

INTERCHANGE.

COMMERCE.

By the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (section 51) ^{Customs and Excise.} the power to make laws with respect to trade and commerce with other countries and among the States was conferred on the Federal Parliament, and by the same Act (section 86) the collection and control of duties of Customs and Excise passed to the Executive Government of the Commonwealth on 1st January, 1901. The Customs Tariff of 1908, which is given in detail on page 465 of the *Year-Book* for 1908-9, came into operation as from the 8th August, 1907. Certain ~~amendments~~ amendments of the Tariff came into force on 17th November, 1910, and are given on page 407 of the *Year-Book* for 1910-11. Further amendments, which came into operation on 1st December, 1911, are given on page 355 of the *Year-Book* for 1911-12.

A consolidation of the duties imposed by the Excise Acts in force on 1st January, 1909, is given on page 509 of the *Year-Book* 1908-9. The only amendment of the schedule as there stated is that the duty on sugar has been repealed.

Up to the end of 1902 each State published statistical information regarding its trade, showing countries from and to which articles were imported and exported. Under this arrangement there occurred material differences in the classification of the goods, making it practically impossible to institute accurate comparisons. Arrangements were accordingly made by the Federal Government for uniform tabulation of trade returns in each State, and the information so tabulated was issued for the first time in 1903, and maintained until 1910. On the 13th September of the latter year the Federal Government abandoned the collecting and recording of Inter-State imports and exports, and consequently the trade particulars since available relate exclusively to oversea imports and exports, *i.e.*, direct imports from and exports to countries outside Australia. A further

curtailment of particulars in regard to exports took place in 1911, as the distinction that had previously been made between Victorian produce and Australian produce was not observed in that year.

Overseas im-
ports and
exports.

The total values and the values per head of population of imports from and exports to overseas countries for the twelve years 1901-1912 are set forth hereunder:—

VALUE OF OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1901 TO 1912.

Year.	Imports Oversea		Exports Oversea.	
	Total.	Per head of population.	Total.	Per head of population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
1901 ...	12,686,880	10 10 6	13,075,259	10 16 11
1902 ...	12,857,725	10 11 5	10,369,335	8 10 6
1903 ...	12,339,615	10 2 7	11,185,012	9 3 8
1904 ...	12,743,375	10 9 1	16,172,694	13 5 4
1905 ...	12,957,855	10 11 5	14,028,641	11 8 11
1906 ...	14,855,163	12 0 0	18,110,020	14 12 6
1907 ...	17,101,022	13 12 10	17,112,298	13 13 0
1908 ...	16,433,382	12 19 6	15,165,031	11 19 6
1909 ...	16,531,981	12 18 1	17,842,876	13 18 6
1910 ...	20,002,606	15 7 11	18,188,236	14 0 0
1911 ...	21,850,963	16 10 9	18,915,716	14 6 4
1912 ...	25,081,074	18 10 5	19,113,121	14 2 3

During the period covered by the above table imports from overseas countries have increased by £12,394,194, and exports to those countries by £6,037,862, these figures representing increases of £7 19s. 11d. and £3 5s. 4d. per head of population respectively.

Total im-
ports and
exports,
1900-9.

The values of total imports and exports, which are only available up to 1909, and their values per head of the population, are shown in the following table for the ten years 1900-9:—

VALUE OF TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1900 TO 1909.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.			
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Gold.	Merchandise.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1900 ...	18,301,811	15 6 9	4,132,061	13,290,491	17,422,552	14 12 0
1901 ...	18,927,340	15 14 8	4,298,528	14,347,569	18,646,097	15 10 0
1902 ...	18,270,245	15 2 8	4,305,697	13,904,826	18,210,523	15 1 8
1903 ...	17,859,171	14 15 6	5,420,974	14,286,094	19,707,068	16 6 0
1904 ...	20,096,442	16 12 10	4,444,011	19,960,906	24,404,917	20 4 2
1905 ...	22,337,886	18 8 5	1,999,297	20,759,531	22,758,828	18 15 5
1906 ...	25,234,402	20 11 4	4,910,177	24,007,815	28,917,992	23 11 4
1907 ...	28,198,257	22 12 4	2,660,544	26,074,460	28,735,004	23 0 11
1908 ...	27,197,696	21 10 2	4,363,078	22,833,123	27,196,201	21 10 2
1909 ...	28,150,198	21 18 6	2,846,981	27,049,294	29,896,275	23 5 8

The value of Victorian trade with various oversea countries, and the surplus of imports or exports in each case during 1912 are as follows:—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1912.

Country.	Value of Imports into Victoria from each Country.	Value of Ex- ports from Victoria to each Country.	Victorian excess of— Imports (+) Exports (—)
	£	£	£
United Kingdom	14,631,958	9,023,343	+5,608,615
Canada	283,929	7,334	+276,595
Ceylon	328,878	1,826,402	-1,497,524
Fiji	81,116	43,130	+37,986
Hong Kong	88,348	163,465	-75,117
India (including Burmah) ..	796,010	649,741	+146,269
Mauritius	70,423	16,525	+53,898
New Zealand	999,958	781,723	+218,235
Ocean Island	152,577	13,510	+139,067
South African Union	60,148	434,728	-374,580
Straits Settlements	68,203	155,134	-86,931
Other British Possessions ..	5,292	9,088	-3,796
Argentina .. ..	..	107,471	-107,471
Austria-Hungary	25,678	4,593	+21,085
Belgium	613,955	812,674	-198,719
Canary Islands .. ..	..	523,965	-523,965
Chili	21,745	..	+21,745
China	51,158	62,803	-11,645
Egypt	29,143	22,628	+6,515
France	226,343	2,136,898	-1,910,555
Germany	1,878,043	1,287,540	+590,503
Holland (Netherlands) ..	87,728	20,128	+67,600
Italy	126,000	182,278	-56,278
Japan	303,835	40,172	+263,663
Java	415,875	152,287	+263,588
Norway	261,865	305	+261,560
Peru .. ..	..	94,897	-94,897
Philippine Islands	70,542	95,070	-24,528
Portuguese East Africa ..	..	23,359	-23,359
Russia	46,979	5,154	+41,825
Sumatra	109,968	11,874	+98,094
Sweden	269,788	602	+269,186
United States of America ..	2,913,341	331,259	+2,582,082
Other Foreign Countries ..	62,248	73,041	-10,793
Total	25,081,074	19,113,121	+5,967,953

The oversea trade in 1912 shows an excess in the value of imports amounting to £5,967,953, and it will be observed that this excess is due principally to the state of the trade with British countries. The excess in favour of imports from these countries was £4,442,717, there being a balance of imports to the amount of £6,480,665 as regards the United Kingdom, India, Canada, Mauritius, New Zealand, Ocean Island, and Fiji; and a balance of exports amounting

to £2,037,948 in respect of the remaining British countries. As regards foreign countries, the value of the imports from the United States was greater by £2,582,082 than that of exports thereto, while, on the other hand, exports to France showed a surplus over imports of £1,910,555. The value of all goods received from other foreign countries exceeded that of goods sent thereto by the sum of £853,709.

The value of the trade with the leading countries of the world in each of the last five years was as specified hereunder:—

**IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES,
1908 TO 1912.**

Countries.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imports.					
From—	£	£	£	£	£
Other Australian States	10,764,314	11,618,217	*	*	*
New Zealand ...	802,847	861,313	925,819	978,677	999,958
United Kingdom ...	9,345,736	9,946,089	11,648,160	12,502,234	14,631,958
India and Ceylon ...	862,126	980,719	1,358,721	1,128,654	1,124,888
South African Union	121,284	16,663	26,114	16,454	60,148
Other British Possessions	482,761	452,736	625,927	663,140	749,888
Belgium ...	370,293	338,908	418,719	608,891	613,955
France ...	178,631	152,441	184,207	250,411	226,343
Germany ...	1,305,602	1,205,359	1,338,612	1,631,455	1,878,043
United States of America	2,081,594	1,556,997	2,211,517	2,592,032	2,913,341
Other Foreign Countries	882,508	1,020,756	1,264,810	1,479,015	1,882,552
Total ...	27,197,696	28,150,198	20,002,606†	21,850,963†	25,081,074†
Exports.					
To—	£	£	£	£	£
Other Australian States	12,031,170	12,053,399	*	*	*
New Zealand ...	773,557	1,117,807	945,019	805,029	781,723
United Kingdom ...	7,528,932	8,871,161	10,259,719	10,507,025	9,023,343
India and Ceylon ...	559,027	548,070	334,936	802,255	2,476,143
South African Union	444,644	643,870	569,055	567,781	434,728
Other British Possessions	215,471	243,136	297,418	369,420	408,186
Belgium ...	500,007	747,510	809,609	755,106	812,674
France ...	1,589,428	1,954,548	2,441,502	2,407,978	2,136,898
Germany ...	2,015,536	872,461	1,071,391	801,302	1,287,540
United States of America	575,863	1,169,762	473,467	412,160	331,259
Other Foreign Countries	962,566	1,674,551	986,120	1,487,660	1,420,627
Total ...	27,196,201	29,896,275	18,188,236†	18,915,716†	19,113,121†

* No record.

† Exclusive of Inter-State trade.

The proportion of imports coming from Australian States formed 39½ per cent. of the total in 1908, and 41 per cent. of the total in 1909. Of the total exports the proportion sent to Australian States was 44 per cent. in 1908, and 40 per cent. in 1909. In each of the last five years exports were of greater value than imports in the trade with South Africa, Belgium, and France; but, in trade with the United Kingdom and the United States of America, the value of imports was greater than that of exports. There was an excess of exports in trade with New Zealand in 1909 and 1910, with India and Ceylon in 1912, and with Germany in 1908; but in other years there was an excess of imports from those countries. In interchange with the other Australian States there was an excess of exports in the last two years for which figures are available.

The principal articles imported from oversea countries into Victoria during the year 1912 are shown in the subjoined statement:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED OVERSEA INTO
VICTORIA, 1912.

Articles.	Values.	Articles.	Values.
	£		£
Acids	42,685	Fruits—Dried and Preserved ..	26,454
Ale, Beer, and Porter	153,474	" Fresh	86,719
Alkalies	76,416	Furniture	76,339
Animals—Horses	84,493	" minor articles for ..	35,629
Apparel and Attire	1,049,221	Furs	35,063
Apparel—Minor articles for ..	173,512	Glass and Glassware	192,141
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives	259,068	Gloves	229,308
Bags and Sacks	270,781	Gold—Bullion	338,796
Bags, Purses, N.E.I., Wallets, Baskets, &c.	101,020	Grain—Barley	63,007
Books, Printed	301,446	Oats	161,950
Boots, Shoes, and Goloshes, &c. ..	145,213	Rice	145,640
" minor articles for ..	36,436	Other—Prepared and Unprepared ..	26,899
Brass—Pipes and tubes, sheet, plate, &c.	57,060	Gums, dry	62,754
Brushware	49,853	Hats, Caps, and Bonnets ..	140,021
Canvas and Duck	96,861	" minor articles for ..	77,883
Caramel and Caramel Paste ..	31,865	Hessians, &c.	81,044
Carpets and Carpeting	44,799	Hops	30,555
Cement, Portland	97,189	Instruments, Musical, and parts thereof—	
China, Parian and Porcelain Ware	44,050	Pianos	163,227
Cocoa, Cocoa Beans, and Chocolate	91,097	Other	50,646
Coffee and Chicory	48,804	Instruments, Surgical and Dental	39,859
Confectionery	176,646	" Talking Machines, &c. ..	12,565
Copper—Pipes and tubes, sheet, plate, &c.	72,742	Iron and Steel	1,294,912
Cordage and Twines (including sewing silks, twists, cottons, &c.)	251,080	Jewellery and Imitation Jewellery	192,466
Cosies, Cushions, Drapery for furniture, &c.	165,858	Kapok	37,771
Cotton—Raw, Waste, &c.	42,023	Lamps and Lampware	63,902
Curains and Blinds	43,345	Leather	252,258
Cutlery	96,061	Leather Manufactures, N.E.I. ..	20,399
Drugs and Chemicals	184,054	Leatherware, minor articles for ..	26,006
Earthenware, Brownware, &c. ..	90,962	Machines and Machinery—	
Electrical Articles and Materials ..	260,585	Agricultural	214,995
Fancy Goods	200,159	Electrical and Gas	252,366
Feathers, Dressed and Undressed ..	49,248	Engines	214,476
Fibre—Flax, Hemp, &c.	136,660	Motive Power	143,887
Fish—Fresh and Preserved	211,273	Sewing	93,518
Floorecloths and Linoleums ..	277,597	Other	410,385
		Machine Tools	119,392
		Manures	181,123
		Matches and Vestas	47,338
		Medicines	64,468

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED OVERSEA INTO
VICTORIA, 1912—continued.

