since 1926, the training of teachers for the State Department has been considerably modified. All intending teachers must now complete a successful probationary period as Junior Teachers in the schools before entering one of the Teachers' Colleges. Junior teachers who do not complete their Leaving Certificate, or who are unable to obtain studentships at a Teachers' College will, at the end of five years, be asked to leave the Service. This will ensure a reasonable aptitude for the work of teaching in all officers appointed to permanent positions.

There are three Teachers' Colleges in Victoria—Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo. The Melbourne College is the largest institution, training students for all types of teaching work; Ballarat and Bendigo are smaller colleges preparing teachers for work in the Rural Schools. The only avenue of promotion for Junior Teachers in the Service is through the Teachers' Colleges, and no untrained teachers can now enter the Department's service.

College of Dentistry and Pharmacy. Particulars relating to the Australian College of Dentistry and the Melbourne College of Pharmacy are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 516 to 519.

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

Working Men's College, Melbourne. The Working Men's College is a technical institution and school of mines, founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and supplies higher technical instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

Fees. A statement of the fees payable for full day courses and evening classes was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 374 and 375.

Prizes. Special prizes are awarded to students annually. There is a prize to the best student in each year of the day courses, and to the best student in each of the evening classes. The names of the donors and a description of the prizes appear on page 208 of the *Year-Book* for 1929-30.

Scholarships. A statement showing the scholarships awarded each year appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 208.

The receipts from the Government in 1931 amounted to £35,598.

The following table gives an indication of the comparative amount of work done at the College during the years 1927 to 1931 :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1927 TO 1931.

	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.
Students enrolled—					
Average per term	2,610	2,825	2,977	3,135	2,845
Males over 21	550	548	575	596	560
„ under 21—Apprentices	672	679	665	783	673
„ „ Others	1,112	1,350	1,440	1,469	1,293
Females	276	248	297	287	319
Fees received during the year*..	£12,856	£12,115	£12,887	£13,372	£12,184
Average fee per student ..	98s. 6d.	85s. 9d.	86s. 7d.	90s. 2d.	85s. 7d.
Number of classes	175	179	186	189	186
„ instructors	131	136	160	159	165
Salaries paid instructors ..	£31,955	£35,722	£37,428	£39,224	£33,135

* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £1,264 in 1927, £1,255 in 1928, £1,074 in 1929, £902 in 1930, and £618 in 1931. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

Public Library of Victoria. The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £438,865. With the exception of the sum of £35,000 received from the McAllan bequest, the whole of the money required to meet the cost of the buildings was provided by Parliament. The moneys expended on buildings and maintenance (including salaries) amounted to £2,153,026 at the end of 1931. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 5,314 volumes were purchased, 6,046 volumes presented, 477 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 48,314 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1931. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 388,233 volumes. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 333,119 volumes during 1931, an increase of 88,955 compared with 1930, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 19,376, which was 4,714 more than the number in 1930. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of the year mentioned was 63,739, of which 1,708 were added during the year.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the end of 1931 contained 25,663 works of art, viz., 798 oil paintings, 6,041 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 18,824 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended during the year by 35 students, and the school of drawing by 154 students. The income from the Felton bequest amounted to £15,000, which was available for expenditure on paintings, statuary, and other works of art.

Industrial Museum. The Industrial and Technological Museum occupies the whole of the first floor of the building facing Swanston-street. At the end of 1930 it contained more than 10,000 exhibits.

National Museum. The collection in the National Museum is located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology.

OTHER LIBRARIES.

Free Libraries. There are about 420 free libraries in Victoria. Statistics for the year ended 31st December, 1931, were collected from 76 of the more important of these libraries, 28 of which are situated in the metropolitan area and 48 in the cities and chief towns in other parts of the State. The total receipts of these 76 libraries were £92,279; the Government contributed £46,879 and municipal councils £9,687. The total expenditure was £92,119, of which £14,324 was expended on the purchase of books, magazines, &c. There were 933,250 volumes in these libraries on the 31st December, 1931; of that number 451,972 were in the Public Library of Melbourne.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

Exhibition Buildings, Aquarium, and Museum. The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, were opened for the purpose of an exhibition in October, 1880. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the building was vested in trustees.

The receipts for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1932, amounted to £6,465, consisting of rents £4,129, aquarium receipts £1,153, and other receipts £1,183. The expenditure totalled £5,267, viz.:—£1,190, expenses of the aquarium; and £4,077 for general maintenance,

improvements to buildings, insurance and sundry expenses. There was an overdraft at the bank amounting to £3,695 at 30th June, 1932.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

Botanic Garden. The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1846, is situated on the south side of the Yarra, at a distance of about one mile from the city. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Associated with the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Domain, 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.

ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL AND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.

Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Gardens. The gardens of the Royal Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, nearly 2 miles distant from the Elizabeth Street Post Office.

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 convenience of visitors. Most of the large animals of the world, such as the hippopotamus, giraffe, Indian elephant, &c., are exhibited there, as well as many native animals.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

This society was founded in the year 1849 by John Pascoe Fawcner, and has been in continuous activity to the present date. A brief statement of its history and of the work carried on by it appears in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 528 and 529.

PUBLIC RESERVES.

Public Reserves. According to returns received from municipal councils in 1930, the total area devoted to public reserves in Greater Melbourne was 8,227 acres, of which 2,534 acres were acquired by the councils at a cost of £553,164.

RELIGIONS.

At the end of 1931 there were in the State, according to returns received, 3,325 regular churches and chapels, and 1,582 other buildings where religious services were held—a total of 4,907 places of public worship—and these were attended by 2,185 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars in regard to the different denominations:—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1931.

Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.	Buildings used for Public Worship.		
		Churches and Chapels.	Other Buildings.	Total.
Protestant Churches—				
Church of England ..	490	775	456	1,231
Presbyterian Church of Victoria ..	301	616	300	916
Free Presbyterian ..	3	9	2	11
Reformed Presbyterian Church of Ireland ..	2	1	1	2
Methodist ..	371	850	441	1,291
Independent or Congregational ..	57	80	..	80
Baptist ..	90	105	65	170
Lutheran ..	28	52	27	79
Salvation Army ..	225	113	87	200
Church of Christ ..	105	111	9	120
Seventh Day Adventists ..	18	19	15	34
Church for Deaf Mutes ..	2	1	3	4
Other Protestant ..	7	9	10	19
Roman Catholic Church ..	447	572	162	734
New Church (or Swedenborgian) ..	1	2	1	3
Catholic Apostolic Church ..	8	1	..	1
Jews ..	4	3	1	4
Re-organized Church of Latter-Day Saints ..	22	5	..	5
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints ..	4	1	2	3
Total ..	2,185	3,325	1,582	4,907

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 3,108, and the teachers 25,402; the number of scholars on the rolls was 247,932—114,698 males and 133,234 females.

Religions of the people. A table showing the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1921 appeared in the *Year Book* for 1928–29, on page 382.

Religions per cent. of population, 1871 to 1921. A table showing the principal religions of the people per 100 of the population in the six census years 1871 to 1921 appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929–30, page 213.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Legislation. A full description of the legislation relating to the supervision of friendly societies and a statement of contributions payable by members were published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 383-387.

The Friendly Societies Act 1928 consolidated the law relating to friendly societies. This Act came into operation in December, 1929.

The legislative supervision exercised over friendly societies has had a very beneficial effect. The latest valuation reports show that there are only two societies in Victoria with a ratio of assets to liabilities of less than 20s. in the £1, and in these two the ratios are 19s. 6d. and 18s. 8d. respectively.

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 an actuary of full standing.

Societies may contract with members for the payment of sums of money on the deaths of members, their husbands, wives, widows, children, or kindred, subject to the condition that no society shall contract with any member to make such payments to an amount exceeding in the aggregate £100. Societies are also permitted to make provision for medical attendance for and dispensing medicine to members, and the other persons mentioned above.

Progress of friendly societies. The total membership of Victorian friendly societies increased from 143,021 at the end of 1920 to 161,448 in the middle of 1931—an increase during the ten and a half years of 18,427 members.

