

## INTERCHANGE.

## COMMERCE.

**Customs and  
Excise.** 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. Amendments of some rates of duty were provided for by Customs Tariffs Acts passed in 1910, 1911 and 1917. Further amendments were made by resolutions proposed on 10th August, and 26th September, 1917, and 25th September, 1918.

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.

**Trade Returns.** In order that uniformity in statistical compilation should be secured, 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.

**Regulation of Trade during the War.** On 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 1914* (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 years subsequent to 1914.

**Oversea 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 1908 to 1918 are set forth hereunder :—

VALUE OF OVERSEA IMPORTS AND EXPORTS,  
1908 TO 1917-18,

Year.	Imports Oversea.		Exports Oversea.	
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£ s. d.
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
1916-17 ...	25,465,464	18 3 10	19,029,502	13 11 11
1917-18* ...	20,656,786	14 12 10	18,713,776	13 5 3

\* Excluding bullion and specie.

Excluding gold, the oversea trade for 1918 amounted to £39,370,562, which is greater by £1,438,527 than the annual average of the five-year period 1909 to 1913. The imports of merchandise for the last year show a diminution of £3,692,696, and the exports an increase of £3,600,116, as compared with the averages of the three preceding years of war.

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

Total imports  
and exports,  
1900-9.

VALUE OF TOTAL IMPORTS AND EXPORTS, 1900 TO 1909.

Year.	Imports.		Exports.			
	Total.	Per Head of Population.	Gold.	Merchandise.	Total.	Per Head of Population.
	£	£ s. d.	£	£	£	£ s. d.
1900 ...	18,301,811	15 6 9	4,132,061	13,290,491	17,422,552	14 12 0
1901 ...	18,927,340	15 14 8	4,298,528	14,347,569	18,646,097	15 10 0
1902 ...	18,270,245	15 2 8	4,305,697	13,904,826	18,210,523	15 1 8
1903 ...	17,859,171	14 15 6	5,420,974	14,236,094	19,707,068	16 6 0
1904 ...	20,096,442	16 12 10	4,444,011	19,960,906	24,404,917	20 4 2
1905 ...	22,337,886	18 8 5	1,999,297	20,759,531	22,758,828	18 15 5
1906 ...	25,234,402	20 11 4	4,910,177	24,007,815	28,917,992	23 11 4
1907 ...	28,198,257	22 12 4	2,660,544	26,074,460	28,735,004	23 0 11
1908 ...	27,197,696	21 10 2	4,363,078	22,833,123	27,196,201	21 10 2
1909 ...	28,150,198	21 18 6	2,846,981	27,049,294	29,896,275	23 5 8

Imports from  
and exports to  
principal  
countries.

The value of Victorian trade, exclusive of gold, with various oversea countries and the surplus of imports or exports in each case, during the year ended 30th June, 1918, were as follows:—

### IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES, 1917-18.

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 .. .. .	8,806,453	8,598,614	+ 207,839
Canada .. .. .	424,686	433,450	- 8,764
Ceylon .. .. .	478,871	13,683	+ 465,188
Egypt .. .. .	17,020	786,681	- 769,661
Fiji .. .. .	122,364	49,679	+ 72,685
Hong Kong .. .. .	92,987	75,901	+ 17,086
India (including Burmah) .. .. .	1,666,907	884,198	+ 782,709
New Zealand .. .. .	625,833	1,781,427	- 1,155,594
Ocean Island .. .. .	138,990	13,457	+ 125,533
Papua .. .. .	42,989	3,144	+ 39,845
South African Union .. .. .	88,051	362,107	- 274,056
Straits Settlements .. .. .	260,166	106,491	+ 153,675
West Indies .. .. .	37,302	..	+ 37,302
Other British Possessions .. .. .	24,125	1,108	+ 23,017
Alaska .. .. .	5,602	..	+ 5,602
Brazil .. .. .	7,441	..	+ 7,441
Chili .. .. .	43,433	..	+ 43,433
China .. .. .	101,853	73,642	+ 28,211
Cochin-China .. .. .	..	11,551	- 11,551
East Indies—Borneo (Dutch) .. .. .	156,371	20,740	+ 135,631
Celebes .. .. .	3,915	21,049	- 17,134
Java .. .. .	261,858	416,890	- 155,032
Sumatra .. .. .	19,988	43,343	- 23,355
France .. .. .	35,642	1,028,056	- 992,414
Greece .. .. .	..	8,687	- 8,687
Holland (Netherlands) .. .. .	7,772	..	+ 7,772
Italy .. .. .	124,949	574,157	- 449,208
Japan (including Formosa) .. .. .	1,770,872	166,973	+ 1,603,899
Nauru Island .. .. .	42,238	12,253	+ 29,985
Norway .. .. .	139,713	..	+ 139,713
Panama .. .. .	..	68,165	- 68,165
Peru .. .. .	..	16,293	- 16,293
Philippine Islands .. .. .	115,616	190,101	- 74,485
Russia .. .. .	4	30,853	- 30,849
Samoa .. .. .	18,331	364	+ 17,967
Siam .. .. .	167	13,453	- 13,286
Society Islands .. .. .	3,050	4,110	- 1,060
Sweden .. .. .	217,474	..	+ 217,474
Switzerland .. .. .	26,963	6	+ 26,957
United States of America .. .. .	4,692,387	2,883,273	+ 1,809,114
Other Foreign Countries .. .. .	34,403	19,877	+ 14,526
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>20,656,786</b>	<b>18,713,776</b>	<b>+ 1,943,010</b>

The oversea trade in 1918 shows an excess in the value of imports amounting to £1,943,010. The excess in favour of exports to British countries was £283,196, there being a balance of imports to the amount of £1,901,862 as regards the United Kingdom, Ceylon, Fiji, Hong Kong, India, Ocean Island, Papua, Straits Settlements, and West Indies; and a balance of exports amounting to £2,185,058 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 £1,809,114 and £1,603,899 respectively than the values of the exports thereto; while, on the other hand, exports to France and Italy showed surpluses over imports of £992,414 and £449,208 respectively. The value of all goods received from other foreign countries exceeded that of goods sent thereto by the sum of £254,815.

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, 1913 TO 1917-18.

Countries.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918. †
Imports (Oversea).					
From—	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	772,194	786,601	952,157	582,762	625,833
United Kingdom ...	14,096,121	12,395,553	14,204,562	13,624,806	8,806,453
Canada ...	289,586	286,959	379,322	428,214	424,686
India, Burmah and Ceylon	1,459,058	1,372,249	1,828,469	1,907,974	2,145,778
South African Union	43,631	71,071	156,389	113,562	88,051
Straits Settlements (including Federated Malay States)	132,642	206,435	248,104	285,828	260,166
Other British Possessions	596,883	401,451	380,018	391,738	475,777
Belgium ...	683,083	154,708	397	5,964	...
France ...	215,475	84,348	110,376	52,432	35,642
Germany ...	1,738,678	*474,410	†6,365	†16,955	...
Italy ...	128,951	126,718	181,282	80,453	124,949
Japan (including Formosa)	328,127	540,316	1,242,383	1,338,578	1,770,872
United States of America	2,580,362	2,668,565	4,808,234	5,013,064	4,692,387
Other Foreign Countries	1,322,282	1,427,910	2,284,835	1,723,134	1,206,192
Total ...	24,387,073	20,997,294	26,782,893	25,465,464	20,656,786

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

‡ Excluding bullion and specie.

## IMPORTS FROM AND EXPORTS TO PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1913 TO 1917-18—continued.

Countries.	1913.	Year ended 30th June.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.†
Exports (Oversea).					
To—	£	£	£	£	£
New Zealand ...	834,354	912,471	1,121,227	873,145	1,781,427
United Kingdom ...	9,095,329	8,346,832	7,176,338	12,391,919	8,598,614
Canada ...	5,333	17,707	26,793	55,516	433,450
India, Burmah and Ceylon	330,570	298,039	286,219	329,590	897,881
South African Union	606,945	399,416	675,436	451,589	362,107
Straits Settlements (including Federated Malay States)	133,814	114,729	111,196	200,077	106,491
Other British Possessions	249,090	199,345	158,244	886,182	929,970
Belgium ...	767,749	*14,911	...	...	...
France ...	2,563,201	248,640	565,865	1,448,482	1,028,056
Germany ...	1,029,433	*36,552	...	...	...
Italy ...	211,308	106,329	784,008	1,124,090	574,157
Japan (including Formosa)	176,638	83,557	126,125	48,417	166,973
United States of America	632,996	1,162,825	2,099,476	197,622	2,883,273
Other Foreign Countries	1,198,585	394,426	1,613,208	1,022,873	951,377
Total ...	17,335,395	12,335,779	14,744,135	19,029,502	18,713,776

\* Approximately one month's trade. † Excluding bullion and specie.

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 New Zealand, South Africa, France, and Italy (with the exception of the year 1915); but, in trade with the United Kingdom, India Burmah and Ceylon, 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 Canada in 1918, and with Straits Settlements in 1913; 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.

Principal  
imports.

The principal articles of merchandise imported from oversea countries into Victoria, during the year ended 30th June, 1918, are shown in the subjoined statement:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES INTO VICTORIA, 1917-18.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
Acids .. .. .	63,074	Grass Straw, &c.—Straw Plait	85,335
Ale, Beer, and Porter .. .. .	19,329	Gums, dry .. .. .	82,234
Alkalies .. .. .	157,506	Hats, Caps, and Bonnets .. .. .	91,345
Animals—Horses .. .. .	10,561	Hessians, &c. .. .. .	121,505
Apparel and Attire .. .. .	784,032	Insecticides and Disinfectants, &c. .. .. .	15,975
Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives (exclusive of military rifles and military cartridges)	158,997	Instruments—Musical, and parts thereof—	
Bags and Sacks .. .. .	1,006,557	Pianos .. .. .	76,147
Bags, Purses, N.E.I., Wallets, Baskets, Boxes, Trunks, &c. .. .. .	38,162	Other .. .. .	26,940
Bark (Tanning) .. .. .	16,306	Instruments—	
Belting—Composition, Leather, and Rubber .. .. .	14,649	Surgical and Dental .. .. .	40,831
Books, printed .. .. .	191,881	Talking Machines, &c. .. .. .	14,331
Boots, Shoes, and Goloshes, &c. .. .. .	58,325	Other .. .. .	11,366
Brass—Pipes and tubes, sheet, plate, &c. .. .. .	20,505	Iron and Steel—	
Brushware .. .. .	35,120	Bar, Rod, Angle, and Tee	130,286
Buttons, Buckles, &c. .. .. .	75,470	Girders, Beams, Joists, &c. .. .. .	26,454
Calcium .. .. .	36,764	Hoop .. .. .	25,034
Canvas and Duck .. .. .	181,319	Plate and Sheet .. .. .	267,917
Caramel, Caramel Paste, &c. .. .. .	23,977	Other .. .. .	5,552
Carpets and Carpeting, Floor Coverings, Rugs, and Mats .. .. .	139,581	Jewellery and Imitation Jewellery, &c. .. .. .	98,640
China, Parian and Porcelain Ware .. .. .	38,655	Kapok .. .. .	35,490
Clocks .. .. .	17,323	Lamps and Lampware .. .. .	44,240
Cocoa, Cocoa Beans, and Chocolate .. .. .	131,806	Leaf and Foil of any Metal .. .. .	17,664
Coffee, and Coffee and Chicory .. .. .	25,726	Leather .. .. .	221,878
Copper—Pipes and tubes, sheet, plate, wire, &c. .. .. .	60,354	Liquorice .. .. .	16,116
Copra .. .. .	51,123	Machines and Machinery—	
Cordage and Twines—		Agricultural .. .. .	205,107
Sewing Silks, Twists, Cottons, &c. .. .. .	249,834	Electrical and Gas .. .. .	296,606
Other .. .. .	74,507	Machine Tools .. .. .	45,720
Corks, Bunges, &c. .. .. .	10,340	Mining .. .. .	27,024
Counterpanes, Quilts, Table Covers, &c. .. .. .	41,156	Motive Power .. .. .	12,562
Cosies, Cushions, D'Oyleys, &c. .. .. .	51,832	Printing .. .. .	66,209
Cotton—Raw, Waste, &c. .. .. .	69,208	Sewing .. .. .	17,636
Curtains and Blinds .. .. .	11,855	Typewriters .. .. .	194,305
Cutlery .. .. .	61,489	Other .. .. .	181,014
Drugs and Chemicals .. .. .	137,676	Manures .. .. .	44,208
Dyes .. .. .	115,512	Matches and Vestas .. .. .	117,890
Earthenware, Brownware, &c. .. .. .	51,111	Medicines .. .. .	32,196
Electrical Articles and Materials .. .. .	58,805	Metals .. .. .	
Fancy Goods .. .. .	97,771	Metals, Manufactures of—	
Feathers, Dressed and Undressed .. .. .	10,693	Bolts and Nuts .. .. .	28,582
Fibre—Flax, Hemp, &c. .. .. .	385,489	Nails .. .. .	54,713
Fish—Fresh and Preserved, &c. .. .. .	218,599	Pipes and Tubes .. .. .	83,860
Floorecloths and Linoleums .. .. .	95,103	Wire .. .. .	223,585
Fruits—Dried and Preserved .. .. .	14,286	Other .. .. .	335,884
Fresh .. .. .	47,283	Milk and Cream .. .. .	32,041
Furs and other Skins .. .. .	52,699	Mustard .. .. .	16,459
Gelatine and Glue .. .. .	28,477	Nuts, Edible .. .. .	74,777
Ginger .. .. .	12,476	Oakum and Tow .. .. .	19,701
Glass and Glassware .. .. .	115,858	Oilmen's Stores .. .. .	15,579
Gloves .. .. .	154,353	Oils, Bottled and in bulk—	
Grain—		Benzine .. .. .	269,129
Rice .. .. .	70,155	Benzoline, Gasoline, &c. .. .. .	88,773
Other—Prepared and Unprepared .. .. .	11,094	Essential .. .. .	35,834
		Kerosene .. .. .	126,661
		Lubricating .. .. .	164,991
		Other .. .. .	85,597
		Packings .. .. .	10,009
		Paints and Colours .. .. .	138,596