Articles.	Values.	Articles.	Values.
	£		£
Metals, Manufactures of—		Rugs, Lap Dusters, Floor Rugs, &c.	
Pipes and Tubes	234,528	Sago and Tapioca	22,467
Wire	257,587	Sausage Casings	23,994
Wire Netting	118,859	Seeds	32,991
Other	787,588	Skins and Hides	70,157
Naphtha	50,148	Soap	114,538
Nuts, Edible	43,784	Spices	49,409
Oilmen's Stores	66,860	Spirits	37,765
Oils, Bottled and in bulk—		Stationery, Manufactured, &c.	266,726
Benzine	118,574	Sugar	102,748
Kerosene	234,426	Glucose	376,133
Linseed	77,422	Sulphur, Brimstone	22,877
Lubricating	66,264	Tea	31,886
Other	105,907	Timber	527,618
Paints and Colours	161,805	Tinned Plates and Sheets (plain)	979,354
Paper—Printing	314,312	Tobacco	182,823
“ Other, including Mill-board, Strawboard, Paperhangings	371,801	Tools of Trade (not being machine tools)	424,172
Perfumery, &c.	29,411	Trimmings and Ornaments	197,767
Photographic Goods and Accessories	27,731	Turpentine	244,055
Pickles and Sauces	26,049	Varnishes	36,023
Piece Goods—Cottons and Linens	1,654,223	Vehicles and parts thereof—	
Silks	444,766	Motor Bodies and Chassis	589,960
Velvets and Velvetene	491,032	Other	252,880
Woollens	837,679	Vessels (ships)	248,010
Other	98,988	Watches and Chronometers	70,219
Pipes, Smoking	50,497	Waxes	45,222
Rails, Fishplates, &c. ..	195,143	Wines	47,895
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures	543,125	Wood, Articles of	45,878
		Yarns	274,568
		All other Articles	1,096,177
		Total	25,081,074

Principal
exports.

The principal articles exported to oversea countries from Victoria during the year 1912 were as shown hereunder:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM
VICTORIA, 1912.

Articles.	Values.	Articles.	Values.
	£		£
Ammonia, Sulphite	20,537	Manures	37,192
Animals—Horses	74,762	Meats—Frozen Mutton and Lamb	762,344
“ Sheep	40,614	“ Other	172,949
Biscuits	54,907	Milk	25,475
Books (Printed), &c. ..	1,545,771	Oils—Bottled and in bulk	45,691
Butter	14,585	Onions	11,115
Confectionery, &c. ..	22,836	Ores	65,470
Fodder	159,203	Rubber and Rubber Manufactures	65,027
Fruits—Fresh, Dried, and Preserved	3,216,615	Sausage Casings	39,851
Gold—Bullion and Specie ..	1,836,387	Skins and Hides	1,329,400
Grain, &c.—Wheat	600,267	Soap	26,617
Flour	53,871	Tallow—Unrefined	324,497
“ Other, Prepared and Unprepared	21,122	Tea	38,954
Hay and Chaff	14,404	Tin Ingots	346,118
Jams and Jellies	52,947	Tobacco	78,053
Jewellery, Cameos, and Precious Stones	28,150	Wines	43,757
Lard and Refined Animal Fats ..	253,914	Wool	6,990,918
Leather	188,344	All other Articles	470,286
Machines and Machinery ..		Total	19,113,121

A list of the principal articles of trade between Victoria and Principal
oversea countries during the last five years is as follows:— articles of
trade.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1908 TO 1912.

Articles.	Value in Year.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria from Oversea Countries.</i>					
Piece Goods	2,691,767	2,904,304	3,267,755	3,388,987	3,525,788
Machines and Machinery	760,077	818,657	1,013,728	1,218,516	1,449,019
Metal Manufactures	894,337	859,687	970,688	1,145,484	1,398,562
Iron and Steel	705,260	781,347	1,064,648	1,177,275	1,264,912
Apparel and Attire	544,701	586,574	699,809	797,566	1,049,221
Timber	735,353	616,348	847,139	1,107,317	979,354
Vehicles and parts	283,603	315,332	403,548	530,012	842,840
Paper	512,880	433,459	524,450	600,535	686,113
Oils	364,403	379,212	472,160	432,768	602,593
Rubber and Rubber Manufac- tures	258,424	305,696	396,419	568,740	543,125
Tea	360,446	420,720	503,152	517,172	527,618
Tobacco	297,028	261,344	312,699	369,191	424,172
Gold—Bullion	343,054	407,260	411,976	541,268	338,796
All Other Articles	7,682,049	7,442,041	9,114,435	9,456,132	11,418,961
Total	16,433,382	16,531,981	20,002,606	21,850,963	25,081,074
<i>Exported from Victoria to Oversea Countries.</i>					
Wool	6,009,568	7,004,623	7,190,789	6,255,599	6,990,918
Gold—Specie	2,976,081	2,037,927	423,264	1,084,479	3,155,987
Wheat and Flour	1,048,330	3,440,777	3,701,039	4,221,961	2,436,654
Butter	1,037,628	1,100,459	1,780,044	2,361,587	1,545,771
Skins and Hides	835,225	1,088,384	1,296,516	1,089,451	1,329,400
Meat	526,301	513,866	912,192	996,388	933,293
Tin Ingots	305,711	249,669	241,896	338,982	346,118
Tallow	133,644	214,080	373,924	480,256	324,497
All Other Articles	2,292,543	2,193,091	2,258,572	2,087,013	2,048,483
Total	15,165,031	17,842,876	18,188,236	18,915,716	19,113,121

It is worthy of notice that, during the last five years, the larger portion of the oversea trade consisted of imports, also that these were composed mainly of manufactured goods, and contained a greater variety of articles than in the case of exports. The latter were accounted for almost entirely by a small number of agricultural, pastoral, or mineral products. The value of wool exported exceeded that of the four principal items included in the imports, while the three leading articles exported were valued at much more

than the thirteen leading articles imported. The varied nature of the imports is shown by the fact that the thirteen principal articles represented only 55 per cent. of the total value; in the case of the exports, on the other hand, 88 per cent. of the value came under eight headings.

Trade with
United
Kingdom.

Since 1908 Victorian trade with the United Kingdom has increased from £16,874,668 to £23,655,301. The value of imports exceeded that of exports by £1,816,804 in 1908, and by £5,608,615 in 1912. The principal articles imported from and exported to the United Kingdom in the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1908 TO 1912.

ARTICLES.	Value.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imported into Victoria from United Kingdom.					
Piece Goods—	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton and Linen	1,064,356	1,248,104	1,424,097	1,511,023	1,517,049
Woollen ...	665,632	643,832	724,447	791,258	826,701
Velvets, &c. ...	358,984	448,431	459,633	352,376	427,864
Silk ...	295,572	293,066	323,947	323,193	299,954
Machines, Tools, and Implements ..	451,195	550,399	641,408	688,147	912,090
Iron and Steel ...	524,988	606,430	770,696	800,117	885,441
Apparel and Attire ...	464,917	494,324	581,195	651,798	880,066
Vehicles and Parts ...	197,352	234,833	266,537	306,493	460,073
Paper ...	260,404	277,096	326,348	339,937	354,795
Books ...	174,746	205,041	208,635	251,904	267,200
Vessels (Ships) ...	460,000	264,000	310,500	10,000	245,210
All other articles ...	4,427,590	4,630,533	5,610,717	6,475,988	7,555,515
Total ...	9,345,736	9,946,089	11,648,160	12,502,234	14,631,958

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1908 TO 1912—*continued.*

ARTICLES.	Value.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.					
Wool	£ 3,269,901	£ 2,905,230	£ 3,365,410	£ 3,261,235	£ 3,573,697
Butter	868,068	936,675	1,595,268	2,178,650	1,360,978
Wheat and Flour ...	533,332	2,547,669	2,424,848	2,137,643	1,220,403
Meat, Frozen—					
Beef, Mutton, and					
Lamb	407,078	414,443	796,255	815,147	781,126
Rabbits and Hares	82,335	80,729	67,921	65,351	55,626
Hides and Skins ...	407,405	553,529	568,619	442,005	574,036
Gold	811,160	213,020	34,098	313,372	342,011
Tin Ingots	294,358	238,184	219,162	294,363	286,154
Tallow	104,555	174,096	286,850	318,730	190,423
Leather	147,111	130,566	92,704	84,782	169,138
Copper	189,991	250,882	285,320	48,299	160
All other articles ...	413,638	426,138	523,264	547,448	469,586
Total	7,528,932	8,871,161	10,259,719	10,507,025	9,023,343

Imports from the United Kingdom are chiefly made up of manufactures, while exports thereto from Victoria consist almost entirely of agricultural, pastoral, and mineral products. It will be observed in the figures for 1912 that, of the imports, piece goods and apparel and attire represent 27 per cent. of the total, also that, of the exports, wool is responsible for 40 per cent., and if to its value be added that of butter, wheat, and flour, 68 per cent. of the total is accounted for.

Trade with
New
Zealand.

In 1912 the value of imports from New Zealand was about 25 per cent. more, and that of exports thereto was very little more than in 1908. In the former there was an annual increase over the period, whilst in the latter a substantial increase was recorded in 1909, but there was a decline each year since.

The principal articles imported and exported during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
NEW ZEALAND, 1908 TO 1912.

ARTICLES.	Value.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imported into Victoria from New Zealand.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Gold—Bullion ...	342,659	407,215	411,052	541,132	338,500
Timber ...	160,142	134,093	151,631	173,828	202,922
Skins and Hides ...	105,080	110,146	99,847	68,248	48,515
Flax and Hemp ...	53,992	59,750	57,717	17,965	32,116
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs) ...	14,527	30,522	91,482	71,190	30,908
Fish ...	13,646	16,705	17,150	21,679	23,159
Seeds ...	16,425	13,952	18,667	9,254	20,526
Machines, Tools, and Implements ...	7,224	7,083	6,226	6,220	10,722
Meat, preserved in tins	4,624	2,618	2,142	1,577	7,421
Books ...	1,952	3,709	3,931	5,390	2,951
All other Articles ...	82,576	75,520	65,974	62,194	282,218
Total ...	802,847	861,313	925,819	978,677	999,958
Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.					
Gold—Specie ...	50,000	600,000	306,108	100,000	150,000
Tobacco, manufactured	65,699	69,435	64,058	65,425	75,291
Rubber manufactures	40,833	33,396	60,626	91,181	61,386
Books ...	22,802	24,396	26,846	36,964	44,267
Tea ...	22,194	18,745	38,912	42,850	38,532
Machinery ...	34,097	35,692	37,579	31,575	35,728
Manures ...	22,687	14,915	19,542	27,798	30,881
Leather ...	25,429	22,900	26,938	24,375	19,475
Rice and Rice Meal ...	14,350	11,119	11,517	19,565	17,876
Fruits—Dried ...	8,925	1,418	4,725	5,321	17,059
All other Articles ...	466,541	280,791	348,168	359,975	291,228
Total ...	773,557	1,117,807	945,019	805,029	781,723

In 1912 the exports to New Zealand were less than the imports therefrom by 28 per cent. Leaving gold out of consideration, it will be observed that the articles imported are not very numerous, as, except in 1912, when there were large importations of oats and barley, the items specified accounted for about 85 per cent. of the total, whilst the varied character of the exports is evidenced by the fact that over the five years the nine leading items made up only 46 per cent. of the total.

Trade with India (including Burmah) and Ceylon, which amounted to 8 per cent. of the Victorian oversea trade in 1912, has increased by £2,124,177 since 1908, the value of the exports being more by £1,908,628 (due to gold), and that of the imports greater by £215,549. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

Trade with
India and
Ceylon.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
INDIA AND CEYLON, 1908 TO 1912.

ARTICLES.	Value.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imported into Victoria from India and Ceylon.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Bags, Sacks, &c. ...	336,739	414,848	600,472	405,166	264,596
Tea ...	313,122	363,165	422,943	400,641	443,239
Rice ...	48,761	49,544	55,578	67,854	118,629
Hessian ...	53,370	46,159	56,332	50,847	63,476
Rubber Manufactures ...	5,143	2,336	19,473	10,618	43,539
Coffee ...	10,677	16,886	17,606	22,087	27,227
Skins ...	39,996	25,619	64,126	10,628	20,543
Pig Iron ...	7,288	6,675	13,927	20,229	20,264
Nuts ...	3,428	6,801	10,589	11,301	12,412
Cotton (raw) ...	8,458	8,425	21,476	14,563	11,680
All other Articles ...	82,357	86,705	127,163	114,720	99,283
Total ...	909,339	1,027,163	1,409,685	1,128,654	1,124,888
Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.					
Gold ...	372,889	399,602	162,601	611,792	2,299,703
Horses ...	63,156	60,171	80,880	67,764	57,681
Wheat and Flour ...	56,019	17,761	9,888	11,683	20,234
Wool ...	21,600	15,915	21,693	20,797	16,463
Hay and Chaff ...	4,647	4,562	8,644	10,606	15,003
Soap ...	7,562	6,890	7,800	8,969	8,815
Butter ...	5,366	4,705	6,307	6,531	7,169
Biscuits ...	5,097	6,195	6,475	6,179	6,034
Tallow ...	3,384	2,897	3,367	3,200	2,459
Oats ...	2,595	5,392	5,840	5,952	1,309
All other Articles ...	25,200	31,519	30,922	48,782	41,223
Total ...	567,515	555,609	344,467	802,255	2,476,143

The import trade from India and Ceylon is largely made up of tea, rice, and jute goods, whose value in 1912 formed 79 per cent. of the total. In return gold was the leading item of exchange, outside of which the export trade in horses was the only business of importance, all other exports in 1912 being responsible for less than 5 per cent. of the total.