The funds increased during the ten and a half-year period 1920 to June, 1931, from £3,173,678 to £5,291,238, there being an addition of £2,117,560. They are well invested; the average rate of interest earned on the capital of the sick and funeral fund for the year 1930-31 was 5.65 per cent. There is a number of female societies, the particulars for which are included above. At the end of June, 1931, these had a membership of 12,566, and funds which amounted to £132,093.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the five years, 1926-27 to 1930-31:—

Year.			Membership (end of year).	Revenue.	Expenditure.	Funds.
				£	£	£
1926-27	..	..	160,411	907,025	673,453	4,513,972
1927-28	..	..	161,850	951,700	707,289	4,758,383
1928-29	..	..	164,307	1,051,104	875,467	4,934,020
1929-30	..	..	164,899	978,765	792,368	5,120,417
1930-31	..	..	161,448	917,259	746,438	5,291,238

The statement which follows contains further information in regard to the societies for the five years, 1926-27 to 1930-31 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1926-27 TO 1930-31.

(Including Female Societies.)

—	1926-27.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.
Number of societies ..	59	59	58	55	52
Number of branches ..	1,473	1,481	1,484	1,471	1,469
Average number of members ..	159,116	161,131	163,079	164,603	163,124
Number of members sick ..	31,020	31,202	35,681	32,674	31,474
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed ..	294,879	315,827	341,842	349,691	373,657
Deaths of members ..	1,541	1,521	1,594	1,608	1,426
Deaths of registered wives ..	542	567	574	581	571
	£	£	£	£	£
Income of sick and funeral fund ..	444,566	460,873	467,858	471,392	475,181
Income of medical and management fund ..	419,594	448,275	539,662	462,687	388,963
Other Income ..	42,865	42,552	43,584	44,686	53,115
Total Income ..	907,025	951,700	1,051,104	978,765	917,259
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund ..	301,958	318,449	466,613	356,842	310,926
Expenditure of medical and management fund ..	332,220	350,011	368,072	395,851	391,320
Other Expenditure ..	39,275	38,829	40,782	39,675	44,192
Total Expenditure ..	673,453	707,289	875,467	792,368	746,438
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund ..	3,965,480	4,107,904	4,109,149	4,223,699	4,387,954
Amount to credit of medical and management fund ..	448,498	546,762	718,352	785,188	782,831
Amount invested—sick and funeral fund ..	3,884,515	4,060,692	4,074,706	4,196,459	4,365,971
Amount invested—medical and management fund ..	440,355	524,742	697,112	776,228	775,192
Amount invested—other funds ..	96,603	98,379	102,496	107,654	118,215
Total invested ..	4,421,473	4,683,813	4,874,314	5,080,341	5,259,378
„ funds ..	4,513,972	4,758,383	4,934,020	5,120,417	5,291,238

NOTE.—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 in the above table.

During the twelve months ended in June, 1931, the societies lost by secession 11,793 members, which was equal to a rate of 7.2 per cent. ; as compared with a loss of 6.5 per cent. in 1929-30, 6.2 per cent. in 1928-29, and of 6.9 per cent. in 1927-28. As a rule, most of the secessions are those of new members who allow their membership to lapse before they have time to appreciate its value. The cost of management in the year 1930-31 was 14s. 10d. per member, which was 6d. per member more than the cost in the year 1929-30.

Secessions and expenses.

Sickness and mortality, 1914, 1918-20, 1926-27, 1930-31. The following statement shows the number of weeks' sickness experienced by male members of ordinary friendly societies in respect of which claims for sick pay were paid in 1914 (the last year unaffected by the war), 1918, 1919, and 1920 (years in which there was a large number of claims due to war service) and in the last five years; also the number of weeks' sickness per effective member and the number of deaths of male members of such societies in those years and the number per 1,000 effective members :—

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.			Deaths.	
		Number.	Number per Effective Member.		Number.	Number per 1,000 Effective Members.
		Weeks.	Weeks.	Days.		
1914 ..	125,952	216,520	1	4	1,263	10·03
1918 ..	125,667	288,088	2	2	2,457	19·55
1919 ..	119,308	382,247	3	1	2,080	17·43
1920 ..	114,797	278,401	2	3	1,313	11·44
1926-27	126,637	272,000	2	1	1,443	11·39
1927-28	128,924	290,583	2	2	1,423	11·04
1928-29	130,733	315,499	2	2	1,484	11·35
1929-30	131,655	321,779	2	3	1,515	11·51
1930-31	129,596	345,687	2	4	1,331	10·27

The large increase in the sickness rate of 1919 was due chiefly to members who had been on active service having deferred until their return to the Commonwealth their claims for sick pay for incapacity arising out of sickness experienced and wounds received during previous years. It was also due in part to the influenza epidemic of that year.

A comparison of the mortality rates of three of the largest Victorian Friendly Societies with the Australian population mortality rates was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 391.

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN 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 for more than eight hours in any day in a factory. The same Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working.

Since that year further legislative provisions have been made for the regulation of conditions of labour, and the community has

gradually recognised the necessity of securing the health, the comfort of, and safety for the workers.

A description of the legislation relating to conditions of labour appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 218.

The Wages Board method of fixing wages and settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria. It was incorporated in an Act of Parliament introduced by Sir Alexander Peacock in 1896. Each Board is composed of equal numbers of employers and employees and a chairman nominated by the members of the Board (not being one of such members). In the event of a nomination not being made the Minister appoints the chairman. The representatives are carefully chosen, so that every shade of interest in the trade shall be represented as fully as possible on the Board.

The powers and functions of Wages Boards were described in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 393 and 394.

NEW BOARDS AND ALTERATION OF POWERS.

The powers conferred on the Governor in Council to appoint Wages Boards without reference to Parliament were, during the year 1931, exercised as follows :—

Two new Boards were appointed, viz. :—

The Bread Trade Board in place of the Bread Board, the Country Bread Board, and the Provincial Bread Board.

The Wicker and Baby Carriage Board in place of the Perambulator Board and the Wicker Board.

Powers of Boards were varied as follows :—

The powers of the Grocers Sundries Board were extended to determine rates for persons formerly subject to the Determination of the Polish Board.

The powers held by the Picture Frame Board were conferred on the Furniture Board, which was also given power to determine rates for persons making walking sticks, domestic woodware, and wooden novelties.

The Clerks (Timber Trade) Board was abolished and its powers conferred on the Commercial Clerks Board, whose powers were further extended to cover typewriters or stenographers employed by a barrister and solicitor.

The powers of the Cycle Trade Board and the Engineers and Brassworkers (Skilled) Board were adjusted to enable the latter to determine rates for makers of motor cycle engines.

The powers of the Flock Board were extended to cover persons employed making felt or wadding.

The powers of the Hospital and Benevolent Asylum Attendants Board were extended to enable it to fix rates for persons (other than professional employees or nurses) employed in or about a hospital or home for the treatment of the mentally afflicted.

The powers of the Knitting Trade Board were extended to cover persons knitting fabric.

On 31st December, 1931, there were 187 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 162,500 employees.

A statement of the procedure with regard to the application and enforcement of determinations of Wages Boards and of the fees payable to members thereof appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 395.

WEEKLY HOURS FIXED BY WAGES BOARDS.

Wages Boards, when fixing weekly wages, also determine the maximum number of hours for which such weekly wages shall be payable and provide overtime rates for time worked in excess of the number of hours fixed.

The following figures show the range of hours adopted by such Boards, viz. :—

- 4 Boards have fixed fewer than 44 hours ;
- 42 Boards have fixed 44 hours ;
- 9 Boards have fixed 45 to 47 hours ;
- 120 Boards have fixed 48 hours ; and
- 2 Boards have fixed more than 48 hours.

Appeals. A description of the constitution of the Court of Industrial Appeals, and of the procedure relating to appeals against a determination of a Wages Board appears on page 396 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29.

Eighty-four applications have been made to the Court of Industrial Appeals for alterations of determinations. Since 1st January, 1915, the Court has consisted of a President and two other persons ; the President being, as required by law, a Judge of the Supreme Court. Forty-seven appeals have been dealt with by the Court since its re-constitution in 1915.

Average weekly wage. During the year 1931 Determinations made by 177 Boards appointed under the Act were in force. The following statement shows the average weekly wage paid to employees in certain trades during the last three years :—

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employees.		
	In 1929.	In 1930.	In 1931.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Aerated Water	3 16 0	3 15 9	3 3 10
Agricultural Implements	4 18 5	4 5 11	3 11 11
Asphalters	4 12 1	4 16 10	4 6 11
Bedsteadmakers	4 3 7	3 7 4	3 1 5
Boot	3 8 9	3 3 8	2 18 4
Bread	5 9 10	5 7 2	4 10 9
Brewers	5 4 0	5 2 6	4 13 10
Brushmakers	3 8 5	3 2 7	2 16 11
Candlemakers	4 9 2	4 1 7	3 10 8
Carpenters	5 12 10	5 6 7	4 10 7
Clothing	2 17 8	2 14 2	2 7 8
„ Waterproof	2 15 9	2 10 11	2 5 7
Commercial Clerks	3 14 7	3 13 7	3 10 1
Coopers	6 6 11	6 7 7	5 12 7
Engravers	3 16 6	4 4 9	3 14 6

AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE—continued.