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM OVERSEA COUNTRIES  
INTO VICTORIA, 1917-18—continued.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
<b>Paper—</b>		<b>Spirits—</b>	
Paperhangings .. ..	27,233	Brandy .. ..	27,172
Printing .. ..	386,597	Gin and Schnapps .. ..	16,477
Wrapping .. ..	86,672	Whisky .. ..	233,558
Writing and Typewriting ..	137,040	Other .. ..	30,337
Other, including Millboard, Strawboard, and Manu- factures of .. ..	175,815	Stationery, manufactured, &c. ..	87,369
<b>Perfumery, &amp;c.</b>	44,749	Sugar (produce of Cane) .. ..	71,502
<b>Photographic Goods and Access- ories</b>	28,307	Sulphur, Brimstone .. ..	186,109
Pickles and Sauces .. ..	14,922	Tea .. ..	546,121
Picture Frames .. ..	10,693	Timber .. ..	445,154
<b>Piece Goods—</b>		Tinned Plates and Sheets (plain)	240,940
Cottons and Linens .. ..	2,443,449	Tobacco, Cigars, &c., and Snuff	193,497
Silks .. ..	860,551	Tools of Trade (not being ma- chines) .. ..	89,546
Velvets and Velvetens .. ..	468,659	Trimmings and Ornaments .. ..	200,096
Woolens .. ..	760,931	Turpentine .. ..	34,403
Other .. ..	217,372	Varnishes .. ..	12,519
Pipes, Smoking .. ..	39,013	<b>Vehicles and parts thereof—</b>	
Potassium .. ..	11,593	Motor Bodies and Chassis .. ..	269,929
<b>Rubber and Rubber Manufac- tures</b>	558,090	Other .. ..	137,362
Sago and Tapioca .. ..	45,461	Washes—Sheep, Cattle, and Horse .. ..	11,444
Sausage Casings .. ..	32,522	Watches and Chronometers .. ..	48,522
Seeds .. ..	96,530	Waxes .. ..	71,873
Shells .. ..	12,891	Wood, Articles made of .. ..	67,144
Skins and Hides .. ..	200,796	Yarns .. ..	395,263
Soap .. ..	10,846	Zinc .. ..	10,185
Spices .. ..	54,325	All other Articles .. ..	371,491
		<b>Total</b> .. ..	<b>20,656,736</b>

Principal  
exports.

The principal articles of merchandise exported to oversea countries from Victoria, during the year ended 30th June, 1918, were as shown hereunder:—

VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA  
COUNTRIES FROM VICTORIA, 1917-18.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
<b>Acids</b>	13,544	<b>Grain, &amp;c—</b>	
Ale, Beer, and Porter .. ..	12,735	Barley .. ..	49,195
Ammonia, Sulphate .. ..	51,944	Beans and Peas .. ..	23,462
Animals—Horses .. ..	117,318	Oats .. ..	40,983
Apparel and Attire .. ..	11,694	Wheat .. ..	2,776,635
Arms, Ammunition and Ex- plosives .. ..	34,194	Flour .. ..	1,529,789
Baking .. ..	10,518	Malt .. ..	19,578
Biscuits .. ..	75,164	Oatmeal, Wheatmeal .. ..	36,209
Books (Printed), &c. .. ..	36,093	Rice, cleaned .. ..	24,023
Boots, Shoes, and Slippers .. ..	70,795	Other, Prepared and Un- prepared .. ..	30,202
Butter .. ..	1,664,299	Honey .. ..	24,351
Cheese .. ..	57,223	Insecticides .. ..	22,979
Cocoa and Chocolate .. ..	15,593	Iron and Steel .. ..	25,235
Confectionery .. ..	25,909	Jams and Jellies .. ..	643,765
Copper .. ..	60,618	Jewellery and Precious Stones	35,043
Copra .. ..	20,544	Lard and Refined Animal Fats	20,458
Cordage and Twines .. ..	64,229	Lead .. ..	57,145
Drugs and Chemicals .. ..	57,390	Leather .. ..	228,906
Dyes .. ..	10,178	Limejuice and other Fruitjuices	12,991
Fodder .. ..	22,146	<b>Machines and Machinery—</b>	
Fruits and Vegetables—Fresh, Dried, and Preserved .. ..	346,542	Agricultural .. ..	20,582
Glycerine, Lanoline, &c. .. ..	14,346	Mining .. ..	28,435
		Other .. ..	47,712



VALUES OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES EXPORTED TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES  
FROM VICTORIA, 1917-18—continued.

Articles.	Value.	Articles.	Value.
	£		£
<b>Manures</b> .. .. .	110,895	<b>Rubber and Rubber Manufac- tures</b> .. .. .	126,978
<b>Meats—</b>		Sausage Casings .. .. .	29,779
Bacon and Hams .. .. .	27,579	Seeds .. .. .	18,062
Mutton and Lamb (Frozen) .. .. .	187,733	Skins and Hides .. .. .	478,236
Rabbits and Hares (Frozen) .. .. .	230,422	Soap .. .. .	42,946
Potted or Concentrated .. .. .	18,873	Spirits .. .. .	57,550
Preserved in Tins, &c. .. .. .	328,297	Stearine .. .. .	19,146
Other .. .. .	13,341	Sugar .. .. .	22,541
<b>Metals, Manufactures of</b>	75,754	Tallow—Unrefined .. .. .	133,577
Milk and Cream .. .. .	595,192	Tea .. .. .	51,132
Oilmen's Stores .. .. .	32,454	Tin Ingots .. .. .	66,939
Oils—Bottled and in bulk .. .. .	89,096	Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes .. .. .	123,998
Onions .. .. .	11,839	Wines .. .. .	23,205
Ores, Clays and Mineral Earths .. .. .	15,741	Wool—	
Paper .. .. .	16,331	Greasy .. .. .	5,100,500
Photographic Goods .. .. .	17,972	Scoured and Washed .. .. .	1,718,506
Pickles and Sauces .. .. .	18,666	All other Articles .. .. .	308,877
Piece Goods .. .. .	45,840		
Rails, Fishplates, &c. .. .. .	13,935	<b>Total</b> .. .. .	18,713,776

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, 1913 TO 1917-18.

Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Imported into Victoria from Oversea Countries.</b>					
Piece Goods .. .. .	3,238,855	3,162,086	4,507,526	4,934,753	4,759,962
Machines and Machinery .. .. .	1,239,688	1,206,394	1,245,480	1,152,048	914,094
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. .. .. .	566,250	642,444	704,541	1,273,969	813,407
Apparel and Attire .. .. .	993,922	823,574	1,071,678	1,222,945	734,032
Oils .. .. .	456,356	537,921	751,535	879,378	770,985
Metal Manufactures .. .. .	1,119,405	1,016,106	1,064,508	908,296	726,624
Rubber and Rubber Manufac- tures .. .. .	616,654	384,940	601,239	441,781	558,090
Tea .. .. .	519,046	598,737	744,077	617,485	546,121
Iron and Steel .. .. .	1,330,030	1,037,485	1,115,866	801,065	452,243
Timber .. .. .	951,295	700,719	647,024	360,487	445,154
Vehicles and parts .. .. .	791,006	579,778	761,291	583,318	407,182
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes .. .. .	398,751	303,734	253,165	483,090	193,144
Gold—Bullion .. .. .	238,749	131,176	54,638	248	—
All Other Articles .. .. .	11,647,066	9,874,200	13,260,325	11,851,101	9,282,748
<b>Total</b> .. .. .	24,387,073	20,997,294	26,782,893	25,465,464	20,656,786
<b>Exported from Victoria to Oversea Countries.</b>					
Wool .. .. .	6,282,291	5,251,177	6,203,565	6,149,212	6,820,006
Wheat and Flour .. .. .	2,768,870	351,856	3,420,539	5,391,477	4,306,424
Butter .. .. .	1,681,987	800,385	719,653	2,189,025	1,664,290
Meat .. .. .	1,634,806	2,037,001	159,415	697,350	856,245
Skins and Hides .. .. .	1,688,409	835,075	534,440	548,736	473,236
Leather .. .. .	227,497	495,801	492,751	439,706	223,006
Tallow .. .. .	371,316	192,400	45,214	246,091	133,577
Tin Ingots .. .. .	282,817	109,337	224,598	114,635	56,939
Gold—Specie .. .. .	611,025	400,120	217,371	643	—
All Other Articles .. .. .	2,291,377	1,812,627	2,726,039	3,252,127	4,159,144
<b>Total</b> .. .. .	17,835,395	12,335,779	14,744,135	19,029,502	18,713,776

\* Excluding bullion and specie.

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, wheat, and flour exported exceeded that of the six principal items included in the imports, while the value of wool, meat, butter, wheat, flour, and skins and hides exported was greater than 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 for the five year period—piece goods with apparel and attire being responsible for 22 per cent. In the case of exports, wool accounted for 37 per cent., and the nine items specified for 83 per cent. of the total value.

