

## PART IX.

## SOCIAL CONDITION.

## MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

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

Payment to the University of an annual endowment of £45,000 from 1st July, 1923, was provided for in the *University Act 1923*. Under its provisions, as amended by the *University (Grant) Act 1933*, a further grant of £6,000 for research in Science and University extension was made payable annually. Other annual statutory grants are £6,500 for a School of Agriculture, £3,300 for a Veterinary School, and £2,500 for a Chair of Obstetrics. For the financial year 1943-44 the additional appropriations included in the Budget amounted to £55,400, bringing the total Government Grant to £118,700. In addition to grants from the Government, the Council derives income from fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates and diplomas. Further income is derived from endowments of various kinds.

By Act of Parliament in 1923, a University Students' Loan Fund was established and a transfer of £10,000 thereto from the Assurance Fund under the *Transfer of Land Act* was authorized. In addition, a grant of £10,000 was made to the Fund from the Consolidated Revenue. The Fund is administered by a special committee. Each student applying for a loan must satisfy the committee that he is possessed of ability and that, without assistance from the Fund, he will be unable to continue the University course. It is provided that interest at rates of 4 to 5 per cent. per annum shall be charged on all advances, and that the amount lent to any student in any year shall not exceed £100.

Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. Investments (the result of private benefactions) amounted to £1,029,707 at 31st December, 1944. In addition, gifts, which have been spent on buildings and equipment, amount to £155,080.

**Public Examinations.** The University through a Schools Board (on which the Education Department, the registered secondary schools, the University teaching staff and the business community, are represented) conducts examinations each year for the School Intermediate and the School Leaving Certificates. The appended table gives the result of the examinations held in December, 1943, (when the entries totalled 14,159) and in February, 1944 (when they totalled 2,590):—

**PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, DECEMBER, 1943, AND FEBRUARY, 1944.**

Examination.	Number who attempted to Pass fully.	Number who Passed fully.	
		Total	Percentage.
School Intermediate .. .. .	7,703	4,616	59·93
School Leaving .. .. .	5,718	2,492	43·58
	13,421	7,108	52·96

Of the successful candidates, 2,331 satisfied the requirements of the School Intermediate examination and 839 those of the School Leaving examination by submitting a Headmaster's certificate from an approved school.

**Undergraduates admitted and degrees conferred.** Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the six years, 1939-1944, was as follows:—1939, 857; 1940, 979; 1941, 929; 1942, 742; 1943, 804, and 1944, 953. The number of degrees taken during those years was 596, 482, 496, 484, 397, and 454 respectively. Of the total of 16,200 degrees granted since the establishment of the University, 3,579 have been conferred on women.

**Students enrolled 1943 and 1944.** There were 3,537 students enrolled in 1943 (1,816 being full time, 1,216 part time, and 505 external students). In 1944, 3,983 were enrolled (2,122 full time, 1,388 part time, and 473 external students). Courses taken were as follows (those during 1944 being shown in parentheses):—agriculture, 54 (58); architecture, 28 (46); arts, 1,008 (1,189); commerce, 381 (369); dental science, 136 (147); education, 87 (110); engineering, 268 (297); journalism, 5 (5); law, 147 (126); medicine, 550 (573); postgraduate medical courses, 0 (18); music, 189 (269); physical education, 32 (46); public administration, 15 (13); science, 544 (618); research, 26 (0); veterinary science, 4 (9); social studies, 35 (57); and languages, 28 (33). The number of women students included in these figures was 1,315 (1,520).

**University Finance.** A statement of receipts and expenditure for the years ended 31st December, 1943, and 1944, are given below:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1943 AND 1944.

	Year Ended 31st December.	
	1943.	1944.
<i>Receipts.</i>		
	£	£
State Government Grants—		
General Account .. .. .	89,533	94,867
Other .. .. .	24,500	29,000
Commonwealth Grants (Research, &c.) .. .. .	12,267	15,437
Bequests and Donations .. .. .	21,440	69,950
Fees—		
Lecture .. .. .	65,416	74,934
Examination, &c. .. .. .	46,324	50,928
Interest and Dividends .. .. .	41,049	41,177
Other receipts .. .. .	18,283	19,513
Total Receipts .. .. .	318,812	395,806
<i>Expenditure.</i>		
Salaries .. .. .	182,690	210,215
Examiners' fees .. .. .	11,495	13,330
Examination expenses .. .. .	5,796	6,880
Fellowships, Scholarships, &c. .. .. .	5,376	6,205
Apparatus .. .. .	10,283	18,088
Books and periodicals .. .. .	4,719	4,852
Printing and stationery .. .. .	3,414	6,655
Buildings and grounds .. .. .	7,841	14,325
Other .. .. .	31,048	36,832
Total Expenditure .. .. .	262,662	317,382

**Affiliated Colleges.** There are five residential colleges affiliated with the University. Trinity, Ormond, Queen's, and Newman Colleges were established by the Church of England, the Presbyterian, the Methodist, and the Roman Catholic Churches respectively; the University Women's College (not a Church foundation) was affiliated during 1937. Information relating to the foundation and progress of the colleges is given in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

**College of Dentistry.**

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

**University Extension.**

Tutorial and lecture classes and study circles are organized and maintained by the University Extension Board in co-operation with the Workers' Educational Association. These classes are held in the city and suburbs and in a number of country towns. The Board also provides an extensive series of public lectures in the larger country towns, maintains reading and discussion circles in the smaller towns, and is the means through which persons seeking advice or information from the University may be served. The Board's work is cultural and educational in the broadest sense. Its courses are not intended for those proceeding to degrees, but for the ordinary citizen of the State.