Trade.	Average Weekly Wage Paid to all Employees.		
	In 1929.	In 1930.	In 1931.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Farriers	5 7 11	5 0 10	4 7 9
Furniture Trade—			
(a) European (Cabinet making, &c.) ..	4 3 0	3 14 5	3 7 8
(b) European (Mantlepieces) ..	4 14 6	3 16 2	3 17 8
(c) Picture Frame	4 2 1	3 18 2	2 17 3
Glassworkers	4 17 7	4 3 3	3 17 7
Hairdressers	3 16 1	3 11 10	3 4 9
Ice	5 15 3	5 17 3	5 0 4
Jewellers	4 2 11	3 13 6	3 2 8
Lift Attendants	4 11 6	4 10 10	4 6 0
Malt	5 5 7	5 5 10	4 17 10
Marine Store	4 4 11	4 10 1	3 19 6
Millet Broom	4 7 5	4 3 1	3 17 11
Painters	5 6 10	4 19 2	4 12 0
Plate Glass	4 14 0	4 5 7	3 11 9
Plumbers	5 3 11	5 2 8	4 9 6
Pottery	3 17 4	3 8 4	2 17 3
Saddlery and Harness	4 15 7	4 0 7	4 2 5
Shops Board No. 1—(Boot Dealers) ..	3 5 8	3 5 9	3 1 10
Shops Board No. 3—(Butchers) ..	4 10 2	4 8 7	3 19 4
Shops Board No. 15—(Grocers) ..	4 2 6	4 1 0	3 13 10
Starch	4 5 1	4 3 3	3 2 0
Stonecutters	5 7 10	5 0 11	4 6 6
Tanners	4 10 2	4 4 2	3 8 6
Watchmakers	5 0 8	4 7 9	4 10 10
Wicker	3 12 11	3 4 11	3 5 3
Woodworkers	4 14 10	4 4 0	3 12 11
„ Country	4 16 4	4 10 10	3 15 3

Factories.

A definition of a factory under the Factories and Shops Act is given on pages 398 and 399 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29. In 1931 there were registered 11,459 factories, with 110,692 employees.

Factory legislation.

A summary of factory legislation from the date of the consolidation of existing laws in 1915 to the passing of the Consolidating Act of 1928 is given in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 399-401.

Shops, Metropolitan District and outside thereof.

The hours for closing of shops in both these Districts, as defined by the *Shops and Factories Act* 1928, are stated in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 401-403.

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 registration fee, which is based on the number of persons employed in the shop, varies from 2s. 6d. to £10.

Registered shops are divided into 26 classes. There was, during the year 1931, an increase compared with 1930 of 433 shops, and a decrease of 4,690 employees. Particulars of the shops registered and number of employees are given below:—

SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES, 1931.

	Metropolitan.		Country and Provincial Cities.		Whole State.	
	No. of Shops.	No. of Em- ployees.	No. of Shops.	No. of Em- ployees.	No. of Shops.	No. of Em- ployees.
Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry	3,962	1,083	2,074	459	6,036	1,542
Booksellers, News Agents ..	833	643	426	237	1,259	880
Boot Dealers	335	779	261	288	596	1,067
Boot Repairers	917	59	657	90	1,574	149
Butchers	1,158	1,965	994	1,213	2,152	3,183
Chemists	488	693	293	270	781	963
Crockery	31	136	12	15	43	151
Cycle and Motor	636	713	992	548	1,623	1,261
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat	854	506	192	84	1,046	590
Drapery	1,683	6,646	1,077	2,120	2,760	8,766
Fancy Goods Dealers	248	761	185	155	433	916
Fish	435	84	98	34	523	118
Florists	301	101	53	16	354	117
Fruit and Vegetable	1,794	219	1,180	255	2,974	474
Fuel and Fodder	991	430	290	218	1,281	648
Furniture	368	848	198	180	566	1,028
Grocers	2,693	2,284	1,336	1,138	4,029	3,422
Hairdressers	1,239	776	755	262	1,994	1,038
Hardware	423	1,241	457	488	880	1,729
Jewellery	203	183	159	57	362	240
Leather Goods	136	105	285	26	421	131
Men's Clothing	376	871	272	145	648	1,016
Musical Instruments	87	273	56	36	143	309
Tobacconists	916	98	204	34	1,120	132
Mixed	119	..	1,426	3,061	1,545	3,061
Shops not classified	1,450	1,206	947	260	2,397	1,466
Totals	22,676	22,703	14,879	11,694	37,555	34,397

APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

Under the *Apprenticeship Act* 1927 (No. 3546), which was proclaimed on 8th May, 1928, an Apprenticeship Commission, consisting of five members, was appointed to administer the Act and to supervise apprenticeship in trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades thereunder.

The depressed condition of industry in recent years has adversely affected the operation of the apprenticeship system.

The following statement shows the trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in 1931 and in 1932 :—

Trade.	Date of Proclamation.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on—	
		30th June, 1931.	30th June, 1932.
Building Group—			
Plumbing and Gasfitting	10.10.1928	121	126
Carpentry and Joinery	28.11.1928	85	86
Painting, Decorating, and Signwriting	28.11.1928	30	30
Plastering	28.11.1928	13	13
Printing Group	27.2.1929	120	174
Electrical Group	17.7.1929	93	103
Motor Mechanics' Group	5.3.1930	43	53
Bootmaking Group	13.1.1932	..	99
Moulding Group	13.1.1932	..	6
Total .. ..	..	505	690

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

**Government
Labour
Exchange.**

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaux were administered by the Railway Department. One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these are now administered by an exchange under the control of the Labour Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual

employment, principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied, when work is available, according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. The Exchange also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would otherwise be unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the Exchange for the year 1931 in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

Year and Month.	Applications for Employment in the Metropolis.		Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained.	
	Number Registered during each Month.	Number remaining on Register at end of each Month.	In the Metropolis.	In the Country.
1931—January	12,846	33,719	771	*
February	11,042	33,879	1,112	*
March	11,446	33,453	462	*
April	10,935	35,395	430	*
May	12,516	36,788	514	*
June	11,138	40,086	332	*
July	10,205	42,790	419	1,182
August	8,899	42,934	271	1,429
September	7,036	42,462	116	913
October	7,268	39,788	160	568
November	8,247	40,208	454	599
December	5,506	37,571	1,824	713
Total	117,084	..	6,865	5,404

* Not available.

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the Exchange during the five years ended 1931 :—

Year.	Registrations Effected.		Engagements Effected.
	In the City.	In the Country.	
1927	41,815	3,340	5,672
1928	40,636	2,314	3,268
1929	39,541	2,101	4,794
1930	107,856	30,139	21,043
1931	117,084	36,573	12,269

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the Exchange states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the Exchange is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently a large allowance must be made for duplication of registrations. Of the total 117,084 city registrations last year, 13,475 were effected by men registering for the first time. In connexion with the engagements effected in the course of a year, allowance must be made for the fact that the same applicants may be employed more than once during the year and also for the fact that the figures quoted do not include the big numbers of labourers engaged "on the job" for Government earthworks in the country.

During the year 1931 the number of railway tickets advanced was 4,200, valued at £4,141, of which £3,506 has been refunded. During the past thirty-one years 97,826 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £84,212; of this sum £63,003 has been refunded.

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors and nurses who served in the Great War. Its objects were to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able, in consequence of war disabilities, to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment for disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

Administration of Department.

The administration of the Department has rested with the Repatriation Commission since 1st July, 1920.

Activities of Department.

On pages 407 and 408 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 appears a statement of the activities of the Department.

The *Year-Book* for 1920-21 contains, on pages 383 to 385, an epitome of the main work of the Department, also particulars of the sustenance rates granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations, and of the rates of pension payable to ex-members of the Forces and their dependants. The sustenance and some of the pension rates, however, have now been altered.

