

PART VIII.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE.

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

Payment to the University of an annual endowment of £45,000 from 1st July, 1923, was provided for in the *University Act 1923*. In addition, a supplementary grant of £65,200 was received for the year 1946-47. Other annual statutory grants and grants for special purposes are £6,500 for a School of Agriculture, £7,900 for a Veterinary School; £2,500 for a Chair of Obstetrics, £2,000 for the teaching of Psychology, £2,100 for Research, £5,900 for University Extension work, £11,000 for the Department of Bacteriology, and £1,500 for the teaching of nutrition, bringing the total Government grant to £149,600. In addition to grants from the Government, the Council derives income from fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. Further income is derived from endowments of various kinds.

The University maintains Chairs, either out of general revenue or from endowments, as follows: Agriculture, Anatomy, Architecture (The *Age* Professor) Bacteriology, Bio-chemistry, Botany and Plant Physiology, Chemistry, Civil Engineering, Classical Philology, Commerce (Sidney Myer Professor) Dental Science, Economics (Truby Williams Professor), Education, Electrical Engineering, English Language and Literature, Fine Arts, (The *Herald* Professor), French, Geology and Mineralogy, History, Jurisprudence, Mathematics Pure and Applied, Mechanical Engineering, Music (The Ormond Professor), Obstetrics, Oriental Studies, Pathology, Philosophy, Physics (Chamber of Manufactures Professor), Physiology, Psychology, Public Law, Semitic Studies (L. and A. Sicree Professor), Zoology. Research Chairs have been established in Economics (The Ritchie Professor), Experimental Medicine, and Metallurgy.

In addition, other departments, under the charge of an Associate-Professor, senior lecturer-in-charge or other officer are Economic History, Forestry, General Science, Germanic Languages, Medicine, Meteorology, Physical Education, Political Science, Social Studies, Surgery and Veterinary Science.

The annual fees payable by any student to the University in any year do not, in general, exceed £40. There are schemes in operation for financial assistance to students, based partly on academic merit and partly on a means test, by both State and Federal Governments, the latter including also the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme for ex-servicemen. In 1947, 219 students received State Government Financial Assistance, and 357 Commonwealth Financial Assistance, exclusive of ex-service students receiving allowances under the C.R.T.S. In addition, the University makes loans in approved cases out of a Students' Loan Fund of £20,000, established in 1923.

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

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. Investments (the result of private benefactions) amounted to £1,311,751 at 31st December, 1947. The total amount received by way of private benefaction in 1947 was £112,808.

Public Examinations. The University, through a Schools' Board (on which the Education Department, the registered secondary schools, the University teaching staff, and the business community are represented), conducts examinations each year for the School Intermediate and the School Leaving Certificates. The appended tables give the results of the examinations held 1946-47 and 1947-48 when the entrants numbered 16,182 and 16,012 respectively.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS 1946-47 AND 1947-48.

Examination.	Number who Attempted to Pass Fully.	Number who Passed Fully.	
		Total.	Percentage.
			%
School Intermediate—			
1946-47	8,538	4,891	57·29
1947-48	8,636	5,452	63·13
School Leaving—			
1946-47	5,331	3,414	64·04
1947-48	4,964	3,162	63·70

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

Of the successful candidates, 2,583 in 1946-47 and 3,053 in 1947-48 satisfied the requirements of the School Intermediate examination by submitting a Headmaster's certificate from an approved school. Corresponding figures for the School Leaving examination were 1,281 and 1,193 respectively.

For many years prior to 1944, the University's matriculation qualification had been gained by the passing of the School Leaving Examination in a prescribed manner. Then, a new Matriculation Examination, to which the obtaining of the School Leaving Certificate is pre-requisite, was introduced, and the matriculation qualification is now gained primarily at this Examination. Statistics of the Matriculation Examination 1945 and 1947 are as follows:—

Candidates.	1946.	1947.
Total Entries	3,199	3,778
Number who attempted to pass fully ..	1,992	2,130
Number who passed fully	1,189	1,254
Percentage who passed fully	59.69	58.87

Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the five years 1943-47 was as follows:—1943, 804; 1944, 953; 1945, 1,238; 1946, 2,332; and 1947, 2,038. The number of degrees taken during those years was 397, 454, 494, 574, and 650 respectively. Of the total of 18,541 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 4,146 have been conferred on women.

There were 7,283 students enrolled in 1946 (4,348 full-time, 2,441 part-time and 494 external students). In 1947, 9,118 were enrolled (5,662 full-time, 2,820 part-time and 636 external students). Courses taken were as follows (figures in parentheses relate to 1946):—Agriculture, 160 (122); Architecture, 118 (110); Arts, 1,621 (1,844); Commerce, 1,476 (1,335); Dental Science, 279 (216); Education, 137 (156); Engineering, 590 (530); Journalism, 30 (41); Law, 443 (346); Medicine, 1,008 (748); Music, 267 (573); Physical Education, 56 (57); Public Administration 71 (47); Research (post graduates), 139 (67); Science, 1,059 (1,018); Social Studies, 77 (69); Veterinary Science, 19 (13). "Single subject" enrolments are excluded from above figures.

The number of women students included above is 1,940 (1,735).

Matriculation Examination 1946 and 1947.

Under-graduates admitted and Degrees conferred.

Students enrolled 1946 and 1947.

University
Finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1947, is given below:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1947.

GENERAL RECEIPTS.

	£
State Government Grants—	
General	108,700
Other—except for buildings	41,675
Commonwealth Government Grants and Re-imbursements—	
Subsidy	83,234
Other—except for buildings	56,746
Students' Fees—including those for C.R.T.S. students—	
Lectures	178,447
Other	46,549
Public, Music Examination and Certificate Fees	32,826
Bequests and Donations—other than for Capital purposes	25,343
Interest, Dividends and Rent	52,788
Other Receipts	22,511
Total General Receipts	648,819

GENERAL EXPENDITURE.

Salaries and Provident Fund	475,669
Apparatus and Laboratory Votes	67,548
Books and Periodicals	6,111
Examiners' Fees	18,733
Examination Expenses	10,392
Exhibitions and Scholarships	10,422
Furniture and Fittings	10,921
Pay Roll Tax	12,000
Payments to Union and Recreation Grounds Committee	20,451
Printing and Stationery	14,565
Repairs and Alterations	30,130
Service Charges—Electricity, Fuel, Water, Telephones, &c.	13,342
Other	44,766
Total General Expenditure	735,050

SPECIAL RECEIPTS.

Donations and Bequests—for buildings or as endowments	85,891
Commonwealth Government Re-imbursement for Buildings	48,037
State Government Grant—Capital Cost of Mildura Branch	121,540
Total Special Receipts	255,468

SPECIAL EXPENDITURE.

Mildura Branch—Capital Cost in 1947	143,210
Other Buildings	45,017
Total Special Expenditure	188,227

**Affiliated
Colleges.**

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

**College of
Dentistry.**

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

**Canberra
University
College.**

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

**University
Extension.**

With the proposed formation of the Council of Adult Education by Act of Parliament, the University's responsibility for adult education will correspondingly diminish and will continue as such only in the activities of an Extension Committee. The University does provide, however, for the matriculation, under special conditions, of adult persons over the age of 23 years who have shown aptitude for higher education as determined by psychological tests.

**Mildura
Branch.**

During 1946, an extensive survey was undertaken of country centres with a view to providing teaching and laboratory accommodation in certain science subjects for the growing number of discharged servicemen wishing to begin or continue degree courses in Architecture, Engineering, Dental Science and Medicine. The site of the Royal Australian Air Force station at Mildura was chosen, and preparations were made for the accommodation of all students in the first year of each of the fore-mentioned courses at this Branch in 1947. The number of students enrolled in 1947 was 529, of whom 49 were women students.

Rehabilitation of Ex-Servicemen. The total number of students attending the University, who were assisted, either as full-time or part-time students, under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme was 4,129 in 1947. Special facilities such as refresher courses, additional tutorials and supplementary examinations under certain conditions, are available to ex-service students who require them. In addition, many temporary post-war lecturers, tutors, and demonstrators, whose salaries are met in part by a special Commonwealth grant, have been engaged to cope with the increased numbers. Additional buildings, mostly of a temporary character, have been erected to provide additional student accommodation. The Commonwealth, by annual subsidy, assists the University in the additional cost involved by the presence of large numbers of C.R.T.S. students.

VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

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

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

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

The numbers of students attending the College from 1943 to 1947 are shown hereunder:—

Course.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Pharmacy	243	272	369	421	497
Medical	93	101	95	145	155
Post Graduate (Pharmacy) ..	21	26	25	15	14
Total ..	357	399	489	581	666

Principal items of receipts and expenditure from 1943 to 1947 were:—

RECEIPTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
Lecture Fees	5,242	5,729	7,716	9,990	11,756
Examination Fees	287	252	273	331	357

PAYMENTS.

	Year Ended 31st December—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and fees to lecturers ..	2,570	2,966	3,571	4,184	4,610
Drugs and Chemicals	455	537	574	708	874
Administration and other Ex- penses	2,574	2,892	3,454	4,130	4,367

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The
educational
system of
Victoria.

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

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

are from 9.15 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. with one hour for lunch, and in the larger primary schools from 9.15 a.m. to 4 p.m. with $1\frac{1}{4}$ hours for lunch.

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

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

Since the beginning of 1947 instruction is free also to approved students in secondary and technical schools. In secondary schools no fees are charged to full-time students who make satisfactory progress: where single subjects are taken, or where the student has already failed in the work for the fourth, fifth, or sixth year as the case may be, moderate fees are charged.

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

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

Compulsory attendance. In accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act* 1928, parents or guardians of children of not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children to attend school on every school half-day in each week,

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

unless there is a reasonable excuse within the meaning of section 25 (3) of the Act for non-attendance. Failure to comply with these provisions renders a parent or guardian liable to a maximum fine of two pounds (£2) for a first offence and not less than two pounds (£2) nor more than five pounds (£5) for a second or subsequent offence, or, in default, imprisonment for a term of not more than fourteen days. Attendance officers are appointed for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the compulsory attendance provisions of the Education Act. The school leaving age is to be raised to fifteen years on a day to be proclaimed.

Conveyance allowance. An allowance for conveyance of up to one shilling per day for each day's attendance at a State or registered primary school is granted to children between the ages of six and fourteen years whose residence is more than three miles distant from the nearest existing State school. In special cases the allowance is granted for the conveyance of children over fourteen years of age.

School Committees. Under Act No. 2301, now incorporated in the *Education Act 1928* (No. 3671), provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school. A statement of the main duties of these committees was published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 199.

Special schools. Thirty-seven special schools have been established for those children whose disabilities make the ordinary schools unsuitable or undesirable. Such special schools include the Talbot School for Epileptics, the school for the blind, the school for the deaf and dumb, seven schools for the feeble minded (three residential) a school for child inmates of the Austin Hospital for Cancer and Chronic Diseases, a school for the inmates of the Convalescent Home of the Children's Hospital, and the schools in connection with the institutions under the Children's Welfare Department. Four special schools for youthful delinquents have been provided (at Pentridge Gaol, Castlemaine Reformatory, Royal Park and Newhaven). A school for young constables has also been established at the Police Depot. A school for the teaching of Horticulture is functioning at the State Schools' Nursery. Two special schools conduct experimental courses.

Woodwork and Cookery Centres. On 30th June, 1947 there were in operation 108 woodwork centres, having an attendance of 10,682 boys and 74 cookery centres (apart from those at Girls' Schools) with an attendance of 5,072 girls.

School Savings Banks. At 30th June, 1947, there were 2,735 School Savings Banks and 229,982 depositors with £561,325 2s. 7d. to their credit.

War Relief Fund.

The Victorian State Schools' War Relief Depot began operations on the 18th June, 1940, and continued to despatch large quantities of wool and other materials to schools to be made up into articles for the Australian Comforts Fund and the Australian Red Cross Society. To 30th June, 1947, the amount of money raised was £460,577 and the total number of articles supplied was 457,576. The appeal ceased on 31st October, 1945, but late contributions and accrued interest have annually added to the amount raised.

School forestry and horticulture.

A scheme for the establishment of school endowment plantations was inaugurated in 1923 with the co-operation of the Lands and of the State Forests Departments. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. At 30th June, 1947 plantations established—numbered 340 with a total acreage of 2,858 acres. During the past planting season approximately 33,000 trees were planted. To date, 56 schools have benefited to the extent of £7,254 from the sale of timber from these plantations. During the year ended 30th June, 1947, 786,413 super feet of pine logs were sold, bringing total production since 1937 to 2,750,000 super feet. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to pupils and teachers. The Society has established a nursery from which seedlings, shrubs, and many thousands of packets of seeds are distributed annually to the schools throughout the State.

Young Farmers' Clubs.

These have been established to interest pupils and young people in the agricultural life of the community, to give a practical side to rural education, and to train in public speaking and the management of meetings.

They are assisted by local advisory committees of experienced farmers.

The movement is controlled by the Young Farmers' Clubs Association on which body the education Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Railways Department, the Royal Agricultural Society, the Rotary Club and others are represented. Five full-time supervisors are employed. The number of clubs in State Schools is increasing steadily. A new movement to establish Senior Clubs for older members shows great promise, thirty-eight being already in existence.

School orchestras.

East Camberwell Girls' School has a small string orchestra, and five high schools, MacRobertson Girls', Essendon, Northcote, Melbourne Boys', University, and Brunswick Technical School have full orchestras.

School bands. There are 9 brass bands, 21 drum and fife bands, and 4 recorder bands in schools.

Music and speech training. There are 22 members of the music and speech training staff. Two members are attached to the Melbourne Teachers' College; five are in the provincial centres—Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. One is engaged mainly in speech training and one is in charge of the fife and recorder bands. Thirteen members work in various schools in the metropolitan area. Four of these are teaching part-time, having obtained nominated courses for the Bachelor of Music Degree at the University Conservatorium of Music.

Student teacher classes in music and speech training are held in eleven metropolitan centres and three in the provincial centres of Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. Correspondence lessons in speech are provided for country student teachers, and an advanced class to enable teachers to qualify for Singing Teachers' Primary Certificate is held at a metropolitan centre.

There is a weekly broadcast in music for both junior and post-primary grades.

Visual education. A Visual Education Centre has been established to prepare, produce and distribute filmstrips and wall charts for use in schools and to maintain a motion picture film library. A comprehensive sound film library is now being built up. Mobile units operate 16mm. sound projectors on four circuits in the Melbourne suburban area, one in the Bendigo district and one in the Ballarat district. State schools equipped with filmstrip projectors number 630. A Visual Education Committee ensures that all film used by schools are of a suitable standard.

Physical education. School programmes normally provide a daily period for such activities as gymnastics, games, sports, swimming and life-saving and for folk dancing. Two remedial centres have been established for children with physical defects: they cater for a limited number of children from surrounding schools and are conducted under medical observation by qualified physical educationists.

The organisation of physical education is in charge of an organizer with a staff of 23 male and 31 female assistants all of whom work in metropolitan districts and in large provincial centres. The training of

teachers for physical education is carried on by members of the staff at the teachers' colleges in Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo, in vacation schools, refresher classes, in country centres and special classes of instruction for student teachers.

Teachers' colleges. Student teachers are trained at the Melbourne, Ballarat, and Bendigo Teachers' Colleges. Those student teachers who have passed in five subjects, including English, of the School Leaving examination and in Arithmetic for the School Intermediate Certificate, or their equivalents, may be admitted to a college provided that they are at least eighteen years of age and that their teaching abilities have been satisfactorily reported on by their Inspectors. In special cases, student teachers without the School Leaving Certificate may be admitted, provided that they have suitable service and teaching ability.

In the first year at college, all students pursue a common course which leads to the Trained Primary Teacher's Certificate.

All extended courses are conducted at the Melbourne Teachers' College. Extended courses are available for students who wish to qualify as teacher of academic subjects, manual arts, or domestic arts in secondary schools or of infant departments or special schools. Other extended courses enable students to specialize in physical education, music, speech training, or agriculture, the last named course being taken at Dookie Agricultural College.

Central schools (post-primary). Sixteen central schools (post-primary) have been established in the metropolitan area and in larger provincial centres.

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

State Primary Schools, teachers and scholars 1880 to 1947. The following table shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1880.

VICTORIA—STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1880 TO 1947.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Instructors.*	Number of Scholars.†		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
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 December)	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1930	2,598	7,665	260,319	184,228	228,756
1931	2,590	7,613	261,673	187,443	232,286
1932	2,613	7,461	262,417	189,101	232,586
1933	2,609	7,371	264,697	190,977	234,174
1934	2,617	7,397	259,750	185,082	230,470
1935	2,606	7,353	256,564	182,442	226,728
1936	2,600	7,314	250,070	179,420	219,645
1937	2,589	7,394	234,228	153,381	209,043
1938	2,591	7,242	227,233	159,022	201,457
1939	2,585	7,316	222,012	155,988	195,417
1940	2,569	7,271	218,874	152,377	190,713
1941	2,542	7,222	213,159	151,841	185,611
1942	2,480	6,940	201,006	138,843	173,078
1943	2,458	6,953	191,138	139,037	173,054
1944	2,360	7,279	187,730	139,987	170,244
1945	2,318	6,212	181,812	138,302	165,213
1946	2,247	7,107	186,910	141,429	167,308
1947	2,182	6,870	190,433	145,505	170,898

* Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 841 on 31st December, 1947.

† Includes Post Primary classes. Excludes Correspondence School.

VICTORIA—STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1946, AND 1947.

Class of School.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Estimated Net Enrolment.
Central Schools* and Classes..	1946	40	7,466	6,278	7,158
	1947	26	4,965	4,293	4,783
Higher Elementary Schools* ..	1946	49	5,281	4,369	5,094
	1947	48	5,460	4,546	5,225
Girls' Schools	1946	14	4,841	3,899	4,660
	1947	14	5,012	4,020	4,854
Junior Technical Schools† ..	1946	29	10,623	8,783	10,376
	1947	29	10,910	9,072	10,697
District High Schools ..	1946	44	19,517	16,765	18,870
	1947	44	19,433	16,866	18,695
Total ..	1946	176	47,728	40,094	46,158
	1947	161	45,780	38,797	44,254

Post Primary Schools, previously shown under Central Schools above, are included in Primary.

