

# VICTORIAN YEAR-BOOK,

1915-16,

BY

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THIRTY-SIXTH ISSUE.

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## P R E F A C E .

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**T**HIS is the thirty-sixth issue of the *Victorian Year-Book*.

The main object of the work is to show the progress made by the State during the year under review, and with this end comparisons are instituted with former years, and with other States and countries. An endeavour is made to present such information as will enable investigators to ascertain the results of past legislation, and as will assist legislators, publicists, and others in forming an opinion in regard to the most suitable methods to be adopted in the future in developing the natural resources of the State, and promoting the social welfare of the people.

The first part deals principally with the past history of the State and its constitutional progress. Its natural features, geology, fauna and flora are also described. Parts II. to V. and Part IX. deal with the wealth and progress of the community as indicated by the growth of population, and by increases in bank deposits, in amounts assured with life offices, in volume of trade, &c., and details are given of the revenue and expenditure of the Government, and of municipalities. In parts VI., VII., and VIII. attention is given to matters which have an important bearing on the progress of the community, though affecting primarily the daily lives of the individuals of whom the community is composed. In these latter portions of the book will be found statistics relating to births, marriages and deaths, education, charitable institutions, crime, and other cognate subjects. In part X. a detailed account is given of the agricultural and other production of the State, and of its manufactures. The various parts were distributed as soon as completed, the first being issued in June, and the last in December.

The information in all parts has been brought up to the latest possible date—in many instances to the middle of the year 1916.

An examination of the statistics included in this volume gives an indication of the manner in which the resources and activities of the State were affected by the war during the year under review. While

the direct and indirect effects of the war are noticeable in many branches of statistics, other factors have also had an important influence on the results. The year was characterized by an exceptionally large wheat harvest following upon an almost total failure of the crop in 1914. In part "Production" an outline is given of an arrangement which has been entered into between the Commonwealth Government and the Governments of the principal wheat-growing States for facilitating the marketing of the grain and ensuring an equitable participation by all growers in the proceeds of sale.

As regards manufactures, the war has affected individual industries in various ways, but the net result of this and other factors is that the value of the output from all industries in 1915 shows an increase for the year somewhat similar to that which occurred in each of the two preceding years.







I have to thank the heads of Government Departments and the various experts who have supplied information and in other ways assisted in the preparation of the work. I also take this opportunity of thanking the members of my staff for their hearty co-operation and for the valuable assistance received from them.

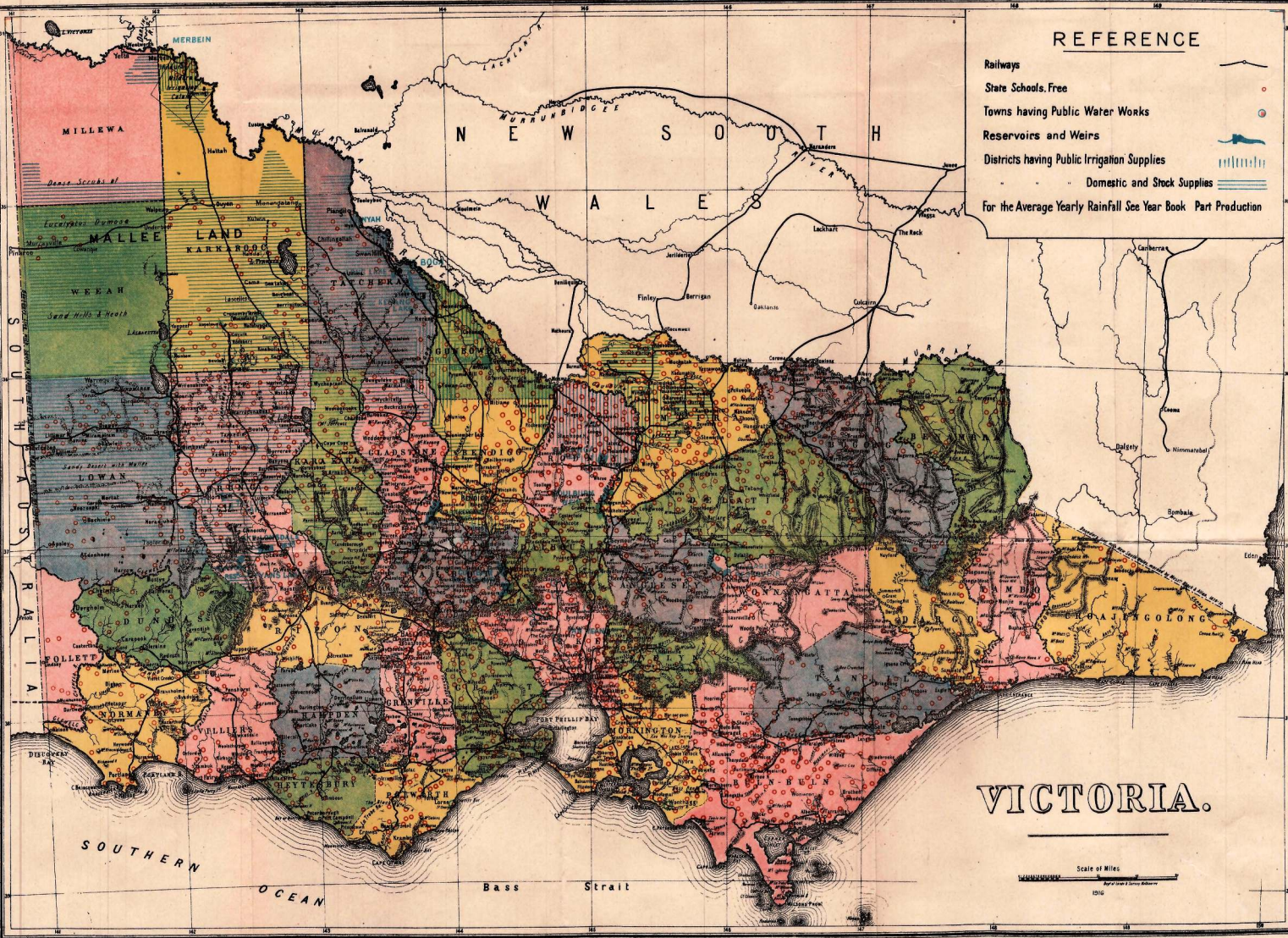
The figures and other material in each part of the book have been carefully examined and checked. If, however, any errors should be detected, I shall be pleased to receive information as to their nature and position.

A. M. LAUGHTON,  
Government Statist.

Office of the Government Statist,  
Melbourne, 4th December, 1916.

# REFERENCE

- Railways 
  - State Schools, Free 
  - Towns having Public Water Works 
  - Reservoirs and Weirs 
  - Districts having Public Irrigation Supplies 
  - Domestic and Stock Supplies 
- For the Average Yearly Rainfall See Year Book Part Production



# VICTORIA.

Scale of Miles  
1:100,000  
1:200,000  
1:400,000