Pension Rates. Owing to various provisions, but chiefly in consequence of the *Financial Emergency Act 1931*, the rates of war pension in respect of certain classes of dependants of members of the Forces differ from those published on page 385 of the *Year-Book* for 1920-21. The maximum rate for a wife of a totally incapacitated member is now 13s. 11d. per week, irrespective of the rate of pay received by him as a member. His children (up to the age of 16 years) receive 6s. per week each, instead of the amounts formerly paid, viz., 10s. per week for the first child, and 7s. 6d. per week for each of the remaining children. The pensions of widows and children of deceased members, and of widowed mothers of deceased unmarried members remain unaltered, but all other dependants of members who received varying rates according to the circumstances of their cases, have had their pensions reduced by at least 22½ per cent.

Sustenance Rates. Sustenance is now granted by the Department only where the necessities of medical treatment prevent a soldier from following his usual occupation. The rates of sustenance have been revised so as to provide an income, inclusive of war pension and other income, equivalent to the full rate of pension in respect of a totally incapacitated soldier, viz., 42s. per week for himself, 13s. 11d. per week for his wife, and 6s. per week for each child.

Current Work of Department. The following statistics for the year 1931-32 show in some degree the type and extent of current activity in Victoria:—

War Pensions—Number in force at 30th June, 1932—

Members of the Forces	..	..	..	25,591
Dependants of deceased members of the Forces	..	..	..	9,433
Dependants of incapacitated members of the Forces	..	..	..	57,463
Expenditure for year	..	..	..	£2,253,005

Medical Treatment—

Number of In-patients at 30th June, 1932, in Repatriation Institutions—

General Hospitals	..	..	..	188
Sanatoria	..	..	..	87
Anzac Hostels	..	..	..	17
Mental Hospitals	..	..	..	227

(Some few patients are being treated in own homes.)

Attendances of Out-patients during 1931-32 (excluding treatments by Local Medical Officers, of whom 179 exist in rural areas)	59,417
---	----	----	----	--------

Expenditure on treatment, &c.—	
Maintenance of Repatriation Institutions ..	£69,820
Maintenance of Patients in other than Repatriation Institutions (including Country Hospitals) ..	£19,291
Sustenance during medical treatment ..	£11,197
Conducting Commonwealth Artificial Limb Factory	£10,153
Other expenditure, including fees to consultants, &c.	£31,141
Soldiers' Children Education Scheme—	
Number of children at school ..	587
" " in professional training ..	27
" " in industrial training ..	884
" " in agricultural training ..	17
Expenditure for year 1931-32 ..	£31,746

As from 1st June, 1929, tribunals were created to hear appeals in regard to war pensions. The War Pensions Appeal Tribunals. Entitlement Appeal Tribunal is empowered to hear and decide any appeal against a decision of the Repatriation Commission, by or on behalf of ex-members of the Forces or their dependants, that an incapacity or death of an ex-member arose out of war service.

Two Assessment Appeal Tribunals were created, to hear and decide any appeal against a current assessment of war pension made by the Repatriation Commission in respect of an incapacity of an ex-member of the Forces which had been accepted as arising out of war service.

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

The total number of organizations throughout the State which administered relief to persons in necessitous circumstances or were of a reformatory character, and which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1931, was 602. The total receipts of all the organizations were £5,779,827, of which £4,609,706 was contributed by the Government and £1,170,121 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure was £5,821,320. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year in charitable and reformatory institutions was 19,544, and there were no less than 411,274 distinct cases of out-door relief. With regard to the out-door relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the number of cases of sickness or accident as the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

The following table gives in summarized form full particulars in relation to all these charitable and reformatory institutions, and shows the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in the institutions, and the total number of distinct cases receiving out-door relief, together with the receipts and expenditure :—

**CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—
INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1930-31.**

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Daily Average in-door Patients or Inmates.	Out-door Relief Distinct Cases.	Receipts.			Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year).
				From Government.	From Other Sources.	Total.	
				£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
General Hospitals ..	57	2,930	105,463	195,841	387,024	582,865	648,292
Women's Hospital ..	1	242	7,926	7,584	37,422	45,006	48,611
Children's Hospital ..	1	298	25,479	19,582	39,672	59,254	54,971
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	1	115	12,229	13,276	21,807	35,083	39,870
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives ..	1	91	..	5,005	1,515	6,520	6,520
Heatherton Sanatorium ..	1	121	..	5,582	7,310	12,892	12,777
Janefield Sanatorium ..	1	55	..	4,650	1,231	5,881	6,744
Convalescent Homes ..	3	120	4,000	13,114	15,747	28,861	32,960
Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions ..	4	306	20,368	8,364	82,715	91,079	68,601
Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving Houses ..	11	6,770	..	392,753	45,643	438,396	438,396
Foundling Hospitals ..	2	282	..	6,700	9,682	16,382	17,170
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	1	424	..	32,839	35,887	68,726	69,362
Total ..	84	11,754	175,465	705,290	685,655	1,390,945	1,444,274
BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.							
Benevolent Asylums ..	8	2,139	4,627	46,110	70,575	116,685	106,758
Old Colonists' Association ..	1	95	..	..	11,418	11,418	6,184
Benevolent Societies ..	176	..	42,107	18,780	60,005	78,785	78,646
Orphan Asylums ..	16	2,274	..	9,509	69,288	78,797	83,619
Total ..	201	4,508	46,734	74,399	211,286	285,685	275,207
REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.							
Children's Welfare Department ..	6	820	16,718	383,695	8,506	392,201	392,201
Lara Inebriates' Institution ..	1	42	..	2,938	1,219	4,157	4,157
Brightside Inebriates' Institution ..	1	31	..	357	1,585	1,942	2,095
Female Refuges ..	10	655	..	3,500	35,116	38,616	42,478
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ..	3	157	..	250	8,671	8,921	8,797
Prisoners' Aid Society of Victoria ..	1	..	947	400	834	1,234	1,163
Gaols and Penal Establishments ..	12	1,441	..	112,451	..	112,451	112,451
Total ..	34	3,146	17,665	503,591	55,931	559,522	563,342
MISCELLANEOUS.							
Old-age and Invalid Pensioners ..	..	..	69,924	3,321,037	..	3,321,037	3,321,037
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	1	186	..	850	6,836	7,686	6,645
Charity Organization Society ..	1	..	3,706	..	5,640	5,640	6,296
Free Dispensaries ..	2	..	5,748	500	845	1,345	1,665
Other Societies ..	279	..	92,032	4,039	203,928	207,967	202,854
Total ..	283	136	171,410	3,326,426	217,249	3,543,675	3,538,497
Grand Total..	602	19,544	411,274	4,609,706	1,170,121	5,779,827	5,821,320

Charitable Institutions—receipts and expenditure.

The receipts of all charitable institutions for the year 1930-31 amounted to £2,316,339, of which £1,176,218, or a little more than 50 per cent., was contributed by the Government, and the expenditure amounted to £2,387,832.

Of the Government contribution, £794,623 was expended on the Receiving Houses for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Children's Welfare Department, the Greenvale, Heatherton and Janefield Sanatoria for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

Charitable Institutions—receipts and expenditure, 1922-1931.

The expenditure of charitable institutions has considerably increased during the past ten years. In 1922 it was £1,521,278, and it had increased to £2,387,832 in 1931.

This is equivalent to an advance of 70 per cent. The aid from Government increased by 44 per cent., and that from other sources by 55 per cent. in the period mentioned.

Income of Charitable Institutions.

Of the total income of charitable institutions in 1930-31 slightly more than 50 per cent. was contributed by the Government, and 11 per cent. was collected from patients.

The receipts of hospitals and other charitable institutions in the State under various headings are shown hereunder :—

SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS IN VICTORIA, 1930-31.

Receipts.	General Hospitals.	Women's Hospital.	Children's Hospital.	Eye and Ear Hospital.	Queen's Memorial Hospital.	Other Hospitals.	Other Institutions.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid	195,841	7,584	19,582	5,014	32,839	19,976	895,382*	1,176,218
Municipal Grants	15,267	615	745	503	35,418	622	19,684	72,854
Private Contributions ..	63,467	1,892	11,506	1,330	..	1,631	154,250	234,076
Proceeds of Entertainments	27,787	556	1,731	66	..	276	10,709	41,125
Legacies, Bequests and Donations	87,505	12,413	10,153	5,237	20	9,994	69,767	195,089
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations	23,284	1,676	3,403	337	..	1,241	8,316	38,257
Contributions of Indoor Patients	83,995	14,893	3,131	2,912	..	10,199	115,940	231,070
Out-patients' Fees	21,019	1,392	2,667	4,233	..	4,217	720	34,248
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	..	..	..	..	..	..	35,097	35,097
Interest or Rent	30,990	882	2,396	796	401	1,277	26,785	63,527
Other Sources	33,710	3,103	3,940	1,538	48	2,032	180,407	224,778
Total	582,865	45,006	59,254	21,966	68,726	51,465	1,517,057	2,346,339

* Including Hospitals for the Insane £392,753, Children's Welfare Department £383,695, and Benevolent Societies £18,780.

