

## INTERCHANGE.

## COMMERCE.

By the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (section 51) 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 first Commonwealth Customs Tariff was assented to on 16th September, 1902, and was made retrospective to 8th October, 1901. Uniform rates of duty were imposed in all the States, and all restrictions on trade between the States were removed with the exception of the right of Western Australia, under the Commonwealth Constitution Act, to levy duty on goods from other States during the first five years after the imposition of uniform duties. In 1906 certain amendments of the Tariff took place. In 1908 there was a revision of the Tariff, which was made retrospective to 8th August, 1907. This Tariff is given in detail on page 465 of the *Year-Book* for 1908-9.

Amendments of some rates of duty in the Tariff of 1908 came into force in 1910, and further amendments came into operation on 1st December, 1911. These are given on page 407 of the *Year-Book* 1910-11 and page 355 of the *Year-Book* for 1911-12 respectively.

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 The only amendment of the schedule as there stated is that the duty on sugar has been repealed.

Proposed amendments of some rates of duty in the Customs and Excise Tariffs became operative on 3rd December, 1914, but the Bill has not yet been finally dealt with by Parliament.

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 then observed, and it has not been made since that year.

In order that uniformity in statistical compilation should be secured, especially in the matter of production and trade statistics, an arrangement was made with the Commonwealth Statistician in September, 1914, to the effect that the annual tabulation of imports and exports be recorded for the year ended 30th June, instead of 31st December, as formerly.

**Trade Returns.  
Alteration of  
the Statistical  
Year.**

On the 23rd October, 1914, the Commonwealth Parliament passed the Trading with the Enemy Act which declares that any person trading with the enemy is guilty of an offence. The Customs Act (No. 19 of 1914) amends the *Customs Act* 1901-10 by giving the Governor-General authority to prohibit the exportation of goods in time of war. By virtue of the latter Act, proclamations prohibiting or controlling exports from the Commonwealth have been issued from time to time—hence the Acts mentioned have materially affected the figures for the years 1914-15 and 1915-16, as shown in the following tables.

**Regulation of  
Trade during  
the War.**

Overseas  
imports and  
exports.

The total values and the values per head of population of imports from and exports to oversea countries for the ten years 1906 to 1915-16 are set forth hereunder :—

VALUE OF OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,  
1906 TO 1915-16.

Year.	Imports Oversea.		Exports Oversea.	
	Total.	Per head of population	Total.	Per head of population.
1906 ...	£ 14,855,163	£ s. d. 12 0 0	£ 18,110,020	£ s. d. 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
1913 ...	24,387,073	17 10 10	17,835,395	12 16 7
1914-15 ...	20,997,294	14 13 6	12,335,779	8 12 6
1915-16 ...	26,782,893	18 17 10	14,744,135	10 8 0

The oversea trade of 1913 was considerably less than that of 1912, but during the period 1905-1913 imports had increased by £11,429,218, and exports by £3,806,754, which represent increases of £6 19s. 5d. and £1 7s. 8d. per head of population respectively. The figures for 1914-15, which, in proportion to population, are the lowest since 1905, are effected not only by the war but also by a drought which occurred in 1914.

Total Imports  
and exports,  
1900-9.

The values of the combined oversea and inter-state trade, which are not available since 1909, were as follows, in the ten years 1900-1909 :—

VALUE OF TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1900 TO 1909.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.			
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Gold.	Merchandise.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
1900 ...	£ 18,301,811	£ s. d. 15 6 9	£ 4,132,061	£ 13,290,491	£ 17,422,552	£ s. d. 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 ...	23,198,257	22 12 4	2,660,544	26,074,460	28,735,004	23 0 1½
1908 ...	27,197,696	21 10 2	4,363,078	22,833,123	27,196,201	21 10 2
1909 ...	23,150,198	21 18 6	2,846,981	27,049,294	29,896,275	23 5 8

Imports from  
and exports to  
principal  
countries.

The value of Victorian trade with various oversea countries and the surplus of imports or exports in each case during 1915-16 are as follows:—

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES,  
1915-16.

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 .. .. .	14,204,562	7,176,338	+7,028,224
Canada .. .. .	379,322	26,793	+ 352,529
Ceylon .. .. .	547,988	35,061	+ 512,927
Egypt .. .. .	9,573	61,760	- 52,187
Fiji .. .. .	132,968	36,695	+ 96,273
Hong Kong .. .. .	101,079	41,725	+ 59,354
India (including Burmah) .. .. .	1,280,481	251,158	+1,029,323
Mauritius .. .. .	14,223	75	+ 14,148
New Zealand .. .. .	952,157	1,121,227	- 169,070
Ocean Island .. .. .	108,228	14,779	+ 93,449
South African Union .. .. .	156,389	675,436	- 519,047
Straits Settlements .. .. .	247,911	101,028	+ 146,883
Other British Possessions .. .. .	13,947	3,210	+ 10,737
Alaska .. .. .	13,954	..	+ 13,954
Argentine .. .. .	487,195	4,746	+ 482,449
Asia Minor .. .. .	10,551	..	+ 10,551
Canary Islands .. .. .	..	958,720	- 958,720
Chili .. .. .	167,661	3	+ 167,658
China .. .. .	79,377	45,744	+ 33,633
Denmark .. .. .	45,203	..	+ 45,203
East Indies—Borneo (Dutch) .. .. .	4,849	10,397	- 5,548
Celebes .. .. .	5,581	11,144	- 5,563
Java .. .. .	757,194	242,077	+ 515,117
Sumatra .. .. .	3,921	15,327	- 11,406
France .. .. .	110,376	565,865	- 455,489
Holland (Netherlands) .. .. .	30,350	375	+ 29,975
Italy .. .. .	181,282	784,008	- 602,726
Japan (including Formosa) .. .. .	1,242,383	126,125	+1,116,258
Makatea Island .. .. .	22,856	22	+ 22,834
Malay States .. .. .	193	10,168	- 9,975
Nauru Island .. .. .	39,130	9,299	+ 29,831
Norway .. .. .	213,468	2,550	+ 210,918
Philippine Islands .. .. .	76,723	33,608	+ 43,115
Russia .. .. .	1,322	93,826	- 92,504
Siam .. .. .	..	25,331	- 25,331
Spain .. .. .	10,972	152,702	- 141,730
Sweden .. .. .	257,480	..	+ 257,480
Switzerland .. .. .	23,451	43	+ 23,408
United States of America .. .. .	4,808,234	2,099,476	+2,708,758
Other Foreign Countries .. .. .	40,359	7,294	+ 33,065
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>26,782,893</b>	<b>14,744,135</b>	<b>+12,038,758</b>

The oversea trade in 1915-16 shows an excess in the value of imports amounting to £12,038,758. The excess in favour of imports from British countries was £8,603,543, there being a balance of imports to the amount of £9,343,847 as regards the United Kingdom, India, Ceylon, Canada, Hong Kong, Mauritius, Ocean Island, Fiji, and Straits Settlements; and a balance of exports amounting to £740,304 in respect of the remaining British countries. As regards foreign countries, the values of the imports from the United States and Japan were greater by £2,708,758 and £1,116,258 respectively than the values of the exports thereto; while, on the other hand, exports to Italy and France showed surpluses over imports of £602,726 and £455,489 respectively. The value of all goods received from other foreign countries exceeded that of goods sent thereto by the sum of £668,414.

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,  
1911 TO 1915-16.

Countries.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
				1915.	1916.
Imports (Oversea).					
From—	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	978,677	999,958	772,194	786,601	952,157
United Kingdom ...	12,502,234	14,631,958	14,096,121	12,395,553	14,204,562
Canada ...	241,170	283,929	239,586	236,959	379,322
India, Burmah and Ceylon	1,128,654	1,124,888	1,459,058	1,372,249	1,828,469
South African Union	16,454	60,148	43,631	71,071	156,389
Other British Pos- sessions	421,970	465,959	729,525	607,886	627,929
Belgium ...	608,891	613,955	683,083	154,708	397
France ...	250,411	226,343	215,475	84,348	110,376
Germany ...	1,631,455	1,878,043	1,738,678	*474,410	†6,365
Italy ...	96,796	126,000	128,951	126,718	181,282
Japan (including Formosa)	258,662	303,835	328,127	540,316	1,242,383
United States of America	2,592,032	2,913,341	2,580,362	2,668,565	4,808,234
Other Foreign Coun- tries	1,123,557	1,452,717	1,322,282	1,427,910	2,285,028
Total ...	21,850,963	25,081,074	24,387,073	20,997,294	26,782,893

\* Approximately one month's trade. † On account of interned vessels.

IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1911 TO  
1915-16—*continued.*

Countries.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
				1915.	1916.
Exports (Oversea).					
To—	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	805,029	781,723	834,354	912,471	1,121,227
United Kingdom ...	10,507,025	9,023,343	9,095,329	8,346,832	7,176,338
Canada ...	2,841	7,334	5,383	17,707	26,793
India, Burmah and Ceylon	302,255	2,476,143	330,570	298,039	286,219
South African Union	567,781	434,728	606,945	399,416	675,436
Other British Pos- sessions	366,579	400,852	382,904	308,906	259,272
Belgium ...	755,106	812,674	767,749	*14,911	...
France ...	2,407,978	2,136,898	2,563,201	243,640	565,865
Germany ...	801,302	1,287,540	1,029,433	*36,552	...
Italy ...	100,955	182,278	211,308	106,329	784,003
Japan (including Formosa)	49,141	40,172	176,638	83,557	126,125
United States of America	412,160	331,259	632,996	1,162,825	2,099,476
Other Foreign Coun- tries	1,337,564	1,198,177	1,198,585	399,594	1,623,376
Total ...	18,915,716	19,113,121	17,835,395	12,335,779	14,744,135

\* Approximately one month's trade.

In 1909, the last year for which such information is available, Victoria's trade with the other Australian States represented 41 per cent. of the total imports and 40 per cent. of the total exports, and the exports to such States exceeded the imports therefrom by £435,182. In each of the last five years exports were of greater value than imports in the trade with South Africa, France, and Italy (with the exception of the year 1914-15); but, in trade with the United Kingdom, Canada, Japan, 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 each of the last three years, and with India, Burmah, and Ceylon in 1912; but in other years there was an excess of imports from those countries. Prior to the war trade with Germany showed an excess of imports, and that with Belgium an excess of exports.