In trade between Victoria and the United Kingdom the value of imports exceeded that of exports by £1,232,887 in 1917, but by only £207,839 in 1918. 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, 1912 TO 1917-18.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
			1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*
<i>Imported into Victoria from United Kingdom.</i>						
<b>Piece Goods—</b>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cotton and Linen ..	1,517,049	1,478,376	1,480,357	1,862,562	2,059,112	2,120,021
Woolen ..	826,701	715,566	620,488	1,114,057	1,219,272	765,972
Velvets, &c. ..	427,864	346,383	259,365	340,170	453,386	407,218
Silk ..	299,954	292,338	370,653	389,952	371,764	306,969
Apparel and Attire ..	880,066	827,118	685,392	761,366	743,407	505,652
Machines, Tools, and Implements ..	912,090	751,667	746,547	667,285	504,232	319,912
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. ..	354,795	396,333	359,246	351,165	501,690	180,893
Books ..	267,200	229,353	197,098	195,874	192,567	164,456
Iron and Steel ..	885,441	925,224	790,151	788,741	297,090	88,611
Vehicles and Parts ..	460,078	457,529	323,723	230,318	159,119	48,339
Vessels (Ships) ..	245,210	705,000	182,000	211,143	420,000	—
All other Articles ..	7,555,515	6,970,234	6,380,533	7,341,929	6,703,167	3,898,410
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>14,631,958</b>	<b>14,096,121</b>	<b>12,395,553</b>	<b>14,204,562</b>	<b>13,624,806</b>	<b>8,806,453</b>
<i>Exported from Victoria to United Kingdom.</i>						
Wool ..	3,573,697	2,701,688	3,901,335	3,469,079	5,722,261	3,984,871
Wheat and Flour ..	1,220,403	1,291,836	35,768	855,352	1,558,777	1,692,071
Butter ..	1,360,978	1,520,499	645,728	522,568	1,938,206	1,411,013
Hides and Skins ..	574,036	622,899	575,845	377,783	405,419	349,613
Meat, Frozen—						
Rabbits and Hares ..	55,626	104,723	127,506	90,588	111,632	263,512
Beef, Mutton and Lamb ..	781,126	1,387,961	1,618,931	47,348	515,373	34,946
Tallow ..	190,428	172,547	163,594	29,327	206,950	103,950
Leather ..	166,138	157,068	422,970	374,278	268,617	81,558
Tin Ingots ..	286,154	186,478	92,482	189,717	94,454	3,190
Copper ..	180	—	63,000	2,040	5,880	—
Gold (Bullion and Specie) ..	342,011	59,000	1,029	1,365	643	—
All other Articles ..	469,586	891,630	699,144	1,241,663	1,573,707	773,890
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>9,023,343</b>	<b>9,095,329</b>	<b>8,346,832</b>	<b>7,176,338</b>	<b>12,391,919</b>	<b>8,598,614</b>

\* Excluding bullion and specie.

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 1918 that, of the imports, piece goods and apparel and attire represent 46½ per cent. of the total, also that, of the exports, wool is responsible for 46 per cent., and, if to its value be added that of butter, frozen meat, wheat and flour, hides and skins, leather, and tallow, about 91 per cent. of the total is accounted for. The great decrease in the total trade for 1918 is due largely to the scarcity of shipping tonnage, see page 549.

The trade with New Zealand for the year ended 30th June, 1918, amounted to £2,407,260. Compared with the previous year there was an increase in the total trade of £951,353, of which £43,071 was due to imports, and £908,282 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, 1912 TO 1917-18.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
			1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*
<i>Imported into Victoria from New Zealand.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Timber .. .. .	202,922	160,720	134,515	190,779	166,219	258,706
Flax and Hemp .. .. .	32,116	62,531	28,218	124,790	123,618	146,952
Skins and Hides .. .. .	48,515	76,485	78,190	212,743	122,475	52,642
Gold—Bullion .. .. .	338,500	238,613	130,951	54,314	.. .	—
Seeds .. .. .	20,526	12,582	26,506	8,724	9,591	35,357
Fish .. .. .	23,159	17,254	21,204	29,039	19,713	14,088
Animals (horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs)	30,908	30,567	7,646	19,984	6,622	9,031
Meat, preserved in tins .. .. .	7,421	1,251	2,217	6,683	6,956	5,098
Machines, Tools, and Implements .. .. .	10,722	4,236	5,475	3,118	6,265	3,338
Books .. .. .	2,951	3,545	4,597	1,894	2,155	1,844
All other Articles .. .. .	282,218	164,410	347,082	300,089	119,148	100,777
Total .. .. .	999,958	772,194	786,601	952,157	582,762	625,832

\* Excluding bullion and specie.

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO  
NEW ZEALAND, 1912 TO 1917-18—*continued.*

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
			1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*
<i>Exported from Victoria to New Zealand.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Gold—Specie .. .. .	150,000	250,000	275,000	202,000	..	—
Rubber manufactures .. ..	61,386	71,846	77,362	106,745	85,405	119,687
Tobacco, manufactured .. ..	75,291	66,652	66,357	104,434	87,504	118,075
Manures .. .. .	30,831	42,265	48,265	80,619	56,548	110,787
Boots and Shoes .. .. .	2,190	911	3,965	9,257	14,588	68,229
Fruits—Dried .. .. .	17,059	7,775	20,205	57,207	40,141	67,932
Metal Manufactures .. .. .	9,136	6,904	11,706	26,571	27,743	67,034
Spirits .. .. .	4,861	2,719	4,059	10,740	2,317	56,089
Leather .. .. .	19,475	15,058	13,716	26,324	24,063	52,361
Tea .. .. .	38,532	27,289	42,623	43,085	36,446	50,080
Machinery .. .. .	35,723	27,527	26,614	24,735	23,396	42,717
Piece Goods .. .. .	12,182	9,892	15,114	18,165	22,871	40,922
Books .. .. .	44,267	33,711	23,325	36,714	22,959	34,851
Milk and Cream .. .. .	11	24	4,508	3,105	12,385	30,484
Grain and Pulse—						
Barley .. .. .	..	137	..	11,630	18,412	27,757
Oats .. .. .	45	214	1	29,877	28,510	36,500
Flour .. .. .	6,209	11,854	18,301	8,734	37,232	19,888
Rice and Rice Meal .. .. .	17,876	18,673	25,869	18,943	10,122	28,460
All other Articles .. .. .	256,594	241,503	230,481	306,352	321,503	809,574
Total .. .. .	781,723	834,354	912,471	1,121,227	873,145	1,781,427

\* Excluding bullion and specie.

Leaving gold out of consideration, it will be observed that the value of the imports from New Zealand for 1918 was £206,990 less than the annual average of the preceding five-year period, though the value of the exports thereto exceeded the annual average by £869,947 or 95 per cent. If to the values of the items specified in the exports for 1918 be added £227,335 for wheat exported in that year, 67 per cent. of the total is accounted for.

Trade with India (including Burmah) and Ceylon, which amounted to nearly 8 per cent. of the Victorian oversea trade in 1918, was greater by £1,254,031 in that year than in 1913, the values of the imports and exports having increased by £686,720 and £567,311 respectively. The principal articles interchanged during the last six years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO INDIA AND CEYLON, 1912 TO 1917-18.

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
			1915.	1916.	1917.	1918*.
<i>Imported into Victoria from India and Ceylon.</i>						
Bags and Sacks .. ..	£ 264,596	£ 588,270	£ 410,679	£ 682,514	£ 750,879	£ 1,003,606
Tea .. ..	443,239	451,389	486,645	627,494	503,545	502,395
Skins .. ..	20,543	7,506	10,966	12,721	56,570	111,957
Hessian .. ..	63,476	87,520	100,932	98,027	137,790	103,997
Rubber and Rubber Manu- factures .. ..	43,539	66,904	72,098	115,325	48,075	98,418
Rice .. ..	118,629	89,245	86,159	75,178	50,481	60,314
Waxes .. ..	13,900	12,936	10,639	8,459	12,503	34,432
Cocoa Beans .. ..	2,891	982	3,389	8,070	16,732	25,066
Fibre .. ..	8,650	15,991	11,298	10,500	21,725	21,072
Oils in Bulk .. ..	8,035	5,780	9,501	14,871	10,389	18,668
Cotton (raw) .. ..	11,680	9,813	3,043	1,360	2,206	17,126
Nuts .. ..	12,412	14,509	12,127	17,172	20,521	14,244
Coffee .. ..	27,227	22,904	17,485	22,956	26,912	7,064
Pig Iron .. ..	20,264	24,155	47,368	39,731	50,756	3,648
All other Articles .. ..	65,807	61,154	89,925	94,091	98,891	123,771
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>1,124,888</b>	<b>1,459,058</b>	<b>1,372,249</b>	<b>1,823,469</b>	<b>1,807,974</b>	<b>2,145,778</b>
<i>Exported from Victoria to India and Ceylon.</i>						
Gold (Bullion and Specie)	2,299,703	144,087	45,314	100,712	..	—
Jams and Jellies .. ..	2,589	2,119	4,930	7,792	19,180	154,611
Meats .. ..	696	711	2,027	496	13,527	147,994
Horses .. ..	57,681	37,769	97,449	16,578	55,694	117,318
Milk and Cream .. ..	267	415	1,108	902	37,784	103,520
Wheat, Flour and Oatmeal	20,269	19,728	17,441	2,099	2,017	86,720
Wool .. ..	16,463	23,886	23,127	32,442	87,860	66,780
Fruits (preserved in liquid)	3,938	3,651	2,609	4,378	22,970	62,727
Leather .. ..	1,963	3,484	2,669	18,839	4,265	33,737
Hay and Chaff .. ..	15,003	14,333	36,818	15,008	12,704	7,803
Biscuits .. ..	6,084	7,904	8,093	28,289	24,758	7,113
Soap .. ..	3,815	11,709	7,933	14,219	7,277	1,444
All other Articles .. ..	42,672	60,780	43,516	44,465	43,545	108,114
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>2,476,143</b>	<b>330,570</b>	<b>208,039</b>	<b>236,219</b>	<b>329,500</b>	<b>897,881</b>

\* Excluding bullion and specie.

The import trade from India and Ceylon in 1918 was largely made up of jute goods, tea, skins, rubber, and rice, whose value formed about 88 per cent. of the total. In return, jams and jellies, meats, horses, milk and cream, grain, wool, and fruits were in that year the leading items of exchange, all other exports being responsible for only 18 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 1915. The trade was suspended in 1918, and for the two preceding years consisted of imports only, which amounted to £397 in 1916 and £5,964 in 1917. The principal articles of trade with Belgium in each of the five years ended 30th June, 1915, were as follows:—

**VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO BELGIUM, 1910 TO 1914-15.**

Articles.	Value in Year—				Ended 30th June.
	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.	
					1915.
	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Imported into Victoria from Belgium.</i>					
Iron and Steel .. ..	121,098	168,073	127,068	205,932	39,960
Glass and Glassware .. ..	39,671	52,672	52,521	54,718	11,232
Confectionery .. ..	968	5,359	22,951	22,122	6,719
Vehicles, and parts .. ..	16,771	30,205	63,854	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
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	3,802	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
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>418,719</b>	<b>608,891</b>	<b>618,955</b>	<b>688,083</b>	<b>154,708</b>
<i>Exported from Victoria to Belgium.</i>					
Hides and Skins .. ..	241,635	194,814	233,806	280,705	11,577
Wool .. ..	381,133	365,026	442,832	387,793	1,924
Tallow .. ..	18,993	55,650	24,358	40,085	..
Wheat .. ..	105,239	78,800	59,362	30,945	..
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	1,791	3,132	17,393	9,085	605
Leather .. ..	23,397	9,050	11,119	6,010	..
Ores—Silver, Lead, &c. .. ..	23,342	22,098	16,370	120	..
All other Articles .. ..	14,029	26,536	7,434	13,006	805
<b>Total .. ..</b>	<b>809,609</b>	<b>755,106</b>	<b>812,674</b>	<b>767,749</b>	<b>14,911</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 has, on account of the war, been considerable interruption in trade in the last four years. The export figures for 1917 and 1918, however, show an improvement as compared with the two preceding years, due principally to the wheat and flour exported, the value of which is responsible for 84 per cent. of the total exports. 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 1912 to 1918 were as follows:—

**VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO FRANCE, 1912 TO 1917-18.**

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
			1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
<i>Imported into Victoria from France.</i>						
Rubber Manufactures ..	£ 4,753	£ 15,899	£ 5,601	£ 17,290	£ 5,607	£ 3,494
Piece Goods ..	34,867	34,330	14,252	15,330	12,285	3,340
Cream of Tartar ..	51,328	47,463	13,871	14,905	5,291	1,645
Corks, Cork Mats, &c. ..	4,698	3,148	1,232	3,048	1,223	1,248
Cameos and Precious Stones ..	7,108	5,128	1,896	3,162	218	649
Wine ..	10,538	17,021	3,281	3,870	2,790	313
Gelatine, &c. ..	4,102	4,040	1,500	2,278	907	..
Acids ..	3,562	1,822	2,317	1,749	..	..
Vehicles, and parts ..	10,911	9,678	4,330	454	..	..
All other Articles ..	94,476	76,946	36,068	48,290	24,106	24,958
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>226,343</b>	<b>215,475</b>	<b>84,348</b>	<b>110,376</b>	<b>52,432</b>	<b>35,642</b>
<i>Exported from Victoria to France.</i>						
Wheat ..	1,197	43,545	1,699	234,069	1,124,829	582,440
Flour ..	..	..	..	38,397	130,927	256,711
Wool ..	1,668,081	1,792,625	42,334	205,078	97,402	185,249
Hides and Skins ..	437,967	675,689	194,992	76,909	74,978	..
Tallow ..	24,955	40,122	670	6,774	..	..
Horns ..	272	611	..	..	..	..
All other Articles ..	4,426	10,609	8,945	4,638	20,346	3,656
<b>Total ..</b>	<b>2,136,898</b>	<b>2,563,201</b>	<b>248,640</b>	<b>565,865</b>	<b>1,448,482</b>	<b>1,023,056</b>

Imports direct from France in 1913, of which more than one-fifth consisted of cream of tartar, did not 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 in 1913 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 in Year—					
	1908.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
<i>Imported into Victoria from Germany.</i>						
Rubber and Rubber Manufactures .. ..	£ 57,777	£ 95,373	£ 60,279	£ 110,029	£ 109,123	£ 147,570
Machines, Tools, and Implements .. ..	89,810	79,191	84,567	127,713	123,100	127,781
Pianos .. ..	78,784	69,753	81,523	119,392	140,602	110,658
Apparel and Attire .. ..	46,009	62,059	74,351	82,381	95,703	98,354
Wire and Wire Netting .. ..	181,716	112,284	136,739	125,627	97,436	98,080
Piece Goods .. ..	68,819	53,956	65,851	60,900	80,851	76,352
Paper, Paperhangings, &c. .. ..	110,103	56,024	77,494	91,416	83,719	66,609
Vehicles and parts .. ..	27,557	23,777	16,523	24,533	60,972	82,383
Glass and Glassware .. ..	34,673	26,758	33,523	39,973	58,259	58,740
Iron and Steel .. ..	24,213	31,662	61,167	39,174	78,205	49,267
All other Articles .. ..	636,139	603,522	646,605	810,312	950,073	823,884
Total .. ..	1,305,602	1,205,359	1,338,612	1,631,455	1,873,043	1,738,678
<i>Exported from Victoria to Germany.</i>						
Wool .. ..	533,050	792,340	952,760	698,166	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	1,438	3,770	3,072	16,146	36,817
Sausage Casings .. ..	11,693	10,596	12,431	13,400	15,170	14,471
Hides and Skins .. ..	31,961	17,733	9,908	7,711	4,466	11,468
Tallow .. ..	59	940	11,100	15,303	3,282	6,478
Gold—Specie .. ..	1,410,000	..	..	..	200,000	..
All other Articles .. ..	14,930	22,508	22,711	83,164	35,335	60,924
Total .. ..	2,015,536	872,461	1,071,391	801,302	1,287,540	1,029,433

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 Japan. Trade with Japan (including Formosa) consists mainly of imports, which have increased considerably during the last three years. In 1915 the imports amounted to £540,316, and in 1918 to £1,770,872 which was £432,294 more than in 1917. The principal articles interchanged during the last five years were as follows:—

VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES IMPORTED FROM AND EXPORTED TO JAPAN, 1913 TO 1917-18.

Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
<i>Imported into Victoria from Japan.</i>					
	£	£	£	£	£
Piece Goods .. .. .	98,312	190,850	304,171	327,111	716,105
Sulphur—Brimstone .. ..	51,646	48,809	46,905	101,474	185,831
Apparel and Attire .. ..	20,510	20,704	88,599	168,306	79,923
Grass Straw, &c. .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	11,525	21,805	54,345
Fancy Goods .. .. .	8,772	8,005	24,053	34,721	54,204
Glass and Glassware .. ..	3,180	9,150	31,454	42,832	48,978
Metal Manufactures .. ..	2,908	3,401	18,484	22,921	38,770
Carpets and Carpeting .. ..	16	1,293	9,225	13,312	35,353
Buttons, Buckles, &c. .. ..	.. .. .	11,962	23,301	26,233	34,126
Canvas and Duck .. .. .	.. .. .	155	8,703	17,352	31,184
China ware .. .. .	2,289	2,649	16,687	27,270	26,936
Costes, Cushions, Counterpanes, &c.	17,122	12,953	26,107	36,755	24,574
Hats, Bonnets, and Caps ..	7,572	15,791	24,880	27,762	23,725
Earthenware, Brownware, &c. ..	2,267	4,106	19,408	23,481	22,101
Timber .. .. .	31,736	13,060	29,205	60,824	6,756
Sugar—Produce of Cane .. ..	.. .. .	.. .. .	271,826	127,173	.. .. .
All other Articles .. .. .	86,799	197,419	293,900	259,646	387,961
Total .. .. .	328,127	540,316	1,242,383	1,338,578	1,770,872
<i>Exported from Victoria to Japan.</i>					
Barley .. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	22,995
Wheat .. .. .	116,343	.. .. .	.. .. .	.. .. .	55,429
Milk and Cream .. .. .	72	2,450	.. .. .	524	25,066
Tallow Oil .. .. .	8,830	4,023	8,053	12,214	17,240
Tallow (unrefined) .. .. .	3,806	5,952	.. .. .	12,026	7,127
Wool .. .. .	13,839	51,397	77,421	.. .. .	.. .. .
All other articles .. .. .	34,248	19,135	40,651	23,653	39,116
Total .. .. .	176,638	83,557	126,125	48,417	166,973

For the year 1918, the articles specified accounted for 78 per cent. of the total imports, whilst the items piece goods and apparel and attire formed about 45 per cent. thereof. On page 545 it is shown that the articles produced in Japan and received in Victoria during the latest year amounted in value to £1,729,891.

Wool was the chief item of export up to 1916; but in 1918 foodstuffs represented about 62 per cent. in value of the total exports.

Trade with the United States in 1918 amounted to £7,575,660, or 19 per cent. of the Victorian oversea trade.

As compared with the year 1917 this trade had increased by £2,364,974, there having been a decrease in imports of £320,677,

and an increase in exports of £2,685,651 of which foodstuffs accounted for about 40 per cent. 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, 1912 TO 1917-18.**

Articles.	Value in Year—					
	1912.	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
			1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
<i>Imported into Victoria from the United States.</i>	£	£	£	£	£	£
Machines, Tools, and Im- plements .. .. .	494,569	505,743	481,222	593,391	684,575	577,642
Oil .. .. .	335,901	228,975	237,423	469,490	574,646	461,785
Metal Manufactures ..	200,700	201,740	200,700	356,097	313,075	441,997
Iron and Steel .. .. .	163,042	161,038	140,919	326,906	420,189	348,779
Vehicles, and parts ..	147,943	116,658	143,239	429,023	305,686	310,895
Paper, Paperhangings, &c.	74,393	33,962	80,299	146,419	223,212	266,695
Leather .. .. .	66,370	36,993	42,860	103,749	204,630	201,474
Piece Goods .. .. .	80,748	36,504	80,748	203,638	284,308	170,303
Apparel and Attire ..	326,885	321,429	220,900	238,995	97,037	159,291
Timber .. .. .						
Tobacco, Cigars, and Cigarettes .. .. .	220,255	230,504	120,865	186,324	355,481	123,985
Instruments — Musical, Scientific, &c. .. .	25,706	34,336	25,706	65,288	91,512	105,428
Rails, Fishplates, &c. ..	41,823	2,760	3,496	39,821	5,139	857
All other Articles .. .	659,074	545,488	783,697	1,489,756	1,121,310	1,311,782
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>2,913,341</b>	<b>2,580,362</b>	<b>2,668,565</b>	<b>4,308,234</b>	<b>5,013,064</b>	<b>4,692,387</b>
<i>Exported from Victoria to the United States.</i>						
Wool .. .. .	260,318	500,202	1,066,144	2,008,725		1,623,663
Wheat .. .. .					42,360	757,819
Flour .. .. .					2,708	234,774
Jams and Jellies .. .						99,276
Hides and Skins .. .						69,137
Sausage Casings .. .	60,891	89,530	75,389	60,849	51,833	29,098
Tin Ingots .. .. .			416	7,940	1,267	23,064
Eucalyptus Oil .. .					875	4,983
Leather .. .. .	1,060	4,993	2,185	7,117	20,264	3,803
All other Articles .. .	2,064	1,194	1,422	5,780	58,426	36,756
<b>Total .. .. .</b>	<b>331,259</b>	<b>632,996</b>	<b>1,162,825</b>	<b>2,099,476</b>	<b>197,622</b>	<b>2,883,273</b>

The imports from the United States cover a wide range of articles, as, after the six leading items which in 1918 accounted for 51 per cent. of their amount, the next largest six were responsible for 21 per cent. of the total, and articles of less importance represented in value as much as 28 per cent. of the whole.

**Origin of Imports.**

The value of the imports from different countries does not represent the value of the produce of such countries received by Victoria. In the next table the country of

shipment is contrasted with the country of origin of the oversea imports for the year ended 30th June, 1918.

OVERSEA IMPORTS OF MERCHANDISE, 1917-18—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 ... ..	424,686	569,754	2·056	2·758
Ceylon ... ..	478,871	468,714	2·318	2·269
Fiji ... ..	122,364	122,350	·592	·592
Hong Kong ... ..	92,987	2,146	·450	·010
India (including Burmah)	1,666,907	1,681,495	8·069	8·140
New Zealand ... ..	625,833	613,895	3·030	2·972
Ocean Island ... ..	138,990	138,661	·673	·671
South African Union ...	88,051	88,742	·426	·430
Straits Settlements ...	266,166	214,654	1·259	1·039
United Kingdom ... ..	8,806,453	7,570,317	42·632	36·648
West Indies (British) ...	37,302	50,140	·181	·243
Other British Countries	84,134	101,631	·407	·492
Borneo (Dutch) ... ..	156,371	41,184	·757	·199
Brazil ... ..	7,441	136,535	·036	·661
Chili ... ..	43,433	43,828	·210	·212
China ... ..	101,853	244,657	·493	1·185
Cuba ... ..	6,263	27,485	·030	·133
France ... ..	35,642	498,861	·173	2·415
Holland (Netherlands) ...	7,772	60,123	·038	·291
Italy ... ..	124,949	247,340	·605	1·197
Japan (including Formosa)	1,770,872	1,729,891	8·573	8·375
Java ... ..	261,858	240,393	1·268	1·164
Nauru Island ... ..	42,238	42,218	·204	·204
Norway ... ..	139,713	136,797	·676	·662
Philippine Islands ... ..	115,616	115,689	·560	·560
Spain ... ..	335	23,453	·002	·114
Sumatra ... ..	19,988	200,028	·097	·968
Sweden ... ..	217,474	227,713	1·053	1·102
Switzerland ... ..	26,963	360,144	·131	1·744
United States of America	4,692,387	4,543,975	22·716	21·998
Other Foreign Countries	58,874	113,973	·285	·552
Total ... ..	20,656,786	20,656,786	100·000	100·000

Australian  
produce  
exported.

Leaving gold out of consideration, an examination of the various articles of Australian produce exported from Victoria to oversea countries in 1918 reveals the fact that about 91 per cent. of the total was covered by the seventeen articles specified below. Under the heading "Australian Produce" are

included articles which were partly or entirely manufactured in Australia from imported materials.