Charitable
Institutions
—Inmates
and deaths.

The next statement shows the number of inmates and of deaths in these institutions :—

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1930-31.

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.	
General Hospitals	48,606	2,930	3,185
Women's Hospital	7,491	242	102
Children's Hospital	4,683	298	403
Eye and Ear Hospital	2,611	90	12
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children ..	3,548	115	47
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital ..	5,339	424	93
Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows)	277	183	13
Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home	230	99	1
Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives	299	91	27
Heatherton Sanatorium	316	121	69
Janefield Sanatorium	135	55	15
Receiving Houses for the Insane	959	83	42
Hospitals for the Insane	7,227	6,207	428
Idiot Asylum	524	480	37
Benevolent Asylums	3,673	2,139	448
Convalescent Homes	2,420	120	2
Blind Asylums	107	77	9
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	152	140	..
Orphan Asylums	3,047	2,274	2
Children's Welfare Department	18,789	17,544	24
Female Refugees	1,204	655	13
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	447	157	1
Old Colonists' Association	105	95	6
Lara Inebriates' Institution	214	42	..
Brightside Inebriates' Institution	71	31	3
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	175	136	5
Total	112,649	34,828	4,987

In addition to the inmates shown in the above table, there were 57 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 98 mothers of infants in St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows, 321 infants in the Female Refugees, and 202 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1928.

An Act to consolidate the law relating to the management of hospitals and charities in the State of Victoria was passed in the year 1928, and was proclaimed on 18th December, 1929. A summary of its provisions appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 418 and 419.

No charitable institution or benevolent society may be established without the consent in writing of the Charities Board.

A fund called "The Hospitals and Charities Fund" is kept in the Treasury. To this fund the Government contributed a sum of £182,000 for the financial year 1931-32 for the payment of salaries and all other expenses of the Board and towards the maintenance of subsidized institutions and benevolent societies. In addition, a sum of £29,625 was voted for the year 1931-32 by Parliament and was applied to the erection of new buildings and alterations of and additions to existing buildings. An amount of £37,086 from Unemployment Relief Fund was provided for the erection of new buildings and additions and repairs to existing buildings. The matters which are to be considered when making payments from the fund are set forth on page 231 of the *Year-Book* for 1929-30.

Under section 9 of the *Totalizator Act* 1930 it is provided that there shall be paid each financial year out of the consolidated revenue into "The Hospitals and Charities Fund" an amount equivalent to the amounts carried to the consolidated revenue pursuant to the Act during the financial year. From this source the sum of £46,709 was received for allocation during the year 1931-32.

When the Board commenced its operations only one country hospital had maternity wards. In 1932 there were 29 either in existence or in process of construction.

The Board, in co-operation with the Government, has framed regulations in regard to Community Hospitals. A brief statement of these regulations appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 232.

The erection of new buildings on community lines has been completed at the Gippsland Hospital (Sale) and the Wangaratta Hospital, and the following hospitals have been granted permission to admit intermediate patients:—

Alexandra.	Hamilton.	Ouyen.
Ararat.	Heathcote.	Ovens (Beechworth).
Bairnsdale.	Horsham.	Port Fairy.
Bendigo.	Inglewood.	Portland.
Camperdown.	Kilmore.	St. Arnaud.
Casterton.	Kyneton.	Stawell.
Castlemaine.	Maldon.	Swan Hill.
Clunes.	Mansfield.	Warracknabeal.
Colac.	Maryborough.	Warrnambool (Maternity section only).
Creswick.	Mildura.	West Gippsland (Warragul).
Daylesford.	Mooroopna.	Wycheproof.
Dunolly.	Nhill.	Yarram.
Geelong.	Omeo.	
Gippsland (Sale).	Orbost.	

In the metropolis the scheme for the admission of intermediate patients has been initiated by the Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children and the Alfred (General) Hospital. At the former institution a new wing has been erected, and intermediate and private

patients are now being treated. At the Alfred Hospital one floor of a new wing will be set apart for intermediate patients. Under the Community Hospital Scheme the benefits to the public and to the finances of the institutions will be substantial.

The origin of this institution belongs to the earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year-Books* for 1915-16 and 1916-17 contain a statement of the circumstances associated with the foundation of the hospital in 1846, and a reference to its rebuilding in recent years.

It has always been the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain normally 372 beds. The number of in-patients treated in 1931-32 was 8,451, the daily average number being 382. In the out-patients' and casualty departments 50,233 persons were treated in that year. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 388,175.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated to 30th June, 1932, numbered 361,084, and the out-patients, 1,710,063.

In 1931-32 the Government grant for maintenance amounted to £25,172, the government fees to £455; the revenue derived from municipal grants was £2,041; private contributions amounted to £12,591; revenue from entertainments in aid to £218; bequests to £6,804; Hospital Sunday collections to £1,754; Lord Mayor's Fund allocation to £2,242; visitors' fees to £4,414; payments and contributions by indoor patients to £7,991; and out-patients' fees to £7,762; interest yielded a revenue of £12,565; and £1,575 was received from all other sources, the total receipts being £85,584 and the expenditure £96,157.

The Melbourne Hospital is also a training school for nurses, and has a nursing staff of 230. Attached to the hospital is the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine, which is endowed by the Trustees of the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust. The Institute is proving of valuable assistance in the many lines of research which are being conducted by an efficient and highly-trained staff.

To relieve the pressure on the City Hospitals the Convalescent Hospital at Caulfield was established in 1925. In seven wards there are 175 beds open, 146 of which are occupied daily. The management is undertaken by the committee of the Melbourne Hospital. The total expenditure for the year 1931-32 was £20,327.

This hospital, which was opened in May, 1871, is situated on land comprising 13 acres in Commercial and Punt Roads, Prahran. In 1921 an extensive scheme of building expansion was approved, subject to funds becoming available. Since then remarkable progress has taken place. The hospital is recognized by the Melbourne University as a clinical school

**Melbourne
Hospital.**

**Alfred
Hospital.**

for medical students, and is also a training school for nurses. On 30th June, 1932, there were 340 beds and cots in the Institution. The total number of in-patients who received treatment during the year 1930-31 was 6,670, and during 1931-32 the number was 6,554. In the out-patients and casualty departments, 53,917 persons were treated in 1930-31, while in 1931-32 the total was 60,206. The attendances of these patients rose in number from 319,769 in 1930-31 to 336,023 in 1931-32. The total of the receipts for the year 1931-32 in all the accounts was £60,980. The principal items of receipt were Government grants, £20,884; municipal grants, £1,658; private contributions, £4,083; revenue from entertainments in aid, £820; Hospital Sunday collections, £1,406; Lord mayor's Fund, £1,786; in-door patients' fees, £7,318; out-door patients' fees, £7,956; interest, £991; visitors' contributions, £3,842; special donations and bequests, £5,097; donations from auxiliary, £1,950; Boutique profits, £500; and miscellaneous, £2,671 (including £489 from the Government on account V.D. Clinic). The total expenditure on maintenance was £71,551, and in addition £11,396 was spent on buildings, furniture, fittings, &c.

The Alfred Hospital has a very fine clinic for the treatment of venereal diseases, the institution being the first in this State to establish such a department.

Other Hospitals, &c. Statements showing the nature of the work performed by other hospitals, societies, &c., are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 568 to 582, and 586.

HEALTH ACT 1919.

The main features of this Act, now included in the Consolidated Act of 1928, are given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 383 to 385.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

Development of sanatoria treatment during the years 1930-31 and 1931-32 has been delayed by lack of funds. A new Sanatorium at Mont Park has been completed, but no money has been available to open the institution. A Branch Bureau at Geelong with Dr. Cole, District Health Officer, in charge, was opened in January, 1932. The Branch Bureaux at Bendigo and Prahran have done most useful work, and the work at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau has considerably increased. Attendances at this Bureau were 8,212 in 1930-31 and 9,235 in 1931-32. The work of the Bureaux is much appreciated by general practitioners, from whom many encouraging messages have been received. An increasing number of patients is being sent by private doctors for examination and report by the Bureaux, in connexion with early diagnosis.