The principal articles imported from oversea countries into Victoria during the year 1915-16 are shown in the sub-joined statement:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED OVERSEA INTO VICTORIA, 1915-16.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Acids .. .. .	61,080	Gloves .. .. .	128,399
Ale, Beer, and Porter .. .. .	55,129	Gold—Bullion and Specie .. .. .	58,876
Alkalies .. .. .	117,900	Grain—	
Animals—Horses .. .. .	38,903	Beans and Peas .. .. .	23,405
Apparel and Attire .. .. .	1,071,678	Bran, Pollard, and Sharps .. .. .	64,721
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives .. .. .	230,226	Maize .. .. .	111,488
Bags and Sacks .. .. .	684,283	Oats .. .. .	187,342
Bags, Purses, N.E.L., Wallets, Baskets, Boxes, Trunks, &c. .. .. .	57,452	Wheat .. .. .	789,324
Bark (Tanning) .. .. .	25,997	Rice .. .. .	92,665
Belting—Composition, Leather, and Rubber .. .. .	20,334	Other—Prepared and Un-prepared .. .. .	11,955
Blankets and Blanketing .. .. .	49,868	Grass, Straw, &c.—Straw Platt .. .. .	34,158
Books, printed .. .. .	225,122	Gums, dry .. .. .	81,072
Boots, Shoes, and Goloshes, &c. .. .. .	92,058	Hats, Caps, and Bonnets .. .. .	117,572
Brass—Pipes and tubes, sheet, plate, &c. .. .. .	26,728	Hay and Chaff .. .. .	78,625
Brushware .. .. .	44,770	Hesslans, &c. .. .. .	118,662
Butter .. .. .	234,972	Hops .. .. .	18,991
Buttons, Buckles, &c. .. .. .	91,724	Inks .. .. .	11,211
Calcium, Carbide of .. .. .	17,693	Insecticides and Disinfectants, &c. .. .. .	15,368
Canvas and Duck .. .. .	306,106	Instruments—Musical, and parts thereof—	
Caramel, Caramel Paste, &c. .. .. .	53,968	Pianos .. .. .	70,424
Carpets and Carpeting, Floor Coverings, Rugs, and Mats .. .. .	207,852	Other .. .. .	29,324
Cement, Portland .. .. .	91,538	Instruments—	
Cheese .. .. .	28,095	Surgical and Dental .. .. .	80,794
China, Porcelain and Ware .. .. .	39,930	Scientific, &c. .. .. .	13,564
Clocks .. .. .	27,113	Kinematographs, Bioscopes, &c. .. .. .	20,509
Cocoa, Cocoa Beans, and Chocolate .. .. .	216,367	Talking Machines, &c. .. .. .	9,806
Coffee, and Coffee and Chicory .. .. .	40,737	Iron and Steel—	
Confectionery .. .. .	52,391	Bar, Rod, Angle, and Tee .. .. .	339,669
Copper—Pipes and tubes, sheet, plate, wire, &c. .. .. .	145,209	Girders, Beams, Joists, &c. .. .. .	74,056
Copro .. .. .	17,455	Hoop .. .. .	25,916
Cordage and Twines—		Ingots and Blooms .. .. .	15,901
Sewing Silks, Twists Cottons, &c. .. .. .	184,545	Pig .. .. .	59,994
Other .. .. .	63,696	Plate and Sheet .. .. .	599,051
Corks, Bungs, and Rings .. .. .	10,432	Other .. .. .	1,279
Costes, Cushions, Drapery for furniture, Quilts, &c. .. .. .	123,207	Jewellery and Imitation Jewellery, &c. .. .. .	64,279
Cotton—Raw, Waste, &c. .. .. .	24,787	Kapok .. .. .	33,040
Curtains and Blinds .. .. .	21,731	Lamps and Lampware .. .. .	62,889
Cutlery .. .. .	85,928	Lard, Lard Oil, &c. .. .. .	23,642
Drugs and Chemicals .. .. .	281,962	Leaf and Foil of any Metal .. .. .	17,148
Dyes .. .. .	54,217	Leather .. .. .	196,848
Earthenware, Brownware, &c. .. .. .	89,115	Leather Manufactures, N.E.L. .. .. .	17,741
Electrical Articles and Materials .. .. .	318,687	Liquorice .. .. .	11,030
Fancy Goods .. .. .	103,342	Machines and Machinery—	
Feathers, Dressed and Undressed .. .. .	33,736	Agricultural .. .. .	199,713
Fibre—Flax, Hemp, &c. .. .. .	260,565	Electrical and Gas .. .. .	439,658
Fibro-Cement, N.E.L. .. .. .	10,874	Engines .. .. .	17,314
Fish—Fresh and Preserved, &c. .. .. .	253,673	Machine Tools .. .. .	52,517
Floorcloths and Linoleums .. .. .	59,291	Mining .. .. .	39,937
Fruits—Dried and Preserved .. .. .	41,718	Motive Power .. .. .	131,510
Fresh .. .. .	137,843	Printing .. .. .	20,109
Furniture .. .. .	22,202	Sewing .. .. .	77,291
Furs .. .. .	38,534	Typewriters .. .. .	18,118
Gelatine and Glue .. .. .	24,348	Other .. .. .	249,313
Glass and Glassware .. .. .	154,026	Manures .. .. .	170,504
		Matches and Vestas .. .. .	89,131
		Meats .. .. .	41,794
		Medicines .. .. .	69,918
		Metals .. .. .	31,414

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED OVERSEA INTO VICTORIA,  
1915-16—continued.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
<b>Metals, Manufactures of—</b>	£		£
Bolts and Nuts .. .. .	38,450	Sago and Tapioca .. .. .	23,852
Nails .. .. .	33,152	Sausage Casings .. .. .	28,682
Pipes and Tubes .. .. .	256,970	Seeds .. .. .	100,193
Wire .. .. .	191,888	Silver—Bullion and Specie	206,784
Wire Netting .. .. .	34,211	Skins and Hides .. .. .	241,893
Other .. .. .	510,339	Soap .. .. .	24,854
Milk and Cream .. .. .	80,134	Spices—	41,168
Mustard .. .. .	13,057	Spirits—	
Nuts, Edible .. .. .	48,405	Brandy .. .. .	25,738
Oakum and Tow .. .. .	15,444	Gin and Schnapps .. .. .	32,718
Oilmen's Stores .. .. .	68,697	Whisky .. .. .	153,720
<b>Oils, Bottled and in bulk—</b>		Other .. .. .	38,080
Benzine .. .. .	195,943	Stationery, manufactured, &c. .	77,390
Benzoline, Gasoline, &c. .	73,734	Stone, Marble, and Slate, &c. .	28,684
Essential, N.E.I. .. .. .	34,218	Sugar (produce of Cane) .. .. .	808,088
Kerosene .. .. .	197,050	Sulphur, Brimstone .. .. .	67,955
Linseed .. .. .	42,302	Tea .. .. .	744,077
Lubricating .. .. .	113,214	Tiles .. .. .	14,171
Other .. .. .	95,074	Timber .. .. .	647,024
Packings .. .. .	11,701	Tinned Plates and Sheets (plain)	299,902
Paints and Colours .. .. .	149,317	Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	253,165
Paper—		Tools of Trade (not being ma-	
Printing .. .. .	295,117	chine tools) .. .. .	130,206
Writing and Typing .. .. .	133,162	Trimmings and Ornaments .. .. .	200,079
Other, including Millboard,		Turpentine .. .. .	35,307
Strawboard, Paperhang-		Varnishes .. .. .	21,203
ings .. .. .	276,262	Vehicles and parts thereof—	
Perfumery, &c. .. .. .	37,503	Motor Bodies and Chassis .. .. .	433,466
Personal and Household Effects	11,413	Other .. .. .	327,825
Photographic Goods and Acces-		Vessels (ships) .. .. .	211,143
ories .. .. .	37,706	Washes—Sheep, Cattle, and	
Pickles and Sauces .. .. .	14,936	Horse .. .. .	11,265
Piece Goods—		Watches and Chronometers .. .. .	71,072
Cottons and Linens .. .. .	1,995,325	Waxes .. .. .	78,379
Silks .. .. .	730,692	Wines .. .. .	17,554
Velvets and Velveteens .. .. .	377,458	Wood, Articles made of .. .. .	56,109
Woolens .. .. .	1,125,532	Wood Pulp .. .. .	15,123
Other .. .. .	278,519	Yarns .. .. .	492,856
Pipes, Smoking .. .. .	31,093	Zinc (Spelter) .. .. .	23,808
Plaster of Paris, &c. .. .. .	12,953	All other Articles .. .. .	429,467
Rails, Fishplates, &c. .. .. .	173,844		
Rubber and Rubber Manufac-		<b>Total</b> .. .. .	<b>26,782,893</b>
tures .. .. .	601,239		

The principal articles exported to oversea countries from Victoria during the year 1915-16 were as shown hereunder:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED OVERSEA  
FROM VICTORIA, 1915-16.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Ammonia, Sulphate .. .. .	37,603	Glassware .. .. .	12,596
<b>Animals—</b>		Glycerine, Lanoline, &c. .. .. .	10,240
Horses .. .. .	25,410	Gold—Bullion, Ore and Specie	320,995
Sheep .. .. .	10,876	Grain, &c.—	
Apparel and Attire .. .. .	15,320	Barley .. .. .	17,929
Bark (Tanning) .. .. .	13,460	Oats .. .. .	44,781
Biscuits .. .. .	74,819	Wheat .. .. .	2,767,099
Books (Printed), &c. .. .. .	41,390	Flour .. .. .	653,490
Butter .. .. .	719,653	Rice .. .. .	15,430
Confectionery .. .. .	17,097	Other, Prepared and Un-	
Drugs and Chemicals .. .. .	83,298	prepared .. .. .	18,118
Fodder .. .. .	10,874	Hair .. .. .	10,516
Fruits—Fresh, Dried, and Pre-		Hay and Chaff .. .. .	16,826
served .. .. .	368,218	Jams and Jellies .. .. .	196,979



VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED OVERSEA FROM VICTORIA,  
1915-16—continued.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Jewellery, Cameos, and Precious Stones .. .. .	22,762	Piece Goods .. .. .	22,786
Lead .. .. .	338,098	Rags .. .. .	11,195
Leather .. .. .	492,751	Rubber and Rubber Manufactures .. .. .	103,115
Machines and Machinery—		Seeds .. .. .	10,940
Agricultural .. .. .	19,392	Silver—Bullion, Ore, and Specie	10,971
Mining .. .. .	55,129	Skins and Hides .. .. .	534,440
Other .. .. .	25,950	Soap .. .. .	45,942
Manures .. .. .	84,387	Stearine .. .. .	25,457
Meats—		Tallow—Unrefined .. .. .	45,214
Lamb (Frozen) .. .. .	47,348	Tea .. .. .	43,837
Rabbits and Hares (Frozen)	90,588	Tin Ingots .. .. .	224,598
Other .. .. .	21,479	Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	117,489
Medicines .. .. .	11,767	Vehicles and Parts .. .. .	10,722
Metals .. .. .	15,659	Vessels (Ships) .. .. .	66,000
Metals, Manufactures of .. .. .	43,659	Wines .. .. .	41,007
Milk .. .. .	15,053	Wool .. .. .	6,203,565
Oilmen's Stores .. .. .	11,047	Zinc (Spelter) .. .. .	19,671
Oils—Bottled and in bulk .. .. .	51,118	All other Articles .. .. .	272,005
Onions .. .. .	11,928		
Ores other than Gold and Silver			
Ores .. .. .	111,180		
Personal Effects, &c. .. .. .	12,269	Total .. .. .	14,744,135

Principal  
articles of  
trade.

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

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1911 TO 1915-16.

Articles.	Value in Year.				
	1911.	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.	
	£	£	£	1915.	1916.
<i>Imported into Victoria from Oversea Countries.</i>					
Piece Goods .. .. .	3,388,987	3,525,788	3,233,855	3,162,086	4,507,526
Machines and Machinery .. .. .	1,218,516	1,449,019	1,339,688	1,206,394	1,245,480
Iron and Steel .. .. .	1,177,275	1,294,912	1,380,030	1,037,485	1,115,866
Apparel and Attire .. .. .	797,566	1,049,221	993,922	823,574	1,071,678
Metal Manufactures .. .. .	1,145,484	1,398,562	1,119,405	1,016,106	1,064,508
Vehicles and parts .. .. .	530,012	842,340	791,006	579,778	761,291
Oils .. .. .	432,768	602,593	486,356	537,021	751,535
Tea .. .. .	517,172	527,618	519,046	596,737	744,077
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. .. .. .	600,535	686,113	666,250	642,444	704,541
Timber .. .. .	1,107,317	979,354	951,295	700,719	647,024
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures .. .. .	568,740	543,125	616,654	384,940	601,239
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes	369,191	424,172	398,751	303,734	253,165
Gold—Bullion .. .. .	541,268	333,796	238,749	131,176	54,638
All Other Articles .. .. .	9,456,132	11,418,961	11,647,066	9,874,200	13,260,325
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>21,850,963</b>	<b>25,081,074</b>	<b>24,387,073</b>	<b>20,997,294</b>	<b>26,782,893</b>
<i>Exported from Victoria to Oversea Countries.</i>					
Wool .. .. .	6,255,599	6,990,918	6,282,201	5,251,177	6,203,565
Wheat and Flour .. .. .	4,221,961	2,436,654	2,763,870	351,856	3,420,589
Butter .. .. .	2,361,587	1,545,771	1,631,937	800,385	719,653
Skins and Hides .. .. .	1,089,451	1,329,400	1,668,409	585,075	534,440
Leather .. .. .	151,552	253,014	227,497	495,801	492,751
Tin Ingots .. .. .	338,982	346,113	232,817	109,337	224,598
Gold—Specie .. .. .	1,084,479	3,155,987	611,025	400,120	217,371
Meat .. .. .	996,388	935,293	1,634,806	2,037,001	159,415
Tallow .. .. .	480,256	324,497	371,316	192,400	45,214
All Other Articles .. .. .	1,935,461	1,794,569	2,291,377	1,812,627	2,726,039
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>18,915,716</b>	<b>19,113,121</b>	<b>17,835,395</b>	<b>12,335,779</b>	<b>14,744,135</b>

It is worthy of notice that 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, and mineral products. During the last five years the value of wool exported exceeded that of the three principal items included in the imports, while the value of wool, meat, butter, wheat and flour and skins and hides exported almost equalled that of the thirteen leading articles imported. The varied nature of the imports is shown by the fact that the thirteen principal articles represented only 53 per cent. of the total value; in the case of the exports, on the other hand, 87 per cent. of the value came under nine headings.