* Central Schools (except one) and Higher Elementary Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Primary Schools.

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

Tuition by correspondence. In addition to the foregoing, there were 1,248 pupils enrolled during 1946 for tuition by correspondence in primary and secondary courses, with a net enrolment of 1,073. Corresponding figures for 1947 were 1,675 and 1,284.

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number of pupils attending State Schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (from 6 to 14 years) during the years ended 31st December, 1946 and 1947 :—

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS,
1946 AND 1947.

Class of School.	Year.	Under Six Years.	From Six to Fourteen Years.	Over Fourteen Years.	Total
Primary	1946	11,879	149,118	4,200	165,197
	1947	12,646	152,115	4,030	168,791
Central Schools (Post Primary)	1946	..	1,361	750	2,111
	1947	..	1,338	769	2,107
Central Schools (Secondary) ..	1946	..	3,947	1,100	5,047
	1947	..	3,804	879	4,783
Higher Elementary Schools ..	1946	..	2,533	2,561	5,094
	1947	..	2,786	2,439	5,225
Girls' Schools	1946	..	2,589	2,071	4,660
	1947	..	2,653	2,201	4,854
Junior Technical Schools ..	1946	..	4,466	5,910	10,376
	1947	..	4,644	6,053	10,697
District High Schools ..	1946	..	7,242	11,628	18,870
	1947	..	7,301	11,394	18,695
Pupils receiving tuition by correspondence.	1946	79	906	88	1,073
	1947	62	770	452	1,284
Total	1946	11,958	172,162	28,308	212,428
	1947	12,708	175,411	28,317	216,436
Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrolments between the various types of schools	1946	11,864	170,805	28,086	210,755
	1947	12,547	173,173	27,967	213,687

Council of Public Education.

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

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

Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, English or other language, mathematics, history, any natural or experimental or applied science, bookkeeping, shorthand, accountancy;

but 'school' does not include the University of Melbourne or any college affiliated therewith or any assembly of persons, all of whom are members of not more than two families, or any State school, or

any school aided by the State, or any school in any part of Victoria declared by the Governor in Council to be a sparsely populated district for the purposes of this Act”.

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

Registered schools, teachers and pupils, 1947. Statistical information relating to registered schools is obtained from the annual return made by each school to the Council of Public Education. Particulars of the registered schools operating during 1947 (excluding commercial colleges) are shown in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—ENROLMENT (IN AGE GROUPS) IN DENOMINATIONAL AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1947.

	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.		
			Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.
Denominational—								
Roman Catholic	341	1,688	7,143	45,289	7,775	6,919	42,389	7,556
Church of England	34	518	990	5,583	3,709	953	5,355	3,669
Presbyterian	16	229	594	1,745	2,048	587	1,689	2,041
Methodist	4	133	104	1,342	1,389	97	1,305	1,371
Other	15	62	140	868	244	140	854	244
Udenominational	59	280	1,885	3,045	846	1,866	2,898	820
Total	469	2,910	10,856	57,872	16,011	10,562	54,490	15,701

VICTORIA—REGISTERED SCHOOLS—GROSS ENROLMENT AND SECONDARY EDUCATION, 1947.

	Gross Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Education.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Denominational—						
Roman Catholic	30,114	30,093	60,207	5,839	5,683	11,522
Church of England	5,153	5,129	10,282	2,914	2,510	5,424
Presbyterian	2,327	2,060	4,387	1,747	1,028	2,775
Methodist	880	1,955	2,835	688	1,303	1,991
Other	721	531	1,252	253	133	386
Udenominational	1,732	4,044	5,776	229	1,237	1,466
Total	40,927	43,812	84,739	11,670	11,894	23,564

State and registered schools, 1947.

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

VICTORIA—STATE AND REGISTERED SCHOOLS, 1947.

	Gross Enrolment.			Net Enrolment.			Estimated Number of Pupils Receiving Secondary Education.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Under 6 Years.	Between 6 and 14 Years.	Over 14 Years.	
State Schools . . .	123,858	114,030	237,888	12,708	175,411	28,317	47,977
Registered Schools	40,927	43,812	84,739	10,562	54,490	15,701	23,564
Total ..	164,785	157,842	322,627	23,270	229,901	44,018	71,541

NOTE.—In addition, State Senior Technical Schools, had a gross enrolment of 33,609 males and 9,257 females.

STATE SECONDARY EDUCATION.

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

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

Established in 1910, this school continues as the official practising school for the work of the first year of the course for Bachelor of Education of the University of Melbourne. Here is undertaken much of the practical part of the work of training graduates for secondary teaching.

University High School.

Higher elementary schools. There are 48 higher elementary schools in which a four-years' course up to School Intermediate Certificate is provided. During the term ended 31st December, 1946, there was an average attendance at these schools of 4,369 pupils, of whom 2,102 were boys and 2,267 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1947, the attendance was 4,546, consisting of 2,173 boys and 2,373 girls.

Central schools and classes (Secondary). In central schools in the metropolitan area and in schools with central classes in country centres a two-years' preparatory course of secondary education is available. This course was attended by 6,278* pupils in 1946 and by 4,293 in 1947. Pupils from these schools have priority of admission to district high schools.

Girls' schools. There are fourteen girls' schools, of which eleven are in the Metropolitan Area of Melbourne, and one each in Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. During the term ended 31st December, 1947, there were 4,020 girls in attendance at these schools, compared with 3,899 during the corresponding term in 1946. Courses lead to the Proficiency Certificate at the end of the third year and the Education Department's Intermediate Certificate at the end of the fourth year.

District high schools. There are 44 district high schools in which a six years' course is provided. At the end of the fifth year pupils may obtain the School Leaving Certificate, and at the end of the sixth year may qualify for matriculation. During the term ended 31st December, 1947, there were in attendance 16,866 pupils, of whom 8,323 were boys and 8,543 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1946 the attendance was 16,765, comprising 8,360 boys and 8,405 girls.

Conveyance of post-primary pupils. The Education Department is firmly convinced that the system of conveyance of groups of children from outlying districts to large educational centres is preferable to the establishment of small State secondary and Technical schools. For this reason, at the beginning of 1944, it was decided to provide a number of bus services and to defray the full cost of the transport of the pupils conveyed.

During the year 1946-47 there were 308 school buses in operation and 9,500 pupils were conveyed to State and registered secondary schools. The cost of these services was £233,846.

The Department is also meeting the cost of the fares of students who are taking secondary school courses at State secondary and registered secondary schools and who are unable to travel on the school bus services established by the Department. Fares are paid only when the school attended is outside a radius of three miles from the student's home and is the nearest one providing the required standard of education.

* Attendances at Central Schools (Post-primary) are included in the attendances at Primary Schools.

At the beginning of 1947 scholarships were awarded as under:—

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

Number and Kind	Age Requirements of Candidates.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
850 Junior Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1947	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £19 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
650 Free Places at State secondary schools open to candidates attending State schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1947	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
150 Teaching Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Between 14½ years and 16½ years on 1st January, 1947	3 years	As for Junior Scholarships
150 Intermediate Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 15½ years on 1st January, 1947	1 year	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £10 p.a.; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
235 Senior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State, technical and registered schools	No age limit	Up to 5 years	Free tuition at senior technical schools; also £30 p.a. in case of day scholars and £10 p.a. or £5 p.a. in case of evening scholars; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a. for maintenance
64 Senior Scholarships open to candidates attending State, registered and technical schools	Not over 18½ years on 1st January, 1947	Up to 6 years	£40 p.a. towards expense of course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
70 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to Student Teachers and candidates attending State, registered, and technical schools	No age limit	Up to 6 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
5 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to officers (other than teachers) of the Government of Victoria	Not over 25 years on 1st January, 1947	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University. Leave on full pay to attend lectures and examinations
15 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to teachers of Education Department	No age limit	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University

In addition to these scholarships, 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 may be granted to enable pupils who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances to attend State secondary and technical schools. Free tuition is granted to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated servicemen or ex-servicemen, attending State secondary or technical schools.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The technical schools in the State were originally under the control of local school councils. In 1910, however, legislation was enacted which provided for all schools established after that year to be under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1947, was 32, of which eighteen have been established since the passing of the *Education Act 1910*. The gross enrolment for the year 1947 comprised 10,910 junior and 42,866 senior students.

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

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

Associated with every technical school, with the exception of the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Melbourne Technical College, and the William Angliss Food Trades School, is a full-time day junior technical or preparatory section, which provides for a three years' course of study.

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

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

The junior school course is of four years' duration. After the satisfactory completion of Form III., pupils are eligible for the award of the Junior Technical Certificate and, after an additional year's satisfactory work, the Intermediate Technical Certificate.

The Junior Technical Certificate is the recognized pre-requisite for apprenticeship to most trades. Apprentices in proclaimed trades under the Apprenticeship Commission attend Senior Technical Schools for part-time day and evening instruction throughout their training which is, in general, of four years' duration.

The Intermediate Technical Certificate provides the entrance standard for admission to professional part-time and full-time courses.

There are two private technical schools in Melbourne and these are approved for instruction to the junior technical certificate stage and are open to inspection by departmental officers.

Senior technical schools, such as the Melbourne Technical College (formerly Working Men's College), the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong), the Ballarat School of Mines, the Bendigo School of Mines, and the Footscray Technical School, are general purpose technical schools providing generally full day and evening professional courses and full-time and part-time day and evening trade and commercial courses. Specialized instruction is given at provincial centres, such as at Geelong, in wool-classing and sorting and architecture, and at Ballarat and Bendigo in chemistry and mining. The smaller country schools have full-time or part-time farm utility courses specially adapted to the needs of the local district, in addition to the junior preparatory and certain full-time and part-time senior courses associated with engineering, building, commerce, and art and applied art.

The technical schools for women's industries are the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Box Hill Technical School, and women's sections at Ballarat, Brighton, Castlemaine, Maryborough, Prahran, Sale, Sunshine, Warrnambool, and Wonthaggi technical schools, the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), and the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong).

The fees per term range from 10s. per subject to £8 per course of subjects.

No fees are charged in junior technical schools and from the beginning of 1947, free tuition has been made available to all qualified students undertaking full time approved courses in senior technical schools, provided a satisfactory standard of attainment is maintained.

Living allowances up to £143 per annum are also available to senior technical scholarship holders under certain conditions subject to a means test, whilst non-scholarship holders doing full time senior courses are eligible in the second and subsequent years of their courses for assistance from the Universities Commission.

Government expenditure on each technical school during each of the five years ended 1946-47 is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1942-43 TO 1946-47.

School.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale	4,735	5,677	6,590	7,716	9,503
Ballarat	18,194	21,185	22,262	31,987	29,823
Bendigo	14,708	16,664	19,240	30,065	27,122
Box Hill	37,253	18,757	16,507	13,604	16,587
Box Hill (Girls)	7,109	8,207	8,561	7,733	8,763
Brighton	17,970	19,491	35,496	26,988	28,727
Brunswick	18,229	18,636	16,430	19,388	22,387
Castlemaine	9,149	9,076	9,141	9,493	10,910
Caulfield	16,073	20,275	19,789	29,976	38,831
Coburg				4,915	
Collingwood	23,616	27,454	42,451	57,768	46,659
Daylesford	3,481	3,672	4,361	5,967	5,405
Echuca	6,597	12,445	8,364	10,997	12,706
Essendon	14,654	15,839	15,485	16,158	19,466
Footscray	46,797	43,248	37,391	52,222	72,090
Geelong (Gordon Institute of Technology)	22,087	34,803	59,957	72,367	59,129
Maryborough	10,055	10,294	11,712	11,973	13,864
Melbourne—					
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy	12,162	14,163	15,068	15,755	35,931
Swinburne Technical College	32,995	34,742	34,175	41,552	54,574
Technical College	67,168	67,152	54,020	79,442	101,564
William Angliss Food Trades	4,184	4,473	5,974	5,804	8,287
Oakleigh			22,955	23,059	21,172
Prahran	14,557	14,773	15,466	15,828	18,590
Preston	13,546	15,210	17,000	18,243	43,183
Richmond	14,510	18,909	16,683	17,477	20,762
Sale	7,120	13,392	14,561	10,578	12,633
Sandringham				7,269	15,200
South Melbourne	12,931	16,177	15,500	17,011	18,391
Stawell	4,977	5,567	8,207	6,356	8,576
Sunshine	11,293	13,109	15,550	22,978	16,753
Wangaratta	7,003	8,144	8,202	8,936	11,994
Warrnambool	10,360	9,173	11,623	10,907	15,003
Wonthaggi	7,196	7,792	8,010	7,739	9,125
Yallourn	10,064	9,680	10,863	12,184	14,405
Other Votes for Technical Schools	18,774	26,682	40,888	61,817	72,251
Miscellaneous	3,715	3,912	4,445	6,504	9,200
Total	523,262	568,773	652,917	798,757	929,566

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During 1946-47, expenditure by and on behalf of the Education Department of Victoria, as published in the Report of the Minister of Public Instruction, together with the payment by the Treasury to the University (less that for Bacteriological Laboratory Services) totalled £5,776,922. This amount includes expenditure from loan moneys and the cost of pensions and gratuities, but excludes the interest paid by the State on loans for educational purposes (particulars of which are not available), payroll tax, and superannuation paid on behalf of officers in the Defence Forces. Comparative figures for each of the years 1942-43 to 1946-47 were as follows:—

VICTORIA—STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION,
1942-43 TO 1946-47.

Expenditure on—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education, Primary, Intermediate, and Secondary—					
Primary (including Special Subjects)	2,001,879	2,131,489	2,199,494	2,365,271	2,554,332
Intermediate	141,924	165,108	189,982	206,312	††
Secondary	328,607	374,227	475,786	547,976	1,018,751
Buildings and Land	177,167	150,058	205,750	284,198	405,862
Technical Education—					
Junior and Senior Schools	442,825	496,394	535,820	616,336	752,931
Buildings and Land	74,821	66,318	117,077	174,726	168,137
Training of Teachers	36,767	46,423	76,239	92,682	216,538
Administration	94,281	98,096	104,342	102,941	150,786
Pensions	171,116	170,523	165,910	167,328	167,706
Miscellaneous	198	2,042	2,656	2,395	34,377
University—					
Special Appropriations, &c.*	108,500	120,000	122,000	128,100	294,585
Scholarships	7,088	7,484	6,259	7,122	7,972
Other (Subsidies) .. .. .	..	..	2,961	1,706	4,945
Total*	3,585,173†	3,828,162†	4,204,276†	4,697,093†	5,776,922†
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head of Population	1 16 4	1 18 4	2 1 9	2 5 8	2 16 3

* Excluding expenditure on Bacteriological Laboratory Services, viz.:—£4,000 during each year 1942-43 to 1944-45 and £1,500 in 1945-46 and 1946-47.

† Excluding (a) pay-roll tax, £63,767 in 1942-43, £69,318 in 1943-44, £76,872 in 1944-45, £78,107 in 1945-46, and £87,761 in 1946-47, and (b) superannuation paid on behalf of officers in Defence Forces, £19,110 in 1942-43, £20,477 in 1943-44, £21,878 in 1944-45, £12,303 in 1945-46, and £2,592 in 1946-47.

‡ Intermediate education is now included under the heading of Secondary.

In addition to the expenditure shown in the preceding table, fees, donations, &c., amounting to £80,619 in 1942-43, £101,682 in 1943-44, £114,915 in 1944-45, £131,490 in 1945-46, and £177,626 in 1946-47 were retained and expended by the various technical school councils.

In the following statement the expenditure shown has been confined to that relating to primary and secondary education in State schools i.e., excluding amount expended on technical education. No attempt has been made to apportion general expenditure items such as "Training of Teachers, Administration, &c."

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION—STATE SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING TECHNICAL SCHOOLS), 1946-47.

Expenditure on	Amount
Primary Education—	£
Day Schools, including Post Primary	2,406,103
Special Schools	48,901
Group and Consolidated schools	33,050
Correspondence School	15,843
Special Subjects—	
Physical Education	19,929
Visual	20,444
School Gardening and Plantations	3,237
Music and Speech Training	6,825
Total Primary	2,554,332
Secondary Education—	
Central Schools	199,616
Higher Elementary Schools	158,325
Girls' Schools	85,912
High Schools	519,054
Correspondence School	11,318
Registered School Pupils	44,526
Total Secondary	1,018,751
Training of Teachers	216,538
Administration	150,786
Miscellaneous	34,377
Buildings—	
Primary, Group, Consolidated, Higher Elementary, Girls' and Special Schools	358,459
High Schools	39,605
Teachers' College	2,949
Rents	4,849
Total Buildings	405,862
Pensions	167,706
Grand Total	4,548,352

Melbourne Technical College.

Melbourne Technical College, as the Working Men's College, was founded in 1887 by the late Hon. Francis Ormond. It is open to 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.

Scholarships and Prizes.

Various scholarships which have been donated by manufacturers, commercial associations, and other bodies are available to senior students of the College. Several valuable prizes are also given annually by employers and others interested in technical education.

Day Courses and Fees.

All fees are payable in advance. The year is divided into three terms. The day courses and the scale of fees per term for the year 1948 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE—COURSES AND FEES.

Diploma Courses.	Fee per Term.	Other Day Courses.	Fee per Term.
			£ s. d.
Applied Chemistry	£5 10s. for the first, second, and third years and £6 10s. thereafter	Commercial—	
Chemical Engineering		Full Day ..	5 0 0
Metallurgy		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Metallurgical Engineering		Engineering Machine Shop—	
Mining Engineering		Special Full Day..	3 0 0
Applied Science		Electrical Trades—	
Mechanical Engineering		Special Full Day..	3 0 0
Electrical Engineering		Art Course—	
Civil Engineering		Full Time ..	4 0 0
Communication Engineering		Five Half-days ..	3 0 0
Automotive Engineering	Wool-sorting—		
Aeronautical Engineering	Full Courses ..	8 0 0	
		Special Course ..	1 15 0
	£ s. d.	Photography—	
Architecture	5 10 0	Full Day ..	6 0 0
Advertising Art	4 0 0	Motor Mechanics—	
Painting		Trade Course ..	5 0 0
Industrial Design		Farm Mechanics ..	5 0 0
Modelling and Sculpture			

Evening Courses and Classes.