In connexion with the Sanatoria, modern methods have been introduced. With the co-operation of the Bureaux, a larger proportion of cases in the early stages of the disease has been admitted. This has resulted in a reduction in the period of stay in Sanatorium, and in the consequent utilization of the available number of beds to a greater extent for the benefit of the tuberculous population.

In conjunction with Professor Woodruff, research work regarding the value of the Blood Sedimentation Test and the Vernes' Flocculation Test in connexion with diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis is being carried out.

The following statement illustrates some of the work of the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 30th June, 1932 :—

	Central.		Bendigo.		Pahran.		Geelong.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
New cases applying ..	791	724	107	109	11	2	13	12
Re-attendance ..	2,735	5,296	220	107	110	135	58	73
Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions	451	512	..	..	11	18	9	16
Contacts—								
Examined ..	423	685	62	90	26	19	14	15
Re-examined ..	227	482	51	41	11	6	6	1
Found Tuberculosis ..	..	..	2	3	2	..	..	..
Under Tubercular Suspicion ..	..	..	..	..	5	..	2	1
Infecting Cases ..	954	..	55	26	15	22	8	8
Pneumothorax Refills ..	102	412	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sputum Examinations ..	771	..	48	15	18	24	16	21
Visits to Patients' Homes—								
By Medical Officers ..	191	..	23	19	..	..	2	1
By Nurses ..	2,160	2,809	293	302	332	351	71	132

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during the period of twelve months ended on 30th June in each of the six years 1927 to 1932 was as follows :—

Year.	Bureau.				Total.
	Central.	Pahran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	
1927	596	..	..	..	596
1928	1,115	..	..	..	1,115
1929	3,309	..	..	..	3,309
1930	6,088	177	..	..	6,265
1931	8,212	316	512	..	9,040
1932	9,235	285	543	164	10,227
1927 to 1932 ..	28,555	778	1,055	164	30,552

The following table shows the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths in sanatoria during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1932 :—

Sanatorium.	Admissions.		Discharges.		Deaths.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Amherst	171	..	142	..	8	..
Greenvale .. .. .	..	241	..	213	..	24
Janefield .. .. .	..	119	..	85	..	26
Austin	122	39	64	23	52	13
Heatherton	120	62	83	43	34	21
Royal Park	11	..	6	..	3	..
Total	424	461	295	364	97	84

St. John Ambulance Association. The work carried on by this Association is referred to 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 the injured. During the past year 3,015 students have been instructed in first aid and home nursing, of whom 1,965 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association, in 1883, 78,041 persons have received instruction, and 53,728 have been awarded certificates. The Association medallion has been awarded to 3,933 students.

Victorian Civil Ambulance Service. This service attended to 12,818 calls, of which 2,300 were connected with accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1932; the mileage travelled was 131,297. In 4,772 cases no fee was paid. The decentralisation of the service has commenced by the inauguration of Ambulance Stations at Prahran, Canterbury, and Footscray, with the intention of extending same to all suburban areas.

In addition, 22 Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, and 68 stretchers and first-aid outfits have been supplied to police stations in smaller centres.

Charity Organization Society. A statement of the objects of this society appears in the *Year-Book* 1916-17, page 583.

The income and outgo for the year ended 30th June, 1932, were—Administration Account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £2,255; expenditure, £2,410; Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £1,598; expenditure, £1,998; Emergency Relief Account—

Donations and refunds, £212; expenditure, £183. The number of separate cases dealt with during the year was 3,620, of which 1,811 had not previously come under the notice of the society.

Royal Humane Society. The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria Humane Society." Its objects are given in the *Year Book* for 1929-30 pages 236-237.

Royal Life Saving Society. With a desire to minimize the great loss of life from drowning a society was established in Melbourne in 1904 entitled the "Royal Life Saving Society." A statement of the objects of the society appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 237.

During the year 1931-32 the awards granted totalled 2,031. The total income for 1931-32 was £537 and the expenditure £511.

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, 1932, 3,263 cases were dealt with by it, of which 1,376 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 98 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £3,063, and the expenditure to £2,319.

National Safety Council of Australia. The National Safety Council of Australia was founded in Melbourne in 1927 at a public meeting for the purpose of developing, mainly by means of education, safety on the road, at work, and in the home, and its activities have developed in other directions, wherever the need of reducing the toll of accidents has been shown.

Junior Safety Councils have been formed in the schools for developing a safety conscience among children. The children themselves are officers of these Junior Safety Councils, and patrol the roads in the neighbourhood of the School to conduct the scholars across in safety.

A "Freedom from Accidents" Competition is conducted among employee drivers. Those who complete a year free from any accident for which they are responsible are given a certificate to that effect.

A Factories Service of four posters per month, together with slips for pay envelopes, constitute a regular service. Over 30,000 slips per month were supplied for use in factories during the year 1931.

Committees deal with specific problems regarding Traffic, Films, Safety in Industry, &c., and the latest Committees to be brought into being are the Air Safety and Home Committees.

The Lord Mayor's Fund, which was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930, was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities. 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 Lord Mayor's Fund subscriptions and donations amounting to £520,537 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £109,959.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1923-24 to 1931-32 were as follows:—

Year.				Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
				£	£	£
1923-24 to 1926-27	..	..	..	159,334	51,483	210,817
1927-28	..	..	..	60,015	13,277	73,292
1928-29	..	..	..	69,708	12,039	81,747
1929-30	..	..	..	65,458	11,596	77,054
1930-31	..	..	..	95,416	12,064	107,480
1931-32	..	..	..	70,606	9,500	80,106
Total	..	..	..	520,537	109,959	630,496

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an act passed in 1908 and amending acts. The *Year-Book* for 1916-17 contains, on pages 591 to 597, information relating to the persons entitled to receive them.

The maximum pension, whether old-age or invalid, is £1 per week. This rate was paid from 8th October, 1925. The commencing age for old-age pensions is 65 years in the case of men (60 years where a man is permanently incapacitated for work) and 60 years in the case of women. Under the *Financial Emergency Act* 1931, the limit of pension was reduced to 17s. 6d. per week as from 23rd July, 1931.

Pensioners, 1922-23 to 1931-32. The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1932, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 21,381; women, 31,414; total, 52,795. Invalid pensioners—men, 9,255; women, 11,530; total, 20,785.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year and the amount expended each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1932, are shown in the following statement:—

**OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS IN VICTORIA.
1922-23 TO 1931-32.**

Financial Year.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
				£
1922-23	31,248	11,707	42,955	1,589,362*
1923-24	32,603	12,220	44,823	1,947,069*
1924-25	33,845	12,950	46,795	2,027,202*
1925-26	36,800	14,062	50,862	2,348,571*
1926-27	38,702	15,327	54,029	2,666,470*
1927-28	40,642	16,398	57,040	2,813,840*
1928-29	42,795	17,557	60,352	2,972,581*
1929-30	45,495	18,641	64,136	3,129,765*
1930-31	49,999	19,925	69,924	3,321,037*
1931-32	52,795	20,785	73,580	3,218,011*

* This includes payments of pensions of 2s. per week (increased to 3s. per week from 13th September, 1923, to 4s. per week from 8th October, 1925, and to 5s. 6d. per week from 4th October, 1928, reduced to 5s. per week from 23rd July, 1931) to inmates of Benevolent Asylums and Hospitals. There were respectively 1,210 and 425 such pensions in force on 30th June, 1932.

Maternity Allowance. An act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of every child born in the Commonwealth on and after 10th October, 1912. Under the *Commonwealth Financial Emergency Act* 1931, assented to on 17th July, 1931, the allowance was reduced to £4 and became payable only if the income of the claimant and her husband for the twelve months preceding the date of the birth did not exceed £260. The number of claims granted in Victoria to 30th June, 1932, was 673,744, and the total of the allowances paid in the State to that date was £3,347,580.

For the year ended 30th June, 1932, the number of claims granted was 23,988, and the amount paid in allowances was £98,800.

LUNACY DEPARTMENT.

Lunacy
Department.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1930 and 1931 :—

INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE LUNACY DEPARTMENT, 31ST DECEMBER, 1930 AND 1931.