Victorian trade with the United Kingdom increased from £21,907,879 in 1910 to £23,655,301 in 1912 and to £23,191,450 in 1913, from which it receded in 1914-15 and 1915-16 to £20,744,284 and £21,380,900 respectively. The value of imports exceeded that of exports by £388,441 in 1910, and by £7,028,224 in 1915-16. The principal articles imported from and exported to the United Kingdom in the last six years were as follows:—

**VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO THE UNITED KINGDOM, 1910 TO 1915-16.**

Articles.	Value.				Year ended 30th June:	
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1915.	1916.
<b>Imported into Victoria from United Kingdom.</b>						
Piece Goods—	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton and Linen ..	1,424,097	1,511,023	1,517,849	1,478,676	1,480,357	1,802,562
Woolen ..	724,447	791,258	826,701	715,566	620,488	1,134,057
Velvets, &c. ..	459,633	352,376	427,864	346,383	259,365	340,170
Silk ..	323,947	923,193	299,954	292,338	679,653	869,952
Apparel and Attire ..	561,195	651,798	830,066	827,118	685,392	781,366
Iron and Steel ..	779,696	800,117	885,441	925,224	790,151	738,741
Machines, Tools, and Im- plements ..	641,408	688,147	912,090	751,667	746,547	667,285
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. ..	226,348	339,937	354,795	396,333	359,246	351,165
Vessels (Ships) ..	319,500	10,000	245,210	705,000	182,000	211,143
Vehicles and Parts ..	326,537	306,493	460,073	457,529	573,343	230,318
Books ..	368,635	251,904	267,200	229,853	197,038	195,874
All other Articles ..	5,610,717	6,475,988	7,555,515	6,979,224	6,889,538	7,341,929
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>11,648,160</b>	<b>12,502,234</b>	<b>14,631,958</b>	<b>14,098,121</b>	<b>12,395,553</b>	<b>14,204,522</b>
<b>Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.</b>						
Wool ..	8,965,410	8,261,285	8,573,697	2,701,688	3,901,335	3,469,079
Wheat and Flour ..	2,424,848	2,137,843	1,220,403	1,291,836	35,768	855,352
Butter ..	1,595,268	2,173,650	1,360,978	1,520,499	645,728	522,568
Hides and Skins ..	568,819	442,006	574,096	622,899	575,345	377,783
Leather ..	92,704	84,762	169,138	157,068	422,970	374,276
Tin Ingots ..	219,162	294,363	289,354	186,473	92,482	139,717
Meat, Frozen—						
Beef, Mutton and Lamb ..	796,255	815,147	781,326	1,387,961	1,618,931	47,848
Rabbits and Hares ..	67,921	65,351	55,636	104,723	127,506	90,588
Tallow ..	236,850	316,730	190,423	172,544	163,594	29,827
Copper ..	265,320	46,239	769	59,000	63,000	2,649
Gold (Bullion and Specie) ..	34,098	318,372	342,911	59,000	1,029	1,395
All other Articles ..	523,264	547,448	600,596	891,630	699,144	1,216,868
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>10,239,749</b>	<b>10,507,025</b>	<b>9,928,848</b>	<b>9,095,329</b>	<b>8,346,862</b>	<b>7,176,338</b>

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 from the figures for 1915-16 that, of the imports, piece goods and apparel and attire represent 31 per cent. of the total, also that, of the exports, wool is responsible for 48 per cent., and, if to its value be added that of butter, frozen meat, wheat and flour, hides and skins, and leather, 78 per cent. of the total is accounted for.

The trade with New Zealand for the year ended 30th June, 1916, exceeded that for 1910 by £202,546, of which £176,208 was due to exports. The principal articles imported and exported during the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO NEW ZEALAND, 1910 TO 1915-16.

Articles.	Value.					
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
					1915.	1916.
Imported into Victoria from New Zealand.	£	£	£	£	£	£
Skins and Hides .. .. .	99,847	68,248	48,515	76,485	78,190	212,743
Timber .. .. .	151,631	173,828	202,922	160,720	134,515	190,779
Flax and Hemp .. .. .	57,717	17,965	32,116	62,531	28,218	124,790
Gold—Bullion .. .. .	411,052	541,132	338,500	238,613	130,951	54,314
Fish .. .. .	17,150	21,679	23,159	17,254	21,204	29,039
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs)	91,482	71,190	30,908	30,587	7,646	19,984
Seeds .. .. .	18,667	9,254	20,526	12,582	26,506	8,724
Meat, preserved in tins .. .. .	2,142	1,577	7,421	1,251	2,217	6,683
Machines, Tools, and Implements .. .. .	6,226	6,220	10,722	4,236	5,475	3,118
Books .. .. .	3,931	5,390	2,951	3,545	4,597	1,891
All other Articles .. .. .	65,974	62,194	282,218	164,410	347,082	300,089
Total .. .. .	925,819	978,677	999,958	772,194	786,601	952,157
Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.						
Gold—Specie .. .. .	306,108	100,000	150,000	250,000	275,000	202,000
Tobacco, manufactured .. .. .	64,058	65,425	75,291	66,652	66,357	104,434
Rubber manufactures .. .. .	60,626	91,181	61,336	71,846	77,362	100,745
Manures .. .. .	19,542	27,798	30,881	42,265	48,265	80,619
Fruits—Dried .. .. .	4,725	5,321	17,059	7,775	20,205	57,207
Tea .. .. .	38,912	42,850	38,532	27,289	42,623	43,085
Books .. .. .	26,846	36,964	44,267	33,711	28,325	36,714
Machinery .. .. .	37,579	31,575	35,728	27,527	26,614	26,725
Leather .. .. .	20,938	24,375	19,476	15,058	13,716	26,324
Rice and Rice Meal .. .. .	11,517	19,565	17,876	18,673	25,869	18,943
All other Articles .. .. .	348,168	359,975	291,228	273,558	288,135	424,431
Total .. .. .	945,019	805,029	781,723	834,354	912,471	1,121,227

In 1915-16 the imports from New Zealand were less than the exports thereto by 15 per cent. Leaving gold out of consideration, it will be observed that in the same year the items specified accounted for 54 per cent. of the total in the case of exports.

Trade with  
India and  
Ceylon.

Trade with India (including Burmah) and Ceylon, which amounted to 5 per cent. of the Victorian oversea trade in 1915-16, was greater by £360,536 than in 1910, the value of the imports being more by £418,784, but that of the exports less by £58,248. The principal articles interchanged during the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO INDIA AND CEYLON, 1910 TO 1915-16.

Articles.	Value.					
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
					1915.	1916.
Imported into Victoria from India and Ceylon.	£	£	£	£	£	£
Bags and Sacks ..	600,472	405,166	264,596	588,270	410,679	682,514
Tea .. ..	422,943	400,641	443,239	451,389	486,645	627,494
Rubber and Rubber Manu- factures .. ..	19,473	10,618	43,539	66,904	72,093	115,325
Hessian .. ..	56,332	50,847	63,476	87,520	100,932	98,027
Rice .. ..	55,578	67,854	118,629	89,245	86,159	75,178
Pig Iron .. ..	13,927	20,229	20,264	24,155	47,368	39,731
Coffee .. ..	17,806	22,087	27,227	22,904	17,485	22,956
Nuts .. ..	10,589	11,301	12,412	14,509	12,127	17,172
Skins .. ..	64,126	10,628	20,543	7,506	10,966	12,721
Cotton (raw) .. ..	21,476	14,563	11,680	9,813	3,043	1,360
All other Articles ..	127,163	114,720	99,233	96,843	124,752	135,991
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>1,409,685</b>	<b>1,128,654</b>	<b>1,124,888</b>	<b>1,459,058</b>	<b>1,372,249</b>	<b>1,828,469</b>
<b>Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.</b>						
Gold (Bullion and Specie)	162,601	611,792	2,299,703	144,087	45,314	100,712
Wool .. ..	21,693	20,797	16,463	23,886	28,127	32,442
Biscuits .. ..	6,475	6,179	6,084	7,904	8,098	28,289
Horses .. ..	80,880	67,764	57,681	37,769	97,449	16,578
Hay and Chaff .. ..	8,644	10,606	15,003	14,333	36,818	15,008
Soap .. ..	7,800	8,969	8,815	11,709	7,933	14,219
Butter .. ..	6,807	6,531	7,169	6,834	4,227	6,009
Oats .. ..	5,890	5,952	1,309	6,396	2,446	3,901
Wheat and Flour .. ..	9,888	11,683	20,234	19,698	17,433	2,058
Tallow .. ..	3,367	3,200	2,459	3,553	1,260	36
All other Articles ..	30,922	48,782	41,223	54,401	48,934	66,967
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>344,467</b>	<b>802,255</b>	<b>2,476,143</b>	<b>330,570</b>	<b>298,039</b>	<b>286,219</b>

The import trade from India and Ceylon is largely made up of jute goods, tea, rubber, and rice, whose value in 1915-16 formed 87 per cent. of the total. In return gold, wool and biscuits were in that year the leading items of exchange, all other exports being responsible for only 44 per cent. of the total.

Imports from Belgium increased by 102 per cent. between 1909 and 1913, but exports thereto increased by only 3 per cent. in the same period. That country accounted for about 3 per cent. of Victoria's oversea trade in the years immediately preceding 1914-15. The principal articles of trade with Belgium in the last six years were as follows:—

**VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO BELGIUM, 1910 TO 1915-16.**

Articles.	Value.					
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
					1915.	1916.
Imported into Victoria from Belgium.	£	£	£	£	£	£
Iron and Steel .. ..	121,098	168,073	127,968	205,932	39,960	..
Glass and Glassware .. ..	39,071	52,072	52,521	54,718	11,232	25
Confectionery .. ..	968	5,359	22,951	22,122	6,719	71
Vehicles, and parts .. ..	16,771	30,205	68,854	25,910	6,597	..
Cameos and Precious Stones..	34,858	59,419	31,596	26,947	5,800	..
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. ..	20,748	24,722	25,290	25,052	5,354	224
Piece Goods .. ..	16,506	19,552	20,794	20,700	4,628	..
Wire and Wire Netting .. ..	20,868	23,028	24,342	24,272	4,350	..
Copper .. ..	9,748	8,802	21,361	28,872	3,741	..
Wine .. ..	7,554	20,656	17,178	15,779	1,238	..
All other Articles .. ..	129,929	201,403	206,100	232,779	65,089	77
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>418,719</b>	<b>608,891</b>	<b>613,955</b>	<b>683,083</b>	<b>154,708</b>	<b>397</b>
<b>Exported from Victoria to Belgium.</b>						
Hides and Skins .. ..	241,635	194,814	233,806	280,705	11,577	..
Wool .. ..	381,183	365,026	442,832	387,793	1,924	..
Tallow .. ..	18,998	55,650	24,358	40,085	..	..
Wheat .. ..	105,239	78,800	59,862	30,945	..	..
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	1,791	3,132	17,398	9,085	605	..
Leather .. ..	23,897	9,050	11,119	6,010	..	..
Ores—Silver, Lead, &c. ..	23,842	22,098	16,370	120	..	..
All other Articles .. ..	14,029	26,536	7,434	13,000	805	..
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>809,609</b>	<b>755,106</b>	<b>812,674</b>	<b>767,749</b>	<b>14,911</b>	<b>..</b>

During the five years ended 1913 exports to Belgium exceeded imports therefrom. In exports the principal articles were wool and hides and skins, together representing 82 per cent. of the total; if to these be added the other five articles specified in the above table less than 2 per cent. is unaccounted for.

With France there was, on account of the war, considerable interruption in trade in the years 1914-15 and 1915-16. The great bulk of the trade is represented by exports. These amounted in 1913—the year immediately preceding the war—to £2,563,201, as against imports of £215,475. The increase in the total trade in the five years ended 1913 was £671,687, viz., exports £608,653, and imports £63,034. The principal articles imported from and exported to France in the years 1910 to 1915-16 were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO FRANCE, 1910 TO 1915-16.

Articles.	Value.					
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
					1915.	1916.
Imported into Victoria from France.						
Rubber Manufactures ..	£ 2,171	£ 3,554	£ 4,753	£ 15,899	£ 5,601	£ 17,290
Piece Goods ..	15,504	28,935	34,867	34,330	14,252	15,330
Cream of Tartar ..	33,314	50,002	51,325	47,463	13,871	14,905
Wine ..	12,817	11,874	10,538	17,021	3,281	3,870
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	3,183	9,774	7,108	5,128	1,896	3,162
Corks, Cork Mats, &c. ..	5,201	6,965	4,698	3,148	1,232	3,048
Gelatine, &c. ..	6,034	5,589	4,102	4,040	1,500	2,278
Acids ..	4,951	9,691	3,562	1,822	2,317	1,749
Vehicles, and parts ..	22,524	26,117	10,911	9,678	4,330	454
All other Articles ..	78,508	97,910	94,476	76,946	36,068	48,290
Total ..	184,207	250,411	226,343	215,475	84,348	110,376
Exported from Victoria to France.						
Wheat ..	49,075	499,428	1,197	43,545	1,699	234,069
Wool ..	1,967,053	1,465,492	1,668,081	1,792,625	42,334	205,078
Hides and Skins ..	397,204	390,989	437,967	675,689	194,992	76,909
Tallow ..	24,074	38,822	24,955	40,122	670	6,774
Horns ..	255	905	272	611	..	..
All other Articles ..	3,841	12,252	4,426	10,609	8,945	43,035
Total ..	2,441,502	2,407,978	2,136,898	2,563,201	248,640	565,865

Imports direct from France, of which more than one-fifth consisted of cream of tartar, did not in 1913 indicate the extent to which articles produced in France were received in Victoria, as goods of French origin to the extent of £879,718 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 4 per cent. of the total.