In the evening school, the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers; geologists; aero, civil, electrical, mechanical, and structural engineers; radio technicians; communication and production engineering; land surveyors; mechanical draughtsmen; public analysts; art; architects; industrial chemists; heat treatment; mine managers; mine surveying; primary and secondary metallurgy; building and printing trades. Evening courses for the diplomas of chemistry, applied science, mechanical, electrical,

aeronautical, production, radio and civil engineering, metallurgy and accountancy are also in operation. The fees for evening tuition range from £1 10s. per term to £4 10s. per term according to the course taken.

The evening classes are also open to students who, instead of undertaking a full course, receive instruction in any one or more subjects of any course. Tuition is also given by correspondence.

During 1947 the College accommodated 375 Reconstruction Trainees, for full-time courses, which are not included in the following figures.

Details relating to the College during the years 1943 to 1947 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1943 TO 1947.

—	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Individual students enrolled ..	9,599	11,294	12,332	16,470	16,166
Males	7,776	9,334	10,420	14,879	14,737
Females	1,823	1,960	1,912	1,591	1,429
Number of classes	399	401	552	687	740
Number of Instructors	413	488	626	693	716
Salaries paid to Instructors £	58,952	58,152	73,190	131,762	158,805
Government grant £	52,800	45,600	48,000	75,320	92,454
Fees received during the year* £	42,480	50,544	58,779	73,248	83,254
Average fee per student per year	88s. 6d.	89s. 6d.	95s. 4d.	88s. 11d.	103s.

* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £9,344 in 1943, £8,605 in 1944, £6,444 in 1945, £20,938 in 1946 and £32,482 in 1947. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

Public Library of Victoria. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz., the Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending and Travelling Library.

At the 30th June, 1948, the Reference Library contained 565,884 volumes and 89,877 pamphlets. The lending branch, which is also free to the public, contained 61,127 volumes at the same date and issued 1 6,961 volumes to 12,405 borrowers during the year ended 30th June, 1948. The Country Lending and Travelling Library contained 24,542 volumes and during the year despatched 5,750 books to 73 country towns.

Other Public Libraries.

The "Free" Libraries in country townships are, as a rule, very small and the quality of the books of little value from an educational or cultural point of view. Statistics for the year ended 31st December, 1947, were collected from 91 of the more important libraries throughout the State, 27 of which are situated in the metropolitan area and 64 in the cities and chief towns. There were 1,282,344 volumes in these libraries on the 31st December, 1947. The total receipts amounted to £107,390 of which the Government contributed £45,443 and municipal councils £23,043. The total expenditure was £99,100, of which £30,010 represented the cost of new books, magazines, &c.

The following table shows the principal libraries in the State and the number of volumes as at 31st December, 1947. Libraries controlled by municipalities are shown with an asterisk (*).

VICTORIA—PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1947.

Municipality.	Volumes at 31st December, 1947 in—				
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	Children's Branch.	Total.
METROPOLITAN.					
Brighton*	150	7,650	..	950	8,750
Brunswick Free Library	2,968	8,018	..	1,336	12,322
Canterbury Public Library	740	13,300	..	1,700	15,740 (b)
Collingwood*	2,400	3,500	..	..	5,900
Fitzroy*	3,400	3,450	..	..	6,850
Footscray Free Library	200	17,500	..	1,000	18,700
Hawthorn*	160	8,590	..	4,000	12,750
Heidelberg Public Library .. ..	..	4,600	..	..	4,600
Kew* Children's Library .. ..	..	..	..	5,650	5,650
Melbourne— .. ..	..	9,170	..	5,082	14,252
Kensington .. ..	..	4,670	..	3,047	7,717
North Melbourne	1,260	8,943	..	14,500	24,703 (a)
The Public Library of Victoria ..	565,884	61,127	24,542	..	651,553 (a)
Moorabbin—					
Cheltenham Free Library .. ..	..	850	..	..	850
Moorabbin Public Library .. ..	..	1,450	..	..	1,450
Mordialloc-Mentone Public Library	..	4,500	..	500	5,000
Northcote* "Carnegie"	160	11,250	..	1,500	12,910
Oakleigh*	40	2,884	..	..	2,924
Port Melbourne*	2,000	11,000	..	..	13,000
Prahran*	5,000	15,000	..	8,000	28,000
"Free Library .. ..	..	10,500	..	..	10,500 (b)
Preston* .. ..	..	7,040	..	2,100	9,140
Richmond*	2,476	4,925	..	..	7,401
Richmond South*	4,000	1,870	..	..	5,870
South Melbourne	212	12,312	..	4,741	17,265
Williamstown Free Library	800	8,000	..	900	9,700
Total	592,028	243,599	24,542	55,006	915,175

(a) At 30th June, 1948.

(b) At 31st December, 1946.

VICTORIA—PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1947—*continued.*

Municipality.	Volumes at 31st December, 1947 in—				
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	Children's Branch.	Total.
PROVINCIAL	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Ballarat (4)	992	53,314	..	3,538	57,844
Bendigo (4)	730	13,262	..	..	13,992
Geelong (c) (5)	850	23,978	..	9,733	34,561
Mildura* " Carnegie "	700	13,964	..	3,140	17,804
Warrnambool	4,647	7,289	..	1,140	13,076
Hamilton	200	12,000	..	750	12,950
Castlemaine	100	10,000	..	700	10,800
Shepparton	165	9,065	1,245	800	11,275
Total	8,384	142,872	1,245	19,801	172,302

(c) There were 13,540 volumes in the Geelong City municipal library and 8,000 in the Chilwell municipal library.

National Gallery. The National Gallery at 30th June, 1948, contained the following works of art:—2,120 oil paintings, 7,746 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 21,671 watercolours, drawings, etchings, engravings, &c. During the year ended 30th June, 1948, £70,612 was expended on works of art, the Trustees of the Felton Bequest providing £66,825 of that amount.

The National Gallery Art School was attended during the year 1947-48 by a daily average of 101·5 students including 47 students under the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme.

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

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

Museum of Applied Science.

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

The exhibits, which comprised 22,870 separate items on the 30th June, 1948, covered applied and economic aspects of all branches of science.

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

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

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

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

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

ZOOLOGICAL BOARD OF VICTORIA.

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

PUBLIC RESERVES IN GREATER MELBOURNE.

Statistics relating to Public Reserves are compiled from information furnished triennially by municipalities in Greater Melbourne.

On 1st October, 1946, the total area of such reserves was 9,875 acres of which 3,456 acres were acquired by the municipalities at a total cost of £1,000,573.

The particulars for each municipality comprising Greater Melbourne were published in the *Year-Book* for 1944-45, page 402.

HOUSING COMMISSION.

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

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

Country municipalities in which housing estates are being developed include—

<i>Cities</i>	..	Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Geelong West, Mildura, Warrnambool.
<i>Towns</i>	..	Ararat, Colac, Hamilton, Horsham, Newtown and Chilwell, Sale.
<i>Boroughs</i>	..	Castlemaine, Eaglehawk, Echuca, Inglewood, Maryborough, Port Fairy, Portland, St. Arnaud, Shepparton, Stawell, Swan Hill, Wangaratta, Wonthaggi.
<i>Shires</i>	...	Alberton, Bacchus Marsh, Bairnsdale, Beechworth, Benalla, Bet Bet, Bright, Broadford, Buln Buln, Charlton, Cohuna, Corio, Cranbourne, Dandenong, Dimboola, Dunmunkle, Euroa, Frankston and Hastings, Gisborne, Glenelg, Hampden, Heytesbury, Kerang, Korumburra, Kyneton, Lowan, Maffra, Mansfield, Mildura, Mirboo, Morwell, Narracan, Numurkah, Orbost, Rochester, Rodney, Rutherglen, Seymour, Strathfieldsaye, Swan Hill, Traralgon, Tungamah, Warracknabeal, Warragul, Wodonga, Woorayl, Yarrawonga.

Since its inception 99 districts, including 79 in the country, have been developed by the Commission and 6,785 houses provided thereon. In addition 3,823 houses are in various stages of construction.

In accordance with the agreement made between the Commonwealth and State Governments projects have been determined for the Government sponsored construction of 9,673 houses for Victoria to 30th June, 1948, allocated as follows:—

Houses.	Metropolitan.	Country.
	No.	No.
Completed	3,777	1,680
Under construction	2,575	1,248
Plans in preparation .. .. .	..	393
Total	6,352	3,321

In its normal housing programme to 30th June, 1948, the Commission has expended £12,276,490.

Gross revenue for rents for the year ended 30th June, 1948, amounted to £438,321, against which £13,851 was allowed for rental rebates.

During the year a further 528 sub-standard houses were dealt with. Repairs were ordered in respect of 279 houses. The balance of 249 houses were considered beyond repair and were ordered to be demolished, but, because of house shortage, the majority will be deferred until a more appropriate time.

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

CO OPERATIVE HOUSING SOCIETIES.

The law relating to co-operative housing societies is contained in the *Co-operative Housing Societies Act* 1944, which is the first Victorian legislation dealing with the financing of home building on a purely co-operative basis. The Act, which was brought into operation on 5th September, 1945, authorizes such societies to raise loans and to make advances to members for the purchase of land and the erection of homes thereon or for the erection of homes on land already owned by them. An amending Act (No. 5118 of 1946) makes provision for the registration of equitable mortgages given as security for moneys raised on loan by societies.

A detailed account of the conditions under which societies operate appeared in the *Year-Book* for 1945-46, pages 433-435.

The first registration of a society after the proclamation of the Act was on 15th October, 1945. At 30th June, 1947, there were 93 societies on the register of which 69 had adopted the 22 $\frac{2}{3}$ years term, 23 the 30 $\frac{2}{3}$ years term, and 1 a term of 24 years.

The regional distribution of societies, based on situation of registered office, was as follows: Metropolitan and Outer Metropolitan 74, Urban 6, and Country 13.

The following statement shows various particulars relating to membership and operations of societies at 30th June, 1946, and 1947.

	1946.	1947.
Number of Societies Registered	63	93
Number of Members	6,174	8,893
Number of Shares Subscribed for	117,459	177,604
Nominal Share Capital Subscribed for	£6,438,800	£9,645,728
Number of Advances Approved	397	1,865
Amount of Advances Approved	£437,381	£2,113,708
Number of Indemnities Given and Subsisting	32	392
Amount of Indemnities Subsisting	£1,873	£28,405
Number of Government Guarantees Executed	39	83
Amount of Government Guarantees Executed	£4,800,000	£9,070,000
Number of Equitable Mortgages Registered (Act 5118, 1946)	49	88
Number of Dwelling Houses Completed	14	390
Number in Course of Erection	170	1,204

RELIGIONS.

Religions of
the People.

At the Census of 30th June, 1947, 212,938 persons in Victoria representing 11·2 per cent. of the male and 9·5 per cent. of the female population gave no reply to the question concerning religion.

Of those who stated their religious belief the greatest numerical increase was recorded by the Church of England, followed by the Roman Catholic and Catholic which, it is thought, may be grouped together without serious error as the latter term usually signifies Roman Catholic. Methodist, Presbyterian and Hebrew followed in that order.

Amongst the denominations with the largest number of adherents the greatest proportional increases since 1933 were recorded by Roman Catholic and Catholic combined, 21·8 per cent.; Methodist, 21·5 per cent.; Church of England, 16·6 per cent. and Presbyterian 4·2 per cent.

Material percentages increases amongst other denominations were Hebrew, 56·9 per cent.; Christian Scientist, 31·1 per cent.; Seventh Day Adventist, 27·2 per cent.; and Salvation Army, 26·1 per cent.

The following statement shows the number of adherents to the various religious denominations and sects as ascertained at the Censuses of 30th June, 1933 and 1947:—

Religion.	Census of—		Increase 1933-1947.
	30th June, 1933.	30th June, 1947.	
	Persons.	Persons.	Persons.
Christian—			
Baptist	31,427	32,020	593
Catholic, Greek	2,352	2,788	436
Catholic, Roman*	315,516	131,377	} 74,738
Catholic*	26,619	285,496	
Church of Christ	26,274	29,722	3,448
Church of England	626,172	729,902	103,730
Christian Scientist	2,365	3,101	736
Congregational	12,458	11,374	-1,084
Lutheran	8,759	10,002	1,243
Methodist	193,096	234,595	41,499
Presbyterian	276,699	288,383	11,684
Protestant, undefined	25,231	27,273	2,042
Salvation Army	8,711	10,984	2,273
Seventh Day Adventist	2,575	3,276	701
Other	9,089	12,749	3,660
Total Christian	1,567,343	1,813,042	245,699
Non-Christian—			
Hebrew	9,500	14,910	5,410
Other	565	1,025	460
Total, Non-Christian	10,065	15,935	5,870
Indefinite	2,541	4,828	2,287
No Religion	4,746	7,958	3,212
No Reply	235,566	212,938	-22,628
Total	1,820,261	2,054,701	234,440

* So described on individual census schedules.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The principal legislative provisions relating to friendly societies are contained in the *Friendly Societies Act 1928*, a summary of which was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 (pages 383-387). Amending Acts were passed in 1934, 1938, 1939, and 1946. The main provisions of the 1934 amending Act were published in the *Year-Book* for 1934-35, page 213, those of the 1938 and 1939 Amending Acts in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39, page 237, and of the 1946 Amending Act in the *Year-Book* for 1945-46, page 436.

The legislative supervision exercised over friendly societies has had a very beneficial effect. There are 30 friendly societies in Victoria which are required by the statute to have made a quinquennial valuation of their assets and liabilities by an actuary. The latest valuation reports show that there were only five societies with a ratio of assets to liabilities of less than 20s. in the £1; three of these were societies of small membership.

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

**Progress of
Friendly
Societies.**

The following table shows the number and classification of members of Victorian Friendly Societies at 30th June, 1947 :—

Members Contributing for—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Sick and funeral benefits	187,613	18,342	205,955
Medical benefits only (including widows) ..	17,919	19,544	37,463
No benefits (honorary)	2,657	2,156	4,813
Grand Total	208,189	40,042	248,231

During the five years ended June, 1947, there was a net increase of 5,776 in the number of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits; this increase was about 2·9 per cent. of the number of such members at the beginning of the period.

The total funds, exclusive of those of dispensaries, increased during the period of five years ended June, 1947, by £931,358, or slightly less than 14 per cent. The funds at the end of the period amounted to £7,724,112. The funds are well invested, the average rate of interest obtained on the sick and funeral funds during 1946-47 being 3·83 per cent. Since 1940-41 there has been a fall of 0·61 per cent. in the rate of interest; this is due mainly to a decrease in mortgage investments and a corresponding increase in investments in Stock and Debentures.

The total assets of the dispensaries at the end of 1946-47 amounted to £315,403.

Separate funds to provide for payments to members in respect of periods of accommodation and maintenance in hospital of members and their dependants have been established by all societies with the exception of a few small societies, dividing societies and societies of a special nature. The benefit payments made from these funds in 1946-47 amounted to £20,054.

The statement which follows contains information (exclusive of that relating to dispensaries) in regard to Friendly Societies in Victoria for the five years 1942-43 to 1946-47.

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

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—MEMBERSHIP, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS, 1942-43 TO 1946-47.

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
Number of societies	89	92	102	109	111
Number of branches	1,462	1,458	1,459	1,463	1,465
Number of members contributing at end of year for sick and funeral benefits	202,643	205,003	206,527	204,513	205,955
Number of members (including widows) contributing at end of year for medical benefits only	31,248	32,039	32,734	34,527	37,463
Number of members who received sick pay	48,746	49,228	46,658	47,711	48,909
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed	477,751	479,632	478,971	482,535	503,698
Death of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits	2,466	2,490	2,375	2,759	2,421
Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits	659	672	674	681	708
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	505,021	512,766	515,855	529,391	523,981
Medical and Management Funds	470,286	484,060	502,851	539,145	570,435
Other Funds	202,143	234,228	241,781	215,961	202,952
Less inter-fund transfers	— 71,443	— 81,336	— 68,379	— 47,945	— 60,497
Total receipts	1,106,007	1,149,718	1,192,108	1,236,552	1,236,871
Expenditure—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	373,537	376,473	364,511	351,601	379,574
Medical and Management Funds	451,745	458,311	478,507	529,375	563,181
Other Funds	176,913	194,592	209,563	212,226	199,389
Less inter-fund transfers	— 71,443	— 81,336	— 68,379	— 47,945	— 60,497
Total Expenditure	930,752	948,040	984,202	1,045,257	1,081,647
Excess of Receipts over Expenditure	175,255	201,678	207,906	191,295	155,224
Amount of Funds—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	5,613,314	5,749,607	5,900,951	6,078,741	6,223,148
Medical and Management Funds	297,939	323,688	348,032	357,802	365,056
Other Funds	1,056,756	1,096,392	1,128,610	1,132,345	1,135,908
Total Funds	6,968,009	7,169,687	7,377,593	7,568,888	7,724,112
Disposal of Funds—					
Amounts Invested—					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds	5,595,424	5,738,267	5,886,638	6,062,292	6,196,752
Medical and Management Funds	287,700	312,198	335,708	346,545	353,126
Other Funds	1,033,683	1,075,497	1,102,166	1,104,114	1,108,206
Amounts uninvested—					
All Funds	51,202	43,725	53,081	55,937	66,028

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

During the twelve months ended June, 1947, the societies lost by secession 14,433 sick and funeral benefit members; this was equal to about 7·1 per cent. of the membership at the beginning of that period. The corresponding rates of secession in 1942-43, 1943-44, 1944-45, and 1945-46, were 4·2, 3·7, 4·2, and 6·2 respectively. As a rule, most of the secessions were those of new members who allowed their membership to lapse before they had time to appreciate its value. The cost of management per member in the year 1946-47 was 16s. 3d. This was 1s. 3d. more than the cost in the year 1945-46.