**VALUE OF PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF AUSTRALIAN PRODUCE  
EXPORTED FROM VICTORIA TO OVERSEA COUNTRIES,  
1913 TO 1917-18.**

Principal Articles.	Value in Year—				
	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.*
	£	£	£	£	£
Gold (Bullion, Ore and Specie) ... ..	624,264	446,788	320,995	643	—
Wool ... ..	6,282,291	5,237,304	6,203,565	6,149,212	6,820,006
Wheat ... ..	2,053,454	160,642	2,767,099	4,177,726	2,776,635
Butter ... ..	1,681,987	798,569	653,115	2,154,673	1,664,299
Flour ... ..	710,416	191,214	653,490	1,213,751	1,529,789
Jams and Jellies ... ..	20,686	36,625	196,979	371,753	643,765
Milk and Cream ... ..	53,873	77,338	14,847	305,738	594,390
Skins and Hides ... ..	1,685,700	884,907	534,396	548,725	478,236
Fruits (Fresh, Dried, and Preserved) ... ..	184,389	42,339	367,806	264,850	332,996
Meats—					
Preserved in tins, &c.	51,706	213,525	12,258	61,937	328,288
Mutton and Lamb ... ..	1,296,741	1,248,085	47,348	394,044	187,733
Other (frozen) ... ..	268,320	531,867	92,807	236,450	291,188
Leather ... ..	221,454	492,553	488,956	433,950	221,612
Tallow ... ..	371,316	192,400	45,214	246,091	133,577
Tobacco, manufactured	66,632	68,127	110,254	88,397	123,876
Rubber manufactures ... ..	50,531	69,925	101,499	85,199	122,927
Horses ... ..	54,106	106,054	25,410	62,948	117,318
Biscuits ... ..	42,150	39,313	74,813	79,121	75,159
Tin Ingots ... ..	282,817	109,337	224,598	114,635	66,930
Lead ... ..	1,209	144,734	338,083	501,775	57,145
All other articles ... ..	746,236	917,711	1,005,950	1,176,951	1,702,352
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>16,750,278</b>	<b>12,009,497</b>	<b>14,279,482</b>	<b>18,668,569</b>	<b>18,268,230</b>
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per Head of Population	12 0 11	8 7 11	10 1 5	13 6 9	12 18 11
Percentage of Total Oversea Exports ... ..	93·92	96·54	96·85	98·10	97·62

\* Excluding gold.

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 4 per cent. of the oversea exports in 1913, 7½ per cent. in 1915, 7 per cent. in 1916, 6 per cent. in 1917, and 9 per cent. in 1918.

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, 1913 TO 1917-18.

Destination.	Value in Year—				
	1913.	Ended 30th June.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918*.
	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	8,606,317	8,281,709	7,074,914	12,359,067	8,595,215
Other British Countries	1,637,256	1,692,457	2,101,525	2,521,613	4,113,488
Foreign Countries ...	6,506,705	2,035,331	5,103,043	3,787,889	5,559,527
Total ...	16,750,278	12,009,497	14,279,482	18,668,569	18,268,230

\*Excluding gold.

Of the Australian produce exported overseas during the last year, 47 per cent. was sent to the United Kingdom, 22½ per cent. to other British countries, and about 30½ per cent. to foreign countries.

A table showing the trade between Australian States for the years 1900 and 1909—the latest year for which Inter-State records are available—is given in the *Year Book* for 1916-17, page 636.

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, 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

Heads of Revenue.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
	£	£	£	£	£
Import Duty—					
Alcoholic Liquors ...	652,416	687,599	574,690	422,693	300,406
Narcotics ...	434,413	434,447	476,721	497,662	423,456
Sugar ...	74,735	11,957	249,220	112,753	13,971
All other Articles ...	2,812,855	2,395,549	2,901,721	2,799,442	2,222,806
Total ...	3,774,419	3,529,552	4,202,352	3,832,550	2,960,639

REVENUE OF CUSTOMS DEPARTMENT, 1913-14 TO 1917-18—  
*continued.*

Heads of Revenue.	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
Excise Duty—	£	£	£	£	£
Spirits ... ..	113,184	129,821	139,437	124,083	142,978
Beer ... ..	260,825	401,041	494,161	458,430	556,327
Tobacco ... ..	265,237	282,412	290,365	303,307	301,864
Sugar... ..	3,945	1,481	350	...	...
Total ... ..	643,191	814,755	924,313	885,820	1,001,169
Miscellaneous ... ..	12,685	12,522	13,553	14,652	11,925
Grand Total ... ..	4,430,295	4,356,829	5,140,218	4,733,022	3,973,760

These figures have been furnished by the Customs Department, and the amounts shown are exclusive of drawbacks and refunds. No record is kept 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 in the above table may be assumed to be overstated to at least that extent, except possibly in the last year.

This Commission was appointed on 5th August, 1913, and its principal functions are given in the *Year Book* for 1916-17, page 638.

Inter-State  
Commission.

## 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 554, Victorian coastal shipping is included. The number of vessels

Vessels entered  
and cleared.

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, 1913 TO 1917-18.

	1913.	Year ended 30th June.			
		1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
<b>Vessels Entered—</b>					
Number ... ..	2,481	2,324	2,392	1,962	1,721
Tons ... ..	5,950,035	5,290,063	4,935,129	4,042,819	2,871,343
Average tonnage ...	2,398	2,276	2,063	2,061	1,668
Crews ... ..	176,844	157,209	142,885	119,200	80,199
<b>Vessels Cleared—</b>					
Number ... ..	2,469	2,329	2,385	1,967	1,724
Tons ... ..	5,902,277	5,308,817	4,802,245	4,050,095	2,873,770
Average tonnage ...	2,391	2,279	2,055	2,059	1,667
Crews ... ..	175,704	157,745	141,698	118,360	80,196

The figures for the year 1917-18 in the above table show a large decrease in the tonnage and crews of vessels as compared with the average of the last five-year period, which is entirely due to conditions arising out of the war. For the twelve months ended 30th June, 1918, steamers numbered 1,473 of the vessels entered, and 1,476 of the vessels cleared, their tonnage aggregating 2,729,722 and 2,735,287 respectively.

**Shipping in ballast.** The inward shipping of 1917-18 included 83 vessels in ballast, of an aggregate tonnage of 216,794, whilst the outward shipping included 333 vessels in ballast, having an aggregate tonnage of 478,085.

Shipping with  
principal  
countries.

The more important of the countries having shipping communication with Victoria in 1917-18 are set out in the following statement:—

### SHIPPING WITH PRINCIPAL COUNTRIES, 1917-18.

Countries.	ENTERED.		CLEARED.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
Australian States ... ..	1,355	1,665,921	1,430	2,031,503
United Kingdom ... ..	71	419,098	14	67,267
New Zealand ... ..	60	86,798	51	89,532
Other British ... ..	87	288,180	143	474,680
<b>Total British Countries</b>	<b>1,553</b>	<b>2,459,997</b>	<b>1,638</b>	<b>2,662,982</b>
Japan ... ..	38	103,661	18	59,633
Java ... ..	8	25,979	8	25,980
United States ... ..	66	150,869	31	68,003
Other Foreign ... ..	56	130,837	29	57,172
<b>Total Foreign Countries</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>411,346</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>210,788</b>
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>2,871,343</b>	<b>1,724</b>	<b>2,873,770</b>

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

### NATIONALITY OF VESSELS ENTERED AND CLEARED, 1913 TO 1917-18.

Year.	NUMBER OF VESSELS.				TONNAGE OF VESSELS.			
	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.	Australian.	Other British.	Foreign.	Total.
<b>Entered.</b>								
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
1916-17	1,253	586	123	1,962	1,713,714	2,035,346	293,759	4,042,819
1917-18	1,266	312	143	1,721	1,485,665	1,058,144	327,534	2,871,343
<b>Cleared.</b>								
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
1916-17	1,255	587	125	1,967	1,713,916	2,038,340	297,839	4,050,095
1917-18	1,272	309	143	1,724	1,481,732	1,063,466	328,572	2,873,770



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 1913 to 1918 are:—Australian vessels 58, 64, 63, 64, and 74 per cent.; Australian tonnage 39, 43, 41, 43 and 52 per cent.; other British vessels 30, 30, 30, 30, and 18 per cent.; other British tonnage 46, 50, 51, 50, and 37 per cent.; foreign vessels 12, 6, 7, 6, and 8 per cent.; and foreign tonnage 15, 7, 8, 7, and 11 per cent.

In the next table further details of the nationality of the shipping for the year 1917-18 are given.

## NATIONALITY OF SHIPPING, 1917-18.

Nationality.	Entered.		Cleared.	
	Vessels.	Tonnage.	Vessels.	Tonnage.
<b>British—</b>				
Australian ...	1,266	1,485,665	1,272	1,481,732
United Kingdom ...	188	941,763	189	950,413
Canadian ...	5	5,127	4	4,315
Indian ...	5	16,361	5	16,361
New Zealand... ..	110	90,837	107	88,321
South African ...	4	4,056	4	4,056
<b>Total British ...</b>	<b>1,578</b>	<b>2,543,809</b>	<b>1,581</b>	<b>2,545,198</b>
<b>Foreign—</b>				
Belgian ...	1	2,074	1	2,074
Danish ...	7	19,581	7	19,581
Dutch ...	18	51,140	18	51,241
French ...	28	63,717	28	63,717
Japanese ...	40	108,608	40	108,608
Norwegian ...	17	37,792	17	37,792
Russian ...	2	3,548	3	5,224
Swedish ...	6	15,281	6	15,281
United States ...	24	25,793	23	25,054
<b>Total Foreign ...</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>327,534</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>328,572</b>
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>1,721</b>	<b>2,871,343</b>	<b>1,724</b>	<b>2,873,770</b>

Vessels on  
Victorian  
register.

The vessels on the Victorian register on 31st December, 1917, were as follows, the ports of registration and net tonnage being distinguished:—

## VESSELS ON THE VICTORIAN REGISTER, 1917.

Port of Registration.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Melbourne ...	204	129,295	163	35,880	367	165,175
Geelong ...	3	449	5	360	8	809
Port Fairy ...	3	621	...	...	3	621
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>210</b>	<b>130,365</b>	<b>168</b>	<b>36,240</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>166,605</b>

During 1917 there were added to the register 2 steamers with net tonnage of 263, and 4 sailing vessels with a tonnage of 495; whilst 20 steamers having net tonnage of 4,714, and 32 sailing vessels having a tonnage of 3,085, were taken off the register. The large number of vessels removed from the register during the year was due to an effort to remove the names of a number of small vessels which, it was believed, did not exist, but in regard to which definite information was not available until 1917.

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, 1918:—

### VESSELS OWNED IN AUSTRALASIA, 1918.

States, &c.	Steamers.		Sailing Vessels.		Total.	
	Number.	Net Tonnage.	Number.	Tonnage.	Number.	Net Tonnage.
Victoria ... ..	182	126,565	186	35,340	368	161,905
New South Wales ... ..	523	99,236	568	37,454	1,091	136,690
Queensland ... ..	89	17,164	183	6,232	272	23,396
South Australia ... ..	112	50,832	189	15,614	301	66,446
Western Australia ... ..	30	26,928	395	12,443	425	39,371
Tasmania ... ..	56	11,204	138	4,917	194	16,121
<b>Total Australia ... ..</b>	<b>992</b>	<b>331,929</b>	<b>1,659</b>	<b>112,000</b>	<b>2,651</b>	<b>443,929</b>
Fiji ... ..	5	432	6	871	11	1,303
New Guinea ... ..	...	...	15	289	15	239
New Zealand ... ..	252	61,996	305	24,326	557	86,322
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>1,249</b>	<b>394,357</b>	<b>1,985</b>	<b>137,486</b>	<b>3,234</b>	<b>531,843</b>

Compared with 1917, vessels owned in Australia decreased by 158 in number, and by 23,029 in tonnage.