The trade with Germany, which amounted to 6½ per cent. of the total with oversea countries in 1913, was discontinued early in the year 1914-15 owing to the outbreak of war and the passing of the *Trading with the Enemy Act* 1914. The principal articles interchanged with Germany during the six years 1908 to 1913 are shown in the subjoined table:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO GERMANY, 1908 TO 1913.

Articles.	Value.					
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
<b>Imported into Victoria from Germany.</b>						
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures ..	£ 57,777	£ 95,373	£ 60,279	£ 110,029	£ 109,123	£ 147,570
Machines, Tools, and Implements ..	78,784	69,753	81,523	119,392	140,602	110,658
Pianos ..	45,009	62,059	74,351	82,381	95,703	98,354
Apparel and Attire ..	131,718	112,284	136,739	125,627	97,436	98,080
Wire and Wire Netting ..	68,819	53,956	65,851	60,900	80,851	76,352
Piece Goods ..	110,103	56,024	77,494	91,416	83,719	66,609
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. ..	27,557	23,777	18,523	24,533	60,972	82,333
Vehicles and parts ..	34,673	26,758	33,527	39,973	53,259	53,740
Glass and Glassware ..	24,213	31,662	61,167	39,174	78,205	48,267
Iron and Steel ..	636,139	603,522	646,605	810,312	950,973	823,884
All other Articles ..						
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>1,905,902</b>	<b>1,205,359</b>	<b>1,338,612</b>	<b>1,631,455</b>	<b>1,873,043</b>	<b>1,738,678</b>
<b>Exported from Victoria to Germany.</b>						
Wool ..	533,050	792,340	952,760	688,166	934,723	716,127
Tin Ingots ..	1,250		5,542	10,842	33,397	79,659
Apples—Fresh ..	9,630	17,405	14,080	17,213	23,149	63,544
Wheat ..		9,003	39,089	11,931	16,873	39,945
Ores ..	2,958	1,436	3,770	3,072	16,146	36,317
Sausage Casings ..	11,698	10,596	12,431	13,400	15,170	14,471
Hides and Skins ..	31,961	17,733	9,908	7,711	4,465	11,468
Tallow ..	59	940	11,100	15,803	3,282	6,478
Gold—Specie ..	1,410,000				200,000	
All other Articles ..	14,930	22,503	22,711	33,164	35,335	60,924
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>2,015,536</b>	<b>872,461</b>	<b>1,071,391</b>	<b>801,302</b>	<b>1,287,540</b>	<b>1,029,433</b>

The articles imported from Germany were very varied in character, as may be seen from the fact that only half their total value was accounted for in the ten leading items shown above. In exchange for the imports, 59 per cent. of their value was returned in merchandise in 1913. Of the exports for that year 70 per cent. consisted of wool.

Trade with the United States in 1915-16 amounted to £6,907,710, of which £4,808,234 represented imports. As compared with the year 1914-15 this trade had increased

by £3,076,320, there having been a growth of £2,139,669 in imports and of £936,651 in exports. The principal articles included in the trade with the United States in the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO THE UNITED STATES, 1910 TO 1915-16.

ARTICLES.	Value.					
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
					1915.	1916.
Imported into Victoria from the United States.						
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Machines, Tools, and Implements .. ..	380,178	477,271	494,569	505,743	481,222	593,391
Oil .. ..	301,867	207,004	335,901	228,975	237,423	469,490
Vehicles, and parts .. ..	47,702	86,906	147,943	116,658	143,289	429,023
Iron and Steel .. ..	76,225	115,671	163,042	161,038	140,919	326,906
Timber .. ..	249,808	325,668	326,885	321,429	220,900	238,995
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes .. ..	249,345	286,783	220,255	280,504	120,865	186,324
Leather .. ..	30,207	50,396	75,927	124,232	106,441	154,337
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. .. ..	59,530	43,592	74,393	33,962	80,299	146,419
Wire and Wire Netting .. ..	52,978	89,781	96,724	74,534	50,545	134,084
Piece Goods .. ..	27,554	65,981	66,370	36,993	42,860	108,749
Rails, Fishplates, &c. .. ..	129,530	139,686	41,823	2,760	3,496	39,321
All other Articles .. ..	608,593	704,294	869,504	743,534	1,040,306	1,980,695
Total .. ..	2,211,517	2,592,032	2,913,341	2,580,332	2,668,565	4,808,234
Exported from Victoria to the United States.						
Wool .. ..	391,985	362,072	260,318	500,202	1,066,144	2,008,725
Hides and Skins .. ..	63,719	35,637	60,891	89,530	75,389	60,849
Eucalyptus Oil .. ..	1,936	3,926	1,060	4,993	2,185	7,117
Leather .. ..	3,208	3,601	2,064	1,194	1,422	5,730
All other Articles .. ..	12,569	6,874	6,926	37,077	17,685	17,005
Total .. ..	473,467	412,160	331,259	632,996	1,162,825	2,099,476

The imports from the United States cover a wide range of articles, as after the five leading items, which in 1915-16 accounted for 43 per cent. of their amount, the next largest five were responsible for only 15 per cent. of the total, and 42 per cent. of the whole was made up of articles of much smaller value. The exports to that country in the same year were equivalent to about 44 per cent. of the imports, and consisted principally of wool, which accounted for nearly 95 per cent. of the total.



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 oversea imports for 1915-16.

OVERSEA IMPORTS, 1915-16—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 ... ..	379,322	613,838	1·416	2·292
Ceylon ... ..	547,988	547,876	2·046	2·046
Fiji ... ..	132,968	147,672	·496	·551
Hong Kong ... ..	101,079	7,628	·377	·028
India (including Burmah)	1,280,481	1,293,129	4·781	4·828
New Zealand ... ..	952,157	813,825	3·555	3·039
Ocean Island ... ..	108,228	110,260	·404	·412
South African Union ...	156,389	164,799	·584	·615
Straits Settlements ...	247,911	109,067	·926	·407
United Kingdom ... ..	14,204,562	12,193,248	53·036	45·526
West Indies (British) ...	138	67,835	·001	·253
Other British Countries	37,605	90,699	·140	·339
Alaska ... ..	13,954	25,957	·052	·097
Argentine Republic ... ..	487,195	490,606	1·819	1·832
Belgium ... ..	397	30,774	·002	·115
Borneo (Dutch) ... ..	4,849	26,594	·018	·099
Brazil ... ..	3,089	188,013	·012	·702
Chili ... ..	167,661	168,074	·626	·628
China ... ..	79,377	214,800	·296	·802
Cuba ... ..	554	25,423	·002	·095
Denmark ... ..	45,203	42,343	·169	·158
Formosa Island ... ..	273,243	274,707	1·020	1·026
France ... ..	110,376	726,654	·412	2·713
Germany ... ..	6,365	29,170	·024	·109
Holland (Netherlands) ...	30,350	134,084	·113	·501
Italy ... ..	181,282	328,624	·677	1·227
Japan ... ..	969,140	936,586	3·619	3·497
Java ... ..	757,194	694,800	2·827	2·594
Norway ... ..	213,468	249,394	·797	·931
Peru ... ..	7,823	28,821	·029	·108
Philippine Islands ... ..	76,723	77,784	·286	·290
Russia ... ..	1,322	23,771	·005	·089
Spain ... ..	10,972	41,757	·041	·156
Sumatra ... ..	3,921	129,357	·015	·483
Sweden ... ..	257,480	247,767	·961	·925
Switzerland ... ..	23,451	582,660	·088	2·175
United States ... ..	4,808,234	4,754,232	17·953	17·751
Other Foreign Countries	100,442	150,265	·375	·561
Total ... ..	26,782,893	26,782,893	100·000	100·000

Australian  
produce  
exported.

An examination of the various articles of Australian produce exported from Victoria to oversea countries reveals the fact that in 1915-16 about 83 per cent. of the total was covered by the nine articles specified below :—

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE EXPORTED FROM VICTORIA TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1911 TO 1915-16.

Principal Articles.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
				1915.	1916.
	£	£	£	£	£
Gold (Bullion, Ore and Specie) ... ..	638,308	2,880,010	624,264	446,788	320,995
Butter ... ..	2,361,587	1,545,771	1,681,987	798,569	653,115
Flour ... ..	629,427	600,267	710,416	191,214	653,490
Wheat ... ..	3,592,534	1,836,387	2,053,454	160,642	2,767,099
Leather ... ..	143,036	245,707	221,454	492,553	488,956
Meat, Frozen—					
Mutton and Lamb ... ..	798,508	762,344	1,296,741	1,248,085	47,348
Other ... ..	142,898	126,953	268,320	531,867	92,807
Skins and Hides ... ..	1,089,258	1,328,817	1,685,700	884,997	534,396
Tallow ... ..	480,256	324,497	371,316	192,400	45,214
Wool ... ..	6,255,599	6,990,918	6,282,291	5,237,304	6,203,565
All other articles ... ..	1,804,606	1,724,421	1,554,335	1,825,078	2,472,497
TOTAL ... ..	17,936,017	18,366,092	16,750,278	12,009,497	14,279,482
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per Head of Population	13 11 6	13 11 3	12 0 11	8 7 11	10 1 5
Percentage of Total Oversea Exports ... ..	94·82	96·09	93·92	96·54	96·85

Those articles of Australian produce exported oversea which are not specified in the above table, but are grouped under the heading "All other Articles," represented only 10 per cent. of the oversea exports in 1911, 9 per cent. in 1912 and 1913, 15 per cent. in 1914-15, and 17 per cent. in 1915-16.

Distribution of  
Australian  
produce.

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

EXPORTS OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE, 1911 TO  
1915-16.

Destination.	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June	
				1915.	1916.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	10,222,247	8,864,218	8,606,317	8,281,709	7,074,914
Other British Possessions	1,906,761	3,582,434	1,637,256	1,692,457	2,101,525
Foreign Countries ...	5,807,009	5,919,440	6,506,705	2,035,331	5,103,043
Total ...	17,936,017	18,366,092	16,750,278	12,009,497	14,279,482

Of the Australian produce exported overseas in 1915-16, 49½ per cent. was sent to the United Kingdom, 14½ per cent. to "Other British Possessions," and 36 per cent. to foreign countries.

The following statement illustrates the development of Inter-State trade in each of the Australian States between the year preceding Federation and the ninth year thereafter—the latest year for which Inter-State records are available:—

Trade between  
Australian  
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	5,504,309	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	1,125,031	+1,550,125	3,084,578	2,000,537	+1,024,041
Tasmania .. ..	1,372,552	1,071,829	+300,723	2,337,854	3,003,732	-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, £1,042,934 in Queensland, £526,084 in Western Australia, and £916,651 in Tasmania; whereas the growth of imports exceeded that of exports by £1,169,469 in New South Wales, and £1,854,079 in South Australia.

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

REVENUE OF CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, 1911-12 TO  
1915-16.

Heads of Revenue.	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Import Duty—</b>					
Alcoholic Liquors ...	647,474	655,313	652,416	687,599	574,690
Narcotics ...	434,913	459,874	434,413	434,447	476,721
Sugar... ..	21,821	397,189	74,735	11,957	249,220
All other Articles ...	2,456,694	2,569,625	2,612,855	2,395,549	2,901,721
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>3,560,902</b>	<b>4,082,001</b>	<b>3,774,419</b>	<b>3,529,552</b>	<b>4,202,352</b>
<b>Excise Duty—</b>					
Spirits ... ..	110,171	111,812	113,184	129,821	139,437
Beer ... ..	227,398	229,108	260,825	401,041	494,161
Tobacco ... ..	260,880	254,869	265,237	282,412	290,365
Sugar... ..	291,960	57,703	3,945	1,481	350
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>890,409</b>	<b>653,492</b>	<b>643,191</b>	<b>814,755</b>	<b>924,313</b>
Miscellaneous ...	11,122	14,645	12,685	12,522	13,553
<b>Grand Total ...</b>	<b>4,462,433</b>	<b>4,750,138</b>	<b>4,430,295</b>	<b>4,356,829</b>	<b>5,140,218</b>

These figures have been furnished by the Customs Department. The discrepancies between the totals in the 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 table is distributed between Customs and Excise duties in part "Finance."

The amounts shown for the five years are exclusive of drawbacks and refunds. No record has been kept since 1st July, 1910, of goods which were imported into or manufactured in the State, and 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 shown for each subsequent year may be assumed to be overstated to at least that extent.

### INTER-STATE COMMISSION.

**Inter-State  
Commission.**

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 abridgment 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.

Victorian shipping as dealt with in the succeeding tables refers to vessels trading with other States and oversea countries. Vessels trading 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 645 *post* shipping trading on the Victorian coast 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, 1911 TO 1915-16.