The following statement shows in regard to members of societies (other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature) the average number of effective members, and the number of weeks of sickness in respect of which claims for sick-pay were granted for the years 1927-28, 1932-33, 1937-38, and for each of the last five years. The statement also shows the number of weeks of sickness per effective member, the number of deaths of members, and the number of deaths per 1,000 effective members.

VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—SICKNESS AND MORTALITY EXPERIENCE.

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.*	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.	
		Number.	Per Average Effective Member.*	Number.	Per 1,000 Average Effective Members.*
<i>Male Societies.†</i>					
1927-28	128,924	290,583	2 2	1,423	11·04
1932-33	124,970	395,222	3 1	1,562	12·50
1937-38	143,583	434,073	3 0	1,823	12·70
1942-43	155,818	425,761	2 4	2,215	14·22
1943-44	157,676	423,158	2 4	2,218	14·07
1944-45	158,563	421,570	2 4	2,128	13·42
1945-46	158,132	426,218	2 4	2,492	15·76
1946-47	158,120	448,770	2 5	2,162	13·67
<i>Female Sections and a Female Society.</i>					
1927-28	9,957	17,571	1 5	50	5·02
1932-33	11,246	27,248	2 3	40	3·56
1937-38	14,940	36,054	2 2	86	5·76
1942-43	15,717	34,436	2 1	101	6·43
1943-44	16,217	34,928	2 1	87	5·36
1944-45	16,454	35,476	2 1	87	5·29
1945-46	15,885	34,779	2 1	91	5·73
1946-47	14,951	35,614	2 2	80	5·35

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

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

The average period of sickness per effective male member increased from two weeks two days in 1927-28 to three weeks two days in 1934-35. Then there was a gradual fall to two weeks four days in 1942-43. This average period was maintained until 1946-47 when there was an increase to two weeks five days.

The trend of sickness per average effective female member followed closely that of male members during the corresponding period.

Friendly Societies' Dispensaries. At the end of 1946-47 there were 33 United Friendly Societies' Dispensaries registered, under the Friendly Societies Acts of Victoria, as separate friendly societies. There was also one society consisting of these registered friendly societies' dispensaries. The chief object for which the dispensaries are established is to provide the societies with a means of supplying medicine and medical and surgical appliances to their members and to persons claiming through members. The number of members connected with the dispensaries at the end of 1946-47 was 152,917. As the greater portion of the receipts and expenditure of the dispensaries are interwoven with those of the medical and management funds of the ordinary friendly societies, they are not given here.

The assets and liabilities of the dispensaries at the end of 1946-47 amounted to £315,403 and £13,944 respectively. The assets consisted of freehold property, £138,036; stock, fittings, and sundry debtors, £102,583; cash, £44,993; and securities, £29,791. The liabilities consisted of sundry creditors, £13,125; bank overdrafts, £334; and mortgages, £485.

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 in a factory for more than eight hours in any day. This Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working. Since 1873 the definition of "factory" has been broadened until now it includes any place in which mechanical power exceeding one-half horse power is in use or in which four or more persons are engaged in any handicraft or in preparing articles for trade or sale. In some circumstances notably where bread or pastry is baked for trade or sale, or where a process involving the use of a compound of lead is employed, one or more persons constitutes a factory even where no mechanical power is used. The general recognition of the necessity of securing the health, comfort, and safety of the workers has been expressed in many further legislative enactments.

The industrial legislation included in the Factories and Shops Acts has been revised and amended from time to time and the most important of the amendments have been noted in earlier editions of the *Year-Book*.

**Number of
Factories.**

At December, 1946, there were 12,914 factories registered in which 241,705 persons were employed and, in 1947, 14,009 factories employing 256,867 persons.

**Closing Hours
of Shops.**

1945-46.

The hours for closing of shops fixed under the Factories and Shops Acts in both metropolitan and country districts, as defined in the said Acts, were published in the *Year-Book* 1945-46. There were no alterations during 1947.

**Registration
of Shops.**

Registration of shops became compulsory as from 1st March, 1915. At the end of that year there were 26,401 registered shops with 25,632 employees. The annual registration fee, which is based on the number of persons employed in the shop, varies from 2s. 6d. to £10.

Registered shops are divided into 25 classes. During the year 1947, there was an increase compared with 1946 of 1,147 shops, and an increase of 8,393 workers. Particulars of the shops registered and numbers of workers therein are given below :—

VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBERS OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1947 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES).

Class of Shop.	Port Phillip Region.		Other Regions.		Whole State.	
	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.
Bread, Confectionery and Pastry ..	3,625	9,775	1,757	3,922	5,382	13,697
Booksellers, Newsagents ..	918	2,303	331	839	1,249	3,142
Boot Dealers ..	335	1,131	203	520	538	1,651
Boot Repairers ..	655	810	380	484	1,035	1,294
Butchers ..	1,247	3,892	710	2,102	1,957	5,994
Chemists ..	615	1,979	299	881	914	2,860
Crockery ..	51	197	8	19	59	216
Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites	1,069	3,339	1,200	2,971	2,269	6,310
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat ..	728	1,160	134	329	862	1,489
Drapery and Men's Clothing ..	2,785	16,461	935	3,617	3,720	20,078
Electrical and Radio ..	437	1,352	279	539	716	1,891
Fancy Goods Dealers ..	370	2,164	115	182	485	2,346
Fish ..	334	650	89	195	423	845
Florists ..	462	914	100	205	562	1,119
Fruit and Vegetable ..	1,725	3,392	685	1,536	2,410	4,928
Fuel and Fodder ..	838	1,687	215	449	1,053	2,136
Furniture ..	432	1,340	149	481	581	2,321
Grocers ..	2,958	6,847	1,105	2,983	4,063	9,830
Hairdressers ..	1,691	4,414	776	1,448	2,467	5,862
Hardware ..	568	2,440	326	1,101	894	3,541
Jewellery ..	270	703	164	324	434	1,027
Leather Goods ..	165	383	135	183	300	566
Musical Instruments ..	31	307	17	40	48	347
Tobacconists ..	1,289	1,567	255	317	1,544	1,884
Mixed Trades and Shops not classified	1,896	4,721	2,113	7,909	4,009	12,630
Total 1947*	25,494	74,428	12,480	33,576	37,974	108,004
Total 1946*	24,973	68,596	11,854	31,015	36,827	99,611

* The figures for 1946 and 1947 have been compiled in relation to the thirteen regions adopted by the Central Planning Authority. It is not practicable now to publish figures for the Metropolitan District alone as the Port Phillip Region includes the whole of such Metropolitan District and several adjoining Municipalities in addition.

VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBERS OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1947 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES)—*continued.*

	Metropolitan.		Provincial Cities and Country.		Whole State.	
	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.
Total 1945	21,284	54,252	13,055	31,421	34,339	85,673
Total 1944	20,531	49,610	12,407	28,490	32,938	78,100
Total 1943	19,901	48,980	12,284	27,896	32,185	76,876

Wages Boards.

The Wages Board method of fixing wages and of settling the conditions of employment had its origin in Victoria and was incorporated in an Act of Parliament introduced in the year 1896. A Board may be appointed for any trade or branch thereof. Each Board shall consist of not less than four nor more than six members and, in addition, a chairman. Originally, each Board was composed of equal numbers of employers and employees, with a qualification that each representative should be actively engaged in the trade concerned. However, under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1934*, this qualification was modified to permit of a paid officer of any corporation, public body, or association of employers being nominated as one of the members to represent employers and, if such officer is appointed, then one of the representatives of the employees on that Board shall likewise be an officer of the trade union concerned.

The Act of 1934 empowers a Board to determine that the wages rates and piecework prices fixed in any determination made by it shall be automatically adjusted, at prescribed periods, to accord as nearly as practicable with the variation in the cost of living, as indicated by such retail price index-numbers published by the Commonwealth Statistician as the Board considers appropriate. This Act, as amended by the *Factories and Shops Act 1936*, also provides that where, under any Commonwealth Act, the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration or a Conciliation Commissioner makes or has made an award with respect to employers and employees in any industry, the Wages Board for every trade concerned, as soon as may be, shall incorporate in any of its determinations those provisions of such award which the Board is, under the *Factories and Shops Acts*, empowered to include.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1936 gives Wages Boards the same powers relating to wages and conditions of labour as those incorporated in the Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act. These powers enable Wages Boards to make determinations that are not inconsistent with awards of the Commonwealth Arbitration Court. Any Wages Board has now the power to determine any industrial matter whatsoever in relation to any trade or branch of trade for which such board has been appointed and, in particular, to determine all matters relating to—

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

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

On 31st December, 1947 there were 206 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 328,000 employees.

THE BASIC WAGE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The increase was obtained by the equation of a "Court" series index number of 87·0 to be the base index number of the series, thus making the weekly wage of the base of the index 87s., in place of the present "needs" base of 81s. per week. The increased wage was payable as from 1st December, 1946.

Basic weekly rates of wage and the date on which they became payable are shown for the years 1929-1948, in the following table:—

MELBOURNE—BASIC WEEKLY WAGE.

Year—	Basic Weekly Wage Payable in Melbourne on—			
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1929	4 6 0	4 9 6	4 10 0	4 10 0
1930	4 10 0	4 6 0	4 5 6	4 3 0
1931	3 10 2*	3 8 5	3 5 8	3 3 5
1932	3 3 5	3 3 11	3 3 0	3 1 8
1933	3 0 4	3 3 4†	3 2 5	3 2 10
1934	3 3 4	..	..	..
	1st March.	1st June.	1st September.	1st December.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1934 .. ..	..	3 4 0‡	3 4 0	3 4 0
1935	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0
1936	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 6 0	3 9 0
1937	3 9 0	3 9 0	3 13 0§	3 17 0
1938	3 17 0	3 17 0	3 18 0	3 19 0
1939	3 19 0	4 1 0	4 1 0	4 0 0
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1940	4 1 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	4 4 0
1941	4 6 0	4 7 0	4 7 0	4 8 0
1942	4 9 0	4 12 0	4 14 0	4 17 0
1943	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 19 0	4 18 0
1944	4 17 0	4 17 0	4 18 0	4 18 0
1945	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 18 0
1946	4 18 0	4 18 0	4 19 0	4 19 0
	1st December, 1946			5 6 0||
	1st February.	1st May.	1st August.	1st November.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1947	5 7 0	5 7 0	5 8 0	5 9 0
1948	5 13 0	5 15 0	5 17 0	6 0 0

* 10 per cent. reduction became operative and continued to operate until 31st May, 1934.

† "D" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 5th May, 1933 (less 10 per cent. reduction)—operative until 31st May, 1934.

‡ "C" Series Index Numbers—Commonwealth Arbitration Court's Award of 17th April, 1934—operative until 31st August, 1937.

§ Commonwealth Arbitration Court Series Index Numbers.—Award of 23rd June, 1937 (operative from 1st September onwards). The Court ordered a "fixed loading" addition of six shillings to the existing wage—three shillings to be added as from the commencement of the first pay period in July, 1937, and October, 1937, respectively.

|| Increased as a result of the Arbitration Court's Basic Wage (Interim) Inquiry of 13th December, 1946.

**Basic Wage—
Outside
Metropolitan
Area.**

Prior to 1934, the basic wage for Victoria differed only slightly from that for Melbourne. In its judgment in that year, the Court made special reference to the basic wage payable in industries outside the metropolitan area, and it ruled that, except in certain specified districts where the cost of living appeared to be correctly indicated by the local "All Items" Index Numbers, or where known circumstances indicated that the general rule should not apply, the basic wage for provincial places should be a constant three shillings per week less than that for the metropolitan district in the same State. Special provision was made also for assessing or adjusting the wage in certain places.

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

**Retail Price
Index-
Numbers—
"C" Series.**

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

MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS, "C" SERIES, "ALL ITEMS," 1914-1948.

Period.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. "All Items."	Year.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. "All Items."
November, 1914 ..	671	1938	896
November, 1921 ..	1003	1939	924
Years 1923-1927 ..	990	1940	964
1929 ..	1017	1941	1008
1930 ..	956	1942	1100
1931 ..	846	1943	1139
1932 ..	813	1944	1135
1933 ..	789	1945	1135
1934 ..	801	1946	1149
1935 ..	824	1947	1188
1936 ..	844	1948	1295
1937 ..	868		

APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

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

The proclaimed apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in each of the years 1944 to 1948 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROCLAIMED APPRENTICESHIP TRADES
1944 TO 1948.

Trade.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June—				
	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.
Plumbing and Gasfitting	668	816	927	885	957
Carpentry and Joinery ..	599	823	1,013	1,037	1,209
Painting, Decorating, and Sign- writing	134	186	241	235	274
Plastering	35	39	42	31	25
Printing	1,035	1,181	1,322	1,063	986
Electrical	988	1,055	1,189	1,188	1,259
Motor Mechanics	521	628	712	713	761
Bootmaking	620	652	696	448	456
Moulding	285	265	215	178	155
Engineering	3,395	3,225	2,908	2,368	2,255
Fibrous Plastering	133	140	160	122	149
Boilermaking and/or Steel Con- struction	226	248	200	162	138
Sheet Metal	171	185	184	169	156
Bread Making and Baking ..	142	145	154	106	103
Pastrycooking	68	89	104	106	129
Butchering and/or Small Goods Making	316	453	506	438	428
Cooking	5	4	8	8	9
Hairdressing	444	685	860	983	894
Aircraft Mechanics .. .. .	..	..	..	2	41
Bricklaying .. .. .	..	..	..	10	22
Electroplating .. .. .	..	..	..	1	11
Dental Mechanics .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3
Total	9,785	10,819	11,441	10,253	10,425

Since the inception of the Commission, 10,835 apprentices have completed their term of apprenticeship.

NOTE.—Figures from 1944 to 1946 inclusive include apprentices who had enlisted in the Armed Forces and who had not yet applied for revival of indentures. The 1947 and 1948 figures exclude such apprentices although a number of these is still outstanding.

Government
Labour
Exchange.

Following on war-time control of manpower the work of the State Government Labour Exchange was taken over in March, 1942, by the Department of Labour and National Service.

A statement showing the work carried on by the Labour Exchange until it ceased to function, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1940-41, pages 280-282.

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 proclaimed on 18th December, 1929; important amendments were passed in 1936, 1939, and 1945.

The Charities Board of Victoria, which was constituted under the *Hospitals and Charities Act* 1922, commenced to function in 1923. A summary of the constitution and principal duties of the Charities Board was published in the *Year-Book* for 1939-40, page 263.

The Hospitals and Charities Fund is established at the Treasury and into it are paid:—

- (1) Monies appropriated by Parliament (now fixed under the *Hospitals and Charities (Fund) Act* 1939 at £440,000).
- (2) Special Appropriations by Parliament.
- (3) Seven per cent. of the money invested in the Totalizator in respect of each race or division of a race where the races are held on courses within the radius of 20 miles of Melbourne and 2½ per cent. in respect of races held on courses situated elsewhere in Victoria. (*Totalizator Act* 1930 as amended by the *Totalizator Acts* 1934 and 1945.)

Since the date of the operation of the 1930 Act the sum of £4,286,126 has been paid. The total amount available for distribution from the Hospitals and Charities Fund (including Totalizator Receipts) for the year ended 30th June, 1948, was £1,794,219. Grants to institutions from all Government funds for building purposes during the same period amounted to £103,084.

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

- (a) The financial position of such institution or benevolent society and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the financial year other than that from the Fund.
- (b) The probable net receipts and expenditure for the financial year.
- (c) The actual number of persons relieved during the preceding financial year.
- (d) The average number of beds (if any) occupied during the preceding financial year and the average cost per bed.
- (e) The average length of stay of each in-patient during the preceding financial year.
- (f) The general conditions and management.
- (g) Any exceptional circumstances with regard to the geographical position.
- (h) Such other matters as are prescribed or as the Board thinks fit.

**Hospital
Decentraliza-
tion.**

The Charities Board has defined and recommended a policy which, in the metropolitan area, proposes the establishment of large hospitals in the suburbs and, in country districts, wherever concentrations of population or other circumstances indicate such hospitals are necessary. In many centres, committees have already been set up for these purposes.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.

Information relating to receipts, expenditure, accommodation and inmates of public hospitals and charitable institutions in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1947, is contained in the following tables. The numbers, in respect of indoor and outdoor patients, refer to the "cases" treated and not to persons. It is considered probable that some persons obtained relief or became inmates at more than one establishment, but there is no information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

Statistical information relating to public hospitals (including the intermediate and private sections thereof) and charitable institutions is obtained from the annual report of the Charities Board of Victoria.

Institutions directly controlled by Governmental or semi-Governmental authorities, such as Sanatoria (Greenvale, Gresswell, Heather-ton) and the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, furnish separate information. Statistics of mental hospitals are supplied by the Department of Mental Hygiene.

A summary of the particulars in respect of public hospitals and charitable institutions is given in the following table. A detailed statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of institutions appearing under the heading of "Hospitals" below will be found on pages 380 and 381 of this issue:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1947.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Receipts.					Expenditure (inc. cost of Out-patients).
		From Government.	Contributions from—		Other.†	Total Receipts.	
			In-patients or Inmates.	Out-patients.			
		£	£	£	£	£	£
HOSPITALS.							
Special†	9	572,967	6,562	53,565	277,046	910,140	915,178
General Hospitals ..							
Metropolitan .. .	7	713,833	29,759	74,998	280,076	1,098,666	986,815
Provincial .. .	62	657,393	19,084	25,188	596,296	1,297,961	1,172,282
Auxiliary .. .	2	56,192	4,080	2,834	21,647	84,753	77,436
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital .. .	1	68,900	..	..	41,986	110,886	119,881
Convalescent Hospitals ..	2	1,519	1,501	..	2,076	5,096	6,006
Sanatoria .. .	3	226,940	..	..	..	226,940	226,940
Mental Hospitals .. .	9	647,421	99,361	..	13,149	759,931	759,931
Total .. .	95	2,945,165	160,347	156,585	1,232,276	4,494,373	4,264,469
OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.							
Infants' Homes .. .	5	20,729	2,965	..	27,605	51,299	41,916
Children's Homes .. .	32	116,849	27,553	..	129,458	273,860	243,867
Maternity Homes .. .	4	4,938	7,852	..	6,676	19,466	16,928
Rescue Homes .. .	4	3,944	5,837	..	25,087	34,868	39,504
Benevolent Homes .. .	9	167,875	39,915	..	48,943	256,733	263,140
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions .. .	2	3,334	1,973	..	126,950	132,257	118,766
Benevolent Societies ..	85	3,765	..	..	15,556	19,321	13,956
Miscellaneous .. .	..	94,544	..	..	646,245	740,789	695,743
Total .. .	..	415,978	86,095	..	1,026,520	1,528,593	1,433,820
Grand Total .. .	..	3,361,143	246,442	156,585	2,258,796	6,022,966	5,698,289

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

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

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND
SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH
JUNE, 1947.