Trade with
Belgium.

Imports from Belgium have increased by 66 per cent. in the last five years, and exports thereto by 63 per cent. in the same period. That country accounted for about 3 per cent. of Victoria's overseas trade in each of the years 1908 and 1912. The principal articles of trade with Belgium in the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
BELGIUM, 1908 TO 1912.

ARTICLES	Value				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imported into Victoria from Belgium.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Iron and Steel ...	78,287	73,758	121,098	168,073	127,968
Vehicles, and parts ...	8,660	14,452	16,771	30,205	63,854
Glass and Glassware...	31,845	40,531	39,671	52,672	52,521
Cameos and Precious Stones	43,105	35,567	34,853	59,419	31,596
Paper ...	22,408	14,807	20,748	24,722	25,290
Wire and Wire Netting	19,785	21,415	20,868	23,028	24,342
Confectionery ...	1,526	621	968	5,359	22,951
Copper ...	15,699	11,714	9,748	3,802	21,361
Piece Goods ...	9,296	9,815	16,506	19,552	20,794
Wine ...	15,472	14,819	7,554	20,656	17,178
All other articles ...	124,210	101,409	129,929	201,403	206,100
Total ...	370,293	338,908	418,719	608,891	613,955
Exported from Victoria to Belgium.					
Wool ...	335,589	458,475	381,183	365,026	442,832
Hides and Skins ...	96,999	204,490	241,635	194,814	233,806
Wheat ...	...	9,896	105,239	78,800	59,362
Tallow ...	1,502	9,040	18,993	55,650	24,358
Cameos and Precious Stones	3,087	1,626	1,791	3,132	17,393
Ores—Silver Lead, &c.	35,689	34,936	23,342	22,098	16,370
Leather ...	23,755	22,700	23,397	9,050	11,119
All other articles ...	3,386	6,347	14,029	26,536	7,434
Total ...	500,007	747,510	809,609	755,106	812,674

The trade with Belgium is largely in the form of exports, of which the principal articles in 1912 were wool and hides and skins, together representing 83 per cent. of the total; if to these be added the other five articles specified in the above table, less than 1 per cent. is unaccounted for.

With France, the principal trade is in exports, which in 1912 amounted to £2,136,898, as against imports of £226,343. The increase in the total trade in the last five years was £595,182, viz., exports £547,470, and imports £47,712. The principal articles imported from and exported to France in the years 1908 to 1912 were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO FRANCE, 1908 TO 1912.

ARTICLES.	Value.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imported into Victoria from France.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Cream of Tartar ...	48,668	41,778	33,314	50,002	51,328
Piece Goods ...	10,218	11,443	15,504	28,935	34,867
Vehicles, and parts	2,860	2,116	22,524	26,117	10,911
Wine ...	6,660	2,957	12,817	11,874	10,538
Cameos and Precious Stones ...	3,953	17,707	3,183	9,774	7,108
Rubber Manufactures	1,960	615	2,171	3,554	4,753
Corks, Cork Mats, &c.	7,639	6,090	5,201	6,965	4,698
Gelatine ...	2,100	2,278	6,034	5,589	4,102
Acids ...	14,437	6,162	4,951	9,691	3,562
All other articles ...	80,136	61,295	78,508	97,910	94,476
Total ...	178,631	152,441	184,207	250,411	226,343
Exported from Victoria to France.					
Wool ...	1,330,715	1,683,732	1,967,053	1,465,492	1,668,081
Hides and Skins ...	246,899	243,352	397,204	390,989	437,967
Tallow ...	4,366	10,385	24,074	38,822	24,955
Wheat ...	4,103	5,040	49,075	499,428	1,197
Horns ...	827	1,093	255	995	272
Ore-Tin ...	...	5,848	...	...	...
All other articles ...	2,519	5,098	3,841	12,252	4,426
Total ...	1,589,428	1,954,548	2,441,502	2,407,978	2,136,899

Imports direct from France, of which nearly one-fourth consisted of cream of tartar, did not in 1912 indicate the extent to which articles produced in France were received in Victoria, as it is shown on page 480, that goods of French origin to the extent of £917,839 were imported in that year. The value of exports was practically covered by that of wool and hides and skins, as all other items accounted for less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total.

Trade with
Germany.

The trade with Germany amounted to £3,321,138 in 1908, and £3,165,583 in 1912, or to 10½ and 7 per cent. respectively of the total with oversea countries. The imports for 1912 were worth £572,441 more, but the exports £727,996 less than in 1908, though if gold be excluded the exports would show an increase of £482,004 during the period. The principal articles interchanged with Germany during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO GERMANY, 1908 TO 1912.

ARTICLES.	Value.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imported into Victoria from Germany.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Pianos	78,784	69,753	81,523	119,392	140,602
Machines, Tools, and Implements	89,810	70,191	84,557	127,718	123,100
Rubber Manufactures	57,777	95,373	60,279	110,029	100,123
Wire and Wire Netting	131,718	112,284	136,739	125,627	97,436
Apparel and Attire ...	46,009	62,059	74,351	82,381	95,703
Paper	110,103	56,024	77,494	91,416	83,719
Piece Goods	68,819	53,956	65,851	60,900	80,851
Iron and Steel	24,213	31,662	61,167	39,174	78,205
Vehicles, and parts ...	27,557	23,777	16,523	24,533	60,972
Glass and Glassware ...	34,673	26,758	33,523	39,973	58,259
All other Articles ...	636,139	603,522	646,605	810,312	950,073
Total	1,305,602	1,205,359	1,338,612	1,631,455	1,878,043
Exported from Victoria to Germany.					
Wool	533,050	792,840	952,760	688,166	934,723
Gold—Specie	1,410,000	...	...	...	200,000
Tin Ingots	1,250	...	5,542	10,842	33,397
Apples—Fresh	9,630	17,405	14,080	17,213	28,149
Wheat ... ..	...	9,003	39,089	11,931	16,873
Ores	2,958	1,436	3,770	3,072	16,146
Sausage Casings	11,698	10,596	12,431	13,400	15,170
Hides and Skins	31,961	17,733	9,908	7,711	4,465
Tallow	59	940	11,100	15,803	3,282
All other Articles ...	14,930	22,508	22,711	33,164	35,335
Total	2,015,536	872,461	1,071,391	801,302	1,287,540

The articles imported from Germany are very varied in character, as may be seen from the fact that only half their total value is accounted for in the ten leading items shown above. In exchange for

the imports, 58 per cent. of their value was returned in merchandise in 1912. Of the exports other than gold for that year 86 per cent. consisted of wool.

Trade with the United States amounted in 1912 to £3,244,600, of which £2,913,341 represented imports. As compared with the year 1908, this trade had increased by £587,143, there having been a growth of £831,747 in imports and a reduction of £244,604 in exports. The exports in 1912 were worth 72 per cent. less than in 1909, and 42 per cent. less than in 1908, the reduction since 1909 being due principally to a shrinkage in exports of wool. The principal articles included in the trade with the United States in the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO
THE UNITED STATES, 1908 TO 1912.

ARTICLES.	Value.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Imported into Victoria from the United States.					
	£	£	£	£	£
Machines, Tools, and Implements ...	316,072	275,114	386,178	477,271	494,569
Oil ...	202,342	226,155	301,867	207,004	335,901
Timber ...	292,139	141,269	249,808	325,668	326,885
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes ...	190,792	140,945	249,345	286,783	220,255
Iron and Steel ...	58,801	51,422	76,225	115,671	163,042
Vehicles, and parts ...	31,533	24,166	47,702	85,905	147,943
Wire and Wire Netting	78,440	51,923	52,978	89,781	96,724
Leather ...	50,045	54,319	30,207	50,396	75,927
Paper ...	96,685	51,054	56,530	43,592	74,393
Piece goods ...	25,445	18,736	27,554	65,981	66,370
Rails, Fishplates, &c.	109,368	53,203	129,530	139,686	41,828
All other Articles ...	629,932	468,691	603,593	704,294	869,504
Total ...	2,081,594	1,556,997	2,211,517	2,592,032	2,913,341
Exported from Victoria to the United States.					
Wool ...	496,739	1,103,807	391,985	362,072	260,318
Hides and Skins ...	41,025	57,867	63,719	35,687	60,891
Eucalyptus Oil ...	1,102	1,747	1,986	3,926	1,060
Leather ...	1,555	1,762	3,208	3,601	2,064
Copper in matte ...	21,264	...	535	...	...
Silver in matte ...	3,895	...	61	...	...
Gold in matte ...	4,138	...	54	...	...
All other Articles ...	6,145	4,579	11,919	6,874	6,926
Total ...	575,863	1,169,762	473,467	412,160	331,259

Trade with
United
States

The imports from the United States cover a wide range of articles, as after the four leading items, which account for 47 per cent., the next largest seven are responsible for only 23 per cent. of the total, and nearly one-third of the whole is made up of articles of much smaller value. The exports to that country in 1912 were equivalent to little more than one-ninth of the imports, and consisted principally of wool, which accounted for 79 per cent. of the total.

Origin of
imports.

The value of the imports from different countries does not represent the value of the produce of such countries received by Victoria. In the next table the country of shipment is contrasted with the country of origin of the overseas imports for 1912.

OVERSEA IMPORTS, 1912—COUNTRY OF SHIPMENT AND COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

Country.	Value of Oversea Imports.		Percentage of Oversea Imports.	
	Imported from each Country.	Produced in each Country.	Imported from each Country.	Produced in each Country.
	£	£		
Canada	283,929	323,404	1·13	1·29
Ceylon	328,878	329,017	1·31	1·31
India (including Burmah)	796,010	806,416	3·17	3·22
New Zealand	999,958	976,474	3·99	3·89
Ocean Island	152,577	152,387	·61	·61
Straits Settlements	68,203	68,505	·27	·27
United Kingdom	14,631,958	11,808,212	58·34	47·08
Other British Countries	305,327	252,388	1·22	1·01
Austria-Hungary	25,678	121,634	·10	·49
Belgium	613,955	395,979	2·45	1·58
Brazil ... ..	...	121,337	...	·48
China	51,158	149,787	·20	·60
France	226,343	917,839	·90	3·66
Germany	1,878,043	2,566,591	7·49	10·23
Holland (Netherlands)	87,728	130,617	·35	·52
Italy	126,000	258,875	·50	1·03
Japan	303,835	319,705	1·21	1·27
Java	415,875	414,678	1·66	1·65
Norway	261,865	304,846	1·04	1·22
Russia	46,979	100,334	·19	·40
Sumatra	109,968	117,440	·44	·47
Sweden	269,788	248,017	1·08	·99
Switzerland	5,096	565,024	·02	2·25
United States	2,913,341	3,256,202	11·62	12·98
Other Foreign Countries	178,582	375,366	·71	1·50
Total	25,081,074	25,081,074	100·00	100·00

An examination of the various articles of Australian merchandise exported from Victoria to overseas countries reveals the fact that about 87 per cent. of the total is covered by the seven articles specified below:—

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE EXPORTED FROM
VICTORIA TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1908 TO 1912.

Principal Articles.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	£	£	£	£	£
Butter	1,037,409	1,100,459	1,780,044	2,361,587	1,545,771
Flour	461,534	642,508	609,960	629,427	600,267
Wheat	586,796	2,798,269	3,091,079	3,592,534	1,836,387
Meat, Frozen—					
Mutton and Lamb ...	401,883	402,376	760,575	798,508	762,344
Other	114,457	100,651	127,426	142,898	126,953
Skins and Hides ...	833,049	1,088,271	1,296,421	1,089,258	1,328,817
Tallow	132,761	214,080	378,924	480,256	324,497
Wool	6,008,992	7,004,623	7,190,789	6,255,599	6,990,918
Other Merchandise ...	1,770,273	1,797,771	1,890,564	1,950,637	1,972,319
Total Merchandise	11,347,154	15,149,008	17,125,782	17,300,704	15,488,273
Gold (Bullion and Specie)	3,424,048	1,932,981	262,926	635,313	2,877,819
TOTAL	14,771,202	17,081,989	17,388,708	17,936,017	18,366,092 ^a
Per Head of Population	£ s. d. 11 13 5	£ s. d. 13 6 9	£ s. d. 13 7 9	£ s. d. 13 11 6	£ s. d. 13 11 3
Percentage of Total Exports	97·40	95·74	95·60	94·82	96·09

Those articles of Australian produce exported overseas which are not specified in the above table, but are grouped under the heading "Other Merchandise," represent only 15½ per cent. of the total merchandise in 1908, 12 per cent. in 1909, 11 per cent. in 1910 and in 1911, and 12¾ per cent. in 1912.