	1911.	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.	
				1915.	1916.
<b>Vessels Entered—</b>					
Number ... ..	2,335	2,399	2,481	2,324	2,392
Tons ... ..	5,148,184	5,426,146	5,950,035	5,290,063	4,935,129
Average tonnage ... ..	2,205	2,262	2,398	2,276	2,063
Crews ... ..	153,184	163,055	176,844	157,209	142,885
<b>Vessels Cleared—</b>					
Number ... ..	2,347	2,385	2,469	2,329	2,385
Tons ... ..	5,156,952	5,410,801	5,902,277	5,308,817	4,902,245
Average tonnage ... ..	2,197	2,269	2,391	2,279	2,055
Crews ... ..	152,683	161,611	175,704	157,745	141,698

The figures for the year 1915-16 in the above table show a decrease in the tonnage and crews of vessels as compared with the average of the last five-year period. For the twelve months ended 30th June, 1916, steamers numbered 2,174 of the vessels entered, and 2,171 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 4,804,417 and 4,776,588 respectively.

The inward shipping of 1915-16 included 85 vessels in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 288,242, whilst the outward shipping included 524 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 759,953.

The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1915-16 are set out in the following statement:—

## SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1915-16.

Countries.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Australian States ... ..	1,736	2,800,103	1,906	3,285,036
United Kingdom ... ..	188	973,512	114	482,498
New Zealand ... ..	85	140,716	80	215,868
Other British ... ..	119	387,565	166	652,445
<b>Total British Countries</b>	<b>2,128</b>	<b>4,301,896</b>	<b>2,266</b>	<b>4,635,787</b>
Japan ... ..	53	134,395	28	80,867
Java ... ..	20	59,082	14	44,318
United States ... ..	127	273,071	54	85,272
Other Foreign ... ..	64	166,685	23	56,001
<b>Total Foreign Countries</b>	<b>264</b>	<b>633,233</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>266,458</b>
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>4,935,129</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>4,902,245</b>

The nationality of vessels entered and cleared at Victorian ports in each of the years 1911 to 1915-16 was as shown hereunder:—

## NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1911 TO 1915-16.

Year.	NUMBER OF VESSELS.				TONNAGE OF VESSELS.			
	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign	Total.
	Entered.							
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
1913...	1,444	741	296	2,481	2,278,624	2,757,350	914,061	5,950,035
1914-15	1,480	709	135	2,324	2,294,137	2,633,365	362,561	5,290,063
1915-16	1,499	714	179	2,392	2,044,398	2,519,317	371,414	4,935,129
	Cleared.							
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
1913...	1,447	731	291	2,469	2,276,338	2,722,324	903,615	5,902,277
1914-15	1,484	712	133	2,329	2,303,739	2,645,617	359,461	5,308,817
1915-16	1,498	709	178	2,385	2,034,655	2,494,320	373,270	4,902,245

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 1911 to 1916 are, Australian vessels, 58, 57, 58, 64 and 63 per cent., Australian tonnage, 36, 35, 39, 43 and 41 per cent.; other British vessels 31, 31, 30, 30 and 30 per cent.; other British tonnage 49, 50, 46, 50 and 51 per cent.; foreign vessels, 11, 12, 12, 6 and 7 per cent., and foreign tonnage 15, 15, 15, 7 and 8 per cent.

In the next table further details of the nationality of the shipping for the year 1915-16 are given:—

### NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1915-16.

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
<b>British—</b>				
Australian ... ..	1,499	2,044,398	1,498	2,031,655
United Kingdom ... ..	538	2,358,151	534	2,334,534
Canadian ... ..	3	2,526	2	1,146
Indian ... ..	2	7,506	2	7,506
New Zealand... ..	164	143,672	164	143,672
South African ... ..	7	7,462	7	7,462
<b>Total British ... ..</b>	<b>2,213</b>	<b>4,563,715</b>	<b>2,207</b>	<b>4,528,975</b>
<b>Foreign—</b>				
Belgium ... ..	1	2,074	1	2,074
Chilian ... ..	3	4,304	3	4,306
Danish ... ..	8	23,862	8	23,862
Dutch ... ..	22	69,419	22	69,419
French ... ..	14	39,228	15	41,133
Japanese ... ..	45	114,234	47	119,652
Norwegian ... ..	28	48,805	27	46,811
Peruvian ... ..	1	1,297	1	1,297
Russian ... ..	1	2,324	1	2,324
Swedish ... ..	8	18,320	7	15,759
United States ... ..	48	47,547	46	46,633
<b>Total Foreign ... ..</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>371,414</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>373,270</b>
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>4,935,129</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>4,902,245</b>

Vessels on  
Victorian  
register.

The vessels on the Victorian register on 31st December, 1915, were as follows, the ports of registration and net tonnage being distinguished:—

### VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1915.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne ... ..	218	125,468	198	38,819	416	164,287
Geelong ... ..	3	449	5	360	8	809
Port Fairy ... ..	3	621	...	...	3	621
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>126,538</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>39,179</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>165,717</b>



During 1915 there were added to the register 13 steamers with net tonnage of 7,727, and 6 sailing vessels with a tonnage of 5,268; whilst 6 steamers having net tonnage of 6,055, and 3 sailing vessels having a tonnage of 442, were taken off the register.

The following statement, compiled by the Marine Underwriters' and Salvage Association of Victoria, shows the number and net tonnage of vessels on the registers of all the Australian States and New Zealand on 30th June, 1916:—

## VESSELS OWNED IN AUSTRALASIA, 1916.

States, &c.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Victoria ...	199	127,605	226	39,445	425	167,050
New South Wales ...	544	91,899	598	40,083	1,142	131,982
Queensland ...	92	14,367	196	7,675	288	22,042
South Australia ...	112	49,505	207	19,000	319	68,505
Western Australia ...	36	20,411	401	16,913	437	37,324
Tasmania ...	59	6,054	156	5,710	215	11,764
Total Australia ...	1,042	309,841	1,784	128,826	2,826	438,667
Fiji ...	5	432	6	594	11	1,326
New Guinea ...	...	...	9	157	9	157
New Zealand ...	264	63,398	317	24,845	581	93,243
Total ...	1,311	378,671	2,116	154,722	3,427	533,393

Compared with 1915, vessels owned in Australia have decreased by 16 in number, and by 11,665 in tonnage.

## PORT OF MELBOURNE.

The port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 9.94 miles of wharfs, piers, and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 54 acres, of which 17 acres 2 roods are under sheds. An outline of some of the Trust's activities is given below.

The river has been widened from Queen's Bridge to the Bay from about 140 to 300 feet, and three swinging basins have been provided, one just below Queen's Bridge, 500 feet wide, one three-quarters of a mile further down the river, 550 feet wide, and one at the entrance to the Victoria Dock, 500 feet wide. The depth of the river has been gradually increased, until at the present time it is 27 feet at low water for all but the upper half-mile, where the depth is from 18 feet upwards, but is being increased to 27 feet. Turning to the wharfrage available for shipping, there is a berthing space of 44,070 feet, the whole of which has a good depth of

Works undertaken by Trust in River and Victoria Dock.

water—7,140 feet at Williamstown, 8,510 feet at Port Melbourne, 19,920 feet in the River Yarra, and 8,500 feet in the Victoria Dock. This dock, which is 4 miles from the river entrance, was opened in 1892, and has an area of 96 acres, and a depth of 30 feet of water at low tide. The entrance to the dock is 160 feet wide, and on the 8,500 feet of wharfage there are six closed and seven open sheds, all 53 feet in width, and two open and closed sheds 60 feet in width, the total length of all the sheds being 4,870 feet.

**Coode Canal.** In 1886 a canal across the flats below Fisherman's Bend was completed at a cost of £96,000, the length being 2,002 yards. The construction of the canal had the effect of reducing the distance from Queen's Bridge to the river entrance from 7 miles to  $5\frac{1}{4}$  miles, and of greatly facilitating navigation. This channel, which is called Coode Canal, has been widened by 164 feet, making its total width 487 feet, its width at low water 430 feet, and its bottom width 264 feet. It has a depth of 27 feet at low water, and is being dredged to 32 feet.

**Dredging.** The material dredged and disposed of during 1915 amounted to 4,235,043 cubic yards, viz., 2,212,126 cubic yards from Hobson's Bay, and 2,022,917 cubic yards from the River Yarra and Victoria Dock. Since the establishment of the Trust the river dredgings have amounted to 31,425,903, and the Bay dredgings to 22,754,751 cubic yards, making a total of 54,180,654 cubic yards. Of the dredgings 40,825,014 cubic yards were deposited in deep water and 13,355,640 cubic yards were landed and deposited for reclamation work. The average cost of dredging, towing, and depositing in 1915 was 5.47d. per cubic yard.

**Plant.** The floating plant of the Trust consists of 7 dredgers, 2 steam tugs, 9 steam hopper barges, 10 iron dumb hopper barges, 3 steam launches, 4 motor launches, 1 Lobnitz rock-breaker, 4 grab cranes, 3 coal hulks, 2 derrick punts, and diving equipment. Included in the above is one steam hopper barge at present on loan to the Geelong Harbor Trust. In addition, the Melbourne Harbor Trust has on hire from the Geelong Harbor Trust one steam tug and two iron towing hopper barges.

**Trade of the Port.** Since the inception of the Trust in the year 1877, the trade of the port has greatly increased. In the year 1878 vessels to the number of 5,060, comprising 164 ships, 414 barques, 96 brigs, 849 schooners, 350 cutters, 458 ketches, 2,084 steamers, and 645 lighters, with a registered tonnage aggregating 1,169,320, berthed within the port, whereas in the year 1915 the total number of vessels was 5,429, comprising 4,521 steamers, 7 ships, 55 barques, 14 barquentines, 305 ketches, 163 schooners, and 364 lighters, with registered tonnage aggregating 5,994,000. The tonnage of imports in 1915 was 2,982,000, and that of exports 969,000.

The trade of the port for the past five years was as follows :—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.		Net Registered Tonnage.
	Oversea.	Inter-State.	Oversea.	Inter-State.	
	tons.	tons.	tons.	tons.	
1911 .. ..	1,327,000	1,436,000	880,000	637,000	6,077,000
1912 .. ..	1,445,000	1,511,000	657,000	607,000	6,343,000
1913 .. ..	1,620,000	1,305,000	665,000	705,000	7,004,000
1914 .. ..	1,313,000	1,663,000	576,000	740,000	6,934,000
1915 .. ..	1,299,000	1,683,000	239,000	730,000	5,994,000

The abnormal conditions arising out of the war are responsible for the decrease of vessels' tonnage in 1914 and 1915.

Of the trade in 1915, 87 per cent. of imports and 87 per cent. of exports were dealt with in the river and Victoria Dock, the balance, of course, being handled at the piers in the Bay.

Coal forms a great part of the above Inter-State imports, the particulars being as follows :—

#### COAL IMPORTED FROM OTHER STATES.

(Exclusive of Coal transhipped.)

	Tons.		Tons.
1911 .. ..	639,758	1914 .. ..	906,962
1912 .. ..	801,074	1915 .. ..	846,980
1913 .. ..	831,219		

**Port Improvement.** A new railway pier at Port Melbourne has been completed, its length being 1,902 feet, and its width 186 feet.

The total cost of the pier and superstructures is £195,350, and the cost including dredging to the end of 1915 is £318,368. Dredging is being carried to 37 feet, to provide for four berths for vessels drawing 35 feet. Two shelter sheds are being provided, to enable passengers to board and disembark from vessels clear of the railway traffic.

Progress is being made in connexion with the construction of the new Central Pier at the Victoria Dock, the first contract for which was let for £102,785. A contract for reinforced concrete plates to form a bed for the centre roadway on this pier has also been let for £16,668. The pier is to be 1,631 feet in length by 250 feet in width.

A contract for reinforced concrete sheet piling with relieving platforms at the middle swinging basin has been let for £37,445. This is the first contract in connexion with the widening and lengthening of this Basin.

A new wharf at Newport in the River Yarra is also in course of construction, the contract for which was let for £13,263.

The new Railway Pier, Williamstown, is being extended a further 100 feet and widened by contract for £6,762.

The old Railway Pier, Williamstown, is being extended a further 250 feet and widened to 81 feet, the contract being for £15,040, and the Town Pier, Port Melbourne, is also being extensively renovated.

Other improvements proposed for the near future include the widening of the river by 100 feet on the south side between the swinging basin and Coode Canal, lengthening and widening the middle swinging basin by increasing its size from 550 feet by 800 feet to 650 feet by 1,000 feet, the re-alignment of the Australian Wharf, provision for greater facilities for the timber trade, a re-arrangement of the berths at Yarraville, the provision of machinery for the handling of cargo, and the lighting of the port throughout by electricity. Timber is being accumulated for the carrying out of these works, and contracts have been let for the supply of over £60,000 worth of timber, which will form an addition to large quantities already in hand.

The expenditure for the year 1915 was £434,625, as compared with £205,664 in 1911, £366,954 in 1912, £439,191 in 1913, and £427,001 in 1914.

With a view to preventing pillage on the wharves, the Trust is paying for a police patrol of 21 men, and this, together with the cost of providing wharfingers and shedmen, costs £6,132 per annum. During the year 1915 prosecutions for pillaging goods were instituted in 47 cases, and 38 convictions were obtained. Fines ranging up to £75 were inflicted, this maximum amount being imposed in one case where there had been interference with goods subject to Customs control. Rewards amounting to £177 were paid during the year for the apprehension of offenders.