Institution.	Receipts.						
	Maintenance Receipts.				Capital Receipts.		Total Receipts.
	Government.	Contributions from In-patients and Out-patients.	Intermediate and Private Patients Section.	Other.	Government.	Other.	
£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Airlie ..	2,520	..	5,556	279	500	3,275	12,130
Austin ..	124,915	..	18,714	22,714	900	6,612	173,855
Caritas Christi ..	4,817	3,390	..	6,500	..	..	14,707
Children's ..	82,729	12,248	..	89,348	..	..	184,325
Dental ..	7,199	16,752	..	1,385	600	..	25,936
Queen Victoria ..	137,088	9,525	23,352	10,199	*56,415	14,323	250,902
Talbot Colony ..	7,317	252	..	6,698	..	..	14,267
Eye and Ear ..	35,724	12,325	..	10,244	..	..	58,293
Women's ..	110,743	5,635	..	36,570	1,500	21,277	175,725
Queen's Memorial In- fectious Diseases ..	61,463	..	..	41,986	7,437	..	110,886
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne ..	275,198	41,089	1,907	47,871	2,035	18,375	386,475
Alfred ..	173,778	28,540	22,593	40,067	2,320	5,433	272,731
Prince Henry's ..	75,729	12,251	430	19,064	..	27,594	135,068
St. Vincent's ..	107,543	20,694	5,827	30,536	18,000	21,625	204,225
Central ..	40,601	..	..	403	..	..	41,004
Williamstown ..	10,668	1,689	5,024	3,321	..	1,631	22,333
Dandenong ..	7,792	494	6,979	2,516	169	93	18,043
Box Hill† ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,892	4,892
Brighton† ..	..	..	..	..	..	1,153	1,153
Preston and Northcote†	..	..	..	..	..	5,713	5,713
Mordialloc† ..	..	..	..	..	..	2,167	2,167
Sandringham† ..	..	..	..	..	..	4,862	4,862
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care ..	18,899	3,068	..	15,278	60	300	37,605
Caulfield Convalescent..	35,938	3,846	..	6,069	1,295	..	47,148
PROVINCIAL.							
Base Hospitals (10) ..	342,555	30,487	143,771	93,677	14,579	47,301	672,370
General Hospitals (52) ..	272,640	13,785	149,045	82,760	27,619	79,742	625,591
Total ..	1,935,856	216,070	383,198	567,485	133,429	266,368	3,502,406
Convalescent Hospitals ..	1,519	1,501	..	2,076	..	..	5,096
Sanatoria (Tuberculosis) ..	103,106	..	..	..	123,834	..	226,940
Mental Hospitals ..	576,293	99,361	..	13,149	71,128	..	759,931
Grand Total ..	2,616,774	316,932	383,198	582,710	328,391	266,368	4,494,373

* Grant represents value of plant, machinery, equipment &c., handed over by Central Hospital to Queen Victoria Hospital on 16th December, 1946.

† Grants and contributions during 1946-47 towards the establishment of hospitals in these localities.

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1947.

Institution.	Expenditure.						
	In-patients, Expenditure on—			Out-patients, Total Aggregate Cost.	Total Cost of all patients.	Capital Expenditure.	Total Expenditure.
	Salaries and Wages.	Other Inc. Extraordinary Exp.	Total.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Airlie	5,920	4,935	10,855	..	10,855	2,362	13,217
Austin	97,120	63,430	160,550	..	160,550	24,705	185,255
Caritas Christi ..	7,285	5,712	12,997	..	12,997	..	12,997
Children's	88,968	50,815	139,783	40,154	179,937	12,677	192,614
Dental* .. .. .	..	..	..	26,085	26,085	..	27,210
Queen Victoria ..	106,973	58,785	165,758	20,268	186,026	69,415	255,441
Talbot Colony .. .	7,251	4,004	11,255	..	11,255	..	11,255
Eye and Ear .. .	21,978	12,460	34,438	17,225	51,663	..	51,663
Women's	82,884	61,273	144,157	16,069	160,226	5,300	165,526
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases	80,615	31,829	112,444	..	112,444	7,437	119,881
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne ..	152,034	96,303	248,337	73,177	321,514	26,782	348,296
Alfred	136,952	87,955	224,907	41,365	266,272	7,481	273,753
Prince Henry's .. .	43,449	36,726	80,175	19,970	100,145	22,441	122,586
St. Vincent's .. .	75,102	56,798	131,900	36,875	168,775	500	169,275
Central	22,880	7,437	30,317	547	30,864	..	30,864
Williamstown .. .	9,325	8,243	17,568	961	18,529	..	18,529
Dandenong	8,943	6,369	15,312	245	15,557	678	16,235
Box Hill .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	4,397	4,397
Brighton .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Preston and Northcote .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2,880	2,880
Mordialloc .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Sandringham .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care	16,151	9,646	25,797	10,045	35,842	..	35,842
Caulfield Convalescent	23,232	16,025	39,257	..	39,257	2,337	41,594
PROVINCIAL.							
Base Hospitals (10)	338,205	231,629	569,834	23,873	593,707	45,094	638,801
General Hospitals (42)	284,282	199,740	484,022	3,939	487,961	45,520	533,481
Total	1,609,549	1,050,114	2,659,663	330,798	2,990,461	281,131	3,271,592
Convalescent Hospitals	3,111	2,895	6,006	..	6,006	..	6,006
Sanatoria (Tuberculosis)	61,532	41,574	103,106	..	103,106	123,834	226,940
Mental Hospitals ..	376,464	312,339	688,803	..	688,803	71,128	759,931
Grand Total .. .	2,050,656	1,406,922	3,457,578	330,798	3,788,376	476,093	4,264,469

* The dental hospital caters for out-patients only.

The receipts of hospitals, and charitable institutions (excluding reformatory, gaols and penal establishments) in the State under various headings for the year ended 30th June, 1947, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1946-47.

Receipts.	Hospitals.							Other Institutions.	Total.
	Public.	Convalescent Mental, and Sanatoria.	Infants' Homes.	Children's Homes.	Maternity and Rescue Homes.	Benevolent Homes.			
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	
Government Aid ..	1,539,537	860,008	12,905	68,266	7,136	121,236	101,643	2,710,731	
Hospital Benefits Fund..	529,748	15,872	..	..	..	46,639	..	592,259
Child Endowment ..	..	..	7,824	48,583	1,746	..	..	58,153
Municipal Grants and Contributions ..	72,061	182	211	885	116	1,000	59,137	133,592	
Annual Subscriptions ..	62,878	304	734	10,564	414	3,544	72,818	151,256	
Proceeds of Entertainments ..	74,795	..	2,643	9,285	130	3,138	17,232	107,223	
Other Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests ..	462,661	757	17,729	75,510	5,832	27,387	72,411	662,287	
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations ..	47,491	298	1,095	2,948	915	4,635	715	58,097	
Contributions of In-patients or Inmates ..	59,485	100,862	2,965	27,553	13,689	39,915	1,973	246,442	
Contributions from Out-patients ..	156,585	..	..	..	..	..	..	156,585
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour ..	..	..	..	19,474	22,796	..	19,331	61,601
Income from Investments	51,954	253	4,187	9,705	671	5,586	8,570	80,926	
Fees from Intermediate patients ..	382,198	..	..	..	..	..	..	382,198
Other Sources ..	63,013	13,431	1,006	1,087	889	3,653	538,537	621,616	
Total ..	3,502,406	991,967	51,299	273,860	54,334	256,733	892,367	6,022,966	

NOTE.—Excludes Children's Welfare Department and Gaols and Penal Establishments.

Charitable Institutions—receipts and expenditure. Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions (excluding reformatory, gaols and penal establishments) during each year of the period of five years ended on 30th June, 1947, is given in the following table. For the year 1946-47, Government aid was equivalent to 55·80 per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments to 2·22

per cent.; contributions of in-patients, inmates, and out-patients to 6·69 per cent.; collections, donations, legacies and bequests to 11·00 per cent.; and receipts from all other sources to 24·29 per cent.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., 1942-43 TO 1946-47.

Heading.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Receipts.</i>					
Government Aid	1,561,827	2,135,836	1,919,648	2,608,268	2,710,731
Hospital Benefits Fund* .. ..	..	..	..	247,632	592,259
Child Endowment†	42,735	40,081	41,524	59,367	58,153
Municipal Grants and Contributions	134,378	150,438	148,280	152,612	133,592
Patients' and Inmates' Contributions	604,968	649,732	666,569	537,356	403,027
Annual Subscriptions	99,308	106,368	135,664	130,033	151,256
Entertainments, &c.	89,393	109,237	131,067	94,597	107,223
Other Collections, Donations, Legacies, and Bequests	404,692	383,456	459,366	554,460	662,287
Lord Mayor's Fund, Hospital Sunday, and Church Donations	57,001	73,561	75,499	60,351	58,097
Income from Investments	63,023	63,275	66,594	73,414	80,926
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour	76,927	48,618	65,844	60,533	61,601
Loan Receipts	60,834	..	..	..	..
Intermediate and Private Section of Public Hospitals	244,288	293,095	329,280	318,393	382,198
Other Sources	485,147	576,215	1,144,720‡	549,178	621,616
Total Receipts	3,924,521	4,629,912	5,184,055	5,446,194	6,022,966
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Maintenance (In-patients or In-mates)	3,022,439	3,314,304	3,530,560	3,995,408	4,700,435
Out-patients (Public Hospitals)	205,540	224,605	263,764	286,274	330,981
Extraordinary	81,757	55,012	83,014	58,261	116,163
Building	285,886	196,853	224,494	414,505	550,710
Total Expenditure	3,595,622	3,790,774	4,101,832	4,754,448	5,698,289

* Payments under Commonwealth *Hospital Benefits Act* 1945 commenced 28th December, 1945

† Payments under Commonwealth *Child Endowment Act* 1941 commenced 1st July, 1941.

‡ Includes £549,000 received as purchase price of old Royal Melbourne Hospital premises.

NOTE.—Children's Welfare Department is excluded from above table.

Accommodation and Inmates.

The next table shows the normal bed provision and the actual number of inmates maintained in the named institutions during the year ended 30th June, 1947:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ACCOMMODATION AND INMATES, 1946-47.

Institution.	Number of Beds in—		Daily Average of occupied Beds in Public Section.	Total Treated in—		Out-patients (including Casualties) Persons Treated.
	Public Section.	Inter-mediate and Private Section.		Public Section.	Inter-mediate and Private Section.	
	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
Special Hospitals—						
“Airlie”	1	27	0·3	18	763	..
Austin	432	72	232·8	908	1,989	..
Caritas Christi Hos- pice	50	..	44·5	174	..	..
Children’s	448	..	354·9	7,516	..	30,930
Dental .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	18,302
Queen Victoria	207	78	213·1	6,180	2,078	15,878
Talbot Colony for Epileptics	138	..	95·2	122	..	..
Eye and Ear	126	..	80·2	3,628	145	48,032
Women’s	356	..	277·2	11,333	..	12,814
Queen’s Memorial Infectious Diseases	720	..	207·0	3,220	..	..
General Hospitals—						
Royal Melbourne	474	6	444·6	8,433	94	51,122
Alfred	406	99	389·4	6,699	2,003	31,162
Prince Henry’s	213	..	197·3	3,744	34	19,322
St. Vincent’s	292	22	285·8	4,584	446	39,822
Central* .. .. .	..	..	91·4	420	..	90
Williamstown	38	22	27·9	670	620	1,419
Dandenong	12	22	10·2	227	730	460
Auxiliary Hospitals	367	..	328·4	9,153	..	3,319
Provincial Hospitals	2,899	1,442	1,626·9	33,567	36,215	55,238
Convalescent Hospitals	66	..	45·4	540	..	..
Sanatoria	400	..	371·4	778	..	..
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses	6,875	..	6,420·0	8,328†	..	..
Total Hospitals	14,520	1,790	..	110,242	45,117	327,910
	Number of Beds.		Daily Average.	Accommodated during Year.		
	For Children.	For Adults.		Children.	Adults.	
	No.	No.		No.	No.	
Infants’ Homes	423	50	425·7	945	194	
Children’s Homes	3,192	..	2,716·7	4,295	..	
Maternity Homes	139	161	215·0	871	860	
Rescue Homes .. .. .	..	571†	443·8	..	658†	
Benevolent Homes .. .. .	..	2,604	2,319·7	..	4,036	
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions .. .. .	..	168†	170·7	..	273†	

* Transferred to the Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital as from 16th December, 1946.

† Details not available.

‡ Represents total cases under care during year ended 31st December, 1946.

HOSPITAL BENEFITS SCHEME.

Public Hospitals. The genesis of the Hospital Benefits Scheme and the main heads of agreement between the Commonwealth and the State Governments as embodied in the Commonwealth *Hospital Benefits Act* 1945 (No. 47 of 1945) and (so far as Victoria is concerned) the *Victorian Hospitals Benefits Act* (No. 5101) are set out in pages 481 and 482 of the *Victorian Year-Book* 1943-44.

For the year ended 30th June, 1948 total payments by the Commonwealth to the State amounted to £826,808 of which £641,643 was on account of public wards. Of this amount £452,664 was paid to public hospitals and the balance £188,979 into a Trust Fund. No payments can be made from this Trust Fund except for the purpose of capital expenditure on public hospitals as approved by the Commonwealth.

Private Hospitals. The agreement above-mentioned related wholly to public hospitals but the Commonwealth Act (Section 4) also provided that "the regulations may make provision for and in relation to payments by the Commonwealth of hospital benefits, at such rates and subject to such conditions as are prescribed, in respect of patients in private hospitals as defined by the regulations".

Such regulations, which are administered in Victoria by the State Department of Health, provide for hospital benefit at the rate of 6s. per day to be allowed as a deduction from the hospital accounts of qualified patients in approved hospitals.

A qualified patient is one receiving hospital treatment in an approved hospital. Such treatment must be under the supervision of a doctor and may be for medical, surgical, or obstetric cases.

An approved hospital is one which has been approved under the Regulations. Most private hospitals which cater for medical, surgical, or obstetric cases are approved but a number of hospitals which take only chronic patients requiring little or no medical attention are excluded. Private mental homes or rest homes are also excluded.

Benefit is not payable in respect of any patient for any period exceeding eight weeks, unless the claim is accompanied by a medical certificate stating nature of illness and the reason for further hospital treatment. This certificate must be approved by the Department of Health.

Patients whose fees are payable under any law of the Commonwealth or of a State do not receive hospital benefit. Examples of this class would be Workers' Compensation, Repatriation or Motor Car Accident cases.

Except in special cases, all benefits are allowed to the patient at the hospital. A form has to be completed and signed by the patient setting out the full hospital charges and the benefit allowed. The hospitals in turn are reimbursed monthly by the Department of Health.

An important provision in the Regulations is the control of fees and charges by the hospitals. Approval had to be obtained for fees existing at 1st September, 1945, and all subsequent applications for increases or variations have to be submitted for approval to the Prices Branch before confirmation under the Hospital Benefit Regulations.

Payments made to private hospitals in Victoria under the scheme for the year ended 30th June, 1948, amounted to £309,455.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals. Descriptive details of the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals will be found on pages 277-279 of the *Year-Book* 1942-43 and of the Royal Melbourne Hospital on page 482 of the *Year-Book* 1943-44. Statistical information for the year ended 30th June, 1947, is contained in a table on pages 380, 381, and 384 of this issue.

**Cancer
Institute.**

The Government has approved the setting up of a Cancer Institute and a Committee of experts is now carrying out a thorough investigation concerning the whole project. At an early date a Bill will be introduced for the constitution of a managing authority for the Institute and the determination of its powers, authorities and duties.

An amount of £30,000 has been provided for maintenance expenses of the Institute. In addition, provision will be made for an amount of £100,000 from loan funds for additional buildings and remodelling the old Queen Victoria Hospital. It is expected that, during this financial year, a number of in-patients will be admitted and a large Out-patients' Department will be opened.

Queen's
Memorial
Infectious
Diseases
Hospital.

This institution dates from 1904 when the first patient was admitted. Its early history and later development is recorded in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 259.

The patients treated during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1947, numbered 3,220 (3,717), and the maximum number of occupied beds in any one day 283 (310). Figures in parentheses relate to the year ended 30th June, 1946.

For the same period receipts amounted to £103,449 (£122,584), and expenditure to £112,444 (£109,323).

The greatest number of patients in hospital on any one day was 745, during the epidemic of diphtheria in 1936.

The number of patients (2,964) admitted during the year ended 30th June, 1947, was lower by 515 than for the previous year, and was the lowest since 1925-26. The number of deaths was 36, as against 65, 45, and 151 for the three preceding similar periods and was the lowest for forty-years.

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

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

With the definite object of obtaining improved results in the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, a State Director of Tuberculosis was appointed in 1927. Since this appointment, a new feature in the control and cure of the disease has been the establishment of tuberculosis bureaux in the metropolis and in the provincial centres of the State. With the co-operation of the Bureaux, a larger proportion of cases in the early stages of the disease has been admitted to the Sanatoria.