	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1930.	1931.	
In State Hospitals	5,816	5,829	+ 13
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	744	766	+ 22
Boarded Out	109	109	..
In Licensed Houses	63	67	+ 4
On Trial Leave from Licensed Houses	27	27	..
Total Number of Registered Insane	6,759	6,798	+ 39
In Receiving Institutions	91	77	- 14
Total	6,850	6,875	+ 25
Voluntary Boarders	92	123	+ 31
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers (not included in other statistics)	201	205	+ 4

The number of admissions to Hospitals for Insane for each of the years 1927 to 1931 is as follows :—

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1927	387	318	705	43	77	120	825
1928	441	303	744	42	91	133	877
1929	413	338	751	46	71	117	868
1930	393	394	787	32	62	94	881
1931	384	364	748	40	47	87	835

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, the Hospitals for the Insane for each of the years 1927 to 1931 are given below :—

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1927	154	180	334	268	180	448	782
1928	132	156	288	248	194	442	730
1929	195	202	397	235	193	428	825
1930	169	199	368	181	185	366	734
1931	161	170	331	260	205	465	796

The number of admissions to the Hospitals for the Insane has fallen below the admission rate of the three previous years, and the same may be said of the admissions to Receiving Houses. On the other hand, there has been a substantial increase in the applications of patients of a voluntary nature. Coupled with the fact that the death rate is higher this year than it has been for some considerable time, we have a resulting low increment amongst the registered and certified insane. The statistics of the Department seem to indicate that there is a very considerable decrease in the admissions of patients suffering from syphilitic manifestations and deaths dependent on the abuse of alcohol.

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

Neglected and reformatory children. There were at the end of 1931 two industrial and four reformatory schools in the State. Two of these (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing dépôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes or situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Children's Welfare Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1931, numbered 6,809—6,554 neglected and 255 reformatory children—and there were 12 others, free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by

the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years :—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1927 TO 1931.

Year.	NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Neglected Children.*
	Boarded Out.	Placed with friends on Probation.	Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1927 ...	4,367	1,599	431	585	15	6,997
1928 ...	4,473	1,793	424	617	12	7,319
1929 ...	4,123	1,983	408	713	13	7,240
1930 ...	4,171	1,745	329	689	18	6,952
1931 ...	3,775	1,749	270	750	10	6,554

Year.	NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR.					Total Reformatory Children.
	In Reformatory Schools.	Placed with Relatives.	Maintaining themselves at Service.	In Institutions (including Hospitals).	Visiting Relatives, &c.	
1927 ...	98	46	19	1	...	164
1928 ...	111	49	17	...	...	177
1929 ...	120	57	22	1	...	200
1930 ...	116	90	12	2	...	220
1931 ...	119	128	8	...	...	255

* Under the provisions of section 9 of the *Children's Maintenance Act 1919*, children, who had previously been committed as "neglected" children and boarded out to their mothers, were discharged in 1919 as wards of the State, but payments for their maintenance were continued to the mothers. At the end of 1931 there were 10,178 such children.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send to the Department reports as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is 12s. 6d. per week for children under 18 months, and 8s. per week for those over that age. These rates have been payable since 1st December, 1921. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

MAINTENANCE ACT 1928.

This Act consolidates the law relating to the maintenance of destitute or deserted wives and children. A statement of its provisions in respect of maintenance of children without sufficient means of support is given in the *Year-Book* for 1919-20, pages 395 and 396. For the twelve months ended 31st December, 1931, assistance was granted under the Maintenance Act in respect of 2,650 children, and 10,178 children were boarded out to their mothers at the end of the year, a decrease of 741 as compared with the number at the end of the previous year, viz., 10,919.

The following statement shows the number of wards of the State and of children boarded out with their mothers for the years 1927 to 1931 inclusive :—

WARDS OF STATE AND CHILDREN BOARDED OUT WITH MOTHERS, 1927 TO 1931.

Year.	Number boarded out to Foster Mothers at end of Year.	Number boarded out with Mothers at end of Year.	Total number boarded out at end of Year.	Total Cost of maintenance of boarded-out Children.*	Other Wards of State.	Total Wards of State and Children boarded out with Mothers.
				£		
1927 ..	4,367	9,094	13,461	339,028	2,794	16,255
1928 ..	4,473	9,904	14,377	385,036	3,023	17,400
1929 ..	4,123	10,244	14,367	384,876	3,317	17,684
1930 ..	4,171	10,919	15,090	361,945	3,001	18,091
1931 ..	3,775	10,178	13,953	335,907	2,779	16,732

* From 1st December, 1921, the rate of pay for children under the age of 12 months was increased from 11s. 6d. to 12s. 6d. per week, and, for those between 12 and 18 months, from 8s. to 12s. 6d. per week.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

The governmental expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1931 to £369,716, and that for reformatory school children to £5,634; the expenses of administration amounted to £16,124, making a total gross expenditure of £391,474. A sum of £8,044 was received from parents for maintenance, and of £462 from other sources, making the net expenditure £382,968. The number of neglected children under supervision on 31st December, 1931, was 6,554; of this total, 3,775 were maintained in foster homes, 217 were in Government receiving dépôts, 737 were in other institutions, 270 were at service earning their own living, 13 were in hospitals, 10 were on a visit, and 1,532 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The number of reformatory wards under supervision on 31st December, 1931, was 255. Of this number 119 were maintained in private schools, 8 were in service earning their own living, and 128 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children during the past ten years is shown in the statement which follows :—

NET COST TO THE STATE OF NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1922 TO 1931.

Year.			Net Expenditure.	Year.			Net Expenditure.
			£				£
1922	..	..	295,440	1927	..	..	368,172
1923	..	..	299,456	1928	..	..	417,361
1924	..	..	312,943	1929	..	..	429,098
1925	..	..	322,710	1930	..	..	413,439
1926	..	..	348,868	1931	..	..	382,968

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

Part I., Division 8, of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1928 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council. A statement showing the names of the approved societies appears in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30 on page 246.

The number of children under supervision in these societies on 31st December, 1930, was 2,142. The admissions during the year 1931 under various headings were as follows:—Court Committals, 89; Transfer of Guardianship, 70; Voluntary Admissions, 813. The number of children under supervision in the societies on 31st December, 1931, was 2,130.

Total number of neglected and orphan children.

The number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies on 31st December, 1931, reached the large total of 21,844, viz., 6,821 (6,809 State wards and 12 incapacitated) under the control of the Children's Welfare Department, 10,178 boarded out with mothers, 2,130 under the supervision of societies registered under the Children's Welfare Act, 412 in Foundling Hospitals, and 2,303 in Orphan Asylums.

On 31st December, 1931, there were 338 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of the Children's Welfare Act. The deaths during the year of such children numbered 8, and there were 5 cases of adoption. The work of inspection of registered homes is performed by 4 female inspectors. During the year 88 children became wards of the Children's Welfare Department by the operation of section 103 of the Act.

Infant Welfare.

With the object of reducing the wastage of child life due to preventable causes, infant welfare centres have been established throughout Victoria since 1917. They are established and maintained by various municipalities, which are aided by a Government subsidy on a £1 for £1 basis up to £125 per annum for each full-time and proportionately for each part-time nurse employed. At 30th June, 1932, there were 77 municipalities maintaining 139 centres. Of these 33 in the metropolitan area were supporting 74 centres and 44 in the country were supporting 65 centres. During the year ended 30th June, 1932, the number of individual infants who were given attention at centres was 34,283, compared with 32,320 in 1931. Their attendances numbered 386,336 in 1932 and 332,886 in 1931, and the nurses made 72,219 and 73,347 visits in 1932 and 1931 respectively. The number of nurses actually employed in infant welfare work centre was 92, but, including infant welfare nurses in the Public Health Department and those attached to voluntary organizations and training schools, there were 109 in all.

The following statement gives particulars of infant welfare centres for the year 1917-18 (the first year in operation) and for the five years 1927-28 to 1931-32 :—

—	1917-18.	1927-28.	1928-29.	1929-30.	1930-31.	1931-32.
Nurses in centres ..	1	69	88	91	93	92
Home visits ..	1,407	66,802	68,022	55,749	73,347	72,219
Total individual babies	913	25,718	28,105	30,857	32,320	34,283
Total attendances ..	4,116	232,384	259,784	244,800	332,886	386,336

There are six infant welfare and mothercraft training schools for nurses, of which three train infant welfare and mothercraft nurses, one trains infant welfare nurses only, and two train mothercraft nurses only. They are supported by voluntary organizations and church bodies. They are as follows :—

Victorian Baby Health Centres Association Training School	Training Infant Welfare Nurses
Foundling Hospital, East Melbourne ..	} Training Infant Welfare and Mothercraft Nurses
Presbyterian Babies' Home ..	
Tweddle Baby Hospital ..	
Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows ..	} Training Mothercraft Nurses
Methodist Babies' Home ..	