The police patrol has proved effective, the powers of the police and their sources of information having been of assistance in obtaining convictions.

PARTICULARS OF BERTHAGE ACCOMMODATION AND DEPTH OF WATER  
AT THE WHARVES AND PIERS WITHIN THE PORT OF MELBOURNE.

Name.	Berthing Space, in Feet.	Depth, in Feet, O.L.W.
Breakwater Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	920	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (old) .. .. .	2,190	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (new) .. .. .	1,250	27 to 29
Graving Dock Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	440	25 to 28
Reid-street Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	1,000	19 to 24
Ann-street Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	800	17 to 22
Gem Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	500	8 to 10
New Railway Pier, Port Melbourne .. .. .	2,600	30*
Railway Pier, Port Melbourne .. .. .	3,000	28 to 30
Town Pier, Port Melbourne .. .. .	2,860	26 to 28
Footscray Wharf (river) .. .. .	700	13 to 14
Queen's Wharf (river) .. .. .	1,800	17 to 24
Princes' Wharf (river) .. .. .	2,050	17 to 24
Australian Wharf (river) .. .. .	7,620	24 to 26
South Wharf (river) .. .. .	7,750	23 to 25
Victoria Dock (river) .. .. .	8,800	24 to 26
	44,280	

\* Dredging in progress to 37 feet.

NOTE.—For rise of spring tides throughout harbor, 2 ft. 8 in. to be added to all depths; for rise of neap tides, 2 feet to be added.

At the various piers and wharves are the following cranes:—

- One steam crane, to lift 75 tons.
- One hydraulic crane, to lift 35 tons.
- One hydraulic crane, to lift 15 tons.
- Seven hand cranes, to lift from 1 to 10 tons.

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, 1914.†

Ports.	Entered.			Cleared.		
	Foreign or Oversea Trade.	Coasting Trade.	Total.	Foreign or Oversea Trade.	Coasting Trade.	Total.
<i>British.</i>	Tonnage.	Tonnage.	Tonnage.	Tonnage.	Tonnage.	Tonnage.
Melbourne ..	2,037,971	3,620,959	5,658,930	*	*	*
Sydney ..	2,614,995	5,549,338	8,164,333	*	*	*
Cardiff ..	6,907,123	4,257,467	11,164,590	8,069,214	2,021,162	10,090,376
Liverpool (including Birkenhead)	6,001,563	4,103,427	10,104,990	7,394,416	4,769,919	12,164,335
London ..	10,801,691	5,826,595	16,628,286	7,900,825	7,868,619	15,769,444
Newcastle, and North and South Shields ..	5,683,245	3,171,326	8,854,571	7,047,466	3,171,326	10,218,792
Southampton ..	4,157,938	1,191,911	5,349,849	4,013,266	1,210,982	5,224,248
Colombo ..	7,713,987	*	*	7,657,597	*	*
Singapore ..	8,636,467	*	*	8,618,486	*	*
Victoria (Hong Kong) ..	11,483,663	*	*	11,455,470	*	*
<i>Foreign.</i>						
Antwerp‡ ..	13,686,297	*	*	13,665,346	*	*
Hamburg ..	12,346,600	*	*	12,594,733	*	*
Marseilles ..	7,986,609	*	*	8,076,767	*	*
Rotterdam ..	11,559,443	*	*	11,539,469	*	*
New York ..	13,673,765	*	*	13,549,138	*	*
Rio de Janeiro ..	6,387,400	*	*	6,324,341	*	*
Monte Video ..	8,598,326	*	*	8,598,013	*	*

NOTE.—The tonnage of British vessels employed by the Government in connexion with the War is not included, Melbourne and Sydney excepted.

\* Not available.

† The figures for Melbourne and Sydney relate to the year ended 30th June, 1915, those for Colombo, Singapore and Victoria (Hong Kong) to the year 1913, and those for foreign ports to the year 1912.

‡ The figures relating to entrances and clearances at Belgian 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 Belgian returns than that recorded for the same vessels when entering or clearing at ports in the United Kingdom.

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

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 .	180 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)		
"	"	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

## POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

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

The rates of postage in force within the Commonwealth and Papua are as follows:—

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) ...	...	...	...	...	...	1d. per 2 ounces
Books printed in Australia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1d. per 8 ounces
Books printed outside Australia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1d. per 4 ounces
Magazines printed and published in Australia ...	...	...	...	...	...	each 1d. per 8 ounces
Magazines printed and published outside Australia ...	...	...	...	...	...	each 1d. per 4 ounces
Commercial papers, patterns, samples, and merchandise as prescribed ...	...	...	...	...	...	1d. per 2 ounces
Newspapers printed and published in Australia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1d. per 10 ounces
Newspapers printed and published outside Australia ...	...	...	...	...	...	1d. 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.

The ordinary rate for cabling to the United Kingdom is 3s. per word, and the deferred rate is 1s. 6d. per word. Deferred cablegrams are transmitted only after the despatch of non-urgent private cablegrams and press cablegrams. In January, 1913, the Pacific Cable Board instituted a tariff for week-end cable letters available between Australia and the United Kingdom. The rate is 9d. per word, with a minimum charge of 15s. Week-end messages may be lodged up to midnight on Saturday, and are deliverable on Tuesday morning, or if practicable on Monday.

The post-offices in the State on 30th June, 1916, numbered 1,787, and in addition there were 872 receiving offices (principally loose-bags), 12 travelling offices, and 1,657 letter boxes. The postal and telegraphic staff numbered 5,090 persons, and there were in addition 4,543 non-official postmasters, mail contractors, and casual employees employed part time only in the service. The postal routes in 1915 covered a distance of 15,327 miles, of which 3,841 were by railway, the distance traversed being 8,810,716 miles, including 4,331,057 railway miles. In the following table is shown the business done by the Postal Department in each of the last five years:—

## POSTAL RETURNS, 1911 TO 1915-16.

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.
Posted and Received—					
Letters and Post-cards ...	159,092,001	175,588,805	189,975,987	188,440,698	191,427,078
Newspapers ...	36,125,728	37,826,929	40,950,516	40,737,663	40,246,088
Packets ...	20,951,712	20,631,887	18,292,538	16,464,556	11,146,357
Parcels ...	720,245	764,821	893,934	961,755	1,163,140
Total ...	216,889,686	234,812,442	250,112,975	246,604,672	243,982,663

Registered letters and articles are included in this statement, and numbered 1,480,547 in 1915-16. The total number of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels passing through the post-office in 1915-16 showed a decline of 1.06 per cent. from the number for 1914, though it was slightly above the average for the preceding five-year period. A clear idea of the magnitude of the postal matter dealt with will be obtained when it is stated that in 1915-16 the letters posted and received represented 136 and the newspapers, packets, and parcels, 37 per head of the population.

The next table gives in three groups the destination 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: 1911 TO 1915-16.

Service.	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.
LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	121,078,121	129,610,388	135,963,724	139,043,933	134,212,538
"    "    in other States ..	13,636,148	15,177,996	15,201,166	16,234,172	16,267,863
"    "    outside the States ..	5,179,176	6,780,247	7,687,758	6,760,903	13,944,397
Total .. ..	139,893,445	151,568,631	158,852,648	162,039,008	164,424,798
Received from other States ..	13,248,800	15,220,243	16,977,659	16,226,068	16,481,811
"    "    outside the States ..	5,949,756	8,799,931	14,145,680	10,181,622	10,520,469
Total .. ..	19,198,556	24,020,174	31,123,339	26,407,690	27,002,280
NEWSPAPERS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	12,658,570	10,894,399	14,980,478	13,526,750	14,410,719
"    "    in other States ..	11,926,548	13,934,818	14,548,365	16,962,880	14,823,566
"    "    outside the States ..	3,200,478	3,153,631	3,332,069	2,793,660	3,955,133
Total .. ..	27,785,596	27,982,848	32,860,912	32,283,290	33,189,418
Received from other States ..	3,984,990	4,748,731	4,762,405	5,212,038	4,685,452
"    "    outside the States ..	4,355,142	5,095,350	3,327,199	3,242,335	2,371,218
Total .. ..	8,340,132	9,844,081	8,089,604	8,454,373	7,056,670
PACKETS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	13,577,951	13,084,847	11,725,748	9,783,256	6,136,500
"    "    in other States ..	2,659,704	2,577,753	3,095,332	4,051,319	2,495,132
"    "    outside the States ..	1,213,746	1,400,431	1,149,648	750,184	922,389
Total .. ..	17,451,401	17,063,031	15,970,728	14,584,759	9,554,021
Received from other States ..	2,048,596	1,870,407	1,511,567	1,232,022	1,039,866
"    "    outside the States ..	1,451,715	1,698,449	810,243	647,775	552,470
Total .. ..	3,500,311	3,568,856	2,321,810	1,879,797	1,592,336
PARCELS.					
Posted for delivery inland ..	410,290	421,342	508,652	577,585	598,895
"    "    in other States ..	169,352	184,457	213,047	210,404	248,655
"    "    outside the States ..	18,784	21,248	23,573	17,658	145,907
Total .. ..	598,426	627,047	745,272	805,647	983,457
Received from other States ..	82,678	90,678	96,985	107,327	118,626
"    "    outside the States ..	39,141	47,096	51,677	48,781	61,057
Total .. ..	121,819	137,774	148,662	156,108	179,683



**Dead letters, &c.** Dead letters in 1915-16 numbered 646,960, of which 39,942 were irregularly posted. These letters contained money amounting to £15,139, as well as other articles of value, and were disposed of as follows:—Returned to writers, 465,208; destroyed, 111,367; returned to other States or countries as unclaimed, 70,385. There were also 749,959 undelivered packets and newspapers, of which 123,915 were returned to the senders, 616,347 were destroyed, and 9,697 were returned to other States and countries.

**Money orders and postal notes.** There are 539 money order offices in the State, which, in 1915-16, issued 654,324 orders for £2,646,488. Of these 536,423 (for £2,236,481) were inland, 45,923 (for £215,747) inter-state, and 71,978 (for £194,260) international orders. The orders paid in the same year numbered 676,062, and were for an aggregate amount of £2,800,880, the inland being 534,194 (for £2,226,660), the inter-state 100,079 (for £451,992), and the international 41,789 (for £122,228). Inland postal notes paid totalled 2,173,546 (for £731,044), Victorian notes paid in other States 616,666 (for £197,412), and the notes of other States paid in Victoria 360,070 (for £132,429). The following is a comparative statement of the business done since 1910:—

#### MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES, 1911 TO 1915-16.

—	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.
<b>Money Orders Issued—</b>					
Number ... ..	279,622	316,538	376,961	381,671	654,324
Amount ... .. £	1,139,505	1,261,829	1,673,878	1,714,513	2,646,488
<b>Money Orders Paid—</b>					
Number ... ..	338,384	355,540	408,988	405,841	676,062
Amount ... .. £	1,437,537	1,506,658	1,922,665	1,928,550	2,800,880
<b>Postal Notes—</b>					
Victorian—Paid in Victoria	£ 770,740	811,606	849,013	849,888	731,044
Victorian—Paid in Other States	£ 164,301	181,540	215,334	225,836	197,412
Of Other States—Paid in Victoria	£ 160,462	168,771	177,967	171,414	132,429

The value of money orders issued and paid has increased year by year, but the large increase in 1915-16 was due to the payment of military allotments.

The business in postal notes showed a considerable reduction in 1915-16, the amount of Victorian notes paid within the State during that year being £118,844 less than the amount paid in 1914. The business with the other States also showed a decline, the amount of Victorian notes paid in other States during 1915-16 being less by £28,424 than the amount in 1914; and notes of other States paid in Victoria being of less value than in 1914 by £38,985.

**Telegraphs  
and  
telegrams.**

There are 1,796 telegraph offices in the State, 346 of which are attached to the railway service. Of the mileage of line and wire, 5,048 miles of line carrying 23,060 miles of wire are controlled by the Postal Department, and 3,721 miles of line carrying 5,846 miles of wire by the Railway Department. The length of lines and wire open, and the number of telegrams sent from Victorian offices, and of those received from outside the State in each of the last five years, were as follows :—

**TELEGRAPHS AND TELEGRAMS, 1911 TO 1915-16.**

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.
<b>Number of Offices</b> ...	1,455	1,538	1,648	1,748	1,796
<b>Miles open—</b>					
<b>Line (poles)</b> ...	7,273	7,455	7,628	7,998	8,769
<b>Wire</b> ...	17,403	18,649	19,403	26,146	28,906
<b>Telegrams despatched—</b>					
<b>Inland</b> ...	2,017,997	1,994,436	1,969,752	2,217,361	2,189,333
<b>Inter-State</b> ...	790,403	882,051	902,969	948,497	1,012,605
<b>International</b> ...	86,264	92,750	98,320	101,337	133,088
<b>Total</b> ...	2,894,664	2,969,237	2,971,041	3,267,195	3,335,026
<b>Telegrams received—</b>					
<b>Inter-State</b> ...	923,911	950,015	1,006,618	1,009,362	1,061,206
<b>International</b> ...	84,129	89,709	92,456	95,489	150,951
<b>Total</b> ...	1,008,040	1,039,724	1,099,074	1,104,851	1,212,157

The total telegrams despatched show a gradual improvement annually in the five-year period, the number for 1915-16 exceeding that for the previous year by 67,831. Compared with 1911 the telegrams despatched in 1915-16 showed an increase of 440,362, of which 171,336 were inland, 222,202 inter-state, and 46,824 international. Telegrams received from outside the State have increased by 204,117 since 1911. In 1915-16 the value of inland telegrams was £82,905, of inter-state despatched £82,802, of inter-state received £82,101, of international despatched £185,332, and of international received £224,928.