### PORT OF MELBOURNE.

The port of Melbourne is under the control of the Melbourne Harbor Trust, which has 10·39 miles of wharfs, piers, and jetties in the River Yarra, Victoria Dock, and Hobson's Bay. The area of these wharfs is 65 acres, of which 20 acres 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 which is now in process of being widened from 550 feet to 600

Works undertaken by Trust in River and Victoria Dock.

feet at the east end and 720 feet at the west end of the basin, 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. As regards the wharfage available for shipping, there is a berthing space of 49,010 feet, the whole of which has a good depth of water—7,780 feet at Williamstown, 9,150 feet at Port Melbourne, 20,320 feet in the River Yarra, and 11,760 feet in the Victoria Dock.

**Victoria Dock.** This dock, which is 4 miles from the river entrance, was opened in 1892, and has a free water area of 82 acres, not including the entrance, 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, excluding the Central Pier, there are six closed and seven open sheds, all 53 feet in width, and two open and two closed sheds 60 feet in width, the total length of these sheds being 4,870 feet. On the pier in this dock, which is 1,631 feet in length and 250 feet in width, four new sheds have been completed, each 60 feet wide, the length of two of them being 480 feet each and of the other two 486 feet each. There is room for two other similar sheds which are to be built in the near future.

**Goode Canal.** This canal which was constructed across the flats below Fisherman's Bend had the effect of reducing the distance from Queen's Bridge to the river entrance from 7 miles to  $5\frac{3}{4}$  miles. Its length is 2,002 yards, its total width 487 feet, its width at low water 430 feet, its bottom width 264 feet, and its depth at low water 27 feet.

**Dredging.** The material dredged and disposed of during 1917 amounted to 2,761,610 cubic yards, viz., 676,717 cubic yards from Hobson's Bay, 557,160 cubic yards from outside the Harbor Trust boundary, and 1,527,733 cubic yards from the River Yarra and Victoria Dock. Since the establishment of the Trust the river dredgings have amounted to 33,886,818, and the Bay dredgings to 26,766,605 cubic yards, making a total of 60,653,423 cubic yards. Of the dredgings 47,297,783 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 1917 was 6·91d. 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, 3 motor launches, 1 Lobnitz rock-breaker, 2 grab cranes, 3 coal hulks, 2 derrick punts, and diving equipment.

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 1917 vessels to the number of 4,248, comprising 3,589 steamers, 16 ships, 38 barques, 23 barquentines, 315 ketches, 107 schooners, and 160 lighters, with registered gross tonnage aggregating 6,920,000, berthed within the port. The tonnage of imports in 1917 was 2,138,000, and that of exports 1,231,000.

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.	
1913 .. ..	1,620,000	1,305,000	665,000	705,000	7,064,000
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
1916 .. ..	982,000	1,652,000	655,000	703,000	5,555,000
1917 .. ..	754,000	1,384,000	638,000	593,000	6,920,000

The abnormal conditions arising out of the war are responsible for the decrease of vessels' tonnage in the last four years.

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.
1913 .. ..	831,219	1916 .. ..	809,209
1914 .. ..	906,962	1917 .. ..	771,953
1915 .. ..	846,980		

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 £213,916. Dredging has been completed to 37 feet, to provide for four berths for vessels drawing 35 feet. Two shelter sheds are provided, which are connected with vessels by movable gangways bridging the railway lines. Passengers are thus enabled to board and disembark from vessels clear of the railway traffic.

The construction of the new Central Pier at the Victoria Dock has been completed. A bed for the centre roadway on this pier has been formed by the insertion of reinforced concrete plates on which wood blocks have been laid. The expenditure on the pier to 31st December, 1917, including the erection of four cargo sheds, was £178,261.

A contract for reinforced concrete sheet piling with relieving platforms at the middle swinging basin has been completed, and a new timber wharf is in course of construction. The total expenditure at the end of 1917 on work connected with the enlargement of this basin was £51,281.

A new wharf at Newport in the River Yarra has been completed, the amount expended thereon having been £37,513.

The following statement shows the berthage accommodation and depth of water at the wharfs and piers within the Port of Melbourne:—

BERTHAGE ACCOMMODATION AND DEPTH OF WATER.

Name of Wharf, Pier, &c.	Berthing Space, in Feet.	Depth, in Feet, O.L.W.
Breakwater Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	920	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (old) .. .. .	2,500	28 to 30
Railway Pier, Williamstown (new) .. .. .	1,200	28 to 30
Graving Dock Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	860	25 to 28
Reid-street Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	1,000	20 to 24
Ann-street Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	800	17 to 22
Gem Pier, Williamstown .. .. .	500	8 to 10
New Railway Pier, Port Melbourne .. .. .	2,650	37
Railway Pier, Port Melbourne .. .. .	3,000	28 to 30
Town Pier, Port Melbourne .. .. .	3,500	27 to 30
Newport Wharf (river) .. .. .	400	27
Footscray Wharf (river) .. .. .	700	13 to 14
Queen's Wharf (river) .. .. .	1,800	17 to 26
Prince's Wharf (river) .. .. .	2,050	17 to 24
Australian Wharf (river) .. .. .	7,620	24 to 26
South Wharf (river) .. .. .	7,750	23 to 26
Victoria Dock (river) .. .. .	11,760	25 to 27
	49,010	

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. The depth at Victoria Dock is limited by that of the river channel, which is maintained at from 26 to 27 feet.

At the various piers and wharfs 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.

POSTS, TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.

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

The following are the principal postal charges within the Commonwealth. In addition to the charges mentioned there is a war postage of  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. for each letter, letter-card, post-card, packet, and newspaper. Thus the postage on letters is

Rates of postage.

1½d. for the first half ounce and 1d. for each additional half ounce, and similarly with the other articles specified below :—

Letters ... ..	1d. per half ounce
Letter-cards ... ..	Single, 1½d. each
Post-cards ... ..	Single, 1d. each
Printed papers (other than newspapers) ... ..	½d. per 2 ounces
Books printed in Australia ... ..	¾d. per 8 ounces
Books printed outside Australia ... ..	½d. per 4 ounces
Magazines printed and published in Australia ... each	¾d. per 8 ounces
Magazines printed and published outside Australia ... each	½d. per 4 ounces
Commercial papers, patterns, samples, and merchandise as prescribed ... ..	1d. per 2 ounces
Newspapers printed and published in Australia ... each	¾d. per 10 ounces
Newspapers printed and published outside Australia each	½d. 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 now 1½d. for the first half ounce and 1d. for each additional half ounce, and, on letters to the A.I.F. abroad, 1d. per half ounce.

**Cable rates.** 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. A scheme exists under which week-end messages may be lodged up to midnight on Saturday, and are deliverable on Tuesday morning, or if practicable on Monday. This has, however, been temporarily suspended, as an arrangement has been made for the transmission of messages to soldiers, which are chargeable at the rate of 9d. per word without a minimum.

**Postal returns.** The following table shows the postal business transacted in Victoria during the last five years. Registered letters and articles, which numbered 1,659,738 in 1917-18, are included :—

#### POSTAL RETURNS, 1913 TO 1917-18.

	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
Posted and Received—					
Letters and Post-cards ... ..	189,975,987	188,440,698	191,427,078	201,093,447	197,830,163
Newspapers ... ..	40,950,516	40,737,663	40,246,088	43,175,024	36,695,699
Packets ... ..	18,292,538	16,464,556	11,146,357	11,490,795	10,884,630
Parcels ... ..	893,934	961,755	1,163,140	1,283,949	1,363,044
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>250,112,975</b>	<b>246,604,672</b>	<b>243,982,663</b>	<b>257,043,215</b>	<b>246,773,536</b>

The total number of letters, newspapers, packets, and parcels passing through the post-office in 1917-18 exceeded the annual average

of the preceding five-year period by 262,343. A clear idea of the magnitude of the postal matter dealt with will be obtained when it is stated that during the last year the letters posted and received represented 140 and the newspapers, packets, and parcels, 35 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: 1913 TO 1917-18.

Service.	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
LETTERS AND POSTCARDS.					
Posted for delivery inland .. ..	135,963,724	139,043,933	134,212,538	133,312,357	128,839,592
"    "    in other States .. ..	15,201,166	16,234,172	16,267,263	16,366,285	18,196,539
"    "    outside the States .. ..	7,687,758	6,760,903	13,944,397	15,935,748	13,707,895
Total .. ..	158,852,648	162,039,008	164,424,798	165,614,390	160,744,026
Received from other States .. ..	16,977,659	16,220,068	16,481,811	17,529,247	20,524,108
"    "    outside the States .. ..	14,145,680	10,181,622	10,520,469	17,949,810	16,561,969
Total .. ..	31,123,339	26,401,690	27,002,280	35,479,057	37,086,137
NEWSPAPERS.					
Posted for delivery inland .. ..	14,980,478	13,526,750	14,410,719	19,871,312	18,353,029
"    "    in other States .. ..	14,548,365	15,962,880	14,823,566	12,830,757	10,670,456
"    "    outside the States .. ..	3,332,069	2,793,660	8,955,133	2,987,080	3,504,111
Total .. ..	32,860,912	32,283,290	33,189,418	35,689,149	32,527,596
Received from other States .. ..	4,762,405	5,212,038	4,685,452	4,776,097	2,579,897
"    "    outside the States .. ..	3,327,199	3,242,335	2,371,218	2,709,778	1,588,206
Total .. ..	8,089,604	8,454,373	7,056,670	7,485,875	4,168,103
PACKETS.					
Posted for delivery inland .. ..	11,725,748	9,783,256	6,136,500	6,060,216	5,919,199
"    "    in other States .. ..	3,095,332	4,051,319	2,495,132	2,737,515	2,584,613
"    "    outside the States .. ..	1,149,648	750,184	922,389	881,171	955,558
Total .. ..	15,970,728	14,584,759	9,554,021	9,678,902	9,459,370
Received from other States .. ..	1,511,567	1,282,022	1,039,866	1,080,527	978,873
"    "    outside the States .. ..	810,243	647,775	552,470	731,366	446,382
Total .. ..	2,321,810	1,879,797	1,592,336	1,811,893	1,425,260
PARCELS.					
Posted for delivery inland .. ..	508,652	577,585	593,895	520,785	547,179
"    "    in other States .. ..	213,047	210,404	243,655	227,773	252,014
"    "    outside the States .. ..	23,573	17,658	145,907	357,689	357,458
Total .. ..	745,272	805,647	983,457	1,106,247	1,156,651
Received from other States .. ..	96,985	107,327	118,626	115,307	126,105
"    "    outside the States .. ..	51,677	48,781	61,057	62,395	80,288
Total .. ..	148,662	156,108	179,683	177,702	206,393

There are 539 money order offices in the State, which, in 1917-18, issued 438,897 orders for £2,297,313. Of these 383,314 (for £2,145,871) were Commonwealth, 8,435 (for £22,061) New Zealand, and 47,148 (for £129,381) international orders. The orders paid in the same year numbered 475,306, and were for an aggregate amount of £2,524,316, the Commonwealth being 441,766 (for £2,420,485), the New Zealand 18,748 (for £53,858), and the international 14,792 (for £49,973). The postal notes sold totalled 2,861,008 (for £896,753), the inland postal notes paid 2,080,231 (for £681,955), and the notes of other States paid in Victoria 361,835 (for £123,709). The following is a comparative statement of the business done since 1912:—

#### MONEY ORDERS AND POSTAL NOTES, 1913 TO 1917-18.

—	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
<b>Money Orders Issued—</b>					
Number ...	376,961	381,671	654,324	420,347	438,897
Amount ... £	1,673,878	1,714,519	2,646,488	2,046,113	2,297,313
<b>Money Orders Paid—</b>					
Number ...	408,988	405,841	676,062	461,477	475,306
Amount ... £	1,922,665	1,928,550	2,800,880	2,213,594	2,524,316
<b>Postal Notes—</b>					
Issued ... £	1,058,018	1,064,255	918,600	884,586	896,753
Victorian—Paid in Victoria	£ 849,013	849,888	731,044	689,222	681,955
Of Other States—					
Paid in Victoria	£ 177,967	171,414	132,429	127,684	123,709

The value of money orders issued and paid during the last year was greater than that of any former year with the exception of 1915-16, in which year the large increase was due to the system then in operation of paying military allotments by money orders.