The following table shows the accommodation of, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in Sanatoria during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1947 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA—ACCOMMODATION,
ETC., 1946-47.

Sanatorium.	Accommodation.		Admissions.		Discharges.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Central Hospital..	22	22	15	31	15	30	10	6
Greenvale ..	..	96	..	120	..	88	..	18
Austin ..	90	50	85	92	76	79	10	6
Heatherton ..	..	124	..	129	..	101	..	24
Royal Park—								
Dunstan Chalet	19	..	15	..	7	..	9	..
Eleanor Shaw Chalet ..	..	12	..	7	..	6	..	1
Gresswell ..	192	..	181	..	142	..	17	..
Bendigo Chalet ..	14	10	12	9	7	5	3	4
Ballarat Chalet ..	6	6	4	8	2	9	1	..
Hamilton Chalet	7	7	2	5	..	..	..	..
Total ..	350	327	314	401	249	318	50	59

State sanatorium beds available in Victoria at June, 1947, numbered 677. In addition, 675 Commonwealth Repatriation beds and 25 private sanatorium beds were available. The construction of a new 144-bed block at Greenvale and two 72-bed blocks at Heatherton is nearing completion. Chalets of approximately 14 beds each, attached to the Base Hospitals are being built at Horsham, Mildura, Sale, and Wangaratta. It is intended to provide accommodation also at Geelong, Mooropna, and Warrnambool. A new sanatorium for males with accommodation for 400 beds is planned to be erected at Watsonia.

A full time supervisor of mass X-rays has been appointed. Miniature Radiography is being used on an extensive scale and units have been established at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau, Prahran, South Melbourne, Williamstown, Newtown (Geelong), and Brunswick.

The branch bureaux at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Prahran have done useful work. Work at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau has further increased during the year. Attendances at this Bureau were 24,225 in 1943-44, 25,232 in 1944-45, 25,400 in 1945-46, and 27,389 in 1946-47. In recent years doctors in private practice have sent to the Bureaux an increasing number of patients for examination and report. During the year ended 30th June, 1947, 5,640 domiciliary visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the ten nurses attached to the various Bureaux. A visiting nurse has been appointed to the Western Health Area and has made 1,293 domiciliary visits. Appointments are to be made to the other three Health Areas in the near future.

The following table illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 30th June, 1947:—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX ACTIVITIES, 1946-47.

Type of Service.	Metropolitan—				Country—	
	Central.		Prahran.		Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
New cases applying ..	3,184	3,950	315	589	320	347
Re-attendances	8,044	12,211	208	359	1,275	1,570
Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions..	252	403	10	8	81	131
Contacts—						
New—Examined	1,340	1,721	67	109	163	201
Old—Re-examined ..	1,577	2,367	47	91	362	515
Found Tuberculous ..	23	49	1	3	7	12
Infecting cases	887		195		124	
Visits to Patients' Homes—						
By Nurses (Central Bureau)	3,614		151			
By Nurses (Bendigo-Ballarat)					1367	
By Nurses (Geelong) ..					508	
X-ray Screen Examinations—						
Films—Large	4,168	6,135	139	214	733	922
Films—Micro	3,322	5,036	..	..	..	..
Screens	971	2,325	..	..	73	46
Pneumothorax Refills ..	691	920	..	..	280	193

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during the period of twelve months ended 30th June in each of the years, 1927 to 1948, was as follows:—

VICTORIA—ATTENDANCES OF PATIENTS AT TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX, 1927 TO 1948.

Year Ended 30th June—	Bureau.					Total.
	Central.	Prahran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Ballarat.	
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
1933	9,527	370	838	944	..	11,679
1934	10,370	365	939	1,028	..	12,702
1935	10,836	474	1,204	926	439	13,879
1936	12,319	431	1,184	731	654	15,319
1937	13,765	501	1,064	959	735	17,024
1938	13,565	571	1,147	1,312	714	17,309
1939	15,581	748	904	1,576	759	19,568
1940	17,203	737	1,029	1,415	693	21,077
1941	17,478	418	1,431	1,332	626	21,285
1942	21,550	600	1,417	1,236	583	25,386
1943	22,434	622	1,454	1,474	665	26,649
1944	24,225	722	968	1,648	603	28,166
1945	25,232	588	950	1,874	694	29,338
1946	25,400	783	1,220	1,765	775	29,953
1947	27,389	1,694	1,495	1,613	836	33,027
1948	29,187	4,398	1,911	1,159	870	37,525

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1946 and 1947 :—

VICTORIA—PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 31st DECEMBER, 1946 AND 1947.

Location.	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1946.	1947.	
In State Hospitals	6,209	6,225	+16
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals ..	563	562	- 1
Boarded Out	265	265	..
In licensed Private Mental Homes ..	36	32	- 4
On Trial Leave from licensed Private Mental Homes	6	6	..
Total Number of Certified Insane ..	7,079	7,090	+11
In Receiving Institutions	136	124	-12
Total	7,215	7,214	- 1
Voluntary Boarders	290	317	+27
Military mental cases, Bundoora (not included in other statistics)	269	277	+ 8

There was an increase of 34 in the number of patients resident at the end of 1947 compared with 1946 made up of 27 Voluntary Boarders more, and 1 less certified insane, and 8 more military mental cases.

The number of certified insane in the State at the end of 1947 proportionately to the population was 1 in 291.

The number of admissions to mental hospitals for each of the years 1943 to 1947 was as follows :—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—ADMISSIONS, 1943 TO 1947.

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1943	367	427	794	31	42	73	867
1944	370	411	781	38	60	98	879
1945	397	407	804	51	63	114	918
1946	354	386	740	63	48	111	851
1947	357	442	799	26	31	57	856

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1943 to 1947 are given below :—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—DISCHARGES AND DEATHS, 1943 TO 1947.

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
1943	156	158	314	266	288	554	868
1944	158	198	356	234	293	527	883
1945	172	199	371	222	304	526	897
1946	361	203	564	233	267	500	1,064
1947	181	202	383	214	235	449	832

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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

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

Wards of the Children's Welfare Department.

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

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

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

In the past there has been a dearth of hostels to which ex-institutional children, whose parents or relatives are unable to resume custody, could, on reaching school-leaving age, be transferred to follow the careers or employment for which they are best fitted. In 1945 the Government approved of a scheme under which substantial financial assistance towards establishment costs and annual maintenance is made available to institutions prepared to extend their operations in this manner. Several hostels have already been established under the scheme.

The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Children's Welfare Department at the end of each of the five years, 1943-1947.

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

Year.	Boarded Out in Foster Homes.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	At Royal Park Depot.	In Government Subsidized Hostels.	In Other Institutions.	Total.
1943 ..	971	2,063	279	237	..	1,736	5,286
1944 ..	834	1,597	265	223	..	1,841	4,760
1945 ..	691	1,538	278	206	..	1,675	4,388
1946 ..	664	1,264	262	121	86	1,622	4,019
1947 ..	570	1,199	261	163	68	1,379	3,640

Boys committed as wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools are transferred for training as early as possible to the private reformatory school appropriate to their religion. They then come under the legal guardianship of the superintendent of the school who, in due course, may return them to their friends or relatives (who are required to enter into a good behaviour bond) or place them at service or in other employment. The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools at the end of each of the five years 1943-47 :—

Wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools.

VICTORIA—DEPARTMENT OF REFORMATORY SCHOOLS—
LOCATION OF WARDS.

Year.	At Royal Park Reformatory School.	In Other Reformatory Schools.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	In Government Subsidized Hostels.	Total.
1943 ..	3	93	11	6	..	113
1944 ..	3	65	43	9	..	120
1945 ..	1	78	38	14	..	131
1946 ..	..	101	27	2	12	142
1947 ..	..	62	61	3	11	137

Infant Life Protection. Part II. of the Children's Welfare Act (Infant Life Protection) provides that no person shall, for payment or reward, retain or receive into her care or charge in any home any infant under the age of five years for the purpose of nursing or maintaining such infant apart from its parents for more than three consecutive days, or for the purpose of adopting such infant, unless such person and such home are registered by the Department (section 95). Exemptions from the operation of this section in the case of a relative or for other special reasons may be granted by the Minister (section 107). Payments are to be made through the Secretary and in no other way (section 103). If payments fall into arrears for four weeks the child *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Children's Welfare Department (section 103). The following is a statement of the operations of this part for the year ended 31st December, 1947:—

Children already placed at 1st January, 1947	248
Children placed during year	424
Total	672
Discharged from operations of Part II. during year—	
Custody resumed by parent	266
Made wards through arrears	75
Deaths	6
Attained five years of age	38
Adopted	50
Under supervision at 31st December, 1947	237

Assistance for Children. Part III. of the *Maintenance Act* 1928 enables a mother whose child is without sufficient means of support, and who is unable to provide or to obtain by any available legal proceedings sufficient means of support for such child, to apply in the prescribed form to the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department for assistance for or towards the maintenance thereof.

“Child” means any person under the maximum age provided under the Education Acts at which attendance at school ceases to be compulsory

The number of children in respect of whom assistance under the Maintenance Act was being afforded at the 31st December in the years 1943 to 1947, and the total amount of such assistance paid in each year, together with the average payments per child per week are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MOTHERS RECEIVING ASSISTANCE UNDER THE MAINTENANCE ACT, 1943–1947.

Year.	Number of Children Assisted.	Total Amount of Assistance Payments.	Average Payment per Child per Week.
		£	s. d.
1943	3,545	93,792	9 3
1944	3,138	82,717	9 7
1945	2,881	76,598	9 6
1946	2,887	75,066	10 1
1947	2,858	80,376	10 5

The financial operations of the Children's Welfare Department for the year ended 31st December, 1947, are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—FINANCIAL OPERATIONS, YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

	EXPENDITURE.	£
Children's Welfare Department—		
Boarded-out children		62,644
Royal Park Depot		35,205
Subsidies to Hostels		8,057
Service Outfits		1,979
Department for Reformatory Schools		2,247
Maintenance Act—		
Children		80,376
Widows		32
General Maintenance Items—		
(Medical attention, School requisites, &c.)		2,897
Administration		27,898
		222,335
	RECEIPTS.	
Maintenance Collections		17,203
Child Endowment		4,096
Miscellaneous Receipts		358
		200,678
Net Expenditure		

The following statement shows the Net Expenditure of the Children's Welfare Department during the ten years 1938-1947:—

VICTORIA—CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT—NET EXPENDITURE 1938-1947.

Year.	Net Expenditure.	Year.	Net Expenditure.
	£		£
1938	297,011	1943	200,910
1939	310,048	1944	193,234
1940	302,424	1945	183,376
1941	279,476	1946	180,569
1942	256,309	1947	200,678

MATERNAL AND INFANT WELFARE.

The Maternal and Infant Welfare Movement commenced in Victoria with the establishment of Infant Welfare Centres in 1917. These Centres are maintained by Municipalities and subsidised by the Government, being staffed by specially qualified Sisters, of whom there are 185 (179) employed in Infant Welfare Centre work.

In the following details figures in parentheses relate to the year ended 30th June, 1947. On 30th June, 1948, there were 179 (175) Municipalities maintaining 366 (340) Centres. Of these Municipalities 34 (36) in the metropolitan area were supporting 114 (115) Centres and 117 (112) in the country were supporting 238 (211) Centres. During the year ended 30th June, 1948 the number of individual children attending Centres was 93,773 compared with 94,459 in 1947. Their attendances numbered 989,490 in 1948 and 949,753 in 1947 and the Sisters made 87,446 and 88,904 home visits respectively. Also at the end of June, 1948, there were five mobile Infant Welfare Services operated by car or caravan.

Ante-Natal. Ante-Natal Medical Supervision Centres, subsidized by the Government, were established in 1945 and now operate in ten Municipalities. During the year ended 30th June, 1948, 1,686 (1,569) individual expectant mothers paid 7,486 (7,351) visits to these Centres.

Pre-School. At the 30th June, 1948, 106 Free Kindergartens, with an enrolment of 4,630 children of pre-school age, were in receipt of subsidies from the Department of Health. In addition to £40,596 paid to the individual Kindergartens, the Kindergarten Training College received a grant of £2,500 per annum to 29th February, 1948, and £3,000 per annum from 1st March, 1948.

Play Centres are not subsidized by the Government but function under the supervision of the Department of Health. Twenty-five of these Centres had been established by 30th June, 1948.

Particulars of Infant Welfare centres for the year 1917-18 (the first year in operation) and for the five years 1943-44 to 1947-48 are given in the following table:—

VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

—	1917-18.	Year Ended 30th June—				
		1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.
Number of centres ..	3	272	296	316	340	366
Nurses in centres ..	1	144	159	167	179	185
Home visits	1,407	76,593	78,547	82,460	88,904	87,446
Total individual children	913	73,919	78,202	82,588	94,459	93,773
Total attendances ..	4,116	758,440	838,733	833,248	949,753	989,490

As shown hereunder there are eight Infant Welfare and Mothercraft training schools for nurses. Of these schools which are supported by voluntary organizations and church bodies, four train Mothercraft nurses only.

**VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE AND MOTHERCRAFT
TRAINING SCHOOLS.**

School.	Number who Completed Training During the Year Ended 30th June—			
	1947.		1948.	
	Infant Welfare Nurses.	Mothercraft Nurses.	Infant Welfare Nurses.	Mothercraft Nurses.
Presbyterian Babies' Home ..	13	15	14	14
Victorian Baby Health Centres Association Training School ..	29	..	28	..
Tweddle Baby Hospital ..	18	10	17	10
St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital ..	..	12	..	21
Methodist Babies' Home ..	..	17	..	13
Bethany Babies' Home ..	..	12	..	6
St. Gabriel's Church of England Babies' Home .. ..	..	13	..	13
Foundling Hospital, Berry-street, East Melbourne	10	13	19	15

Since the inauguration of the Department of Health Mothercraft Nurses' examinations in 1930, 1,308 trainees had satisfactorily passed to the end of June, 1948. The number of Mothercraft nurses who passed the examination during the year ended 30th June, 1948, was 92 (91).

During the year 1947-48 10 (9) Mothercraft nurses received Department of Health certificates for pre-school Mothercraft nursing. Seventy-two nurses have received certificates since the course was inaugurated in 1942.

There were 1,179 (1,085) Infant Welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 30th June, 1948, and 1,308 (1,126) Mothercraft nurses eligible to obtain the Health Department certificate of competency.

There are ten creches or day nurseries supported by Government grant, voluntary effort and money derived from Trust funds. The children are admitted as a rule from the age of six weeks to six years. The total attendances for the year ended 30th June, 1948, were 101,861 (90,500).

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES.

School Medical Services.—School medical inspection was established in 1909 and, as staff is not sufficient to cover all children in the State, attention is given to selected schools and so arranged as to cover the whole of the metropolitan area in three years. A summary of the work of the School Medical Officers was published in the *Year-Book* 1945-46, page 474.

School Dental Services were commenced in 1921 when two school dentists were appointed. This was later increased to nine but, since January, 1945, unfilled vacancies resulted in a reduction to six dentists with consequent curtailment of activities.

As personnel is not available to serve all children in the State, initial treatment is restricted to younger children and, as far as practicable, these continue to receive dental attention throughout their school career.

The number of children and teachers medically examined and given dental treatment and the cost thereof are shown in the following table:—

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICES.

	1946-47.	1947-48.
Number of children examined by medical officers ..	16,800	17,526
Number of children examined by school nurses ..	86,614	75,559
Number of teachers examined by medical officers ..	2,091	2,457
Number of children given dental treatment	13,741	13,282
Expenditure on medical and dental services	£20,089	£22,244

BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

Bush Nursing. Bush nursing centres are distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At 30th June, 1946, there were 75 centres (including 59 hospitals) employing 150 nurses on the permanent staff and 30 on the relieving staff. At 30th June, 1947,

the centres numbered 78, inclusive of 61 bush nursing hospitals. According to the annual reports of centres there were approximately 210 nurses employed, of which number about 45 were only partly trained.

Details of the receipts and expenditure of bush nursing centres whose financial statements were published in the annual reports of the Victorian Bush Nursing Association for the years ended 30th June, 1946 and 1947 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

	Year ended 30th June—	
	1946.	1947.
RECEIPTS.		
Grants—	£	£
Government	18,930	40,416*
Municipalities	1,277	1,109
Donations	6,235	19,908
Proceeds from entertainments	7,417	5,401
Nursing fees	86,318	83,822
Members' fees	21,259	21,847
Interest and rent	627	1,623
Proceeds from sale of medicine	1,633	2,178
Loans—		
From Central Council .. .. .	..	..
From other sources .. .. .	..	..
Miscellaneous	3,205	1,542
Total receipts	146,901	177,846
EXPENDITURE.		
Salaries—		
Nurses (paid to Central Council)	41,298	55,482
Other	27,741	37,308
Provisions, fuel, lighting	30,295	35,824
Surgery and medicine	3,194	5,270
Repairs and maintenance	8,757	5,965
Furniture	†	4,775
Printing, stationery, &c.	2,474	2,961
Insurance, rent, bank charges	3,265	3,937
Auditors Fees, Legal Expenses etc.	†	1,053
Miscellaneous	4,365	2,474
Loans and interest repayments	1,749	1,725
Land and buildings	6,462	3,587
Alterations and Additions	†	2,612
Equipment	3,248	2,928
Total expenditure	133,448	165,881

* Includes £35,640 received under the Hospital Benefits Scheme.

† Details not available for 1946.

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

Lord Mayor's Fund and Hospital Sunday Fund. The Lord Mayor's Fund was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, and was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930. The Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund was formed in 1873 and remained in operation until the year 1923, when the Hospital Saturday section was merged with the Lord Mayor's Fund, the Hospital Sunday section remaining a separate fund, but being carried on in close co-operation with the Lord Mayor's Fund. Since the date of the inauguration of the latter fund, subscriptions and donations amounting to £2,017,821 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £348,495.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1937-38 to 1947-48 were as follows:—

Year ended 30th June—	Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
1938	78,886	9,123	88,009
1939	72,509	8,986	81,495
1940	62,240	9,205	71,445
1941	65,413	12,867	78,280
1942	71,461	14,398	85,859
1943	97,561	20,320	117,881
1944	120,933	25,634	146,567
1945	141,340	26,725	168,065
1946	112,716	22,910	135,626
1947	112,181	22,605	134,786
1948	110,298	21,291	131,589

Food for Britain Appeal. The Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal was launched on 21st September, 1945, at a meeting convened by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor F. R. Connelly). In March, 1947, the Australian Red Cross Society launched a British Relief Appeal and the Victorian Division of the Society

conducted its appeal conjointly with the Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal, and undertook the shipment of goods on behalf of both appeals. Hereunder is a summary of shipments from September, 1945, to September, 1948.