There are ten creches or day nurseries supported by 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 usual charge is 4d. per child per day, and this includes provision for three meals and a bath. The total attendances for the year ended June, 1932, were 35,136.

There are bush nursing centres distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At the end of June, 1932, the bush nursing centres numbered 63, inclusive of 29 bush nursing hospitals, and the bush nurses numbered 71 on permanent staff and 10 on relieving staff, the majority of whom hold infant welfare as well as general and midwifery certificates.

RELIEF FUNDS.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in a mine at Creswick caused the deaths of 22 miners. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives. In addition to the amounts paid to the widows and children mentioned, grants of surplus moneys are made annually to deserving cases. In 1931, the sum so allotted was £1,032. The amount at credit of the fund on 31st December, 1931, was £24,679.

Victorian
Mining
Accident
Relief Fund.

VICTORIAN COAL MINERS' ACCIDENTS RELIEF FUND

Victorian
Coal Miners'
Accidents
Relief Fund.

The establishment of this Fund is referred to in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 438.

During the year 1931 the contributions from employees amounted to £1,799, and the allowances paid at the mines totalled £1,524. For the year ended 31st December, 1931, the total revenue was £3,834—remittances from committees at the mines amounting to £387, interest to £1,601, and contributions by the mine-owners to £923 and by the Government to £917. The expenditure included £2,059 paid in allowances in addition to the amounts paid at the mines, and £419 cost of administration. The accumulated funds amounted to £33,054. Relief was given in 580 non-fatal cases. In respect to non-fatal accidents, there are 35 persons on the permanently disabled list, the number of children dependent upon such persons being 20. Nine fatal accidents occurred during the year. There are 24 widows, 3 mothers, and 31 children receiving aid from the fund as the result of fatalities during 1931 and previous years.

WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND

The Watson
Sustentation
Fund.

Information in relation to the establishment of this fund is given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 612.

The following are the particulars of members of the Fund relieved, &c., and of receipts and expenditure:—During the year 1931:—Eighteen members were relieved and 7 died, and 11 were on the funds at the end of the year. The receipts for the year were £291. Sick pay for 1931 amounted to £236, donations to members and wives and families of deceased members to £159, and expenses of administration to £62; the total expenditure being £457. The balance in hand at the end of the year 1930 was £948, and at the end of 1931, £782.

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's Fund.

This fund was instituted in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1931-32 was 113, to whom £838 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £142. The accumulated fund on 30th June, 1932, was £18,342. In addition to the ordinary receipts of the Fund (£838) for the year 1931-32 an amount of £208 was received from the trustees of the Walter and Elizabeth Hall Trust and distributed to governesses, nurses, and ladies in similar positions who from age, misfortune, or infirmity were unable to earn their living.

UNEMPLOYMENT.

Unemployment.

According to information furnished by secretaries of certain trade unions, the membership of which was approximately 50 per cent. of the total number of trade unionists in this State, there were 8.6 per cent. of the members of the unions referred to unemployed at the end of the first quarter of the year 1929. With the gradual growth in the severity of the industrial depression, unemployment increased steadily during each of the ten succeeding quarters, and reached a rate of 26.8 per cent. in the September quarter of 1931. There was a fall of 1.2 per cent. in the rate in the December quarter of 1931, as compared with that of the previous quarter. It rose to 26.0 per cent. in the first quarter of 1932 and in the second quarter to 27.7 per cent., which was the highest rate recorded since the commencement of the prevailing depression; the rate fell, however, to 25.2 per cent. in the fourth quarter of the year. The information supplied did not include members out of work through strikes or lockouts.

Information regarding unemployment is not collected from unions whose members are in permanent employment, such as railway and tramway employees, and public servants, or from unions whose members are casually employed (wharf labourers, &c.).

The following statement shows for each quarter from 1st January, 1929, to 31st December, 1932, the percentage of unemployed members of the trade unions which furnished returns :—

Year—Quarter.	Percentage of Members Unemployed.	Year—Quarter.	Percentage of Members Unemployed.
1929.		1931.	
1st (Jan. to March) ..	8.6	1st (Jan. to March) ..	24.4
2nd (April to June) ..	9.4	2nd (April to June) ..	26.5
3rd (July to Sept.) ..	13.0	3rd (July to Sept.) ..	26.8
4th (Oct. to Dec.) ..	13.5	4th (Oct. to Dec.) ..	25.6
1930.		1932.	
1st (Jan. to March) ..	14.1	1st (Jan. to March) ..	26.0
2nd (April to June) ..	17.6	2nd (April to June) ..	27.7
3rd (July to Sept.) ..	19.4	3rd (July to Sept.) ..	27.0
4th (Oct. to Dec.) ..	21.9	4th (Oct. to Dec.) ..	25.2

Relief of Unemployment.

The rates of tax and of stamp duties for the relief of unemployment on incomes earned during the year ended 30th June, 1931, appear on pages 255 and 256 of the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1930-31, and the rates on incomes earned during the year 1931-32 in part *Finance* of this issue.

All sums collected by and paid to the Commissioner of Taxes or the Comptroller of Stamps under any enactment, for the time being in force, imposing unemployment relief taxes or unemployment relief stamp duties are paid into the consolidated revenue, and an amount equal thereto is paid out of the consolidated revenue to the credit of

the Unemployment Relief Fund. The following is a detailed statement of the disbursements from the Fund during each of the years 1930-31 and 1931-32 :—

	1930-31.	1931-32.
	£	£
Sustenance	414,109	1,320,292
Works, &c.—		
Lands	18,947	26,355
Public Works and Mines	176,191	65,603
Country Roads Board	183,576	14,751
Forests	127,828	11,902
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission	159,214	2,746
Railways	12,250	..
Hospitals and Charities	71,742	9,241
Municipalities	131,266	127,629
Miscellaneous—		
Broadmeadows Camp	6,082	10,103
University	5,000	..
Fruit Preserving Companies	4,856	..
Books for scholars	2,068	..
Castlemaine Art Gallery	500	..
Administration	25,457	36,838
Refund of Stamp Duties, &c.	4,041	28,092
Other Disbursements	154	..
Total	1,343,281	1,653,552

Sustenance is provided at the same rates in every part of Victoria, and is distributed through the agency of public assistance committees appointed under the provisions of the *Unemployment Relief (Administration) Act 1932*.

The scale of *maximum* weekly sustenance that may be granted is as follows :—

Family Unit.	Sustenance not to be granted if Income from all sources for Family exceeds—	Maximum Weekly Sustenance that may be granted.
	s. d.	s. d.
Individual residing with strangers or relatives (other than parents) unable to support him or her	10 0	6 0
Man and wife	20 0	9 0
Man, wife, and one child	25 0	11 6
Man, wife, and two children	27 6	14 0
Man, wife, and three children	30 0	16 6
Man, wife, and four children	32 6	19 0
Man, wife, and five children	35 0	21 6
Man, wife, and six children	37 6	24 0
Man, wife, and seven children	40 0	26 6
Man, wife, and eight children and over..	42 6	29 0

In no case must the total family income together with the sustenance granted in any one week exceed the sum of 57s.

The number of family units in receipt of sustenance as at the 30th June, 1932, and 30th September, 1932, was as follows:—

District.				30th June, 1932.	30th September, 1932.
Metropolitan	..	..	..	35,820	28,191
Country	..	..	..	11,278	10,878
Total	..	..	..	47,098	39,069

Every male person who receives sustenance is required, on demand, to perform work of a prescribed class for the municipality within whose municipal district he received sustenance. Failure, without reasonable excuse, to perform in a satisfactory manner any work so demanded, may disentitle him to further sustenance.

Relief Works and Rates of Pay. The approval of the Employment Council of Victoria is required for all works carried out under or pursuant to any Act relating to the provision of moneys for the relief of unemployment.

The rates of pay for work on any works for the relief of unemployment are, where legally applicable, the rates payable under (a) awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration, or any industrial agreement under any Commonwealth Act or (b) determinations under the *Factories and Shops Act* 1928. In other cases the rates per hour are fixed by the Employment Council of Victoria, such rates not being less than the lowest rate per hour which is payable under (a) or (b) above mentioned.