The values of the Victorian postal notes and those of other States paid in Victoria have declined each year since 1914, but the postal notes issued in Victoria during 1917-18 exceeded those of the previous year by 28,747 in number and £12,167 in value.

Telegraphs  
and  
telegrams.

There are 1,695 telegraph offices in the State, 179 of which are attached to the railway service. The number of telegrams sent from Victorian offices, and the number



received from outside the State, in each of the last five years, were as follows :—

**TELEGRAMS DESPATCHED AND RECEIVED, 1913 TO 1917-18.**

	1913.	1914.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
<b>Telegrams despatched—</b>					
Inland ... ..	1,969,752	2,217,361	2,189,333	2,258,435	2,296,097
Inter-State ... ..	902,969	948,497	1,012,605	1,038,411	1,098,575
International ... ..	98,320	101,337	133,088	132,025	137,758
Total ... ..	2,971,041	3,267,195	3,335,026	3,428,871	3,532,430
<b>Telegrams received—</b>					
Inter-State ... ..	1,006,618	1,009,362	1,061,206	1,059,334	1,116,361
International ... ..	92,456	95,489	150,951	160,497	169,047
Total ... ..	1,099,074	1,104,851	1,212,157	1,219,831	1,285,408

The total telegrams despatched show a gradual improvement annually in the five-year period, the number for 1917-18 exceeding that for the previous year by 103,559. Compared with 1913 the telegrams despatched during the last year showed an increase of 561,389, of which 326,345 were inland, 195,606 inter-state, and 39,438 international. Telegrams received from outside the State have increased by 186,334 since 1913.

**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. There were 662 exchanges in Victoria on 30th June, 1918, and the actual number of subscribers' lines was 40,754, with 55,839 telephones connected which represented 3·9 to every 100 persons in the State. The number of calls received in the year was 2,445,245. Telephone bureaux for the use of the public are placed in prominent positions in or near public buildings, post-offices, railway stations, &c. The number of these at 30th June, 1918, was 1,321.

**RAILWAYS.**

**Victorian Railways, length and cost.** All railways in Victoria available for general traffic are, with the two exceptions referred to on page 566, 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 1919. 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, 1914, TO 30TH JUNE, 1918.**

—	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
Length of Lines on 30th June—					
Double Lines (miles)	325·71	325·71	328·19	328·19	328·19
Single Lines (miles)	3,562·26	3,602·47	3,825·33	3,847·57	3,876·57
Total ...	3,887·97	3,928·18	4,153·52	4,175·76	4,204·76
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost of Construction	35,792,561	36,411,149	37,906,057	38,305,630	38,652,751
Average Cost per mile	9,206	9,269	9,126	9,173	9,193

In addition to the lines embraced in this table, the following were in course of construction on 30th June, 1918 :—

5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.		Miles.
Shelley to Cudgewa ...	...	19·64
Cavendish to Toolondo ...	...	33·45
Nayook to Toorongo River ...	...	5·98
Koo-wee-rup to McDonald's Track ...	...	30·75
North Geelong to Fyansford ...	...	2·87
Nandaly to Kulwin ...	...	19·50
		<u>112·19</u>
4-ft. 8½-in. Gauge.		
Sandringham to Black Rock (electric tramway) ...	...	2·38

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

5-ft. 3-in. Gauge.		Miles.
Part of Woomelang to Mildura and Yelta ...	...	10·00
Alberton to Won-Wron ...	...	12·25
Bittern to Red Hill ...	...	10·00
		<u>32·25</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, 1914 TO 1918.

30th June.	£
1914 ... ..	49,311,907
1915 ... ..	51,620,187
1916 ... ..	54,560,106
1917 ... ..	55,808,163
1918 .. ..	56,694,141

The cost given is the actual cost of construction, exclusive of expenses of floating loans, &c. Of the capital expended to 30th June, 1918, £3,914,603 was derived from the general revenue, and the balance (£52,779,538) from loans. The latter liability is represented by debentures and stock outstanding to the nominal amount of £54,499,338, on which the annual interest payable is £2,092,775, or at the average rate of 3·84 per cent. The nominal amount of loans, however, was reduced by £1,719,800—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, 1918, was 3·84 per cent., the real interest on the net proceeds available for railway construction was 3·97 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 £365,262.

**Railway traffic.** The mileage and the traffic of the railways since 30th June, 1913, are given in the following table:—

### RAILWAYS—MILEAGE AND TRAFFIC, 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
Miles Constructed ...	3,887·97	3,928·18	4,153·52	4,175·76	4,204·76
Dismantled ...	18·03	18·03	18·03	18·03	36·13
Closed to Traffic	29·93	29·93	29·93	29·93	11·83
Open for Traffic	3,840·01	3,880·22	4,105·56	4,127·80	4,156·80
Train Mileage ...	15,570,098	15,830,677	14,424,357	14,594,775	14,147,896
Passengers carried ...	119,002,397	119,978,898	118,898,222	111,791,982	109,607,750
Goods and Live Stock Carried (Tons) ...	5,816,088	5,410,045	5,829,835	5,962,602	6,231,093

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, 1918, was 4,515·21 miles of main tracks, and 830·86 miles of sidings.

The passenger traffic of 1917-18 was less than in any other of the last five years. In 1914-15 this traffic 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 1917-18, 101,265,527 were made by metropolitan-suburban, and 8,342,223 by country passengers, the former being a decrease of 2,323,501, and the latter an increase of 139,269, as compared with the corresponding journeys for the previous year. The tonnage of goods and live stock carried in 1917-18 was the highest recorded, and exceeded that for 1916-17, which now stands second in importance, by 268,491. The items of goods carried in 1917-18 showing greatest tonnage were:—Wheat, 1,317,125 tons; stone, gravel, and sand, 633,075 tons; firewood, 538,133 tons; minerals (including coal, coke, ores, &c.), 487,171 tons; flour, bran, sharps and pollard, 319,565 tons; hay, straw, and chaff, 311,443 tons; and timber, 261,676 tons. Live stock carried in the same year had an aggregate weight of 451,704 tons, and comprised 46,593 horses, 482,420 cattle, 5,579,704 sheep, and 329,572 pigs. Comparing 1917-18 with 1913-14, the goods and live stock carried had increased by 415,005 tons, or by 7 per cent., whilst the passenger traffic was less by 9,394,647 passengers, or by 8 per cent., and the number of train miles run showed a reduction of 1,422,202, or of 9 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, 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

	Year ended 30th June.				
	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.	1918.
<b>Receipts—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Passenger Fares ...	2,541,285	2,481,621	2,667,289	2,606,339	2,924,115
Freight on Goods and Live Stock	2,625,338	2,289,482	2,628,487	2,951,513	3,156,761
Sundries ...	414,851	412,584	434,967	422,786	512,997
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>5,581,474</b>	<b>5,183,687</b>	<b>5,730,743</b>	<b>5,980,638</b>	<b>6,593,873</b>
<b>Working Expenses—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Way and Works ...	939,902	1,200,298	1,128,286	1,100,192	1,209,360
Rolling-stock ...	1,644,180	1,724,358	1,676,395	1,838,605	1,909,658
Transportation ...	1,075,021	1,090,796	1,094,877	1,105,741	1,228,950
General Charges*	227,245	242,864	242,030	261,420	255,937
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>3,886,348</b>	<b>4,258,316</b>	<b>4,141,588</b>	<b>4,305,958</b>	<b>4,603,905</b>
<b>Net Receipts ...</b>	<b>1,695,126</b>	<b>925,371</b>	<b>1,589,155</b>	<b>1,674,680</b>	<b>1,989,968</b>
<b>Percentage of Ex- penses to Receipts</b>	<b>69·63</b>	<b>82·15</b>	<b>72·27</b>	<b>72·00</b>	<b>69·82</b>

\* Including pensions and gratuities.

The railway receipts for 1917-18 were larger than those for any previous year, exceeding the receipts for 1916-17 by £613,235, or by more than 10 per cent. The amount received in passenger fares in 1917-18 was greater than that received in 1916-17 by £221,406 in the case of country, and £96,370 in the case of metropolitan-suburban passengers. The most notable features in receipts from goods in 1917-18 as compared with the previous year were increases of £35,571 for the carriage of minerals, £33,418 for the carriage of flour, bran, and pollard, and £25,568 for the carriage of wool, and a decrease in the amount received for the carriage of wheat of £207,350. The freight on live stock in 1917-18 was in excess of that for the previous year by £64,568. 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 better conditions which have been provided for the staff. Abnormal expenditure for the purpose of meeting adverse conditions occasioned by the war, alterations connected with electrification, the relaying of lines with heavier rails, and the allowances to the staff owing to the increased cost of living, amounted to £263,046 in 1917-18 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, 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

Year.	Interest, &c.	Net Revenue.
	£	£
1913-14 ... ..	1,677,369	1,695,126
1914-15 ... ..	1,767,807	925,371
1915-16 ... ..	1,927,107	1,589,155
1916-17 ... ..	2,012,447	1,674,680
1917-18 ... ..	2,126,906	1,989,968

The figures show that only in the first of those years was there a surplus after payment of working expenses, pensions and gratuities, special expenditure and interest charges and expenses. The deficit in 1914-15 was largely the result of the drought of 1914, and the deficits in the last three years were due mainly to special expenditure arising from conditions created by 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 each of the last five years were as follows:—

**RAILWAY RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE PER TRAIN MILE, 1913-14 TO 1917-18.**

	1913-14.	1914-15.	1915-16.	1916-17.	1917-18.
Average Number of Miles Open for Traffic	3,752	3,853	3,960	4,109	4,144
Gross Earnings per Mile ... ..	£ 1,488	£ 1,345	£ 1,447	£ 1,456	£ 1,591
Expenses per Mile ..	1,036	1,105	1,046	1,048	1,111
Net Profits per Mile	452	240	401	408	480

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, 1918, showed that there were at that time 817 locomotives, 1,641 carriages, 19,380 trucks, and 912 vans and sundry stock, of which 17 locomotives, 34 carriages, 249 trucks, and 5 luggage vans were narrow-gauge stock. The electric railway stock consisted of 30 combined cars and trailers. During the year 1917-18 the following new stock built at the Newport workshops was put into service:— 12 locomotives, 29 carriages, 114 trucks, and 22 vans. The capital cost of the broad-gauge stock was £11,044,688, of the narrow-gauge £104,701, and of the electric railway stock £49,016.

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

**RAILWAY STAFF—NUMBERS, SALARIES, ETC.**

Year.	Number of Employees at end of Year.	Amount of Salaries and Wages Paid during Year.
		£
1914-15 ... ..	26,577	3,667,251
1915-16 ... ..	21,819	3,558,893
1916-17 ... ..	19,591	3,228,336
1917-18 ... ..	19,323	3,150,437

Figures relating to the Commissioners, the Railway Construction Branch, the State Coal Mine, and co-operative labour parties 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 excludes members of the staff who were absent on service in connexion with the war.

**AMOUNTS PAID IN DAMAGES, CLAIMS, ETC., AND PERSONS KILLED OR INJURED ON  
VICTORIAN RAILWAYS: 1908-9 TO 1917-18.**

Railway  
Accidents.

Interchange.

565

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:—

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.				
	£												
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
1917 ...	15,556	...	46	5	133	1	35	4	225	22	26	32	465
1918 ...	18,221	...	33	4	197	2	46	9	246	29	39	44	561
Yearly Average ...	45,508	1·2	118·1	6·3	151·5	·9	31·5	9·1	161·6	26·6	35·9	44·1	498·6

\* Including Sunshine accident, claims for which were not fully paid on 30th June, 1908.

† Including Richmond accident.

‡ Including West Melbourne accident.