	Value of Foodstuffs Shipped.		
	Purchased.	Donated.	Total.
	£	£	£
Lord Mayor's Food for Britain Appeal ..	375,125	97,142	472,267
Australian Red Cross Society (Victorian Division) British Relief Appeal.. ..	92,266	33,274	125,540
Victorian State Government (in addition to grant of £20,000 to the Lord Mayor's Appeal)	50,000	..	50,000
	517,391	130,416	647,807
	Value of Clothing Shipped.		
	Purchased.	Donated.	Total.
	£	£	£
Australian Red Cross Society (Victorian Division) British Relief Appeal	32,521	34,830	67,351
Grand Totals	549,912	165,246	715,158

**St. John
Ambulance
Association.**

The work carried on by this Association is described in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and of the injured. During the year ended 30th September, 1948, 2,584 students were instructed in first aid and nursing and of these 1,788 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association in 1883, 145,897 persons have received awards. The Association medallion has been awarded to 14,036 students.

**Victorian Civil
Ambulance
Service.**

During the year ended 30th June, 1948, this service attended to 36,544 calls, of which 7,295 were connected with accidents; the mileage travelled was 416,443. In 10,109 cases no fee was paid. The fleet of twenty-one

ambulances has been fitted with single-way wireless equipment. This has greatly increased the efficiency of the service and has been the means of saving valuable time and mileage as direct contact can be made with the drivers at any time when they are out on the road.

In addition 34 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.

The locations of the Country Ambulance Stations are as follow :—

Ballarat (2 cars)	Horsham	Sale
Beechworth	Kerang	Shepparton (2 cars)
Benalla	Korumburra	Stawell
Bendigo	Kyabram	Swan Hill
Castlemaine	Lakes Entrance	Terang
Cobram	Lorne	Wangaratta
Daylesford	Maffra	Warracknabeal
Echuca	Mildura	Warragul
Erica	Mornington	Warrnambool
Flinders	Noojee	Yarram
Goroke	Orbost	
Heyfield	Rushworth	

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

**Royal
Humane
Society.**

During the year ended 30th June, 1946, 124 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 39 certificates of merit, 28 bronze medals, 30 silver medals, and 1 gold medal were granted. Out of 87 applications for awards during the year ended 30th June, 1947, 77 were granted and comprised 40 certificates of merit, 25 bronze medals, and 12 silver medals.

**Royal Life
Saving
Society.**

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

During the year ended 31st May, 1948, the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 6,516; the total income was £2,696, and the expenditure £2,392.

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1948, 1,919 cases were dealt with, of which 467 were connected with cruelty to horses, and 790 to dogs. There were 28 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, and fines were imposed in 22 instances. The receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1948, amounted to £5,468 and the expenditure to £10,972.

VICTORIA—SOCIAL SERVICES.

Cost of Social Services. Expenditure on social services by the Government of Victoria during each of the five years ended 1946-47 is shown hereunder.

Amounts shown include expenditure from Revenue, Loan Funds and Surplus Revenue. Interest charges and the cost of pensions have been excluded.

EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE OF VICTORIA ON SOCIAL SERVICES, 1942-43 TO 1946-47.

Social Service.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.
	£	£	£	£	£
Law, Order, and Public Safety ..	1,967,127	1,830,716	1,831,483	1,811,710	2,076,669
Regulation of Trade and Industry	150,061	208,925	206,253	140,603	197,897
Education*	3,483,277	3,749,014	4,155,657	4,678,817	5,826,191
Promotion of Public Health and Recreation	2,107,828	2,270,101	2,978,688	2,630,350	3,350,233
Social Amelioration (excluding Unemployment Relief and Bush Fire Relief)	295,093	301,738	300,402	316,083	502,549
Unemployment Relief†	576,618	536,775	526,903	480,083	19,482
Bush Fire Relief	2,042	88,235	1,094	26	..
Total	8,582,046	8,985,504	10,000,480	10,057,672	11,973,021

* Includes Agricultural Education, Experimental Farms, Libraries, Museums, &c.

† Excludes Commonwealth Grants as follows:—1942-43, 1943-44, 1944-45, £27,400; and 1945-46 and 1946-47, nil.

Further information in regard to the above items appears in part *Finance* of this *Year-Book*.

COMMONWEALTH SOCIAL SERVICES.

The Social Services Consolidation Act (No. 26 of 1947) which came into operation on 1st July, 1947, repealed the various legislative enactments relating to Age (previously Old-age) and Invalid Pensions, Maternity Allowances, Child Endowment, and Unemployment and Sickness Benefits and, while following in general the Acts repealed, considerably liberalized many of their provisions.

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

All benefits are paid out of the National Welfare Fund to which, in each financial year, is appropriated the amount of the social service contribution which is payable under the Social Services Contribution Act together with a sum equivalent to the collections of tax under the Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act. These appropriations from Consolidated Revenue were made statutory by the *National Welfare Fund Act 1945*. Total expenditure on payment of benefits provided under the Social Services Consolidation Act for the year ended 30th June, 1948, was £64,137,079.

AGE PENSIONS.

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

Persons Disqualified.—

- (a) Aliens (except women who, prior to marriage, were British subjects).
- (b) Any person who has deprived himself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension.
- (c) Any person in receipt of income of £2 17s. 6d. per week or more (blind persons £7 5s. per week), or £5 15s. per week for a married couple (£9 2s. 6d. per week where both husband and wife are blind. See notes below as to income disregarded).
- (d) Any person who owns property, including cash or money in bank, to the value of more than £650 (£1,300 for married persons). The value of a home, furniture and personal effects is disregarded, also surrender values of life assurance policies up to £200, certain interests in the estates of deceased persons, and the amount of any Commonwealth war gratuity.

- (e) Any person who is not of good character or who has deserted his wife (or her husband) or children for six months or upwards immediately preceding the date of the claim.

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

Maximum Rate of Pension.—£97 10s. per annum (£1 17s. 6d. per week).

Effect of Income. Permissible income is £52 per annum (£1 per week). Any income in excess of this amount is deducted from the pension. The income of a married person is deemed to be half the total income of husband and wife. Permissible income for blind persons, whether single or married, is £279 10s. per annum (£5 7s. 6d. per week). Any excess income is deducted from the pension. Where both husband and wife are blind, half the amount of any income in excess of £279 10s. per annum is deducted from each pension.

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

For each dependent child under 16 years of age there is deducted from income an amount of £26 per annum, less the amount of any payment received for or in respect of the child.

Effect of Property. The annual rate of pension is reduced by £1 for every complete £10 of that portion of the value of property (excluding the home, &c.) which exceeds £50 but does not exceed £400, and by £2 for every complete £10 of the remainder (if any) of the value of the property. The value of property of a married person is deemed to be half the total value of property of husband and wife.

INVALID PENSIONS.

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

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

Persons Disqualified.—

- (a) The same as for age pensions, except paragraph (e).
- (b) Any person under 21 years of age who is adequately maintained by his parents.

Aboriginal Natives.—The same as for age pensions.

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

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

Wife's Allowance. An allowance, not exceeding £52 per annum (£1 per week), may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner (or age pensioner who is permanently incapacitated for work or permanently blind) if she is living with her husband and is not receiving an invalid or age pension or a service pension. The rate of the allowance is affected by income and property on the same basis as an age or invalid pension.

Child's Allowance. An allowance of £13 per annum (5s. per week) in respect of an unendowed child under the age of sixteen years may be granted to the wife of an invalid pensioner, if she is living with her husband and has the custody, care and control of the child and is not receiving a service pension.

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

The number of wives' allowances in operation in Victoria at 30th June, 1947 and 1948, was as follows :—

	1947.	1948.
Class A—allowance for wife and child ..	939	939
Class B—allowance for wife only ..	1,217	1,345
Class C—allowance for child only ..	146	200
	2,302	2,484
	Annual liability £92,508	Annual liability £124,982

Vocational Training. Invalid pensioners are eligible for vocational training at the Commonwealth's expense and eligible invalids are given the opportunity of improving their lot by learning some craft or occupation which may be the means of rendering them self-supporting.

The pensions of such invalids are continued while they are undergoing training, notwithstanding that their incapacity might have diminished to such an extent that the invalid pension would not otherwise have remained payable. This concession is made to ensure that an invalid pensioner, having commenced a course of training, will not have to terminate it because of lack of means of support.

Reciprocity with New Zealand. A reciprocal scheme exists between the Commonwealth and New Zealand with regard to age and invalid pensions.

The following are the main provisions :—

Residence in New Zealand is treated as residence in Australia (and vice versa).

Permanent incapacity or blindness occurring in New Zealand is treated as if it had occurred in Australia (and vice versa).

The more restrictive conditions of the pension laws of the two countries apply in respect of the grant of a "reciprocal pension".

The rate of "reciprocal pension" cannot exceed the maximum rate payable in the country which has the lower maximum rate.

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

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

The number of funeral benefits paid during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1948, was 6,754, the total cost being £63,440.

Pensioners, 1938-39 to 1947-48. The number of age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1948, was as follows :—Age pensioners—men, 25,249; women, 52,808; total, 78,057. Invalid pensioners—men, 7,600; women, 7,565; total, 15,165.

The numbers of age and invalid pensioners and the amount expended as at 30th June, for each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1948, are shown in the following statement :—

**VICTORIA—AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS,
1938-39 TO 1947-48.**

Year Ended 30th June—	Number of Pensioners at End of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.*
	Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
				£
1939	67,896	19,471	87,367	4,307,432
1940	76,081	12,739	88,820	4,413,702
1941	76,371	12,447	88,818	4,588,266
1942	75,240	12,550	87,790	5,037,118
1943	72,102	11,938	84,040	5,715,268
1944	69,156	12,446	81,602	5,787,445†
1945	67,240	12,598	79,838	5,604,739†
1946	69,308	13,599	82,907	6,822,535†
1947	74,770	14,673	89,443	7,350,132†
1948	78,057	15,165	93,222	9,144,961†

* Includes payment of pensions to eligible inmates of institutions. On 30th June, 1948, there were 1,540 such pensions in force. The weekly rate of pension paid was 4s. from 8th October, 1925; 5s. 6d. from 4th October, 1928; 5s. from 23rd July, 1931; 3s. 9d. from 13th October, 1932; 5s. from 26th October, 1933; 5s. 6d. from 24th September, 1936; 6s. from 9th September, 1937; 6s. 6d. from 26th December, 1940; 6s. 9d. from 3rd April, 1941; 7s. 9d. from 11th December, 1941; 8s. from 2nd April, 1942; 8s. 6d. from 9th July, 1942; 8s. 9d. from 1st October, 1942; 9s. from 7th January, 1943; 9s. 3d. from 1st April, 1943; 9s. 6d. from 19th August, 1943; 11s. 6d. from 5th July, 1945; and 13s. from 8th July, 1947.

† Includes payments in respect of allowances to wives of invalid pensioners.

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

Eligibility and rates of pension. *Persons Eligible.*—A widow's pension is payable to women according to the following qualifications:—

Class A.—A Widow who has the custody, care and control of one or more children under the age of 16 years.

Class B.—A Widow, not less than 50 years of age, who has not the custody, care, and control of a child under the age of 16 years.

• Class C.—A Widow, under 50 years of age, who has not the custody, care and control of a child under 16 years, but is in necessitous circumstances within 26 weeks after the death of her husband.

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

The term "widow" includes:—

- (a) a deserted wife, i.e., a wife who has been deserted by her husband for not less than six months;
- (b) a woman whose marriage has been dissolved and who has not remarried;

- (c) a "dependent female", i.e., a woman, who, for not less than three years immediately prior to the death of a man, was wholly or mainly maintained by him, and, although not legally married to him, lived with him as his wife on a permanent and bona fide domestic basis; and
- (d) a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane.

The residential qualification is five years' continuous residence in Australia immediately prior to the date of lodgment of the claim. Concessions in respect of absences are the same as for age pensions.

Persons Disqualified.—The following persons are disqualified from receiving widows' pensions.

- (a) Aliens (except women who, prior to marriage, were British subjects).
- (b) Any claimant who has deprived herself of property or income in order to qualify for a pension.
- (c) A deserted wife or a divorcee who has not taken reasonable action to obtain maintenance from her husband or former husband.
- (d) A woman who is in receipt of an age or invalid pension or a war widow's pension.
- (e) A woman who is not of good character.
- (f) A woman in receipt of income of at least the amount shown in the second column of the following table, or who owns property to the value of more than the amount shown in the third column (excluding the value of a home, furniture, personal effects, &c.) :—

Class.				Income per Week.			*Property.
				£	s.	d.	£
A	..	..	..	3	2	6	1,000
B	..	..	..	2	12	0	650
D	..	..	..	2	12	0	650

* Surrender values of life assurance policies up to £200, certain interests in the estates of deceased persons, and the amount of any Commonwealth war gratuity are also disregarded.

Aboriginal Natives.—The conditions of eligibility are the same as for age pensions.

The *Maximum Rates of Pension* are as follows :—

Class A.—£110 10s per annum (£2 2s. 6d. per week).

Class B.—£83 4s. per annum (£1 12s. per week).

Class C.—£1 17s. 6d. per week for not longer than 26 weeks immediately following death of husband.

Class D.—£83 4s. per annum (£1 12s. per week).

Effect of Income.

Permissible income is £52 per annum (£1 per week). Income in excess of this amount is deducted from the pension.

“Income” has the same meaning as for age pensions and the items of income disregarded are the same.

For each dependent child under sixteen years of age a deduction is made from the claimant’s income. The amount of the deduction is £13 per annum (5s. per week) in respect of the first child and £26 per annum (10s. per week) in respect of each additional child, less the amount of any payment received for or in respect of the child.

Any amount in excess of £39 per annum (15s. per week) received by a deserted wife or a divorcee from her husband or former husband in respect of the maintenance of a child is included in her income for pension purposes.

Effect of Property.

The annual rate of pension for women in Classes B and D is reduced by £1 for every complete £10 of that portion of the value of property (excluding the home, &c.), which exceeds £50 but does not exceed £400, and by £1 for every complete £7 of the remainder (if any) of the value of the property.

The number, and cost, of widows’ pensions in Victoria is shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—WIDOWS’ PENSIONS.

	Number in Force at 30th June—			
	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.
Class “ A ”	3,575	3,565	3,732	3,990
Class “ B ”	9,034	9,172	8,571	7,237
Class “ C ”	5	11	8	12
Class “ D ” .. .. .	..	..	..	20
Total	12,614	12,748	12,311	11,259
Amount paid in pensions ..	£799,652	£899,747	£941,734	£1,022,432
Total amount paid since passing of Act	£2,189,643	£3,089,390	£4,031,124	£5,053,556

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

Persons Eligible.

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

The allowance is payable in respect of a birth which occurred on board a ship proceeding from a port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth to another port in Australia or a Territory of the Commonwealth. The allowance is also payable in respect of a birth which occurred on board a ship proceeding to Australia, provided the mother receives no maternity benefit in respect of the birth from the country from which she has come.

Payment may be made in respect of the birth of a stillborn child, or a child which lives for less than twelve hours, if the period of intra-uterine life of the child was at least five and a half calendar months.

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

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

- (a) she was a British subject prior to her marriage, or
- (b) she or her husband resided in Australia for at least twelve months immediately prior to the birth of the child. Payment in respect of a birth which occurs within twelve months after the mother's arrival in Australia may be made on the expiration of twelve months from the date of her arrival.

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

There is no means test.

Allowances which may be paid are as follows:—

Amount of Allowances.

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

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

Where more than one child is born at a birth, the amount payable is increased by £5 in respect of each additional child born at that birth.

Payment of £5 on account of a maternity allowance may be made available, upon application, within a period of four weeks prior to the expected date of the birth. The balance will be paid immediately after the birth.

Details of the claims granted are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—MATERNITY ALLOWANCES GRANTED.

Year Ended 30th June—	Number Granted During Year.	Amount Paid in Allowances During Year.	Total Claims Granted. *	Total Amount Paid in Allowances.*
		£		£
1942	16,120	86,392	869,214	4,278,122
1943	11,874	63,635	881,088	4,341,757
1944	38,653†	590,648	919,741	4,932,405
1945	40,582	647,970	960,323	5,580,375
1946	40,991	649,648	1,001,314	6,230,023
1947	50,730	787,843	1,052,044	7,017,866
1948	46,027	744,232	1,098,071	7,762,098

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

† Means test abolished and allowance increased from 1st. July, 1943.

CHILD ENDOWMENT.

**Persons
Eligible.**

Any person who is resident in Australia and has the custody, care, and control of more than one child under the age of sixteen years may claim endowment.

There is a twelve months' residential requirement in respect of a claimant and a child who were not born in Australia, but this requirement is waived if the Director-General of Social Services is satisfied that the claimant and the child are likely to remain permanently in Australia. A child born during the mother's temporary absence from Australia is deemed to have been born in Australia.

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

Payment may be made in respect of a child of an alien father if—

- the child was born in Australia, or
- the mother is a British subject, or has made a declaration under section 18A of the *Nationality Act 1920-1946*, or
- the Director-General is satisfied that the child is likely to remain permanently in Australia.

Aboriginal Natives:—Endowment may be paid to aboriginal natives of Australia unless they are nomadic or unless the children concerned are wholly or mainly maintained by the Commonwealth or a State.

There is no means test.

**Rate of
Payment.**

The following rates are payable:—

- To any qualified person (other than an institution) 7/6 per week in respect of each child (under sixteen years of age) in excess of one.