**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, 1911 TO 1915-16.

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.
Miles Open—					
Lines (Poles and under-ground					
Cables ... ..	2,071	2,467	2,902	3,097	3,145
Wire ... ..	118,521	153,400	189,193	208,444	218,603
Subscribers ... ..	22,859	26,562	30,640	34,071	36,372
Telephones ... ..	30,817	35,541	39,968	44,505	46,454
Private Lines ... ..	525	530	548	562	578

The length of wire has increased by 84 per cent., and the number of subscribers by 59 per cent., since 1911. The subscribers given in the table are direct connexions. The actual number of telephones in use was 46,454 in 1915-16. This number represents an increase of 4 per cent. as compared with 1914, and of 51 per cent. as compared with 1911.

The revenue of the Post and Telegraph Department amounted to £1,353,287 in 1915-16, the items being postage £727,221, commission on money orders and postal notes £32,152, telegrams, cablegrams, &c., £175,961, telephones, &c., £340,221, and various, £77,732. In addition, unpaid services rendered to other Departments were valued at £210. It is estimated that the number of stamps and pre-payment forms sold for postal and telegraphic purposes in 1915-16 was 153,273,930, and the value thereof £856,126. The ordinary expenditure of the Department amounted to £1,211,123 in 1915-16, whilst capital expenditure on buildings, furniture, &c., telegraph lines, and telephone exchanges amounted to £257,456. The items of ordinary expenditure were :— Salaries, &c., £834,729; inland mail services, £156,785; British and foreign mail services, £19,238; maintenance of buildings, &c., £77,716; and miscellaneous, £122,655. 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, 1912 TO 1915-16.

	1912.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.		
			1914.	1915.	1916.
			£	£	£
Revenue ... ..	1,068,516	1,172,639	1,191,206	1,220,681	1,353,287
Value of unpaid Services	5,761	210	210	210	210
Revenue Earned ... ..	1,074,277	1,172,849	1,191,416	1,220,891	1,353,497
Expenditure (ordinary)... ..	1,009,851	1,157,841	1,140,823	1,206,202	1,211,123
Surplus ... ..	64,426	15,008	50,593	14,689	142,374
Capital Expenditure ... ..	501,740	324,329	397,793	323,084	257,456

## RAILWAYS.

Victorian  
Railways,  
length and  
cost.

All railways in Victoria available for general traffic are, with the two exceptions referred to on page 660, the property of the State, and are under the management of three Commissioners appointed by the Government.

The succeeding tables relate to the State railways, the motive power of which, with the exception of the St. Kilda to Brighton Electric Street Railway, is steam. Parliament has sanctioned the electrification of the Melbourne Suburban Railways, and it is expected that electric traction will be introduced in January, 1918. 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, 1912, TO 30TH JUNE, 1916.

—	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Length of Lines on 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	321·03	325·71	325·71	325·71	328·19
Single Lines (miles)	3,354·42	3,374·69	3,562·26	3,602·47	3,825·33
Total ...	3,675·45	3,700·40	3,887·97	3,928·18	4,153·52
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Construction	34,258,950	34,732,556	35,792,561	36,411,149	37,906,057
Average Cost per mile	9,321	9,386	9,206	9,269	9,126

In addition to the lines embraced in this table, the following were in course of construction on 30th June, 1916 :—

	Miles.
5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.	
Dartmoor to Mumbannar ...	13·48
Shelley to Cudgewa ...	19·64
Cavendish to Toolondo ...	44·00
Neerim South to Toorongo River ...	14·00
Rushworth to Stanhope North ...	14·25
Koo-wee-rup to McDonald's Track ...	30·75
	<u>136·12</u>
4-ft. 8½-in. Gauge.	
Sandringham to Black Rock ...	2·38

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

	Miles.
5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.	
Part of Woomelang to Mildura and Yelta ...	10
Alberton to Won-Wron ...	12½
Nandaly to Kulwin ...	19½
Bittern to Red Hill ...	10
	<u>52</u>

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, 1912 TO 1916.

30th June.	£
1912 ... ..	45,603,114
1913 ... ..	47,076,911
1914 ... ..	49,311,907
1915 ... ..	51,620,187
1916 ... ..	54,560,106

The cost given is the actual cost of construction, exclusive of expenses of floating loans, &c. Of the capital expended to 30th June, 1916, £3,900,322 was derived from the general revenue, and the balance (£50,659,784) from loans. The latter liability is represented by debentures and stock outstanding to the nominal amount of £52,309,488, on which the annual interest payable is £1,940,682, or at the average rate of 3·71 per cent. The nominal amount of loans, however, was reduced by £1,649,704—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, 1916, was 3·71 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds available for railway construction was 3·83 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 £406,356.

Railway  
traffic.

The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1911, are given in the following table:—

### RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1911-12 TO 1915-16.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
Miles Constructed ...	3,675·45	3,700·40	3,887·97	3,928·18	4,153·52
„ Dismantled ...	18·03	18·03	18·03	18·03	18·03
„ Closed to Traffic	29·93	29·93	29·93	29·93	29·93
„ Open for Traffic	3,627·49	3,652·44	3,840·01	3,880·22	4,105·56
Train Mileage ...	14,203,681	14,648,489	15,570,098	15,830,677	14,424,357
Passengers carried ...	105,909,650	113,430,526	119,002,397	119,978,898	118,898,222
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ...	5,297,685	5,150,404	5,816,088	5,410,045	5,829,835

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, 1916, was 4,462·12 miles of main tracks, and 795·87 miles of sidings.

The passenger traffic of 1914-15 was the heaviest experienced by the Railway Department, passenger journeys exceeding those of the second heaviest year—1913-14—by 976,501, and those of 1915-16, the

next in volume, by 1,080,676. Of the passenger journeys in 1915-16, 110,054,765 were made by metropolitan-suburban, and 8,843,457 by country passengers, the former being a decrease of 1,385,388, and the latter an increase of 304,712, as compared with the corresponding journeys for the previous year. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried in 1915-16 was the highest recorded, and exceeded that for 1914-15 by 419,790. The items of goods carried in 1915-16 showing greatest tonnage were:—Wheat, 1,073,376 tons; stone, gravel, and sand, 821,399 tons; firewood, 475,723 tons; minerals (including coal, coke, ores, &c.), 396,372 tons; hay, straw, and chaff, 274,420 tons; and timber, 249,364 tons. Live stock carried in the same year had an aggregate weight of 453,264 tons, and comprised 67,714 horses, 414,374 cattle, 5,759,544 sheep, and 196,534 pigs. Comparing 1915-16 with 1911-12, the passenger traffic had increased by 12,988,572 passengers, or 12 per cent., and the goods and live stock carried by 532,150 tons, or 10 per cent., whilst the number of train miles run was greater by only 220,676, or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  per cent.

Railway receipts and expenditure.

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

**RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,  
1911-12 TO 1915-16.**

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.
<b>Receipts—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Passenger Fares ...	2,322,067	2,445,324	2,541,285	2,481,621	2,667,289
Freight on Goods and Live Stock	2,528,380	2,373,978	2,625,338	2,289,482	2,628,487
Sundries ...	383,532	402,969	414,851	412,584	434,967
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>5,233,979</b>	<b>5,222,271</b>	<b>5,581,474</b>	<b>5,183,687</b>	<b>5,730,743</b>
<b>Working Expenses—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Way and Works...	920,071	959,836	939,902	1,200,298	1,128,286
Rolling-stock ...	1,397,020	1,471,346	1,644,180	1,724,358	1,676,395
Transportation ...	905,805	953,976	1,075,021	1,090,796	1,094,877
General Charges*	232,190	219,843	227,245	242,864	242,030
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>3,455,086</b>	<b>3,605,001</b>	<b>3,886,348</b>	<b>4,258,316</b>	<b>4,141,588</b>
<b>Net Receipts ...</b>	<b>1,778,893</b>	<b>1,617,270</b>	<b>1,695,126</b>	<b>925,371</b>	<b>1,589,155</b>
<b>Percentage of Expenses to Receipts</b>	<b>66·01</b>	<b>69·03</b>	<b>69·63</b>	<b>82·15</b>	<b>72·27</b>

\* Including pensions and gratuities.

The railway receipts for 1915-16 were larger than those for any previous year, exceeding the receipts for 1914-15 by £547,056 or more than 10 per cent. The passenger fares received in 1915-16 exceeded those received in 1914-15 by £171,901 in the case of country passengers, and by £13,767 in the case of metropolitan—suburban passengers. The most notable features in receipts from goods in 1915-16 as compared with the previous year were decreases of £68,427 for the carriage of hay, straw and chaff, and £20,707 for the carriage of wool, and increases of £449,038 and £19,043 for the carriage of wheat and fruit respectively. The freight on live stock in 1915-16 was less than that for the previous year by £139,745. There has been an increase in working expenses in recent years, chiefly on account of the improved train facilities, the higher cost of materials, &c., and the increased payments and the better conditions which have been provided for the staff. Abnormal expenditure for the purpose of meeting adverse conditions occasioned by the war, and alterations connected with electrification and the construction of new lines amounted to £292,264 in 1915-16 and is included in the working expenses for that year.

Railway  
interest  
charges  
compared  
with net  
revenue.

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, 1911-12 TO 1915-16.**

Year.	Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.
	£	£
1911-12 ... ..	1,513,102*	1,778,893
1912-13 ... ..	1,595,020	1,617,270
1913-14 ... ..	1,677,369	1,695,126
1914-15 ... ..	1,767,807	925,371
1915-16 ... ..	1,927,107	1,589,155

\* After deduction of interest credited on Railway Surplus, &c., £15,689.

The financial position of the railways in recent years is exhibited by this table, the figures showing that in three out of the last five years there were surpluses after payment of working expenses, pensions and gratuities, special expenditure and interest charges and expenses. The surpluses were £265,791 in 1911-12, £22,250 in 1912-13, and £17,757 in 1913-14. The deficit in 1914-15 was largely the result of the drought of 1914, and the deficit in 1915-16 was due mainly to special expenditure arising from the war including higher average payments to the staff.

Railway earnings and expenses per mile.

The earnings, expenses, and net profits per mile of railway open for the years ended 30th June, 1912 to 1916, were as follows:—

**RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE PER TRAIN MILE, 1911-12 TO 1915-16.**

	1911-12.	1912-13.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	3,548	3,644	3,752	3,853	3,960
Gross Earnings per Mile ... ..	£ 1,475	£ 1,433	£ 1,488	£ 1,345	£ 1,447
Expenses per Mile ..	974	989	1,036	1,105	1,046
Net Profits per Mile	501	444	452	240	401

This table excludes all consideration of the interest payable on railway loans and expenses of paying the same, which are given in the preceding table.

The inventory of the rolling-stock at 30th June, 1916, showed that there were at that time 808 locomotives, 1,584 carriages, 18,913 trucks, and 865 vans and sundry stock, of which 17 locomotives, 34 carriages, 243 trucks, and 5 luggage vans were narrow-gauge stock. The electric railway stock comprised 27 combined cars and trailers. During the year 1915-16, the following new stock (built at the Newport workshops, with the exception of 18 locomotives and 300 trucks) was put into service:—36 locomotives, 88 carriages, 709 trucks, and 3 vans. The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £10,669,623, of the narrow-gauge £102,482, and of the electric railway stock £36,159.

The number of officers and employees 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 Employees.	Amount of Salaries and Wages Paid.
1911-12 .. ..	22,504	£ 2,832,398
1912-13 ... ..	23,808	3,098,657
1913-14 ... ..	24,860	3,430,102
1914-15 ... ..	27,030	3,760,379
1915-16 ... ..	23,023	3,641,856

Figures relating to the Railway Construction Branch and the State Coal Mine are not included in the above statement, but particulars of the staff on the St. Kilda and Brighton Electric Street Railway are included. The number of employees includes 1,248 members of the staff who had been granted leave to take up military duty.