The most conspicuous variations in 1912, as compared with 1911, occur in the cases of wheat, butter, wool, and skins and hides, in the first two of which there are decreases of £1,756,147 and £815,816 respectively, and in the other two increases of £735,319 and £239,559 respectively.

Distribution
of
Australian
produce.

The subjoined table shows the destination under general headings of Australian produce exported from Victoria in each of the past five years:—

EXPORTS OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE, 1908 TO 1912.

Destination.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	£	£	£	£	£
Australian States ...	9,121,076	9,067,782	*	*	*
United Kingdom ...	7,445,129	8,800,572	10,092,947	10,222,247	8,864,218
Other British Possessions	1,708,368	1,892,028	1,550,563	1,906,761	3,582,434
Foreign Countries ...	5,617,705	6,389,389	5,745,198	5,807,009	5,919,440
Total ...	23,892,278	26,149,771	17,388,708†	17,936,017†	18,366,092†

* No record.

† Exclusive of exports to Australian States.

Of the Australian produce exported, 38 per cent. was sent to the sister States in 1908 and 35 per cent. in 1909. Thirty-one per cent. was sent to the United Kingdom in 1908 and 34 per cent. in 1909. Seven per cent. was sent to "Other British Possessions" in each of the years 1908 and 1909. Twenty-four per cent. was sent to foreign countries in each of the years 1908 and 1909. Compared with 1908 the total value of Australian produce exported in 1909 shows an increase of £2,257,493, or over 9 per cent.

Victorian
produce
exported.

Unlike the table on page 481, the following table includes exports to Australian States, and deals only with Victorian produce. It relates, however, to the years 1905-1909, as owing to cessation in

keeping the Inter-State records, it is not possible to give similar particulars for later years:—

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF VICTORIAN PRODUCE EXPORTED,
1905 TO 1909.

Principal Articles.	1905.	1906.	1907. •	1908.	1909.
	£	£	£	£	£
Animals—Cattle ...	293,241	512,569	248,776	364,356	331,053
Horses ...	278,033	275,445	336,942	347,272	314,825
Sheep ...	326,526	429,775	480,343	585,737	405,345
Apparel and Attire	437,672	468,960	593,579	659,513	744,706
Boots and Shoes ...	294,913	337,056	415,031	430,839	512,586
Butter and Cheese	1,576,189	2,038,900	1,895,910	1,313,254	1,345,965
Fruit—Dried ...	56,808	56,776	141,935	108,347	108,329
Fresh ...	68,522	73,620	139,783	89,651	147,213
Jams and Jellies ...	73,233	75,254	76,536	87,891	97,208
Grain—Oats ...	165,585	111,859	112,058	31,971	140,063
Wheat ...	1,835,204	2,277,533	1,787,325	627,484	2,828,275
Other ...	68,553	35,239	41,935	76,616	62,304
Grain prepared—					
Flour ...	590,297	582,494	582,285	554,887	733,916
Hay and Chaff ...	97,471	127,722	129,296	149,483	235,215
Fodder ...	63,260	41,065	48,655	27,725	35,008
Meat—Bacon and					
Ham ...	89,943	125,338	140,317	104,387	96,046
Frozen Beef	22,697	16,882	15,333	19,878	19,319
„ Mutton	275,195	373,757	456,245	402,699	402,985
„ Rabbits					
„ & Hares	220,940	221,516	154,829	85,820	82,733
Potatoes ...	102,184	189,224	55,198	96,054	111,743
Skins and Hides ...	535,086	682,783	873,884	814,228	1,019,505
Leather ...	252,569	300,106	317,235	325,559	335,966
Tallow ...	135,489	203,471	196,120	119,652	171,409
Wool ...	2,501,990	2,602,088	4,261,526	3,928,558	3,748,193
Other Articles ...	2,836,801	3,730,521	4,163,409	4,913,981	5,447,967
Total Merchandise	13,198,401	15,889,953	17,664,485	16,265,842	19,477,877
Gold (Bullion and Specie) ...	1,078,560	3,991,280	1,820,959	3,443,003	1,300,011
Total ...	14,276,961	19,881,233	19,485,444	19,708,845	20,777,888
Per head of Population ...	£ s. d. 11 15 6	£ s. d. 16 4 1	£ s. d. 15 12 7	£ s. d. 15 11 9	£ s. d. 16 3 8
Percentage of Total Exports ...	62.731	68.750	67.811	72.469	69.500

The exports of Victorian produce were greater in 1909 than in any previous year, exceeding in value those for 1906, the next highest year, by £896,655, although representing 5d. less *per capita*. Compared with 1908 these exports show an increase of £1,069,043,

merchandise being £3,212,035 in excess of the amount for that year, but gold £2,142,992 less. The item chiefly responsible for the increase in merchandise is wheat, the value of which in 1909 exceeded that for the previous year by £2,200,791.

Trade
between
Australian
States.

The following statement illustrates the great development which has taken place in the Inter-State trade of Victoria, as compared with that of each of the other States, since the inauguration of Federation and the introduction of free-trade between the States :—

TRADE BETWEEN AUSTRALIAN STATES, 1900 AND 1909.

State.	Value of Trade with Other States.					
	1900.			1909.		
	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports (+) Exports (-)	Imports.	Exports.	Excess of Imports (+) Exports (-)
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Victoria	6,364,167	5,257,188	+1,106,979	11,618,217	12,053,399	-435,182
New South Wales ..	10,164,080	9,979,214	+184,866	17,146,943	15,792,608	+1,354,335
Queensland	3,067,278	5,412,881	-2,345,603	5,594,309	8,982,846	-3,388,537
South Australia ..	4,225,870	4,018,678	+207,192	6,239,257	4,177,986	+2,061,271
Western Australia ..	2,675,156	1,125,081	+1,550,125	3,084,578	2,060,537	+1,024,041
Tasmania	1,372,552	1,071,829	+300,723	2,387,854	3,003,782	-615,928

The Victorian export trade grew from £5,257,188 in 1900 to £12,053,399 in 1909, there being thus an increase in the nine years of £6,796,211, or 129 per cent. In New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania, exports showed increases of 58 per cent., 66 per cent., 4 per cent., 83 per cent., and 180 per cent. respectively. The import trade of Victoria increased during the same period by 83 per cent., as compared with increases of 69 per cent. in New South Wales, 82 per cent. in Queensland, 48 per cent. in South Australia, 15 per cent. in Western Australia, and 74 per cent. in Tasmania. The growth of exports exceeded that of imports by £1,542,161 in Victoria, by £1,042,934 in Queensland, by £526,084 in Western Australia, and

by £916,651 in Tasmania; whereas the growth of imports exceeded that of exports by £1,169,469 in New South Wales, and by £1,854,079 in South Australia.

The following are the net amounts of Customs and Excise duty collected in each of the last five years, the principal items being shown separately:—

Net revenue
of Customs
Depart-
ment.

REVENUE OF CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, 1907-8 TO 1911-12.

Heads of Revenue.	1907-8	1908-9.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.
Import Duty—	£	£	£	£	£
Alcoholic Liquors ..	559,842	552,780	549,828	615,332	647,474
Narcotics	320,122	253,229	266,715	440,328	434,913
Sugar... ..	16,343	36,886	47,005	45,351	21,821
All other Articles ...	1,602,510	1,353,676	1,495,213	2,086,343	2,456,694
Total	2,498,817	2,196,571	2,358,761	3,187,354	3,560,902
Excise Duty—					
Spirits	114,362	68,486	84,139	101,587	110,171
Beer	187,468	181,303	189,868	208,254	227,398
Tobacco	163,938	169,842	175,156	249,104	260,880
Sugar... ..	226,638	229,409	229,981	270,656	291,960
Starch	9,237	5,748	895	...	...
Agricultural machi- nery	41	Dr. 41	...	...	...
Total	701,684	654,747	680,039	829,601	890,409
Miscellaneous	11,637	10,650	10,211	13,215	11,122
Grand Total	3,212,138	2,861,968	3,049,011	4,030,170	4,462,433

These figures have been furnished by the Customs Department, and the discrepancies between the totals for 1911 and 1912 in the above table and those given in part "Finance" of the *Year-Book* are due to refunds recorded at the Treasury, but not at the Customs House. The item "Miscellaneous" in the above table is distributed between Customs and Excise duties in part "Finance."

The amounts given for the first three years are net, after making Inter-State adjustments and deducting drawbacks and refunds; but those for 1910-11 and 1911-12 have been reduced by drawbacks and refunds only. No record has been kept since 1st July, 1910, of goods which, being imported into or manufactured in the State,

afterwards passed into another State for consumption, and consequently no adjustment of duties paid has been possible between the States concerned. The net debit against Victoria on this account amounted to £564,746 for the financial year 1909-10, so that the total duties shewn for each of the years 1910-11 and 1911-12 may be assumed to be over-stated to about that extent.

Drawback.

Imported goods on which duty has been paid are allowed drawback, or refund of the duty paid, if subsequently exported. Drawback is allowed not only on goods exported in the same condition as when imported, but also upon imported goods which have been subjected to some process of manufacture in Victoria. Drawbacks are included in the general exports. The following are the figures for the last ten years :—

REFUND OF DUTY ON EXPORTS (DRAWBACK), 1903 TO 1912.

Year.							Amount Paid as Drawback.
							£
1903	...	...	...	...	...	...	34,096
1904	...	...	...	...	...	...	18,840
1905	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,275
1906	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,962
1907	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,103
1908	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,920
1909	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,873
1910	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,295
1911	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,955
1912	...	...	...	...	...	...	21,670

From 1872, when the system of allowing drawback was first introduced, to the end of 1912, the total amount of duty repaid as drawback was £3,069,687. The withdrawals were heavy in 1901, but light in later years.

INTER-STATE COMMISSION.

Inter-state
commis-
sion.

The Inter-State Commission is a body incorporated under the terms of Act No. 33 of 1912 of the Commonwealth of Australia. The members of the Commission, of whom there are three, were appointed on 5th August, 1913.

The Commission is charged with the duty of investigating all matters which, in the opinion of the Commission, ought, in the public interest, to be investigated affecting—

- (a) the production of, and trade in, commodities;
- (b) the encouragement, improvement, and extension of Australian industries and manufactures;
- (c) markets outside Australia, and the opening up of external trade generally;
- (d) the effect and operation of any Tariff Act or other legislation of the Commonwealth in regard to revenues, Australian manufactures, and industry, and trade generally;
- (e) prices of commodities;
- (f) profits of trade and manufacture;
- (g) wages and social and industrial conditions;
- (h) labour, employment and unemployment;
- (i) bounties paid by foreign countries to encourage shipping or export trade;
- (j) population;
- (k) immigration; and
- (l) other matters referred to the Commission by either House of the Parliament, by resolution, for investigation.

Further, the Commission may investigate all matters affecting—

- (a) the extent of diversions or proposed diversions, or works or proposed works for diversions, from any river and its tributaries, and their effect or probable effect on the navigability of rivers that, by themselves or by their connexion with other waters, constitute highways for Inter-State trade and commerce;
- (b) the maintenance and the improvement of the navigability of such rivers;
- (c) the abridgement by the Commonwealth by any law or regulation of trade or commerce of the rights of any State or the residents therein to the reasonable use of the waters of rivers for conservation or irrigation;
- (d) the violation by any State, or by the people of any State, of the rights of any other State, or the people of any other State, with respect to the waters of rivers.

The Act requires that all rates fixed or made by any common carrier for any service rendered in respect of Inter-State commerce, or which affect Inter-State commerce, shall be reasonable and just, and prohibits all such rates which are unreasonable or unjust, and all undue preferences upon State railways in respect of Inter-State commerce.

SHIPPING.

Vessels
entered
and
cleared.

Victorian shipping is dealt with in the succeeding tables, which refer to vessels trading with other States and oversea countries. Vessels trading exclusively on the Victorian coast and on the River Murray have not been taken into consideration, although in the particulars of the shipping of the port of Melbourne given on page 941 *post*, shipping entered and cleared coastwise is included. The number of vessels entered and cleared, their total tonnage, and the number of men forming their crews in each of the last five years were as follows:—

SHIPPING INWARD AND OUTWARD, 1908 TO 1912.