**Rehabilitation of Servicemen.**

The University has during the war provided, in co-operation with the education authorities of the various Services, a scheme of correspondence tuition whereby students serving in the Forces have been able to receive instruction and to sit for examinations in certain subjects. The University also plans to absorb into the courses large numbers of servicemen after their demobilization, when they are being assisted in the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme. In the year 1945 about 150 ex-servicemen commenced courses under this Scheme, and, with the end of the war, it is expected that much larger numbers will enter in 1946. Special facilities such as refresher courses, student guidance, and additional tutorials are being made available for ex-servicemen.

### VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

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

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

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

The number of students attending the College from 1941 to 1945 is shown hereunder:—

Course.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Pharmacy .. .. .	231	223	243	272	369
Medical .. .. .	78	95	93	101	95
Post Graduate (Pharmacy) ..	14	14	21	26	25
Total .. .. .	323	332	357	399	489

Principal items of receipts and expenditure from 1940 to 1944 were:—

## RECEIPTS.

	Year ended 31st December—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	£	£	£	£	£
Lecture Fees .. .. .	4,632	4,683	4,960	5,242	5,729
Examination Fees .. .. .	308	258	201	287	252

## PAYMENTS.

	Year ended 31st December—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	£	£	£	£	£
Salaries and fees to lecturers ..	2,406	2,518	2,608	2,570	2,966
Drugs and Chemicals .. .. .	353	434	436	455	537
Administration and other Ex- penses .. .. .	2,762	2,481	2,497	2,574	2,892

### THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The educational system of Victoria.

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

Under the *Education Act 1872*, education to all willing to accept it was made "free, compulsory and secular"—free, because fees were not to be charged; compulsory, in the sense that, whether the children attend or do not attend State Schools, evidence must be produced that they are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, for the reason that no teacher is allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State School building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of those parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two after, mid-day. In practice the actual hours of instruction in the smaller primary schools are from 9.15 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. with one hour for lunch, and in the larger primary schools from 9.15 a.m. to 4 p.m. with  $1\frac{1}{4}$  hours for lunch.

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

The following are the subjects in which instruction is free:—English (speech arts, reading—oral and silent—reading range and appreciation, written expression, handwriting, spelling, functional grammar, poetry), mathematics (accuracy and speed, knowledge of processes, problem solving), social studies (geography, history, civics and stories), nature knowledge (general science, rural science, horticulture, forestry or nature study), manual work (art, needlework, woodwork and other forms of handwork such as modelling in clay or plasticine, paper folding and paper cutting, brush drawing, or weaving with some material other than paper, for example, raffia), cookery and domestic arts for girls, music and physical education (physical training and organized games, health knowledge, swimming). Pupils buy their own books and material. Provision however, is made for a free supply of books and material in necessitous cases.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act 1928*, parents or guardians of children of not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children to attend school on every school half-day in each week unless there is a reasonable excuse within the meaning of section 25 (3) of the Act for non-attendance. Failure to comply with these provisions renders a parent or guardian liable to a fine

Free subjects.

Compulsory attendance.

up to two pounds (£2) for a first offence and not less than two pounds (£2) nor more than five pounds (£5) for a second or subsequent offence, or, in default, imprisonment for a term of not more than fourteen days. Attendance officers are appointed for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the compulsory attendance provisions of the Education Act.

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

**Correspondence tuition.** In May, 1914, there was inaugurated in Victoria the system of correspondence tuition for children in remote districts. Sets of graded exercises are sent out fortnightly and subsequently returned to the Correspondence school for correction. All the subjects of the course of study are thus taught, and with most successful results. Many children have reached the standards of the School Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates without having had any teaching except that given by correspondence tuition. For some years this tuition has been extended to include crippled and invalid children as well as children in remote districts. The total number of children enrolled for correspondence tuition on 30th June, 1944, was 1,432 (Primary 856, Secondary 576).

**School Committees** Under Act No. 2301, now incorporated in the *Education Act 1928* (No. 3671), provision was made for the appointment of a School Committee for each school. A statement of the main duties of these committees was published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 199. School committees with mothers' clubs and other school bodies have been responsible for raising many thousands of pounds for school improvement. Advisory Councils take the place of School Committees in Girls' Schools, District High Schools, and Technical Schools.

**Special schools** Special schools have been established for those children whose disabilities make the ordinary schools unsuitable or undesirable. Such special schools include the Talbot School for Epileptics, the school for the blind, the school for the deaf and dumb, five schools for the feeble-minded (three residential), a school for child inmates of the Austin Hospital for Cancer and Chronic Diseases, a school for the inmates of the Convalescent Home of the Children's Hospital, and the schools in connexion with the institutions under the Children's Welfare Department. Two special schools for youthful prisoners have been provided (one in Pentridge Gaol and one in Castlemaine Reformatory). A school for young constables has also been established at the Police Depot.

**Woodwork  
and Cookery  
Centres and  
other activities.**

On 30th June, 1944, there were in operation 104 woodwork centres, having an attendance of 10,591 boys, and 74 cookery centres (apart from those at Girls' Schools) with an attendance of 4,807 girls. Physical education is taught in all schools and field sports have been organized and encouraged as a successful adjunct to education. Instruction in swimming and life-saving methods is given at schools that have the necessary facilities. For the purposes of developing thrift and a spirit of social service in children, the Department fosters such activities as School Savings Banks, Social Service Leagues, Junior Safety Councils, &c.

**School Savings  
Banks.**

At 30th June, 1944, there were 2,770 School Savings Banks and 212,731 depositors with £364,678 to their credit.