With regard to the payments referred to in the above table, it should be pointed out that they not only cover cases of passengers where the accidents causing death or injury were "due to causes beyond their own control"; but they also 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, £17,143 in 1915-16, £12,925 in 1916-17, and £11,480 in 1917-18.

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, which has a 5 ft. 3 in. gauge, is 13 miles 75 chains in length, and, up to the end of 1917, cost £39,229 for construction and equipment. For the year 1917, the gross receipts were £3,273, and the working expenses £2,721. The train mileage for the same year was 19,508 and the passengers carried numbered 12,120.

Private  
railway.

Another railway in Victoria not belonging to the State system is one of 3-ft. gauge and 12 miles in length between Yarra Junction and Powelltown. It was constructed principally for private use, but, in addition to serving its immediate purpose, it is engaged in the general business of transportation of passengers and goods. Up to 30th September, 1917, the cost of construction was £47,080, and for the year ended on the same date the receipts and working expenses were £4,098 and £3,618 respectively.

Freights on  
Victorian  
Railways.

A statement of freights, operative on 1st July, 1918, 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	100	150	200	250	300	350
	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	miles.	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 10	9 2	10 10	12 2	13 2	14 0	15 0
Dairy Produce, consisting of Butter, Milk, Cream, Cheese, (boxed), Hams and Bacon (minimum, 1 ton) and Eggs†	10 0	18 4	24 10	31 2	35 8	40 0	44 4
Fresh Fruit†	6 6	11 10	15 6	19 0	21 10	24 6	27 2
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 8	15 8	20 6	25 4	29 0	32 6	36 2
Poultry (Living)†	13 10	25 6	34 6	43 4	49 6	55 6	61 6
Wool (greasy)†	18 9	37 0	47 6	54 3	61 3	68 0	75 0
Agricultural Machinery and Implements, Binder Twine†	19 3	37 6	56 0	69 9	83 6	92 9	102 0
Fencing Wire, in truck loads of 6 tons	12 3	23 6	34 3	42 6	50 9	54 9	58 9
Wire Netting, in truck loads of 6 tons	4 6	8 0	11 0	12 10	15 0	16 8	18 2
Manures, in 6-ton lots	3 0	4 6	5 8	6 8	7 8	8 10	9 4
Rate per truck.							
Live Stock	44 6	86 0	100 6	132 0	164 6	196 6	229 0

\* Agricultural Produce includes Wheat, Oats, Barley, Maize, Beet, Onions, Hay, Straw Chaff, compressed Fodder, Flour, Bran, Pollard, Peas, Potatoes, Sharps, Molasses and Treacle for cattle food (on declaration), Pigs' Food, unrefined Salt, 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, operative on 1st July, 1918, has also been obtained from the same source and is given below.

### 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 6	5 8	13 10	9 4	11 4	7 6
100 ..	16 8	11 2	27 8	18 6	22 6	15 4
150 ..	25 0	16 8	41 6	27 6	33 8	22 6
200 ..	33 2	22 2	55 2	36 10	44 6	29 10
250 ..	41 6	27 8	69 0	46 2	55 10	37 2
300 ..	49 4	32 10	81 10	54 8	67 0	44 6
350 ..	56 10	37 10	94 4	63 0	78 0	52 2

Cheap excursion tickets, at the rate of 2d. per mile for first class return and 1½d. 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.

### TRAMWAYS.

The various tramway systems in the State comprise Victorian tramways. 45·927 miles of cable lines, double track; 84·242 miles of electric lines, of which 47·554 miles are double, and 36·688 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 8·113 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 subjoined table contains a summary of particulars relating to all tramways in Victoria :—

VICTORIAN TRAMWAYS, 1913-14 TO 1917-18.

Financial Year.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.	Working Expenses.	Rolling Stock.	Persons Employed.
			£	£		
1913-14	15,225,665	112,814,550	933,979	624,154	1,191	2,559
1914-15	15,852,348	116,118,517	948,543	607,761	1,217	2,709
1915-16	16,188,674	127,550,994	1,037,681	626,306	1,247	2,958
1916-17	17,900,697	148,484,311	1,154,998	689,888	1,267	3,157
1917-18	19,057,702	167,462,689	1,272,511	780,461	1,320	3,367

**Tramway Board tramways.**

The sub-surface cable tramways were held by 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 Acts, the Melbourne Tramways Trust was dissolved on 1st 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, 1919, 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 pay for the property, car houses, cars, &c., of the Melbourne Tramway and

Omnibus Company Limited which are used in the undertaking. The amount of the compensation to be given for the assets acquired by the Board was fixed at £335,000 by His Honor Mr. Justice Cussen, who had been appointed arbitrator by the Governor-in-Council, but an appeal against this award has been made to the Privy Council. Surplus profits, which are paid to the State Savings Bank, are to be used to meet the aforementioned compensation, or to repay any moneys borrowed by the Board, or are to be applied in such other manner as is directed by any Act of Parliament hereafter enacted. The sum accumulated at 30th June, 1918, was £755,863.

The following table has been compiled from information furnished by the secretary of the Tramway Board :—

TRAMWAYS OF THE TRAMWAY BOARD, 1908-9 TO  
1917-18.

Year ended 30th June.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
			£
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	751,092
1914 ... ..	12,056,510	91,438,777	766,426
1915 ... ..	11,887,462	87,707,934	734,177
1916 ... ..	11,977,916	96,290,131	807,356
1917 ... ..	12,423,929	103,118,377	841,784
1918 ... ..	12,833,029	113,034,157	901,474

The length of lines open on 30th June, 1918, comprised 43·677 miles of double track cable tramway, and ·625 of a mile of double track horse tramway. The cables are driven by steam power generated at eleven engine houses situated at various points upon the routes, and an average of about 5,000 horse-power is in daily use. The average speed of cars between termini, including stops, is 8·986 miles per hour and the average speed of the ropes is 11·78 miles per hour. The rolling-stock consists of 1,064 dummies and trailers, which are housed at fifteen car depôts. The traffic of 1917-18 eclipsed that of any former year and, compared with 1916-17, showed increases of

409,100 in tram mileage, 9,915,780 in number of passengers carried, and £59,690 in traffic receipts.

Other metropolitan tramways.

In addition to the lines of the Tramway Board, there are within or on the fringe of the metropolitan area 57·379 miles of electric tramways (43·569 miles being double track and 13·81 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, 32·058 miles; the Hawthorn electric lines, 11·174 miles; the Brunswick and Coburg electric lines, 7·03 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.
1913-14 ... ..	33·851	1,839,555	14,414,803	£ 101,090
1914-15 ... ..	40·9	2,644,574	21,841,246	151,806
1915-16 ... ..	51·358	2,993,379	25,222,802	172,399
1916-17 ... ..	58·693	4,280,404	39,296,747	253,907
1917-18 ... ..	59·629	5,063,363	48,262,747	311,353

Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act 1918.

On 7th January, 1919, the Royal Assent was given to the *Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Act*, which is to be administered by a Board consisting of seven members appointed by the Governor-in-Council. The Chairman will hold office for a period of five years and the remaining members for a period of three years. Upon the date of the first meeting of the Board the present Tramway Board will cease to exist, and the new Board will take over the Melbourne Cable Tramways and Royal Park Horse Tramway.

At a date to be proclaimed (not later than six months from the day of the first meeting of the new Board) the following Tramway systems will also be vested in the Board:—

Prahran and Malvern Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Hawthorn Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Melbourne Brunswick and Coburg Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Fitzroy Northcote and Preston Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Footscray Tramways Trust, Electric Tramways.

Northcote Council, Cable Tramway.

Authority is also given to acquire the Electric Tramways of the North Melbourne Electric Tramway and Lighting Company Limited (Essendon), by agreement or by compulsory acquisition.

The whole of the officers and servants exclusively employed by the various undertakings and the liabilities and assets will be taken over by the new Board at the date the respective tramways are vested in the Board.

The Board is empowered to borrow up to £750,000 by the issue of stock or debentures secured upon the revenues and undertakings of the Board, this being in addition to the transferred liabilities attaching to the tramways vested in it. Power is given to incur an overdraft not exceeding £100,000.

As soon as practicable after its appointment, the Board shall prepare a general scheme for the future development of tramways in the metropolis. This scheme is to be reported upon by the Railways Standing Committee, and subsequently submitted to Parliament. Should it be approved by Parliament, the Board may construct any portion of the tramways included in the general scheme upon obtaining an Order-in-Council relating thereto. Authority is given the Board to construct certain tramways already approved by the Governor-in-Council without further formalities.

The Act permits the Board, subject to certain procedure, to generate electricity for use on its tramways, and to provide public parks and places of recreation.

The Act provides that the Board shall pay to the Consolidated Revenue each year an amount equivalent to the Government's contributions to the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and the Municipal Licences Equivalent, which for the year 1918 amounted to about £70,000. The surplus on the operations of any year, after transferring not less than 4 per cent. nor more than 6 per cent. upon the capital cost of the undertaking to Reserve Funds and carrying to the credit of the succeeding year such sum, not exceeding £10,000, as the Board thinks fit, shall be distributed amongst 28 constituent Metropolitan Councils in accordance with any scheme of distribution from time to time adopted by the Board, but any sum received by a municipality in pursuance of

this arrangement shall be applied only to such purposes as the Governor-in-Council shall approve.

In the event of there being a deficit upon operation of the tramways, the Board may meet same from Reserve Funds or levy a rate upon the rateable property of the metropolis.

Employees have the right of appeal against fines, dismissals, &c., to an Appeal Board consisting of three members, one representative each nominated by the Board and by the employees, and a Chairman appointed by the Governor-in-Council, whose decision shall be final.

It is estimated that, when the Tramway Board formed under the Tramway Board Act 1915 ceases to exist, the available accumulated funds lodged at the State Savings Bank will amount to about £827,000, which is to be transferred to the Consolidated Revenue to the credit of "The Melbourne and Metropolitan Municipal Loans Redemption Fund" and applied by the State Treasurer in reduction of the indebtedness of the various metropolitan municipalities to the Government under the Municipal Loans Extension Acts.

In 1918 there were in country towns 26·863 miles of electric tramways and 1 mile of steam tramway, the traffic particulars of which for the last five financial years are given below :—

#### TRAMWAYS IN COUNTRY TOWNS.

Financial Year.	Miles of Track.	Tram Mileage.	Passengers Carried.	Traffic Receipts.
1913-14 ... ..	27·863	1,329,600	6,960,970	£ 66,463
1914-15 ... ..	27·863	1,320,312	6,569,337	62,560
1915-16 .. ...	27·863	1,217,379	6,038,061	57,926
1916-17 ... ..	27·863	1,196,364	6,069,187	59,307
1917-18 ... ..	27·863	1,156,310	6,165,785	59,684

#### 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, 1913 TO 1917.

	1913.	1914.	1915.	1916.	1917.
<i>For Passenger Traffic.</i>					
Cabs (4 wheel) ... ..	517	537	577	527	515
" (Hansoms) ... ..	237	231	211	178	173
Omnibuses ... ..	9	18	6	9	...
Tram Cars ... ..	432	432	432	407	434
" Dummies ... ..	389	389	389	414	441
Motor Cars ... ..	25	57	212	232	182
" Omnibuses ... ..	43	63	69	33	19
Total ... ..	1,652	1,727	1,896	1,800	1,764
<i>For Conveyance of Goods.</i>					
Drivers licensed ... ..	2,534	2,522	2,199	2,373	2,755

**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, 1917, the number of motor cars registered was 12,614, on which fees were fixed at the following annual rates:—117 at six guineas each, 588 at five guineas each, 7,533 at four guineas each, 3,065 at three guineas each, 1,112 at two guineas each, and 199 at one guinea each. On the same date, 8,732 motor cycles, which are subject to an annual fee of 5s. each, and 264 traction engines were registered. No person may drive a motor car or motor cycle upon any public highway without having been licensed for that purpose. On 31st December, 1917, the number of drivers of motor cars and motor cycles licensed by the Chief Commissioner was 24,403. There were also 51 dealers registered.