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Vessels Entered—					
Number	2,293	2,174	2,308	2,335	2,399
Tons	4,488,768	4,506,973	4,952,273	5,148,184	5,426,146
Average tonnage ...	1,958	2,073	2,146	2,205	2,262
Crews	137,450	137,128	145,845	153,184	163,055
Vessels Cleared—					
Number	2,290	2,157	2,312	2,347	2,385
Tons	4,472,302	4,514,298	4,954,773	5,156,952	5,410,801
Average tonnage ...	1,953	2,093	2,143	2,197	2,269
Crews	137,398	136,833	145,567	152,683	161,611

The vessels entered from Inter-State and oversea ports during 1912 were greater in number than in any other year except 1853 and 1854. It is to the tonnage, not the number, of vessels, however, that we must look for an indication of the increase or decrease in shipping. The aggregate net tonnage for 1912 was greater than that of any previous year, and exceeded that of 1911, the next in volume, by 277,962 tons, and that of 1910 by 473,873 tons. The departures to Inter-State and oversea ports in 1912 exceeded the departures in any other year except 1854, and represented an increase over the previous year of 38 vessels, and of 253,849 in the aggregate net tonnage, whilst in comparison with 1910 there was an increase of 73 in the number of vessels, and of 456,028 in the net tonnage.

In 1912 steamers numbered 2,208 of the vessels entered, and 2,200 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 5,320,538 and 5,311,968 respectively.

Shipping in
ballast.

The inward shipping of 1912 included 30 vessels in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 35,036, whilst the outward shipping included 343 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 458,046.

The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1912 are set out in the following statement:—

Shipping
with
principal
countries.

SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1912.

Countries.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Australian States	1,674	3,040,071	1,860	3,503,022
United Kingdom	223	1,094,045	192	957,603
New Zealand	121	229,887	119	346,860
Other British	95	241,842	78	185,248
Total British Countries	2,113	4,605,845	2,249	4,992,533
France	13	37,887	22	69,576
Germany	84	298,316	42	166,853
United States	74	223,483	1	2,628
Other Foreign	115	260,615	71	179,211
Total Foreign Countries	286	820,301	136	418,268
Total	2,399	5,426,146	2,385	5,410,801

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports in each of the years 1908 to 1912 was as shown hereunder:—

Nationality
of vessels.

NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1908 TO 1912.

Year.	NUMBER OF VESSELS.				TONNAGE OF VESSELS.			
	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.
Entered.								
1908...	1,394	693	206	2,293	1,825,906	2,056,934	605,928	4,488,768
1909...	1,249	682	243	2,174	1,679,938	2,156,974	670,061	4,506,973
1910...	1,327	746	235	2,308	1,765,041	2,504,249	682,983	4,952,273
1911...	1,347	724	264	2,335	1,855,341	2,534,846	757,997	5,148,184
1912...	1,372	749	278	2,399	1,880,992	2,713,182	831,972	5,426,146
Cleared.								
1908...	1,393	690	207	2,290	1,828,770	2,032,916	610,616	4,472,302
1909...	1,245	673	239	2,157	1,695,525	2,152,599	666,174	4,514,298
1910...	1,327	752	233	2,312	1,772,253	2,501,349	681,171	4,954,773
1911...	1,351	729	267	2,347	1,852,717	2,544,239	759,996	5,156,952
1912...	1,356	752	277	2,385	1,866,304	2,720,180	824,317	5,410,801

The proportions of the shipping of each nationality as tabulated, to the total entered and cleared for the respective years in their proper sequence from 1908 to 1912 are, Australian vessels, 61, 58, 58, 58, 57 per cent., Australian tonnage, 41, 37, 36, 36, 35 per cent.; other British vessels 30, 31, 32, 31, 31 per cent.; other British tonnage 46, 48, 50, 49, 50 per cent.; foreign vessels, 9, 11, 10, 11, 12 per cent.; and foreign tonnage, 13, 15, 14, 15, 15, per cent.

In the next table further details of the nationality of the shipping for the year 1912 are given:—

NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1912.

Nationality.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
British—				
Australian	1,372	1,880,992	1,356	1,866,304
United Kingdom	565	2,475,386	565	2,479,339
New Zealand... ..	183	235,748	186	238,793
Canadian	1	2,048	1	2,048
Total British ...	2,121	4,594,174	2,108	4,586,484
Foreign—				
American (United States)	1	902	1	902
Austrian	7	14,344	7	14,343
Belgian	1	2,073	...	...
Chilian	3	3,867	3	3,867
Dutch	12	22,742	12	22,742
French	30	86,315	30	87,269
German	154	551,874	155	546,778
Italian ... ..	...	...	1	1,942
Japanese	20	60,278	20	60,270
Norwegian	36	58,578	35	56,803
Russian	5	8,623	4	7,025
Swedish	9	22,376	9	22,376
Total Foreign ...	278	831,972	277	824,317
Total	2,399	5,426,146	2,385	5,410,801

The vessels on the Victorian register on 31st December, 1912, were as follows, the ports of registration and net tonnage being distinguished:—

Vessels on
Victorian
register.

VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1912.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne	199	118,737	212	43,051	411	161,788
Geelong	3	430	5	360	8	790
Port Fairy	3	621	...	...	3	621
Total	205	119,788	217	43,411	422	163,199

During 1912 there were added to the register 21 steamers with net tonnage of 8,379, and 12 sailing vessels with net tonnage of 8,396; whilst 11 steamers having net tonnage of 6,923, and 2 sailing vessels having net tonnage of 430, were taken off the register.

The following statement, compiled by the Marine Underwriters' Association of Victoria, shews the number and net tonnage of vessels on the registers of all the Australian States and New Zealand on 30th June, 1912:—

Vessels on
Austral-
asian
registers.

VESSELS OWNED IN AUSTRALASIA, 1912.

States, &c.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Victoria	186	119,329	214	36,550	400	155,879
New South Wales	535	89,028	558	44,971	1,093	133,999
Queensland	106	14,893	225	9,777	331	24,670
South Australia	118	46,019	235	18,509	353	64,528
Western Australia	41	11,982	390	10,554	431	22,536
Tasmania	58	8,500	152	8,857	210	17,357
Total Australia	1,044	289,751	1,774	129,218	2,818	418,969
Fiji	9	1,399	7	1,042	16	2,441
New Guinea ... ..	...	...	3	43	3	43
New Zealand	277	115,205	327	36,644	604	151,849
Total	1,330	406,355	2,111	166,947	3,441	573,302

Compared with 1911, vessels owned in Australia have increased by 21 in number and by 7,646 in tonnage.

PORT OF MELBOURNE.

The port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 8.33 miles of wharfs, piers, and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 50 acres 0 roods 24½ perches, of which 15 acres 2 roods

Port of
Melbourne.

1 perch are under sheds. According to a return prepared by the Harbor Master the total number of vessels berthed within the port of Melbourne in 1912 comprised 4,096 steamers, 18 ships, 69 barques, 26 brigs, 149 schooners, 479 ketches, and 480 lighters, with registered tonnage aggregating 6,342,687. The tonnage of imports was 2,956,660, and that of exports 1,264,454. The floating plant of the Trust in commission includes 7 dredges, 1 steam tug, 9 steam hopper barges, 10 iron towing hopper barges, 2 steam launches, and 1 Lobnitz rock breaker. The material dredged and disposed of during 1912 amounted to 1,351,546 cubic yards, viz., 288,926 cubic yards from Hobson's Bay, and 1,062,620 cubic yards from the River Yarra and Victoria Dock. Since the establishment of the Trust, the river dredgings have amounted to 27,709,191, and the bay dredgings to 15,516,017 cubic yards, making a total of 43,225,208 cubic yards. Of the dredgings, 29,869,568 cubic yards were deposited in deep water, and 13,355,640 were landed and deposited for reclamation work. The average cost of dredging, towing, and depositing in 1912 was 8.87d. per cubic yard.

Some idea of the relative importance of Melbourne and Sydney, in comparison with the principal ports in the world, is obtainable from the following table:—

SHIPPING AT PRINCIPAL PORTS IN THE WORLD, 1911.

Ports.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Foreign or Oversea Trade.	Coasting Trade.	Total.	Foreign or Oversea Trade.	Coasting Trade.	Total.
<i>British.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>	<i>Tonnage.</i>
Melbourne ..	2,125,553	3,802,512	5,928,065	*	*	*
Sydney ..	2,816,563	4,952,477	7,769,040	*	*	*
Cardiff ..	5,526,426	4,487,278	10,013,704	8,328,047	1,925,730	10,253,777
Liverpool (including Birkenhead)	7,887,719	3,223,734	11,111,453	6,880,271	4,117,981	10,998,252
London ..	11,973,249	6,499,563	18,472,812	9,004,974	8,344,191	17,349,165
Newcastle, and North and South Shields ..	5,954,498	4,341,806	10,296,304	6,842,199	3,624,660	10,466,859
Southampton ..	4,466,314	1,483,484	5,949,798	4,351,037	1,508,086	5,859,123
Colombo ..	7,074,152	*	*	7,073,170	*	*
Singapore ..	7,737,785	*	*	7,717,691	*	*
Victoria (Hong Kong) ..	10,246,622	*	*	10,243,898	*	*
<i>Foreign.</i>						
Antwerp† ..	13,233,677	*	*	13,272,665	*	*
Hamburg ..	11,830,949	*	*	11,945,239	*	*
Marseilles ..	8,051,321	*	*	8,198,874	*	*
Rotterdam ..	10,624,499	*	*	10,609,814	*	*
New York ..	13,428,950	*	*	13,566,893	*	*
Rio de Janeiro ..	5,212,713	*	*	5,198,784	*	*
Monte Video ..	8,244,375	*	*	8,121,453	*	*

* Not available.

† The figures relating to entrances and clearances at Belgium ports are stated in net tonnage, according to the system in force in that country, under which the deduction from the gross tonnage for the space occupied by the propelling power is less than that adopted in the United Kingdom. The recorded net tonnage of steamers is accordingly greater in the Belgium returns than that recorded for the same vessels when entering or clearing at ports in the United Kingdom.

Principal
ports in the
world.

The following particulars relating to the dry and floating docks in Australasia have been taken from *Lloyd's Register*:—

Docks in
Australasia.

DOCKS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

Port.	Description of Dock.	Extreme Length. Length on Bottom.	Breadth at Entrance	Height of Sill above Bottom of Dock.	Depth on Sill at High Water Ordinary Spring Tides.
		ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.	ft. in.
Albany .. W.A.	Small floating dock ..	{ 130 0 121 0	{ 22 2	3 0	6 10
Brisbane .. Q.	Government Dry Dock	431 6	53 0	3 2	19 0
Clarence River N.S.W.	Dry dock	110 0	42 0	3 0	8 6
Launceston Tas.	Floating dry dock ..	160 0	37 0	0 6	12 6
Melbourne .. V.	Graving Dock ..	{ 520 0 510 0	{ 70 0 (top) 60 0 (bottom)	{ 4 0	23 6
" .. "	" .. "	{ 430 0 420 0	{ 64 0 (top) 52 0 (bottom)	{ 4 0	23 6
" .. "	Alfred Graving Dock	{ 470 0 459 0	{ 80 0	2 6	26 0
" .. "	Floating Dry Dock ..	{ 216 0 200 0	{ 36 0	1 0	12 6
Sydney .. N.S.W.	Mort's Graving Dock	{ 640 0 640 0	{ 69 0	4 6	18 0
" .. "	New Graving Dock ..	700 0	83 0 (top)	4 0	28 9
" .. "	Floating Dock ..	{ 320 0 317 0	{ 44 0	..	..
" .. "	" .. "	{ 109 0 100 0	23 0 extreme	..	..
" .. "	Pontoon Floating Dock	195 0 (on blocks)	60 6 (inside walls)	..	..
" .. "	Floating Dock ..	163 0	40 0	..	12 0
" .. "	Fitzroy Graving Dock	{ 477 0 463 0	{ 59 0	1 4	21 6
" .. "	Sutherland Dock ..	{ 637 0 630 0	{ 84 0	3 6	32 0
" .. "	Drake's Floating Dock	{ 150 0 150 0	{ 40 0	5 0	8 0
Auckland .. N.Z.	Graving Dock ..	{ 312 0 300 0	{ 43 0	1 6	13 6
" .. "	Calliope Graving Dock	{ 566 0 521 0	{ ..	1 7	33 0
Lyttelton ..	Graving Dock ..	{ 481 6 450 0	{ 62 0	2 0	23 0
Port Chalmers ..	Dry Dock	{ 348 0 328 0	{ 50 0	3 0	19 6
" .. "	" .. "	500 0	70 0	3 0	22 0

LIGHTHOUSES AND LIGHTS.