**War Relief  
Fund.**

The Victorian State Schools' War Relief Depot began operations on the 18th June, 1940, and continued to despatch large quantities of wool and other material to schools to be made up into articles for the Australian Comforts Fund and the Australian Red Cross Society. To 30th June, 1944, the amount of money raised was £335,187, and the total number of articles supplied was 418,035.

**Free  
Kindergarten  
Union.**

At 30th June, 1944, there were 38 kindergartens and nursery schools affiliated with the Free Kindergarten Union of Victoria at which 2,300 children below school age were enrolled. There were also two holiday homes. The movement receives from the Government an annual subsidy which in 1943-44 amounted to £6,000.

**School  
forestry and  
horticulture.**

A scheme for the establishment of school tree plantations was inaugurated in 1923 with the co-operation of the Lands and State Forests Departments. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. At 30th June, 1944, there were established 388 of these plantations. During the past planting season 25,374 trees were planted. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to pupils and teachers. The Society has established a nursery from which many thousands of packets of seeds, seedlings and shrubs are distributed annually to the schools throughout the State.

**Young  
Farmers'  
Clubs.**

These have been established to interest pupils and young people generally in the agricultural life of the community. They are controlled by local committees of experts under the leadership of the head teacher of the school concerned. The movement is controlled by the Young Farmers' Clubs Association,



on which body the Education Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Railways Department, the Royal Agricultural Society, and the Rotary Club of Victoria are represented. Three full-time supervisors are employed. On the 30th June, 1944, there were 395 affiliated clubs in operation.

**Medical Inspection.** Medical inspection was established in 1909. The present staff consists of seven full-time medical officers; in addition some assistance is given by a district health officer, who, in conjunction with the duties performed by him as a member of the staff of the Public Health Department, examines some of the children in his district.

In 1943-44, 29,745 children and 1,462 teachers were examined by School Medical officers.

On 22nd June, 1942, a Nose and Throat Clinic was established for the purpose of providing treatment for children suffering from defective tonsils. A fee of 15s. is charged for each operation, but free treatment is afforded those in indigent circumstances. To the 30th June, 1944, 3,849 children were operated upon.

**Work of the School Nurses.** Twelve school nurses render invaluable service in visiting the homes of the children and in persuading parents to obtain treatment for the defects notified by the School Medical Officers. In 1943-44, they made 9,462 visits to 8,562 homes.

**Dental Treatment.** In 1921 the first two school dentists were appointed. The present staff consists of nine full-time fully qualified dentists, having the assistance of ten dental attendants. Treatment is begun with children in the first year of their school life.

In 1943-44, 25,376 children received treatment by the school dentists.

**Cost of Medical, Dental, and Nursing Services.** The total cost of the Medical, Dental, and Nursing Services in 1943-44 was £31,670.

**Teachers' College.** At present Student Teachers are trained at the Melbourne Teachers' College. Those who have passed the School Leaving Examination and in Arithmetic for the School Intermediate Certificate or its equivalent may be admitted to the College, provided they have had at least one year's teaching experience and that their teaching abilities have been satisfactorily reported

on by their Inspectors. In special cases Student Teachers without the School Leaving Certificate, may be admitted provided that they have suitable service and teaching ability.

Nine central schools (post-primary) have been established in the metropolitan area and six in country centres.

These schools have been provided for children who have completed the primary course and who have not gained admission to a secondary school or a junior technical school. The course of study is an extension of the primary school course and is arranged to assist pupils who subsequently desire to attend a secondary or a junior technical school. The course also aims at providing a general training for pupils, who do not intend to enter secondary or junior technical schools, to fit them for semi-skilled and unskilled trades and occupations.

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

#### VICTORIA—STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1880 TO 1943.

Year.	Number of Schools at end of Year.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (Estimated).
1880 .. ..	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1890 .. ..	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1900 .. ..	1,948	4,977	243,667	147,020	218,240
1909-10 .. ..	2,036	4,957	235,042	145,968	206,263
1920 (31st December)	2,333	6,637	247,337	158,554	213,738
1930 .. ..	2,598	7,665	260,319	184,228	228,756
1931 .. ..	2,590	7,613	261,673	187,443	232,286
1932 .. ..	2,613	7,461	262,417	189,101	232,586
1933 .. ..	2,609	7,371	264,697	190,977	234,174
1934 .. ..	2,617	7,397	259,750	185,082	230,470
1935 .. ..	2,606	7,353	256,564	182,442	226,728
1936 .. ..	2,600	7,314	250,070	179,420	219,645
1937 .. ..	2,589	7,394	234,228	153,381	209,043
1938 .. ..	2,591	7,242	227,233	159,022	201,457
1939 .. ..	2,585	7,316	221,219	155,441	194,725
1940 .. ..	2,569	7,271	217,941	151,674	189,807
1941 .. ..	2,542	7,222	211,434	150,517	183,987
1942 .. ..	2,480	7,143	198,909	137,204	171,124
1943 .. ..	2,458	6,953*	191,138	139,037	173,054

\* Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 1,042 on 31st December, 1942, and 1,208 on 31st December, 1943.

VICTORIA—STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1942, AND 1943.