**AMOUNTS PAID IN DAMAGES, CLAIMS, ETC., AND PERSONS KILLED OR INJURED ON  
VICTORIAN RAILWAYS: 1906-7 TO 1915-16.**

Year ended 30th June.	Amount Paid on Account of Compensation, Damages, Claims, Costs, &c.	Passengers.				Employees whilst in the execution of their duty.				Employees proceeding to or from duty; Persons at Cross- ings; Trespassers, and Others.		Total.	
		Due to Causes beyond their own Control.		Due wholly or partly to their own Action or Negligence.		Due to Causes beyond their own Control.		Due wholly or partly to their own Action or Negligence.		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
		Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.				
1907 ...	£ 7,810	...	14	6	165	...	32	8	252	32	35	46	498
1908* ...	9,509	45	434	2	203	...	29	6	263	26	41	79	970
1909 ...	128,154*	...	9	5	155	...	12	10	232	30	43	45	451
1910 ...	8,528	...	11	2	101	...	7	6	205	13	29	21	353
1911† ...	146,135	10	526	8	99	...	31	5	148	26	25	49	829
1912 ...	23,100	...	13	9	117	...	44	23	146	35	42	67	362
1913‡ ...	66,694	2	441	5	131	1	15	5	100	23	36	36	723
1914 ...	13,567	...	33	8	199	1	61	11	142	25	38	45	473
1915 ...	14,359	...	40	6	185	2	36	8	104	32	44	48	409
1916 ...	20,766	...	29	11	198	2	28	10	68	31	37	54	360
Yearly Average ...	43,862	5·7	155	6·2	155·3	·6	29·5	9·2	166	27·3	37	49	542·8

\* Including Sunshine accident, claims for which were not fully paid on 30th June, 1908.  
 † Including Richmond accident. ‡ Including West Melbourne accident.

The amounts paid on account of compensation, damages, claims, costs, &c., in each of the last ten years and the number of persons killed or injured in the same years, also the yearly averages for the period are as follows:—

With regard to payments referred to in the above table, it should be pointed out that for the two years ended 30th June, 1908, they only cover cases of passengers where the accidents causing death or injury were "due to causes beyond their own control"; but that for the remaining eight years they include compensation paid on account of injuries sustained by employees whilst on duty, such payments being £2,685 in 1908-9, £4,669 in 1909-10, £7,021 in 1910-11, £9,178 in 1911-12, £4,670 in 1912-13, £5,903 in 1913-14, £7,008 in 1914-15, and £17,143 in 1915-16.

It may be of some interest to examine the probability of accident to passengers. The average annual ratio of those killed or injured, based on the Victorian figures for the last ten years, is compared with the latest available ten years' experience of different countries in the return which follows:—

**AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER AND RATIO OF PASSENGERS KILLED OR INJURED ON THE RAILWAYS IN VICTORIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES OVER A PERIOD OF TEN YEARS.**

Country.	Average Annual Number of Passengers in 10 years.		Average per Ten Million Passengers carried.	
	Killed.	Injured.	Killed.	Injured.
Austria ... ..	16·1	369·5	·75	17·15
Belgium ... ..	12·2	459·9	·69	25·91
France ... ..	24·2	393·5	·52	8·46
Germany ... ..	108·8	546·3	·81	4·09
Norway ... ..	1·3	1·5	1·09	1·26
Victoria ... ..	11·9	310·3	1·22	31·35
New South Wales ... ..	4·9	88·0	·96	17·18
Holland (The Netherlands) ... ..	3·7	19·9	·88	4·72
Switzerland ... ..	13·0	87·5	1·33	8·98
Sweden ... ..	8·6	18·9	1·81	2·92
Japan ... ..	22·7	296·3	1·67	21·83
Hungary ... ..	24·8	122·1	2·19	10·76
United States ... ..	391·9	9,857·5	4·99	125·46
Spain ... ..	19·6	92·4	4·62	21·77
Canada (Steam Railways) ... ..	38·9	842·8	11·57	101·98
Russia in Europe ... ..	165·5	867·8	12·28	64·38

**Municipal railway.** A railway between Kerang and Koondrook, owned and worked by the municipality of the Shire of Kerang, is open for general traffic. This railway is 13 miles 73 chains in length and, up to the end of 1915, cost £39,229 for construction and equipment. For the year 1915 the gross receipts were £3,977, the working expenses were £2,693, and the amount paid in interest and towards redemption was £1,482. The train mileage for the same year was 18,928.

**Private railway.** Another railway in Victoria not belonging to the State system is one of 3-ft. gauge and 10 $\frac{3}{4}$  miles in length between Yarra Junction and Powelltown. It was constructed principally for private use but, in addition to serving its immediate purpose, does general passenger and goods traffic.

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 appended hereto :—

## VICTORIAN RAILWAY GOODS RATES.

Commodities.	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.
Rate per ton.							
Agricultural Produce, in truck loads of 6 tons*	5 6	8 9	10 3	11 6	12 6	13 4	14 2
Dairy Produce, consisting of Butter, Milk, Cream, Cheese, Hams and Bacon (minimum, 1 ton) and Eggs†	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
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Binder Twine†	18 3	35 9	53 3	66 3	79 6	88 3	97 0
Fencing Wire, in truck loads of 6 tons	11 9	22 3	32 9	40 6	48 3	52 0	56 0
Wire Netting, in truck loads of 6 tons	4 3	7 6	10 6	12 3	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
Rate per truck.							
Live Stock	40 6	78 0	91 6	120 0	149 6	178 6	208 0

\* Agricultural Produce includes Wheat, Oats, Barley, Maize, Bessemer Hay, Straw, Flour, Bran, Pollard, Potatoes, Sharps and Malt, also Wine, Fruit, Jams, Jellies, Sauces, and Pickles, if produced in the Commonwealth and 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.	Single.		Return.			
	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class.	2nd Class.	1st Class Holiday Excursion.	2nd Class Holiday Excursion.
Miles.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
50	8 0	5 4	13 2	8 10	10 8	7 0
100	15 10	10 6	26 4	17 6	21 4	14 6
150	23 8	15 10	39 6	26 4	32 0	21 4
200	31 6	21 0	52 6	35 0	42 4	28 4
250	39 6	26 4	65 8	43 10	53 2	35 4
300	46 10	31 2	77 10	52 0	63 8	42 4
350	54 0	36 0	89 10	60 0	74 2	49 8

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 and Liverpool and direct United Kingdom ports on the undermentioned articles of primary produce have been supplied by the Exports Superintendent:—

OVERSEA FREIGHTS, MELBOURNE TO LONDON AND LIVERPOOL AND DIRECT UNITED KINGDOM PORTS, 1916.

Butter	...	...	{ (Mail steamers), 4s. per box
			{ Cargo " 3s. 9d. "
Cheese	...	...	1½d. per lb.
Lamb	...	...	1½d. "
Mutton	...	...	1½d. "
Beef	...	...	1d. "
Veal	...	...	1½d. "
Pork	...	...	1½d. "
Rabbits	...	...	100s. per 40 cubic ft.
Eggs	...	...	100s. "
Fruit	...	...	3s. 3d. per case
Wool—			
Greasy	...	...	1½d. per lb.
Scoured	...	...	2½d. "
All cased Goods	...	...	8½s. per ton

NOTE.—The rates quoted are subject to 5 per cent. primage.

### TRAMWAYS.

The various tramway systems in the State comprise 45·925 miles of cable lines, double track; 82·72064 miles of electric lines, of which 50·488 miles are double, and 32·23264 miles single track; ·625 of a mile of horse-line, double track; and a steam tramway of 1 mile, double track.

The towns other than the metropolis having tramway systems which are represented in these figures are:—Ballarat, with 13·85 miles of electric lines; Bendigo, with 8·1125 miles of electric lines; Geelong, with 4·9 miles 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 1915-16.

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
1912-13	15,037,261	110,422,624	911,245	602,346	1,171	2,592
1913-14	16,030,684	120,240,993	984,695	661,873	1,217	2,721
1914-15	15,942,806	116,470,706	950,011	607,761	1,217	2,709
1915-16	16,188,674	127,550,994	1,037,681	626,306	1,247	2,958

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

The sub-surface cable tramways were held by the Melbourne Tramways Trust. The Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company under lease, which expired on 1st July, 1916, and were constructed by the Melbourne Tramway Trust under authority of Parliament, Act No. 47 Vict. No. 765. The Trust was 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  $4\frac{1}{2}$  per cent., for £1,650,000, for which it received £1,705,794 in cash. The obligations of the company which leased the tramways were 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. On 1st July, 1914, £1,200,000 of the Trust's debentures fell due and were redeemed, leaving a balance of £450,000, which matured and was paid off on 1st July, 1916.

Under authority of the Tramway Board Act, No. 2818, the Melbourne Tramways Trust was dissolved on 31st March, 1916, and a Board created, consisting of five members, nominated by the Government, to take over and operate the undertaking from 1st July, 1916,

to 31st October, 1917, or such earlier date as may be proclaimed by the Governor in Council. The Board is authorized to borrow up to £500,000 for the purposes of the Act, and to finance the amount required to purchase such property of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company Limited as may be necessary to carry on the undertaking. The amount of the compensation is to be fixed by an arbitrator appointed by the Governor in Council, who shall be a Judge of the Supreme Court of Victoria. Surplus profits are to be paid to the State Savings Bank, and are to be used to repay any moneys borrowed by the Board and in such manner as is directed by any Act of Parliament hereafter enacted.

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, 1906-7 TO 1915-16.**

Year ended 30th June.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
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 ... ..	10,010,975	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
1914 ... ..	12,056,510	91,438,777	766,426
1915 ... ..	11,977,920	88,060,123	735,645
1916 ... ..	11,977,916	96,290,131	807,356

The length of lines open on 30th June, 1916, comprised 43·675 miles of double track cable tramway, and ·625 of a mile of double track horse tramway. The traffic of 1915-16 eclipsed that of any former year and, though the tram mileage was reduced by 78,594, there was an increase of 4,851,354 in passengers carried, and of £40,930 in traffic receipts, as compared with 1913-14, the year in which the next best results were obtained.

In addition to the lines of the Melbourne Tramway and Omnibus Company, there are within or on the fringe of the metropolitan area 55·85814 miles of electric tramways (46·503 miles being double track and 9·35514 miles single track), and 2½ miles of cable tramways (double track). These tramways and their mileage are as follows:— The North Melbourne-Essendon electric lines, 7·117 miles; the Prahran and Malvern electric lines, 30·647 miles; the Hawthorn electric lines, 15·562 miles; the Brunswick and Coburg electric lines, 2·532 miles; and the Northcote Municipal cable line, 2½ miles. Particulars of their traffic are given in the following statement:—

## OTHER METROPOLITAN TRAMWAYS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
1908-9 ... ..	17·78	860,000	4,755,000	£ 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
1912-13 ... ..	34·351	1,848,639	14,344,054	96,960
1913-14 ... ..	40·900	2,644,574	21,841,246	151,806
1914-15 .. ..	48·514	2,939,037	24,155,592	165,576

**Country tramways.** In 1916 there were in country towns 26·8625 miles of electric tramways and 1 mile of steam tramway, of which the traffic particulars for the last five financial years are given below:—

## TRAMWAYS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
1911-12 ... ..	26·63	1,273,622	5,988,814	£ 56,278
1912-13 ... ..	28·4225	1,349,149	6,719,322	63,193
1913-14 ... ..	27·8625	1,329,600	6,960,970	66,463
1914-15 ... ..	27·8625	1,320,312	6,569,337	62,560
1915-16 .. ..	27·8625	1,217,379	6,038,061	57,926

## LICENSED VEHICLES.

**Licensed vehicles in Melbourne.** The licensing of vehicles plying, kept, or let out for hire within the city of Melbourne or for a distance of 8 miles beyond the city boundaries is controlled by the Melbourne City Council. The appended statement gives details of vehicles and drivers licensed annually during the last five years:—

## LICENSED VEHICLES IN MELBOURNE, 1911 TO 1915.

	1911.	1912.	1913.	1914.	1915.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Cabs (4 wheel) ... ..	527	527	517	537	577
" (Hansoms) ... ..	235	251	237	231	211
Omnibuses ... ..	28	11	9	18	6
Tram Cars ... ..	429	432	432	432	432
" Dummies ... ..	359	389	389	389	389
Motor Cars ... ..	3	17	25	57	212
" Omnibuses .. ..	4	12	43	63	69
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>1,585</b>	<b>1,639</b>	<b>1,652</b>	<b>1,727</b>	<b>1,896</b>
<i>For Conveyance of Goods.</i>					
Drivers licensed ... ..	1,912	2,643	2,534	2,522	2,199

**Motor cars, &c.** The use of motor cars and motor cycles in Victoria is regulated by Act No. 2702, 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 31st December, 1915, the number of motor cars registered was 9,175, and the number of motor cycles 7,576. No person may drive a motor car or motor cycle upon any public highway without having been licensed for that purpose. On 31st December, 1915, the number of drivers of motor cars and motor cycles licensed by the Chief Commissioner was 19,595.