(b) To an approved institution (not including a hospital for the insane maintained wholly or mainly by the Commonwealth or a State)—7/6 per week in respect of each child inmate under sixteen years of age.

Child in Hospital for Insane.

Where the parents are making a reasonable contribution towards the maintenance of a child in a mental hospital, the mother is deemed to have the custody, care, and control of the child for the purposes of determining her eligibility for endowment.

Divided Families.

There is special provision to meet cases of families divided by reason of divorce, separation, unemployment, death of a parent, or other special circumstances. In these cases endowment may be paid in respect of such children in excess of one, and to such persons as the Director-General considers just.

VICTORIA—CHILD ENDOWMENT — CLAIMS CURRENT, ENDOWABLE CHILDREN AND TOTAL AMOUNT PAID.

YEARS ENDED 30TH JUNE 1947 AND 1948.

Rate per Endowment Period (Four Weeks).	Number of Claims.	
	1947.	1948.
£1 10s. (two child family)	82,706	86,498
£3 (three child family)	35,403	37,109
£4 10s. (four child family).. .. .	14,199	14,942
£6 (five child family)	5,565	5,713
£7 10s. (six child family)	2,296	2,289
£9 (seven child family)	995	1,003
£10 10s. (eight child family)	403	421
£12 (nine child family)	161	168
£13 10s. (ten child family)	71	77
£15 (eleven child family)	18	19
£16 10s. (twelve child family)	1	7
£18 (thirteen child family).. .. .	1	2
£19 10s. (fourteen child family)	1	1
Total claims current	141,826	148,249
Number of endowable children	240,810	251,145
Average number of endowable children per claim	1.698	1.694
Average four-weekly rate	£ s. d. 2 10 11	£ s. d. 2 10 10
Number of children maintained in institutions for whom endowment is paid	4,670	4,714
Number of approved institutions at end of year	76	79
Total amount paid in endowment	£4,908,921	£4,842,140

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Persons Eligible.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rates of Benefit.

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

AUSTRALIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

Age and Conjugal Condition.	Maximum Weekly Benefit.				Permissible Weekly Income.
	Claimant.	Dependent Spouse.	One Child.	Total.	
Unmarried—	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>	<i>s. d.</i>
16 years and under 17 years	} 15 0	..	..	} 15 0	5 0
17 years and under 18 years					10 0
18 years and under 21 years	20 0	..	..	20 0	15 0
21 years and over ..	25 0	..	..	25 0	20 0
Married	25 0	20 0	5 0	50 0	20 0

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

Additional benefit (not exceeding 20/- per week) may be paid in respect of a claimant's housekeeper where no such benefit is payable in respect of his wife, provided there are one or more children under sixteen years of age in the home and the woman is substantially dependent on the claimant but is not employed by him.

Effect of Income. Any income in excess of the permissible income shown in the above table is deducted from the rate of benefit. For unemployment benefit purposes, the incomes of the claimant and his spouse and the unearned income of any children under the age of sixteen years living with them are taken into account, but where the claimant and his spouse are permanently separated any income received by the spouse may be disregarded.

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

For sickness benefit purposes, there is disregarded £1 per week of any payment received from an approved friendly society or other similar approved body in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable.

Compensation. For sickness benefit purposes, any amount received, or which a claimant is entitled to receive, in respect of the incapacity for which sickness benefit is payable, by way of compensation (including Workers' Compensation), damages, or payments under any law (except those for which a claimant has made contributions) is not taken into account as income but is deducted from the rate of sickness benefit otherwise payable. Pending the determination of a claim for

compensation, damages, &c., sickness benefit may be paid subject to the condition that the whole or any part of the benefit shall be repaid to the Commonwealth out of any compensation, damages, &c., recovered.

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

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

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

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

The following table shows the numbers of persons in Victoria under the various headings during the year ended 30th June, 1948. Dependants of such beneficiaries are not included.

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1948.

—		Unemploy- ment.	Sickness	Special.	Total.
Claims granted	{ Males	971	12,742	1,736	15,449
	{ Females	58	4,363	607	5,028
Claims rejected	.. ..	1,042	2,961	245	4,248
Benefits paid—Total amounts	£	16,639	209,128	20,018	245,785
Number on benefit at 30th June, 1948	{ Males	65	1,757	71	1,893
	{ Females	1	749	99	849

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS
FOR YEAR 1947-48.

	Unemployment Benefits.				Sickness Benefits.			
	Entrances During Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.		Entrances During Month.		On Benefit at End of Month.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1947.								
July ..	224	14	340	17	1,342	443	1,869	716
August ..	175	14	271	15	1,418	460	1,918	772
September ..	104	9	189	10	1,131	324	1,947	737
October ..	68	4	153	8	1,033	390	1,884	780
November ..	74	4	117	7	1,216	386	1,746	703
December ..	48	4	119	7	704	285	1,718	731
1948.								
January ..	58	5	96	7	995	340	1,690	690
February ..	49	..	76	4	873	362	1,697	760
March ..	43	..	61	1	846	320	1,600	745
April ..	29	2	53	2	905	336	1,638	760
May ..	48	1	50	3	1,340	443	1,757	772
June ..	51	1	65	1	939	274	1,757	749

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS—CAUSE OF UNEMPLOYMENT: CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC., DURING THE YEAR ENDED, 30TH JUNE, 1948.

Cause of Unemployment.	Claims admitted during the Year.			On benefit at 30th June, 1948.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Discharged due to—						
Disciplinary reasons ..	13	1	14	2	..	2
Inefficiency, including medical unfitness	91	2	93	4	..	4
Retrenchment, including closing of establishment..	95	3	98	4	..	4
Replacement by reinstated ex-service personnel, &c., relieving worker only ..	84	6	90	9	..	9
Other discharges, including inadequately defined ..	10	1	11	1	..	1
Laid off owing to—						
Power rationing	2	3	5	..	..	..
Shortage of materials ..	43	1	44	1	..	1
Strikes, lock-outs, within the same establishment ..	22	..	22	..	..	..
Seasonal work	52	..	52	10	..	10
Casual work	219	3	222	11	..	11
Other reasons, including inadequately defined ..	15	..	15	..	..	..
Inadequately defined ..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Quitted due to—						
Medical unfitness, work too heavy	196	34	230	17	1	18
Other reasons, including inadequately defined ..	90	2	92	5	..	5
Not previously employed—						
Employers, workers on own account	25	..	25	..	..	..
Ex-service personnel not yet returned to work ..	8	..	8	..	..	..
Other	6	2	8	..	..	..
Total	971	58	1,029	65	1	66

VICTORIA—UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS—INDUSTRIAL
GROUPS: CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC., DURING THE
YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1948.

Industrial Group.	Claims Admitted during the Year.			On Benefit at 30th June, 1948.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Agricultural, Pastoral, and Dairying	113	..	113	9	..	9
Other Primary Production ..	33	..	33	1	..	1
Coal Mining	1	..	1	..	..	..
Other Mining and Quarrying ..	23	..	23	1	..	1
Factories and Industrial—						
Founding, engineering, metal working including ship- building	74	1	75	5	..	5
Vehicles, including aircraft ..	30	..	30	1	..	1
Textiles and articles of dress	26	13	39	1	..	1
Food, drink, and tobacco ..	66	9	75	6	1	7
Furniture, woodwork, &c. ..	22	..	22	1	..	1
Other factories, including heat, light, and power ..	81	5	86	4	..	4
Building and construction ..	152	..	152	11	..	11
Transport and communication	87	2	89	9	..	9
Commerce and Finance—						
Wholesale and retail trade	87	6	93	9	..	9
Finance and property ..	17	..	17	..	..	..
Public Administration and Professional	64	6	70	3	..	3
Personal and Domestic Service	64	13	77	4	..	4
Other	31	3	34	..	..	..
Total	971	58	1,029	65	1	66

VICTORIA—SICKNESS BENEFITS—NATURE OF SICKNESS:
CLAIMS ADMITTED, ETC., DURING THE YEAR ENDED
30TH JUNE, 1948.

Nature of Sickness.	Claims Admitted during the Year.			On Benefit at 30th June, 1948.		
	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	756	284	1,040	78	50	128
Cancer	74	30	104	19	8	27
Other Tumours	117	100	217	19	17	36
Rheumatism, Diseases of Nutrition and Vitamin-deficiency Diseases ..	689	282	971	127	61	188
Diseases of—						
Blood and Blood-forming Organs	50	66	116	10	7	17
Nervous System and Sense Organs	1,120	572	1,692	169	98	267
Circulatory System	1,153	203	1,356	204	47	251
Respiratory System	1,470	370	1,840	157	66	223
Digestive System	3,019	868	3,887	353	98	451
Genito-Urinary System	490	323	813	79	69	148
Pregnancy, Childbirth, &c. .. .. .	..	425	425	..	86	86
Skin and Cellular Tissue	647	191	838	61	18	79
Bones and Organs of Movement	319	87	406	50	18	68
Other Diseases (including ill-defined conditions)	217	128	345	30	23	53
Injuries and Acute Poisoning—						
Fractures	1,319	169	1,488	295	45	340
Other Injuries, &c.	1,190	177	1,367	94	23	117
Operations (original disability not stated)	79	73	152	7	14	21
Other (including not stated)	32	15	47	5	1	6
Total	12,742	4,363	17,105	1,757	749	2,506

**VICTORIA—CLASSIFICATION OF BENEFICIARIES—
CLAIMS ADMITTED 1947-48.**

Class of Beneficiary.	Maximum Rate of Benefit.	Unemployment.		Sickness.		Special.	
		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
	<i>s. d.</i>						
Under 18 years Unmarried							
No dependants ..	15 0	8	6	458	443	12	11
One child	20 0	..	..	..	2	..	..
18 to 21 years Unmarried							
No dependants ..	20 0	23	13	900	932	172	46
One child	25 0	..	..	1	14	..	..
Over 21 years Unmarried							
No dependants ..	25 0	188	25	3,112	2,304	1,172	482
One child	30 0	11	1	79	121	3	12
Dependent housekeeper and child	50 0	3	..	27	..	2	..
Married—							
No dependants ..	25 0	42	9	540	348	58	28
One child	30 0	8	4	171	196	..	28
Dependent spouse ..	45 0	243	..	3,010	2	282	..
Dependent spouse and child	50 0	445	..	4,423	1	34	..
No dependent spouse but dependent housekeeper and child ..	50 0	..	..	12	..	1	..
Total .. ..	..	971	58	12,742	4,363	1,736	607

VICTORIA—GROUPED AGE—CLAIMS ADMITTED 1947-48.

Grouped Age.	Unemployment.		Sickness.		Special.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
16-19 years	21	17	1,066	1,103	105	45
20-24 years	98	14	1,736	1,093	526	165
25-29 years	101	5	1,386	490	393	137
30-34 years	73	5	1,268	305	196	61
35-39 years	89	2	1,216	262	150	65
40-44 years	97	4	1,218	275	48	19
45-49 years	94	4	1,323	375	21	35
50-54 years	95	3	1,171	268	..	18
55-59 years	133	4	1,296	183	10	15
60-64 years	170	..	1,062	9	287	47
Total	971	58	12,742	4,363	1,736	607

REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors, airmen and nurses who served in the war of 1914-18. Its objects are 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, also artificial limbs and appliances, in respect of disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

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 since been altered.

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

The **H**istory of war pension legislation from 1914 to 1938 is recorded in the *Year-Book*, 1937-38, page 279 *et seq.*

To meet the position arising out of Australia's participation in the recent wars against Germany and Japan, further amending legislation was passed in 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943 and 1947. In broad principle the pension provisions are the same as those applying to the war of 1914. Of course, different time limits in respect of eligibility were necessary. For the purpose of the 1939 war a wife (or widow) is eligible if married to the member of the Forces before or during the member's service, or within fifteen years after his discharge from the Forces, and any child of such a marriage is eligible.

Service Pensions.

Eligibility for service pensions may be established on the following grounds—

- (a) Sixty years of age or more, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war, but eligibility on this ground limits payment of service pension to the ex-soldier; his wife or children are not eligible. A former nurse is eligible for consideration provided she embarked for service abroad and has reached the age of 55 years.
- (b) Permanently unemployable, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war. Under this class pensions may be paid to the ex-soldier, his wife and his children—up to four in number.
- (c) Pulmonary tuberculosis, whether the applicant served in a theatre of war or not. Under this class pensions are also payable to the wife and children—up to four in number.

Only those applicants who qualify under class (c) are entitled to receive both service pension and invalid pension at the same time.

The maximum rate of service pension for a member coincides with the maximum rate of invalid or age pension determined from time to time under the Social Services Consolidation Act. The maximum rate at 30th June, 1948, was 75s. per fortnight. The fortnightly rate for the wife of a member is 44s.; for children under sixteen years of age—one child, 10s.; two children, 15s.; three children, 20s.; four or more children, 25s.

The actual rate payable in any case is determined after taking into consideration all other income and property received or owned by the pensioner in question, and no service pension can be paid in any case where such other income and property has an assessable value of a certain amount, variable according to the cost of living. At 30th June, 1948, the amount was £149 10s. per annum in the case of a single man, and £299 per annum in the case of a member and his wife.

If the income from all other sources is less than the annual amounts above shown, then service pension becomes payable at such rate as will, with that other income, bring the total income of the pensioner (including service pension) up to the allowed maximum, provided, of course, that the pensions cannot exceed the maximum rate specified for the particular case.

The service pension scheme applies in respect of members engaged in the South African war of 1899-1902, the 1914 war, and the 1939 war.

The following statistics for the year 1947-48 show in some degree the type and extent of activity in the State of Victoria :—

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS, MEDICAL TREATMENT, ETC.

Details.	At 30th June, 1948.
War Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces	41,931
Dependants of deceased members of the Forces	13,285
Dependants of incapacitated members of the Forces	51,648
Expenditure for year (paid in pensions)	£4,436,021
Service Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces	2,793
Dependants of deceased member pensioners	370
Dependants of member pensioners	822
Expenditure for year (paid in service pensions)	£288,084
Medical Treatment—	
Number of In-patients in Repatriation Institutions—	
General Hospitals	1,267
Sanatoria	100
Anzac Hostels	16
Mental Hospitals	231
Patients being treated in non-departmental institutions and/or in their own homes	128

Details.	At 30th June, 1948.
Attendances of Out-patients (excluding treatments by Local Medical Officers, of whom there are 678 throughout Victoria)	85,214
Expenditure on treatment, &c.—	
Maintenance of Repatriation Institutions	£780,049
Maintenance of patients in other than Repatriation Institutions (including Country Hospitals)	£113,478
Sustenance during medical treatment	£200,400
Conducting Repatriation Artificial Limb Factory	£38,752
Other expenditure, including fees to Consultants, &c. ..	£105,606
Soldiers' Children Education Scheme—	
Number of children at school and in training	1,030
Expenditure for year	£32,931

Statistical details of the number and designation of Dependents' War and Service pensions in Victoria at 30th June, 1947 and 1948, are given in the following tables:—

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF DECEASED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1947.			At 30th June, 1948.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Widows	3,713	2,504	6,217	4,100	2,433	6,533
Children	459	3,242	3,701	497	3,226	3,723
Widowed mothers of unmarried members	433	774	1,207	361	789	1,150
Other mothers	1,076	524	1,600	943	558	1,501
Fathers	189	150	339	139	155	294
Others	47	56	103	45	47	92
Total	5,917	7,250	13,167	6,085	7,208	13,293

VICTORIA—WAR PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF INCAPACITATED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1947.			At 30th June, 1948.		
	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Wives	16,992	10,732	27,724	16,538	13,048	29,586
Wives (Widows)	1,526	12	1,538	1,473	21	1,494
Children	5,559	12,741	18,300	4,246	15,822	20,068
Mothers (Widows)	184	59	243	143	64	207
Other mothers	206	21	227	203	25	228
Fathers	29	2	31	29	3	32
Others	34	4	38	33	5	38
Total	24,530	23,571	48,101	22,665	28,988	51,653

VICTORIA—SERVICE PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF DECEASED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1947.				At 30th June, 1948.			
	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Widows	18	351	5	374	20	341	4	365
Children .. ..	..	3	6	9	..	..	5	5
Total	18	354	11	383	20	341	9	370

VICTORIA—SERVICE PENSIONS—DEPENDANTS OF INCAPACITATED MEMBERS.

Designation.	At 30th June, 1947.				At 30th June, 1948.			
	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.	1899 War*.	1914 War.	1939 War.	Total.
Wives	31	616	35	682	31	679	44	754
Children .. ..	..	11	58	69	..	..	68	68
Total	31	627	93	751	31	679	112	822

* South African War 1899-1902.

CREMATION.

There are two crematoria in Victoria—one at Springvale and the other at the new Melbourne General Cemetery, Fawkner. The history of the establishment of the crematoria is contained in an article published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 307.

The figures in the following table have been supplied by the authorities of the two crematoria concerned:—

CREMATION IN VICTORIA.

Year.	Cremations at Fawkner.	Cremations at Springvale.	Total Cremations.	Total Deaths.	Percentage of Crema- tions to Deaths.
1927	32	..	32	16,773	·19
1928	84	..	84	17,708	·47
1929	151	..	151	16,717	·90
1930	162	..	162	15,959	1·02
1931	201	..	201	17,033	1·18
1932	199	..	199	16,805	1·18
1933	369	..	369	17,456	2·11
1934	499	..	499	18,648	2·68
1935	596	..	596	18,456	3·23
1936	358	400	758	18,778	4·04
1937	387	596	983	18,613	5·28
1938	415	752	1,167	18,955	6·16
1939	436	873	1,309	20,169	6·49
1940	571	1,053	1,624	20,293	8·00
1941	662	1,164	1,826	20,523	8·90
1942	753	1,246	1,999	21,973	9·09
1943	850	1,348	2,198	21,327	10·31
1944	892	1,502	2,394	20,502	11·68
1945	965	1,639	2,604	20,496	12·70
1946	1,030	1,920	2,950	21,534	13·69
1947	1,159	2,003	3,162	21,442	14·75
1948	1,293	2,349	3,642		