Class of School.	Year.	Number of Schools.	Number of Pupils.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Pupils (Estimated).
Central Schools* and Classes	1942	29	8,640	7,147	8,008
	1943	29	5,592	4,822	5,541
Higher Elementary Schools*	1942	48	5,179	4,072	5,119
	1943	48	5,143	4,333	5,071
Girls' Schools .. ..	1942	13	4,467	3,396	4,414
	1943	13	4,468	3,526	4,406
Junior Technical Schools† ..	1942	27	10,130	8,238	9,957
	1943	28	11,198	9,384	11,104
District High Schools ..	1942	37	16,926	13,926	16,557
	1943	37	17,150	14,890	16,934
Total ..	1942	154	45,342	36,779	44,055
	1943	155	43,551	36,955	43,056

\* Central Schools and Higher Elementary Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Primary Schools.

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

**Ages of State school scholars.** The following table shows the number of pupils attending State Schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (from 6 to 14 years), during the years ended 31st December, 1942 and 1943 :—

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1942 AND 1943.

Class of School.	Year.	Under Six Years.	From Six to Fourteen Years.	Over Fourteen Years.	Total.
Primary .. ..	1942	8,085*	155,759	7,280	171,124
	1943	13,639	150,467	6,922	171,028
Central Schools (Post-primary)† .. ..	1943	..	1,321	705	2,026
	1942	..	6,070	1,938	8,008
Central Schools (Secondary)	1943	..	4,169	1,372	5,541
	1942	..	2,864	2,255	5,119
Higher Elementary Schools	1943	..	2,577	2,494	5,071
	1942	..	2,480	1,934	4,414
Girls' Schools .. ..	1943	..	2,583	1,823	4,406
	1942	..	4,357	5,600	9,957
Junior Technical Schools ..	1943	..	4,565	6,539	11,104

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1942-1943—*continued.*

Class of School.	Year.	Under Six Years.	From Six to Fourteen Years.	Over Fourteen Years.	Total.
District High Schools ..	1942	..	6,696	9,861	16,557
	1943	..	6,809	10,125	16,934
Pupils receiving tuition by correspondence †	1942	52	444	34	530
	1943	74	640	24	738
Total ..	1942	8,137	178,670	28,902	215,709
	1943	13,713	173,131	30,004	216,848
Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrolments between the various types of schools ..	1942	7,965	174,635	27,961	210,561
	1943	13,595	171,018	29,517	214,130

\* The reduction in 1942 was brought about by the shortage of teachers necessitating the restricting of the age of entry of new pupils to those who had reached the age of five and a half years.

† Previously included with Central Schools.

‡ Previously included with Primary Schools.

**Council of Public Education.**

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

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

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

but 'school' does not include the University of Melbourne or any college affiliated therewith or any assembly of persons, all of whom are members of not more than two families, or any State school, or any school aided by the State, or any school in any part of Victoria declared by the Governor in Council to be a sparsely populated district for the purposes of this Act."

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

**Registered schools, teachers and pupils, 1943 and 1944.**

As at the 31st December, 1943, the number of registered schools was 508, and at the 31st December, 1944, the number was 502. The number of persons employed in these schools for the respective years was 2,853 and 2952, while the number of individual pupils was 80,327 in 1943 and 81,361 in 1944. Particulars of registered schools for the years 1872 to 1928 were published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 203, and for successive years in subsequent issues of the *Year-Book*.

The number and ages of pupils in attendance at registered schools are shown hereunder :—

**VICTORIA—NUMBER AND AGES OF PUPILS IN ATTENDANCE AT REGISTERED SCHOOLS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1943 AND 1944.**

Age Groups.	Gross Enrolment.		Net Number of Pupils (Estimated).	
	1943.	1944.	1943.	1944.
Under 6 years .. ..	9,460	8,791	9,166	8,562
From 6 to 14 years .. ..	56,702	56,977	53,207	53,645
Above 14 years .. ..	18,349	19,839	17,954	19,154
Total .. ..	84,511	85,607	80,327	81,361

**Percentage of scholars attending registered schools.**

Of the total number of scholars attending schools in 1943, approximately 25 per cent. attended registered schools.

**Number and ages of pupils in all schools.**

After allowance has been made for duplicate enrolment caused by the attendance of pupils at both State schools and registered schools, it is estimated that the number of individual children at school during the years 1943 and 1944 was as follows :—

**VICTORIA—NUMBER (ESTIMATED) OF INDIVIDUAL PUPILS UNDER INSTRUCTION AT SCHOOL DURING THE YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1943 AND 1944.**

Age Groups.	1943.	1944.
Under 6 years .. ..	22,578	20,302
From 6 to 14 years .. ..	223,161	222,623
Above 14 years .. ..	47,111	50,794
Total .. ..	292,850	293,719

**STATE SECONDARY EDUCATION.**

The purpose of the higher elementary school and the district high school is to provide the essentials of a good general education for pupils who have completed the work of the sixth grade in primary schools, and who are likely to profit by a further course of study, and to give them, in the third and fourth years at secondary schools, a specialized training which will help to prepare them for their chosen careers in life. A statement in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, pages 204 and 205, shows the nature of these schools.

**Higher elementary schools,** There are 48 higher elementary schools. During the term ended 31st December, 1942, there was an average attendance at these schools of 4,072 pupils, of whom 1,950 were boys and 2,122 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1943, the attendance was 4,333, of whom 2,058 were boys and 2,275 were girls. In the higher elementary schools a four-years' course up to School Intermediate Certificate is provided.

**Central schools and classes (Secondary.)** In twenty central schools in the metropolitan area and nine schools with central classes in country centres a two-years' preparatory course of secondary education is provided. This course was attended by 7,147 pupils in 1942 and by 4,822 in 1943. Pupils from these schools have priority of admission to district high schools.