The following return contains particulars of the lighthouses and lights on the Victorian coast:—

Where situated.	Description.	Nature.	Power in Lighthouse. (Units of 1,000 Candles.)			Colour.	Distance Visible.	Persons employed.	Ordinary Expenditure during the Financial Year 1911-12.	Capital Cost.
			White.	Red.	Green.		Miles.		£	£
Cape Nelson ..	Dioptric ..	Fixed ..	4½	3½	..	White*	19	3		
" Auxiliary ..	Dioptric ..	" ..	..	..	..	Red ..	3		548	16,178
Portland ..	Dioptric ..	Fixed and Flashing	..	1½ f.	½	Green ..	12		333	2,573
Port Fairy ..	Dioptric ..	" ..	..	1½ f.	..	Red ..	9	2	323	3,857
Warrnambool (upper light)	Dioptric ..	Fixed ..	1	..	..	White ..	14	2	355	7,917
(lower light)	Dioptric ..	" ..	..	..	..	Red ..	5			
Cape Otway ..	Dioptric ..	Triple Flashing	24	..	..	White ..	24	3	555	10,367
Split Point ..	Dioptric ..	Fixed ..	7½	5½	..	Red ..	4 to 8			
" Auxiliary ..	Dioptric ..	" ..	..	..	..	Red†	18	3	525	11,838
Port Phillip—	Dioptric ..	" ..	..	..	..	White ..	3			
Point Lonsdale ..	Dioptric ..	Occulting	22	13	..	White and Red	17	3	620	4,113
Queenscliff (high) ..	Catadioptric	Fixed ..	2½	..	..	White ..	17	8	1,265	19,071
" (low) ..	Dioptric ..	" ..	2	1	..	Red and White	10 & 14			
West Channel Pile Light *	Dioptric ..	" ..	2	1	..	" ..	11	4	542	9,456
South Channel (Eastern Light)	Dioptric ..	" ..	2½	2½	..	" ..	13			
" (pile) ..	Dioptric ..	" ..	1	1½	..	" ..	10	3	51	5,005
Schnapper Point ..	Dioptric ..	Occulting	2½	1½	..	White ..	10			
Gellibrand Point (Pile Light)	Catadioptric	Fixed and Flashing	4½ f.	..	..	Red and White	12	3	564	19,278
Cape Schanck ..	Catadioptric	" ..	48½ f.	..	..	White ..	23		596	22,631
" Auxiliary ..	Dioptric ..	Fixed ..	2½	..	..	Red ..	3	3	830	24,433
Wilson's Promontory ..	Dioptric ..	Flashing ..	4½	..	..	White ..	24		463	13,225
Cliffy Island ..	Holophotal	Double Flashing	30	12	..	White*	21	3	611	21,785
Cape Everard ..	Catadioptric	Fixed ..	4½	..	..	Red ..	2			
Gabo Island ..	Dioptric ..	" ..	..	..	..	White ..	20	3	1,049	22,631
" Auxiliary ..	Dioptric ..	" ..	..	..	..	Red ..	3			
Total ..									9,230	191,727

* Red sectors between the limits of white light and shore at either side.

† White sectors between the limits of red light and shore at either side.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS, AND TELEPHONES.

The Department of Posts and Telegraphs was transferred to the Federal Government by proclamation on 1st March, 1901.

The following rates of postage on the undermentioned postal articles are in force throughout the Commonwealth and Papua:— Rates of Postage.

Letters	...	...	...	1d. per half ounce
Letter-cards...	...	...	...	{ Single, 1d. each Reply, 1d. each half
Post-cards	...	...	...	{ Single, 1d. each Reply, 1d. each half
Printed papers (other than newspapers)				$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 2 ounces
Books printed outside Australia	...			$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4 ounces
Books printed in Australia	...	...		$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 8 ounces
Magazines printed and published in Australia	...	...	each	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 8 ounces
Magazines printed and published outside Australia	...	...	each	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4 ounces
Commercial papers, patterns, samples, and merchandise as prescribed	..			1d. per 2 ounces
Newspapers printed and published in Australia	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 10 ounces
Newspapers printed and published outside Australia	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 4 ounces

The rate of postage on letters from the Commonwealth to the United Kingdom and the Oversea Dominions, British colonies and protectorates, is 1d. per half-ounce.

NOTE.—For further details relating to post and telegraph rates see part Interchange of the Statistical Register, 1912.

The Pacific Cable Board instituted, in January, 1913, a tariff Cable rates. for week-end cable letters available to and from the United Kingdom with Australia and New Zealand. The rate is 9d. per word, with a minimum charge of 18s., plus inland telegraph charges when incurred. Messages may be lodged up to midnight on Saturday.

The post-offices in the State on 31st December, 1912, numbered 1,730, and in addition there were 844 receiving offices (principally loose-bags), 96 travelling offices, and 1,502 letter boxes. The postal and telegraphic staff numbered 4,130 persons, and there were in addition 4,736 non-official postmasters, mail contractors, and Postal returns.

casual employes employed part time only in the service. The postal routes in 1912 covered a distance of 15,458 miles, of which 3,481 were by railway, the distance traversed being 8,297,264 miles, including 4,378,271 railway miles. In the following table is shown the business done by the Postal Department in each of the last five years:—

POSTAL RETURNS, 1908 TO 1912.

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Posted and Received—					
Letters and Post-cards ...	128,985,872	133,601,053	143,483,191	159,092,001	175,588,805
Newspapers ...	49,435,511	32,294,427	53,058,881	36,125,728	37,826,929
Packets ...	562,822	17,568,819	682,104	20,951,712	20,631,887
Parcels ...	620,536	720,245			764,821
Total ...	178,984,205	184,084,835	197,224,176	216,889,686	234,812,442

Registered letters and articles are included in this statement, and numbered 1,322,377 in 1912. The total number of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels passing through the post-office in 1912 exceeded the number for 1908 by 31 per cent. A clear idea will be obtained of the magnitude of the postal matter dealt with when it is stated that in 1912 the letters posted and received represented 130, and the newspapers, packets, and parcels, 44 per head of the population.

The next table gives the destination in three groups of letters, newspapers, packets and parcels posted, whether for delivery inland, in other States, or in countries outside the Commonwealth, and shows whence those received came, whether from other States or from outside countries.

POSTAL SERVICE—INLAND, INTER-STATE AND INTERNATIONAL: 1908 TO 1912.

Service.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.					
Posted for delivery inland	104,678,946	107,177,515	115,297,888	121,078,121	129,610,388
" " in other States	8,491,992	9,679,546	9,862,272	13,636,148	15,177,996
" " outside the States	3,156,174	3,160,464	3,492,222	5,179,176	6,780,247
Total	116,327,112	120,017,525	128,652,382	139,893,445	151,568,631
Received from other States	8,851,168	9,467,320	10,166,441	13,248,800	15,220,243
" " outside the States	3,807,597	4,116,208	4,664,368	5,949,756	8,799,931
Total	12,658,760	13,583,528	14,830,809	19,198,556	24,020,174

**POSTAL SERVICE—INLAND, INTER-STATE AND INTERNATIONAL:
1908 TO 1912—continued.**

Service.	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
NEWSPAPERS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	13,266,159	10,868,160	12,881,083	12,658,570	10,894,399
" " in other States ..	9,804,772	12,135,234	11,036,628	11,926,548	13,934,818
" " outside the States	2,238,737	2,333,076	2,556,198	3,200,478	3,153,623
Total ..	25,309,668	25,336,470	26,473,909	27,785,596	27,982,840
Received from other States ..	3,491,799	3,430,794	3,477,307	3,984,090	4,748,731
" " outside the States	4,185,916*	5,527,183	5,097,664*	4,355,142	5,065,250
Total ..	..	6,957,957	..	8,340,132	9,814,081

PACKETS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	11,502,345	11,111,471	12,214,311	13,577,951	13,084,847
" " in other States ..	2,174,076	2,565,516	2,848,168	2,659,704	2,577,733
" " outside the States	882,984	980,376	1,194,064	1,213,746	1,400,431
Total ..	14,559,405	14,657,363	16,256,533	17,451,401	17,063,011
Received from other States ..	1,638,724	1,735,735	1,753,468	2,048,596	1,870,407
" " outside the States	†	1,175,721	†	1,451,715	1,698,449
Total ..	..	2,911,456	..	3,500,311	3,568,856

PARCELS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	332,164	365,228	399,173	410,290	421,342
" " in other States ..	125,844	142,648	156,501	169,852	184,457
" " outside the States	18,555	19,245	19,387	18,784	21,248
Total ..	476,563	527,121	575,041	598,926	627,047
Received from other States ..	56,810	63,083	74,609	82,678	90,678
" " outside the States	29,449	30,382	32,484	39,141	47,086
Total ..	86,259	93,415	107,093	121,819	137,774

* Other articles, no distinction having been made in the post-office between newspapers and packets from outside the Commonwealth for these years. † Included with newspapers.

Letters and post-cards posted within the State have increased by 35,241,519 since 1908, those for delivery inland showing an increase of 24,931,442, those for other States of 6,686,004, and those for countries outside the Commonwealth of 3,624,073. In the same period letters and post-cards received from other States have increased by 6,369,080, and those from outside countries by 4,992,334. Compared with 1908, newspapers posted within the State show an increase of 2,673,180, whilst packets and parcels posted within the State show an increase of 2,654,110 in the same period. Newspapers, packets, and parcels received from other States increased by 1,272,483, and those received from outside the Commonwealth by 2,625,531 since 1908.

Dead letters in 1912 numbered 813,521, of which 33,000 were irregularly posted. These letters contained money amounting to £17,393, as well as other articles of value, and were disposed of as letters, &c

follows:—Returned to writers, 655,231; destroyed, 77,067; returned to other States or countries as unclaimed, 81,223. There were also 849,376 undelivered packets and newspapers, of which 74,805 were returned to the senders, 736,626 were destroyed, and 37,945 were returned to other States and countries. The large number of electoral letters returned to the senders (229,554) is partly responsible for the inflation in the number of dead letters dealt with in the year 1912.

Money
orders and
postal
notes.

There are 529 money order offices in the State, which, in 1912, issued 316,538 orders for £1,261,829. Of these 191,088 for £877,688 were inland, 41,968 for £208,090 Inter-State, and 83,482 for £176,051 international orders. The orders paid in the same year numbered 355,540, and were for an aggregate amount of £1,506,658, the inland being 197,639 for £873,295, the Inter-State 110,826 for £487,200, and the international 47,075 for £146,163. Inland postal notes paid totalled 2,170,031 for £811,606, Victorian notes paid in other States 509,641 for £181,540, and the notes of other States paid in Victoria 400,144 for £168,771. The following is a comparative statement of the business done since 1907:—

MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES, 1908 TO 1912.

—	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Money Orders Issued—					
Number ...	236,520	245,911	262,925	279,622	316,538
Amount ... £	975,441	1,031,215	1,101,609	1,139,505	1,261,829
Money Orders Paid—					
Number ...	318,365	324,240	332,522	338,384	355,540
Amount ... £	1,311,557	1,363,064	1,418,857	1,437,537	1,506,658
Postal Notes—					
Victorian—Paid in					
Victoria £	659,208	702,642	739,754	770,740	811,606
Victorian—Paid in					
Other States £	104,409	124,354	138,674	164,801	181,540
Of Other States—					
Paid in Victoria £	138,696	147,515	151,737	160,462	168,771

The value of money orders issued has increased year by year, the issues of 1912 exceeding those of 1911 by £122,324, and those of 1908 by £286,388. Of orders paid those of 1912 exceed those of 1911 by £69,121, and those of 1908 by £195,101.

The business in postal notes has increased considerably, the amount of Victorian notes paid within the State during 1912 being £152,398 in excess of the amount paid in 1908. The business with the other States exhibited great improvement during the period embraced in the table, Victorian notes paid in other States during 1912 showing an increase of £77,131 over 1908, and notes of other States paid in Victoria an increase of £30,075 for the same period.

There are 1,538 telegraph offices in the State, 466 of which are attached to the railway service. Of the mileage of line and wire, 4,128 miles of line carrying 13,493 miles of wire are controlled by the Postal Department, and 3,327 miles of line carrying 5,150 miles of wire by the Railway Department. The length of lines and wire open, and the number of telegrams sent from Victorian stations, and of those received from outside the State in each of the last five years were as follows:—

Telegraphs
and tele-
grams.

TELEGRAPHS AND TELEGRAMS, 1908 TO 1912.

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Number of Stations ...	1,212	1,258	1,374	1,455	1,538
Miles open—					
Line (poles) ...	7,037	7,161	7,182	7,273	7,455
Wire ...	15,516	16,386	16,405	17,403	18,643
Telegrams despatched—					
Inland ...	1,829,807	1,795,539	1,943,019	2,017,997	1,994,436
Inter-State ...	674,960	685,412	733,051	790,403	882,051
International ...	75,351	75,649	81,667	86,264	92,750
Total ...	2,580,118	2,556,600	2,757,737	2,894,664	2,969,237
Telegrams received—					
Inter-State ...	764,258	779,603	842,104	923,911	950,015
International ...	74,857	73,645	79,730	84,129	89,709
Total ...	839,115	853,248	921,834	1,008,040	1,039,724

The total telegrams despatched in 1912 exceeded those despatched in the previous year by 74,573, although inland telegrams show a falling off to the extent of 23,561. Compared with 1908 the telegrams despatched in 1912 showed an increase of 389,119, of which 164,629 were inland, 207,091 inter-state, and 17,399 international. Telegrams received from outside the State have increased by 200,609 since 1908. In 1912 the value of inland telegrams was £86,628, of inter-state despatched £70,905, of inter-state received £72,943, of international despatched £102,802, and of international received £85,216.