**Girls' schools.** There are thirteen girls' schools, of which ten are in the Metropolitan Area of Melbourne, and one each in Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. During the term ended 31st December, 1943, there were 3,526 girls in attendance at these schools, compared with 3,396 during the corresponding term in 1942. A three-years' course is provided which leads to the certificate of proficiency in home arts and crafts at the age of fifteen years.

**District high schools.** There are 37 district high schools. In these schools, a six-years' course is provided. At the end of the fifth year pupils may obtain the School Leaving Certificate which, under certain conditions, qualifies for Matriculation; at the end of the sixth year pupils may sit for School Leaving Certificate Honours. During the term ended 31st December, 1942, there were in attendance at these schools 13,926 pupils, of whom 7,365 were boys and 6,561 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1943, the attendance was 14,890, comprising 7,762 boys and 7,128 girls.

**University High School.** For the practical part of the work of training secondary teachers, the institution now known as the University High School was opened in 1910. This is the official practising school for the work of the first year of the course for Bachelor of Education of the University of Melbourne.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

At the beginning of 1944 scholarships were awarded as under:—

Number and Kind.	Age Requirements of Candidates.	Period of Tenure.	Annual Value.
850 Junior Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1944	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £19 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
650 Free Places at State secondary schools open to candidates attending State schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1944	4 years	Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
150 Teaching Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Between 14½ years and 16½ years on 1st January, 1944	3 years	As for Junior Scholarships
100 Junior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 12½ years on 1st January, 1944	3 years	Free tuition at a junior technical school or approved State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £19 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
150 Intermediate Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools	Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1944	1 year	Free tuition at a junior technical school and £10 p.a.; also in certain cases up to £39 p.a. for maintenance
135 Senior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State, technical and registered schools	No age limit	Up to 5 years	Free tuition at senior technical schools; also £30 p.a. in case of day scholars and £10 p.a. or £5 p.a. in case of evening scholars; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a. for maintenance
44 Senior Scholarships open to candidates attending State, registered and technical schools	Not over 18½ years on 1st January, 1944	Up to 6 years	£40 p.a. towards expense of course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
70 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to Student Teachers and candidates attending State, registered, and technical schools	No age limit	Up to 6 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at University; also in certain cases up to £143 p.a.
5 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to officers (other than teachers) of the Government of Victoria	Not over 25 years on 1st January, 1944	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University. Leave on full pay to attend lectures and examinations
15 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to teachers of Education Department	No age limit	Up to 4 years	Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University

In addition to these scholarships, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum may be granted to enable pupils who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances to attend State secondary and technical schools. Free tuition is granted to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers, attending State secondary or technical schools.

*School Orchestras.*—East Camberwell Girls' School has a small string orchestra, and five high schools, MacRobertson Girls', Coburg, Northcote, Melbourne Boys', and University have a full orchestra. Brunswick Technical School also has a full orchestra.

*School Bands.*—There are twelve brass bands, one each in the following schools:—Coburg, Coburg West, Coburg East, Fairfield, Northcote, Armadale, Collingwood Technical School, Essendon Technical School, Footscray Central, East Kew, Northcote High School, and University High School—and 25 drum and fife bands of which 22 are in the metropolitan area and 3 in the country.

*Music and Speech Training Staff.*—There are eleven members on the music and speech training staff. Two of these are in provincial centres—Ballarat and Bendigo—one is attached to the Teachers' College, one is teaching speech training mainly, and six—four of whom are on half-time studying for the Bachelor of Music Degree—work in schools in the metropolitan area.

*Teachers' Classes.*—Student teacher classes in music and speech training are held in seven metropolitan centres and two in provincial centres—Ballarat and Bendigo. Correspondence lessons in speech are provided for country student teachers, and an advanced class to enable teachers to qualify for Singing Teacher's Primary Certificate is held at a metropolitan centre.

*Broadcast Lessons.*—There is a weekly broadcast lesson in music for both junior and post-primary grades and a monthly lesson in speech training. The latter is given during the Special Activities Session.

*Visual Education.*—In June, 1938, a Visual Education Committee consisting of a number of Head Teachers under the chairmanship of the Assistant Chief Inspector was formed for the purpose of reviewing educational films to ensure that nothing of inferior quality would be used in schools. Film reviews were to be advertised in the *Education*



*Gazette* for the guidance of teachers. In September of 1938, a Visual Education officer was appointed to arrange and produce film-strips for departmental use. The further duty of the Committee was to advise and guide this officer in his film preparation. In September of 1939, a new appointment was made to the position of Visual Education Officer and under his supervision a centre of Visual Education was established in the Radio School of the Melbourne College. From this period to the end of June, 1944, 65 film-strips were produced by the Department and distributed to many of the 400 schools with projectors.

During the period 1943-44 the Visual Education Programme was slightly curtailed because of the fact that not many of the 316 film-strip projectors borrowed by the Army from the schools had been returned.

The policy pursued during this period was, therefore, to produce as many negatives of film-strips as possible and only supply the positive prints as required. Of the 11 film-strips produced 3 were sponsored under the Gillies Bequest Grant as Nature Appreciation Films.

The Visual Education Grant during this period, was £500; raw-stock, motion picture films, and reference books were purchased.

*Physical Education.*—Provision is made in Victorian schools for the physical education of school children from 5 years to 16 years. School programmes provide a daily period of such physical activities as gymnastics, games, sports, swimming and life-saving, and folk dancing for the average normally healthy child. More medical attention is needed for the child under average physically, and a remedial centre has been established. It caters for a limited number of children from a few surrounding schools and is conducted by a qualified physical education instructor under medical observation.

The organization of physical education is under the direction of an organizer, with a staff of 6 male and 30 female assistants. Three males and 22 females are in charge of the schools in the 8 metropolitan districts. One male and one female are in the provincial centre of Geelong, 2 females in each of the provincial centres of Ballarat and Bendigo, 1 male and 1 female in charge of the Teachers' College, and 1 male and 2 female assistants teaching swimming and life-saving. Teachers receive training in the Training College, and in Vacation

Schools, Refresher Classes, and Classes of Instruction for student teachers. Rural districts are provided for by Classes of Instruction in country centres.

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

At the present time 194 school buses are in operation and 6,200 pupils are being conveyed to State and registered secondary schools. It is estimated that the cost of these services will be £168,200 per annum.

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

*Social Service Leagues.*—Social Service Leagues were established by the Education Department in October, 1940. These leagues, which are composed of school pupils, aim at maintaining peace-time activities in connexion with local hospitals and other charitable institutions and also the Yooralla school and hospitals caring especially for children.

The number of leagues formed to the end of 1944 was 2,400. These leagues raised £6,194 to the end of June, 1944, for the hospitals and institutions mentioned above, and supplied large quantities of fruit, vegetables, groceries, jams, jellies, and other delicacies, to the same institutions.

#### TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The technical schools in the State were originally under the control of local school councils. In 1910, however, legislation was passed which provided for all schools established after that year to be under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1944, was 31, of which seventeen have been established since the

passing of the *Education Act* 1910. The gross enrolment for the year 1942 comprised 10,130 junior and 24,304 senior students and, for the year 1943, 11,198 junior and 27,389 senior students.

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

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

Associated with every technical school, with the exception of the Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy, the Melbourne Technical College, and the William Angliss Food Trades School, is a full-time day junior technical or preparatory section, which provides for a three years' course of study. Pupils who have completed the Sixth grade course in primary schools are eligible for admission. Prior to enrolment in metropolitan schools an entrance examination is held, which is open to pupils from all schools, both State and private.

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

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

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

Government expenditure on each technical school during each of the five years ended 1943-44 is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1939-40 TO 1943-44.

School.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	£	£	£	£	£
Bairnsdale .. .. .	3,855	4,292	4,202	4,735	5,677
Ballarat .. .. .	26,160	16,756	18,279	18,194	21,185
Bendigo .. .. .	13,485	13,218	14,380	14,708	16,664
Box Hill .. .. .				37,253	18,757
Box Hill (Girls) .. .. .	6,540	6,328	27,405	7,109	8,207
Brighton .. .. .	22,005	17,719	17,871	17,970	19,491
Brunswick .. .. .	18,494	21,001	20,618	18,229	18,636
Castlemaine .. .. .	7,114	8,773	10,365	9,149	9,076
Caulfield .. .. .	16,493	15,631	15,851	16,073	20,275
Collingwood .. .. .	26,822	22,959	23,602	23,616	27,454
Daylesford .. .. .	3,431	3,464	3,678	3,481	3,672
Echuca .. .. .	5,409	5,611	6,191	6,597	12,445
Essendon .. .. .	13,780	13,407	14,437	14,654	15,839
Footscray .. .. .	27,489	27,197	37,047	46,797	43,248
Geelong (Gordon Institute of Technology) .. .. .	17,684	20,240	25,112	22,087	34,803
Maryborough .. .. .	9,059	9,952	9,252	10,055	10,294
Melbourne—					
Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy .. .. .	10,646	10,273	11,532	12,162	14,163
Swinburne Technical College .. .. .	30,528	31,065	31,717	32,995	34,742
Technical College .. .. .	53,430	52,871	66,968	67,168	67,152
William Angliss Food Trades .. .. .	26,336	11,479	5,632	4,184	4,473
Prahran .. .. .	17,608	14,667	15,276	14,557	14,773
Preston .. .. .	14,397	16,439	13,676	13,546	15,210
Richmond .. .. .	13,745	13,549	13,223	14,510	18,909
Sale .. .. .	6,168	6,879	6,742	7,120	13,392
South Melbourne .. .. .	13,422	13,073	13,594	12,931	16,177
Stawell .. .. .	4,172	4,120	4,737	4,977	5,567
Sunshine .. .. .	10,555	9,356	10,334	11,293	13,109
Wangaratta .. .. .	5,540	6,058	6,120	7,003	8,144
Warrnambool .. .. .	6,854	7,240	7,649	10,360	9,173
Wonthaggi .. .. .	6,760	7,743	7,446	7,196	7,792
Yalourn .. .. .	6,420	7,086	13,846	10,064	9,680
Other Votes for Technical Schools .. .. .	11,513	12,168	16,989	18,774	26,682
Miscellaneous .. .. .	3,769	6,357	4,019	3,715	3,912
Total .. .. .	459,683	436,471	497,790	523,262	568,773

## STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION.

During 1943-44, expenditure by and on behalf of the Education Department of Victoria, as published in the Report of the Minister of Public Instruction, together with the payment by the Treasury to the University (less that for Bacteriological Laboratory Services) totalled £3,828,162. This amount includes expenditure from loan moneys and the cost of pensions and gratuities, but excludes the interest paid by the State on loans for educational purposes (particulars of which are not available), payroll tax, and superannuation paid on behalf of officers in the Defence Forces. Comparative figures for each of the years 1939-40 to 1943-44 were as follow:—

VICTORIA—STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION,  
1939-40 TO 1943-44.