Telephones.

The telephone exchanges were worked by a private company until September, 1887, in which month the business, buildings, and plant were purchased by the Government. The following statement shows for the past five years the length of lines and wire open and the number of subscribers, telephones, and private lines:—

TELEPHONES, 1908 TO 1912.

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Miles Open—					
Lines (Poles and under-ground Cables)	1,372	1,553	1,820	2,071	2,467
Wire	50,687	56,967	85,725	118,521	153,400
Subscribers	14,868	16,673	20,236	22,859	26,562
Telephones	20,623	23,928	26,627	30,817	35,541
Private Lines	470	462	471	525	530

The length of wire has increased by 203 per cent., and the number of subscribers by 79 per cent., since 1908. The subscribers given in the table are direct connexions, the actual number of telephones in use having been 35,541 in 1912. This number represents an increase of 15 per cent. as compared with 1911, and of 72 per cent. as compared with 1908.

Revenue and expenditure, Post and Telegraph Department.

The revenue of the Post and Telegraph Department amounted to £1,068,516 in 1912, the items being postage £619,728, commission on money orders and postal notes £30,635, telegrams, cablegrams, &c., £156,601, telephones, &c., £222,496, and various £39,056. In addition, unpaid services rendered to other Departments were valued at £5,761. It is estimated that the number of stamps and pre-payment forms sold for postal and telegraphic purposes in 1912 was 135,875,513, and the value thereof £755,841. The ordinary expenditure of the Department amounted to £1,009,851 in 1912, whilst capital expenditure on buildings, furniture, &c., telegraph lines, and telephone exchanges amounted to £501,740. The items of ordinary expenditure were:—Salaries, &c., £620,399; inland mail services, £132,731; British and foreign mail services, £52,616; cable subsidies, &c., £4,500; maintenance of buildings, &c., £95,777; and miscellaneous, £103,828. In the following table the

revenue and expenditure of the Department are summarized for the last five years :—

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE OF POST AND TELEGRAPH DEPARTMENT,
1908 TO 1912.

—	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
	£	£	£	£	£
Revenue	848,934	883,682	962,495	1,005,027	1,068,516
Value of unpaid Services ...	5,761	5,761	5,761	5,761	5,761
Revenue Earned	854,695	889,443	968,256	1,010,788	1,074,277
Expenditure (ordinary) ...	730,802	766,267	835,920	935,821	1,009,851
Surplus	123,893	123,176	132,336	74,967	64,426
Capital Expenditure	129,544	167,031	243,875	315,728	501,740

RAILWAYS.

All railways in Victoria available for general traffic are, with the one exception referred to on page 507, the property of the State, and are under the management of three Commissioners appointed by the Government.

Victorian
Railways,
length and
cost.

The succeeding tables relate to the State railways, and include particulars of the St. Kilda to Brighton Electric Street Railway. The gauge of the lines is 5 ft. 3 in., with the exception of 121.9 miles of single lines, of which the gauge is 2 ft. 6 in. The following table shows the length of double and single lines, the cost of construction, and the average cost per mile at the close of each of the last five years :—

RAILWAYS, LENGTH AND COST OF CONSTRUCTION, 30TH JUNE, 1908,
TO 30TH JUNE, 1912.

—	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Length of Lines on 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	307.51	307.51	307.51	321.03	321.03
Single Lines (miles)	3,139.56	3,155.36	3,236.42	3,255.42	3,354.42
Total ...	3,447.07	3,462.87	3,543.93	3,576.45	3,675.45
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Construction	32,618,177	32,887,611	33,332,350	33,784,264	34,258,950
Average Cost per mile	9,463	9,497	9,405	9,446	9,321

In addition to the lines embraced in this table, the following were in course of construction on 30th June, 1912:—

5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.					Mileage.
White Cliffs to Yelta	...	...	...	...	9.75
Gheringhap to Maroona	...	...	...	...	100.75
Noradjuha to Toolondo	...	...	...	...	11.25
Jeparit to Lorquon	...	...	...	...	14.50
Bairnsdale to Orbost	...	...	...	...	60.00
					<hr/> 196.25

and the following lines had been authorized, but their construction had not been commenced:—

5-ft. 3 in. Gauge.					Mileage.
Rushworth to Colbinabbin	...	...	...	...	12.00
Benalla to Tatong	...	...	...	...	18.25
Crowland to Navarre	...	...	...	...	23.00
					<hr/> 53.25

Cost of
railways
and
equipment.

The capital cost of lines opened, works, rolling-stock, and equipment at 30th June in each of the last five years was as follows:—

CAPITAL COST OF RAILWAYS AND EQUIPMENT, 1908 TO 1912.

30th June.	£
1908	41,919,376
1909	42,392,007
1910	43,091,478
1911	44,021,212
1912	45,603,114

The cost given is the actual cost of construction, exclusive of expenses of floating loans, &c. Of the capital expended to 30th June, 1912, £3,881,720 was derived from the general revenue, and the balance (£41,721,394) from loans. The latter liability is represented by debentures and stock outstanding to the nominal amount of £43,077,103, on which the annual interest payable is £1,537,853, or at the average rate of 3.57 per cent. The nominal amount of loans, however, was reduced by £1,355,709—the cost of flotation, together with the discount at time of flotation. It has been computed that, whilst the nominal rate of interest on loans outstanding on 30th June, 1912, was 3.57 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds available for railway construction was 3.69 per cent.

The capital expenditure incurred in respect of lines now closed for traffic was approximately £392,741, and for surveys of lines not constructed £359,284.

The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1907, are given in the following table:—

RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1907-8 TO 1911-12.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Miles Constructed ...	3,447·07	3,462·87	3,543·93	3,576·45	3,675·45
„ Dismantled ...	16·07	18·03	18·03	18·03	18·03
„ Closed to Traffic ...	29·93	29·93	29·93	29·93	29·93
„ Open for Traffic ...	3,401·07	3,414·91	3,495·97	3,528·49	3,627·49
Train Mileage ...	10,718,415	11,628,792	12,045,866	13,319,572	14,203,681
Passengers carried ...	76,053,909	82,286,112	86,642,160	95,206,713	105,909,650
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ...	3,754,861	4,166,786	4,468,440	4,967,627	5,297,685

The mileage given in the above tables relates to lines of railway, irrespective of the number of tracks, the actual length of which open for traffic on 30th June, 1912, was 3,967·79 miles of main tracks, and 652·41 miles of sidings.

The passenger traffic of 1911-12 was the heaviest experienced by the Railway Department, passenger journeys exceeding those of the second heaviest year—1910-11—by 10,702,937, and those of 1909-10, the next in volume, by 19,267,490. Of the passenger journeys in 1911-12, 97,838,214 were made by metropolitan-suburban, and 8,071,436 by country passengers, these exceeding by 9,950,650 and 752,287 respectively the corresponding numbers of journeys for the previous year. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried in 1911-12 exceeded that for 1910-11 by 330,058, and that for 1909-10, which comes next to it in importance, by 829,245. The items of goods carried in 1911-12 showing greatest tonnage were:—Wheat, 640,607 tons; firewood, 570,849 tons; stone, gravel, and sand, 528,150 tons; minerals (including coal, coke, ores, &c.), 409,348 tons; and timber, 323,028 tons. Live stock carried in the same year had an aggregate weight of 411,684 tons, and comprised 50,698 horses, 316,919 cattle, 5,887,469 sheep, and 338,172 pigs. Comparing 1911-12 with 1907-8 the passenger traffic had increased by 29,855,741 passengers, or 39 per cent., and the goods and live stock carried by 1,542,824 tons, or 41 per cent.; whilst the number of train miles run had been increased by 3,485,266 miles, or by 32½ per cent.

Railway
receipts and
expendi-
ture.

The receipts and working expenses of the Railway Department during the last five financial years were as follows:—

RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1907-8 TO 1911-12.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
Receipts—	£	£	£	£	£
Passenger Fares ...	1,712,420	1,797,000	1,884,614	2,076,498	2,322,067
Freight on Goods and Live Stock	1,883,689	2,083,378	2,238,895	2,476,563	2,528,380
Sundries ...	287,633	308,687	332,239	356,001	383,532
Total ...	3,883,742	4,189,065	4,455,748	4,909,062	5,233,979
Working Expenses—	£	£	£	£	£
Way and Works ...	658,425	626,532	645,279	804,810	894,671
Rolling-stock ...	973,762	998,028	1,230,784	1,268,264	1,397,020
Transportation ...	616,132	644,660	687,952	770,663	905,805
General Charges*	201,999	254,709	263,720	265,586	257,590
Total ...	2,450,318	2,523,929	2,827,735	3,109,323	3,455,086
Net Receipts ...	1,433,424	1,665,136	1,628,013	1,799,739	1,778,893
Percentage of Ex- penses to Receipts	63·09	60·25	63·46	63·34	66·01

* Including pensions and gratuities.

The receipts for 1911-12 were larger than those for any previous year, exceeding the receipts for 1910-11 by £324,917, or 6.6 per cent. The passenger fares received in 1911-12 exceeded those received in 1910-11 by £130,677 in the case of country passengers, and by £114,892 in the case of metropolitan-suburban passengers. The most notable items in the receipts from goods for 1911-12, as compared with the previous year, were a decrease of £108,401 for the carriage of wheat, and increases of £27,632 for the carriage of minerals, of £26,819 for the carriage of hay, straw, and chaff, and of £20,342 for the carriage of wool. The freight on live stock in 1911-12 exceeded that of the previous year by £31,447. Working expenses in 1911-12 included payments into the Railway Accident and Fire Insurance Fund, £51,495, and into the Rolling-stock Replacement Fund, £50,000, and exceeded the expenditure of 1910-11 by £345,763, or 11 per cent. They were in excess of the expenditure of 1907-8 by £1,004,768, or 41 per cent., whilst there was an increase of 35 per cent. in the receipts in the same interval.

During the year 1911-12 reductions in freights representing an estimated annual value of £76,000 were made. The principal commodities which benefited by the reductions are—agricultural produce, flour from country mills for export, manures (including lime), frozen meat from country works, sheep and lambs for freezing works, firewood and mining timber, colonial spirits, beehives and honey, wrought-iron pipes for waterworks trusts, &c., chicory roots, beet sugar, leather (on the up journey), wattle bark and hides for country tanneries, vehicle wheels (in the rough and unfinished), trees (fruit and shelter), and cuttings.

The amount of interest on current loans allocated to railways together with the expenditure incurred by the Treasury in connexion with the payment of such interest is compared with the net revenue of the Department for the last five years in the following statement:—

**RAILWAY INTEREST CHARGES AND EXPENSES AND NET REVENUE,
1907-8 TO 1911-12.**

Year.	Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.
	£	£
1907-8	1,483,807	1,433,424
1908-9	1,430,093	1,665,136
1909-10	1,472,917*	1,628,013
1910-11	1,516,764*	1,799,739
1911-12	1,513,102*	1,778,893

* After deduction of interest credited on Railway Surplus, &c., viz., £8,052 in 1909-10, £12,126 in 1910-11, and £15,689 in 1911-12.

The excellent position of the railways in recent years is exhibited by this table, the figures showing that in four out of the last five years there were considerable surpluses after payment of working expenses, pensions, and gratuities, special expenditure and charges on account of previous years, and interest charges and expenses. These surpluses were £235,043 in 1908-9, £155,096 in 1909-10, £282,975 in 1910-11, and £265,791 in 1911-12.

The earnings, expenses, and net profits per mile of railway open for the years ended 30th June, 1908 to 1912, were as follows:—

**RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE PER TRAIN MILE,
1907-8 TO 1911-12.**

—	1907-8.	1908-9.	1909-10.	1910-11.	1911-12.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	3,401	3,402	3,446	3,510	3,548
Gross Earnings per Mile	£ 1,142	£ 1,231	£ 1,293	£ 1,399	£ 1,475
Expenses per Mile	720	742	821	886	974
Net Profits per Mile	422	489	472	513	501

Reduction
in freights.

Railway
interest
charges
compared
with net
revenue.

Railway
earnings
and ex-
penses per
mile.

The receipts per mile of open railway for the year 1911-12 were in excess of those for the preceding year by £76, and of those for the year 1907-8 by £333, whilst the expenses per mile showed increases of £88 and £254 over the amounts for those respective years. Net profits per mile were lower than those for 1910-11 by £12, but in excess of those for 1907-8 by £79. This table excludes all consideration of the interest payable on railway loans and expenses of paying same which are given in the preceding table.

Rolling-
stock.