Expenditure on—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	£	£	£	£	£
Education, Primary, Intermediate, and Secondary—					
Primary (including Special Subjects)	2,023,560	1,971,294	1,966,892	2,001,879	2,131,489
Intermediate .. .. .	123,679	127,013	130,520	141,924	165,108
Secondary .. .. .	299,583	309,652	321,301	328,607	374,227
Buildings and Land .. .. .	227,460	233,876	185,779	177,167	150,058
Technical Education—					
Junior and Senior Schools .. .. .	394,198	401,770	423,732	442,825	496,394
Buildings and Land .. .. .	65,855	34,984	69,743	74,821	66,318
Training of Teachers .. .. .	16,722	18,210	33,329	36,767	46,423
Administration .. .. .	77,399	77,663	82,012	94,281	98,096
Pensions .. .. .	171,666	172,885	170,600	171,116	170,523
Miscellaneous .. .. .	..	62	94	198	2,042
University—					
Special Appropriations, &c.* .. .. .	73,800	76,500	98,500	108,500	120,000
Scholarships .. .. .	6,910	7,610	7,962	7,088	7,484
Total* .. .. .	3,480,832	3,431,519	3,490,464†	3,585,173†	3,828,162†
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Per head of Population .. .. .	1 16 10	1 16 2	1 15 9	1 16 4	1 18 4

\* Excluding expenditure on Bacteriological Laboratory Services, viz.:—1939-40, £3,500; 1940-41, £4,000; 1941-42, £4,000; 1942-43, £4,000; and 1943-44, £4,000.

† Excluding (a) pay-roll tax, £52,856 in 1941-42, £63,767 in 1942-43, and £69,318 in 1943-44; and (b) superannuation paid on behalf of officers in Defence Forces, £19,110 in 1942-43, and £20,477 in 1943-44.

In addition to the expenditure shown in the preceding table, fees, donations, &c., amounting to £90,308 in 1939-40, £87,932 in 1940-41, £91,520 in 1941-42, £80,619 in 1942-43, and £101,682 in 1943-44 were retained and expended by the various technical school councils.

In the two following statements the expenditure shown has been confined to that relating to primary, intermediate, and secondary education in State schools, i.e., excluding amount expended on

technical education. No attempt has been made to apportion general expenditure items such as "Training of Teachers, Administration, &c." These items therefore are somewhat overstated.

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION—STATE SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING TECHNICAL SCHOOLS), 1939-40 TO 1943-44.

Expenditure on—	Year ended 30th June—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Education :—</b>					
<b>Primary—</b>					
Day Schools, including Central Schools ..	1,952,772	1,890,765	1,892,209	1,917,587	2,042,698
Schools for Deaf Mutes and Blind and Feeble-minded Children ..	29,387	29,671	29,203	30,857	35,518
Subsidized Schools ..	116	107	64	12	..
Free Kindergarten Union ..	2,500	2,500	4,500	6,000	..
Special Subjects—					
Physical Training ..	10,378	10,179	9,946	9,524	12,076
Dressmaking and Needlework ..	5,475	5,743	5,574	5,779	6,386
School Gardening and Plantations ..	2,639	2,668	2,618	2,695	2,905
Music ..	4,087	4,206	4,652	3,720	4,554
Medical Inspection ..	16,206	16,455	18,126	25,705	27,352
<b>Total Primary ..</b>	<b>2,023,560</b>	<b>1,971,294</b>	<b>1,966,892</b>	<b>2,001,879</b>	<b>2,131,489</b>
<b>Intermediate—</b>					
Higher Elementary Schools ..	67,606	68,877	70,567	77,358	95,705
Evening Continuation Classes ..	436	52	..	..	..
Girls' Schools (Schools of Domestic Arts) ..	55,637	58,084	59,953	64,566	69,403
<b>Total Intermediate ..</b>	<b>123,679</b>	<b>127,013</b>	<b>130,520</b>	<b>141,924</b>	<b>165,108</b>
<b>Secondary*—</b>					
High Schools ..	284,366	290,044	296,517	314,272	354,218
Scholarships ..	15,217	19,608	24,783	14,335	18,513
Other ..	..	..	..	..	1,496
<b>Total Secondary ..</b>	<b>299,583</b>	<b>309,652</b>	<b>321,300</b>	<b>328,607</b>	<b>374,227</b>
Training of Teachers ..	16,722	18,210	33,329	36,767	46,423
Administration ..	77,399	77,663	82,012	94,281	98,097
Miscellaneous ..	..	62	94	198	2,042
<b>Buildings—</b>					
Primary Schools ..	194,053	188,502	137,992	136,107	119,387
Rents ..	3,540	3,950	3,758	3,145	3,204
Higher Elementary Schools ..	..	110	2,145	11,273	4,667
Girls' Schools (Domestic Arts Schools, &c.) ..	164	10	3,380	3,534	2,489
High Schools ..	29,703	41,304	13,335	10,187	11,692
Teachers' College ..	..	..	25,170	12,921	8,619
<b>Total Buildings ..</b>	<b>227,460</b>	<b>233,876</b>	<b>185,780</b>	<b>177,167</b>	<b>150,058</b>
Pensions ..	171,666	172,885	170,600	171,116	170,523
<b>Grand Total ..</b>	<b>2,940,069</b>	<b>2,910,655</b>	<b>2,890,527</b>	<b>2,951,939</b>	<b>3,137,967</b>

\* Including Manual Training.