The inventory of the rolling-stock at 30th June, 1912, showed that there were at that time 623 locomotives, 1,352 carriages, 14,292 trucks, and 634 vans and sundry stock, of which 11 locomotives, 21 carriages, 195 trucks, and 1 luggage van, were narrow-gauge stock. The electric railway stock comprised 18 combined cars and trailers. During the year 1911-12, the following new stock (built at the Newport workshops, with the exception of 42 locomotives and 1,683 trucks) was put into service:—79 locomotives, 78 carriages, 2,299 trucks, and 82 vans and sundry stock. The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £7,860,912, of the narrow-gauge £67,697, and of the electric railway stock, £16,393.

Railway
staff.

The number of officers and employes in the railway service and the amount of salaries and wages (including travelling and incidental expenses) paid in each of the last five financial years were as set forth below:—

RAILWAY STAFF—NUMBERS, SALARIES, ETC.

Year.			Number of Employés.	Amount of Salaries and Wages Paid.
				£
1907-8	...	...	13,847	1,744,299
1908-9	...	...	14,639	1,846,754
1909-10	...	...	16,839	2,006,433
1910-11	...	...	19,927	2,366,873
1911-12	..	...	22,504	2,832,398

Figures relating to the Railway Construction Branch are not included in the above statement, but particulars of the St. Kilda and Brighton Electric Street Railway are included.

Victorian coal has been largely used by the Railway Department for steaming purposes. In 1908, 33,799 tons were consumed; in 1909, 39,487 tons; in 1910, 202,327 tons; in 1911, 324,443 tons, and in 1912, 288,430 tons. The quantity carried for the general public was 69,935 tons in 1908, 88,100 tons in 1909, 146,704 tons in 1910, 274,481 tons in 1911, and 289,824 tons in 1912. The rate of carriage from the mines to Melbourne is $\frac{3}{4}$ d. per ton per mile, of which 1-rod. per ton per mile is paid by the Government; beyond Melbourne the charge is 1d. or less per ton per mile, according to the distance.

Victorian coal carried on railways.

The one railway in Victoria open for general traffic, but not belonging to the State system, is that from Kerang to Koondrook, which is owned and worked by the municipality of the Shire of Kerang. This railway is 13 miles 73 chains in length, and up to the end of 1912 cost £40,110 for construction and equipment. For the year 1912 the gross receipts were £5,239, the working expenses were £3,058, and the amount paid in interest and towards redemption was £1,258. The train mileage for the same year was 20,000.

Municipal railway.

A statement of freights in respect of commodities affecting rural producers has been supplied by the General Passenger and Freight Agent of the Victorian Railways, and is herewith appended:—

Freights on Victorian Railways.

VICTORIAN RAILWAY GOODS RATES.

Commodities.	Rate per ton per—						
	50 miles.	100 miles.	150 miles.	200 miles.	250 miles.	300 miles.	350 miles.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Agricultural Produce, in truck loads of 6 tons*	5 6	8 6	9 4	10 6	11 6	12 4	13 2
Potatoes, in truck loads of 6 tons	4 6	8 6	9 4	10 6	11 6	12 4	13 2
Dairy Produce, consisting of Eggs, Butter, Milk, Cream, Cheese, Hams and Bacon (minimum, 1 ton)†	9 5	17 4	23 7	29 8	33 10	37 11	42 1
Fresh Fruit†	6 2	11 2	14 8	18 1	20 8	23 2	25 10
Fresh Meat, in 5-ton lots; Fencing Wire, in lots of 10 tons and upwards; Woolpacks and Cornsacks, in truck loads of 6 tons	8 3	14 11	19 6	24 1	27 6	30 11	34 5
Poultry†	13 2	24 1	32 9	41 3	47 0	52 9	58 5
Wool†	17 0	33 6	43 0	49 3	55 6	61 9	68 0
Live Stock, in full truck loads	38 0	73 6	86 0	113 0	141 0	168 6	196 0
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Binder Twine†	17 3	34 0	50 6	63 0	75 6	84 0	92 3
Fencing Wire, in truck loads of 6 tons	11 0	21 0	31 0	38 5	45 10	49 5	53 0
Wire Netting, in truck loads of 6 tons	4 3	7 6	10 6	12 6	14 2	15 10	17 4
Manures, in 5-ton lots	2 10	4 3	5 4	6 4	7 4	8 5	8 10

* Agricultural Produce includes: Wheat, Oats, Barley, Maize, Beet, Hay, Straw, Flour, Bran, Pollard, Sharps, and Malt. Also Wine, Fruit, Jam, Jellies, Sauces, and Pickles, produce of the Commonwealth, consigned direct for export.

† These commodities are subject to the Tariff for "Smalls," and, when consigned in lots up to 3 cwt., the charges are slightly higher than *pro rata* of the tonnage rates.

Fares on
Victorian
Railways.

A summary of passenger fares has also been obtained from the same source.

VICTORIAN RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES.

Distance.	1st Single.	2nd Single.	1st Return.	2nd Return.	1st Holiday Excursion.	2nd Holiday Excursion.
Miles.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
50 ..	7 6	5 0	12 6	8 4	10 1	6 8
100 ..	15 0	10 0	25 0	16 8	20 3	12 8
150 ..	22 6	15 0	37 6	25 0	30 4	20 3
200 ..	30 0	20 0	50 0	33 4	40 3	26 11
250 ..	37 6	25 0	62 6	41 8	50 7	33 7
300 ..	44 6	29 8	74 0	49 6	60 6	40 3
350 ..	51 4	34 2	85 6	57 0	70 6	47 2

Cheap excursion tickets, at the rate of 1½d. per mile for first class return and 1d. per mile for second class return, are issued to and from Melbourne and the various country stations as may be advertised from time to time.

From the 15th November to the 30th April each year, return tickets are issued to the various seaside and mountainous district resorts from all stations throughout Victoria at holiday excursion fares, and are available for two months from date of issue.

Oversea
freights to
London.

Oversea freights to London on the undermentioned articles of primary produce have been supplied by the Exports Superintendent:—

OVERSEA FREIGHTS, MELBOURNE TO LONDON, ETC.

Butter	(Per P. and O. steamers), 2s. 6d. per box
	“ Orient “ 2s. 4d. “
	“ Other “ 2s. “
Lamb	½d. per lb.
Mutton	¾d. “
Rabbits	55s. per ten to London, Liverpool, and Hull
	65s. “ Manchester
Fruit	60s. “ per “Orient” steamers
	65s. “ “ other steamers
Wool—	
Greasy	½d. per lb. to London
Scoured	¾d. “ “
Wheat	30s. per ton (subject to variation in freight)
Beef	¾d. per lb.
Veal	¾d. “
Ham and Bacon	¾d. “
Cheese	¾d. “ (subject to variation in freight)
All case Goods	(Ordinary cargo), about 40s. per ton

TRAMWAYS.

The various tramway systems in the State comprise 45.925 miles of cable lines, double track, 39.009 miles of electric lines, of which 13.93 miles are double, and 25.079 miles single track, 14.725 miles of horse-lines, of which 5.975 miles are double, and 8.75 miles single track, and a steam tramway of 1 mile, double track. Victorian tramways.

The towns other than the metropolis having tramway systems which are represented in these figures are, Ballarat with 11 miles 35 chains of electric lines, and 1 mile 60 chains of horse lines; Bendigo with 8 miles 53 chains of electric lines; Geelong with 3 miles 62½ chains of electric lines; and Sorrento with 1 mile of steam tramway.

The electric street railway, St. Kilda to Brighton, under the management of the Victorian Railways Commissioners, is not referred to in this connexion, being included under the heading Railways.

The following table contains a summary of particulars relating to all tramways in Victoria:—

VICTORIAN TRAMWAYS, 1909-10 TO 1911-12.

Financial Year.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.	Expenditure.	Rolling Stock.	Persons Employed.
			£	£		
1909-10	12,241,747	80,342,341	669,683	556,957*	1,093	2,200*
1910-11	13,069,693	89,168,324	747,065	583,891*	1,098	2,424*
1911-12	14,141,316	101,590,969	846,305	594,081*	1,115	2,472*

* Including particulars relating to omnibus lines of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company.

The tramways worked by the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company are held under lease expiring on 1st July, 1916, and were constructed by the Melbourne Tramway Trust, under authority of Parliament, Act No. 47 Vict. No. 765. The Trust is composed of representatives of all the municipalities in the streets of which tramways were authorized to be constructed under the Act referred to. On the security of the municipal properties and revenues and of the tramways, the Trust issued debentures, at 4½ per cent., for £1,650,000, for which it received £1,705,794 in cash. The obligations of the company leasing the tramways are to provide its own rolling stock, keep the tramways in repair and hand the same over to the Trust at the expiration of the lease, pay the interest on the money borrowed by the Trust, and contribute to a sinking fund for the extinction of the Trust's loan. The sinking fund amounted to £1,561,400 at 1st July, 1913. Melbourne tramways.

The following table has been compiled from information furnished by the secretary of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company :—

**TRAMWAYS OF THE MELBOURNE TRAMWAY AND OMNIBUS COMPANY,
1903-4 TO 1911-12.**

Year ended 30th June.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
			£
1904	8,968,928	49,183,742	444,495
1905	8,932,073	50,297,357	448,740
1906	9,032,523	52,025,654	469,079
1907	9,536,397	59,069,280	506,635
1908	9,810,808	63,954,512	545,269
1909	9,856,345	66,522,463	565,601
1910	10,010,375	68,695,853	581,390
1911	10,636,440	76,295,825	644,187
1912	11,313,212	84,926,712	715,524
1913	11,839,473	89,359,248	751,091

The length of lines open on 30th June, 1913, comprised 43 miles 54 chains of double-track cable tramways, and 4 miles 38 chains of double track horse tramways. The traffic of each of the last nine years has successively eclipsed that of any former year, 1912-13 exceeding 1911-12 by 4,432,536 passengers. The number of tram miles run in 1912-13 shows an increase of 526,261 over the number for 1911-12.

In addition to the lines of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company, there are within or on the fringe of the metropolitan area 15.129 miles of electric tramways (10.475 miles being double track and 4.654 miles single track), 2¼ miles of cable tramways (double track), and 8.5 miles of horse tramways (1.5 being double and 7 miles single track). Of these, the most recently constructed are the Prahran-Malvern electric tramways, which are controlled by a Trust representing the municipalities of Prahran and Malvern, and were opened on 30th May, 1910. They are 7¼ miles in length, and have cost £182,561 to construct and equip. The remaining metropolitan tramways and their mileage are the North Melbourne-Essendon electric lines, 7.9 miles, the Northcote-Preston cable line, 2¼ miles, the Sandringham-Beaumaris horse line, 7 miles, and the Coburg horse line, 1½ miles. The traffic particulars of these lines are as follows:—

OTHER METROPOLITAN TRAMWAYS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
				£
1908-9	17.78	860,000	4,755,060	26,500
1909-10	23.275	1,104,164	6,713,825	42,071
1910-11	23.392	1,306,688	7,997,735	56,940
1911-12	25.879	1,554,482	10,675,443	74,503

These figures do not include particulars of the Kew-Hawthorn line of the Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust, which was opened for traffic on 30th May, 1913.

In country towns there were in 1912, 23.88 miles of electric tram-ways, 1.75 miles of horse tramway, and 1 mile of steam tramway, of which the traffic particulars for the last four financial years are subjoined.

TRAMWAYS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
1908-9	23.0	1,166,000	4,700,000	£ 43,623
1909-10	23.2	1,126,608	4,932,663	46,222
1910-11	23.975	1,126,565	4,874,764	45,938
1911-12	26.63	1,273,622	5,988,814	56,278

The electric tramways in the city of Geelong and suburbs were opened for traffic in March, 1912, and are included in the last year shown in the table.

LICENSED VEHICLES.

The number of vehicles licensed for the conveyance of passengers in Melbourne, and for a distance of 8 miles beyond the corporate limits, in 1912, was 1,639, of which 778 were cabs. The number of drivers licensed for the conveyance of goods was 2,643. The following are the particulars for the last five years:—

LICENSED VEHICLES IN MELBOURNE, 1908 TO 1912.

	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Cabs (4 wheel)	562	547	528	527	527
" (Hansoms)	239	238	238	235	251
Omnibuses	48	51	40	28	11
Tram Cars	401	422	428	429	432
" Dummies	401	353	360	359	389
Motor Cars ... ..	...	..	...	7	29
Total	1,651	1,611	1,594	1,585	1,639
<i>For Conveyance of Goods.</i>					
Drivers licensed	1,884	1,826	1,732	1,912	2,643

Motor cars,
&c.

The use of motor cars and motor cycles in Victoria is regulated by Act No. 2237, under the provisions of which every motor car and motor cycle must be registered with the Chief Commissioner of Police, and the registration renewed annually. On 30th June, 1913, the number of motor cars registered was 5,340, and the number of motor cycles 3,830. No person may drive a motor car or motor cycle upon any public highway without having been licensed for that purpose. On 30th June, 1913, the number of drivers of motor cars and motor cycles licensed by the Chief Commissioner was 11,640.