**Melbourne Technical College.**

The Melbourne Technical College, as the Working Men's College, was founded in 1887 by the late Hon. Francis Ormond. It is open to both sexes, and supplies higher technical instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

**Scholarships and Prizes.**

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

**Day Courses and Fees.**

All fees are payable in advance. The year is divided into three terms. The day courses and the scale of fees per term for the year 1945 are shown in the following table:—

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

**Evening  
Courses and  
Classes.**

In the evening school, the following courses for certificates are in operation:—Assayers; geologists; aero, civil, electrical, mechanical, and structural engineers; communication and production engineering; land surveyors; mechanical draughtsmen; public analysts; art; architects; industrial chemists; heat treatment; mine managers; mine surveying; primary and secondary metallurgy; building and printing trades. Evening courses for the diploma of chemistry, applied science, mechanical, electrical, and civil engineering, metallurgy and accountancy are also in operation. The fees for evening tuition range from £1 10s. per term to £4 10s. per term according to the course taken.

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

During 1944 the College accommodated 4,275 Defence trainees from the R.A.A.F., the Army, the Navy, the Department of Aircraft Production and the Factory Board.

Details relating to the College during the years 1940 to 1944 are shown in the following table:—

**MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1940 TO 1944.**

—	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Individual students enrolled ..	9,450	9,516	8,386	9,599	11,294
Males .. .. .	8,190	7,981	7,007	7,776	9,334
Females .. .. .	1,260	1,535	1,379	1,823	1,960
Number of classes .. ..	396	398	399	399	401
Number of Instructors ..	448	384	359	413	488
Salaries paid to Instructors £	53,563	53,779	52,235	58,952	58,152
Government grant .. £	44,154	51,032	52,800	52,800	45,600
Fees received during the year* £	37,421	39,012	33,743	42,480	50,544
Average fee per student per year	79s. 2d.	82s. 0d.	80s. 6d.	88s. 6d.	89s. 6d.

\* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £1,591 in 1940, £1,988 in 1941, £4,373 in 1942, £9,344 in 1943, and £8,605 in 1944. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.



**PUBLIC LIBRARIES.**

**Public Library of Victoria.** The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :— The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending (Travelling) Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 4,081 volumes were purchased, 1,264 volumes presented, 236 volumes obtained under the "Libraries Act," and 41,500 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1944. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 542,694 volumes and 87,222 pamphlets. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 194,120 volumes during 1944, a decrease of 36,716 compared with 1943, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 14,997, which was 1,993 less than the number in 1943. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1944 was 88,844, of which 3,945 were added during the year. At the same date there were 12,000 volumes in the Travelling Libraries.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £446,143. With the exception of the sum of £35,000 received from the McAllan bequest, the whole of the money required to meet the cost of the buildings was provided by Parliament.

**National Gallery.** The National Gallery at the end of 1944 contained 29,628 works of art, viz., 1,007 oil paintings, 7,578 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 21,043 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. During 1944, the Trustees of the Felton Bequest provided the sum of £23,500 for the purchase of works of art, the total of such purchases to the end of the year amounting to £548,200. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended during the year by 23 students and the school of drawing by 162 students, exclusive of service personnel who received free tuition.

**National and Industrial Museums.** The National Museum and the Industrial and Technological Museum are located in the Public Library Buildings. The collections in the former comprise natural history, geology, and ethnology, while, in the latter, more than 10,000 exhibits are displayed.

**Other Public Libraries.** Prior to their suspension in 1942, library statistics were collected from libraries in the metropolitan area and provincial centres in the State. In 1946 it is hoped to completely restore this collection.

The following table shows the principal libraries in the State and the number of volumes as at 31st December, 1944. Libraries controlled by municipalities are shown with an asterisk (\*).

## VICTORIA—PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1944.

Municipality.	Volumes at 31st December, 1944 in—				
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	Children's Branch.	Total.
METROPOLITAN.					
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Brighton* .. .. .	100	7,000	..	900	8,000
Brunswick* .. .. .	2,812	7,433	..	1,050	11,295
Collingwood* .. .. .	2,000	4,000	..	..	6,000
Fitzroy* .. .. .	3,500	3,130	..	..	6,630
Footscray—Mechanics Institute and Library .. .. .	..	17,000	..	..	17,000 (a)
Hawthorn* .. .. .	100	9,500	..	2,700	12,300
Heidelberg Public Library .. .. .	..	4,600	..	..	4,600 (b)
Kew* .. .. .	..	7,115	..	3,793	10,908
Melbourne—					
Kensington* .. .. .	..	3,500	..	2,948	6,448
North Melbourne* .. .. .	2,400	11,976	..	9,233	23,609
The Public Library of Victoria .. .. .	542,694	88,844	12,000	..	643,538
Moorabbin—					
Cheltenham Mechanics Institute .. .. .	120	1,700	..	..	1,820
Moorabbin Library .. .. .	..	1,160	..	..	1,160
Mordialloc: Mentone Public Library .. .. .	..	3,600	..	400	4,000
Northcote* ("Carnegie") .. .. .	100	10,450	..	1,500	12,050
Oakleigh* .. .. .	540	2,800	..	..	3,340 (c)
Port Melbourne* .. .. .	2,000	12,000	..	..	14,000
Prahran* .. .. .	15,000	20,000	..	7,500	42,500
Mechanics' Institute and Library .. .. .	..	10,000	..	..	10,000
Preston Public Library .. .. .	..	7,000	..	..	7,000
Richmond* .. .. .	2,410	4,850	..	..	7,260
Richmond South* .. .. .	3,980	1,730	..	..	5,710
South Melbourne* .. .. .	250	10,189	..	3,961	14,400
Williamstown Mechanics' Institute and Library .. .. .	800	7,500	..	1,200	9,500
Total .. .. .	578,806	257,077	12,000	35,185	883,068
PROVINCIAL.					
Ballarat(4) .. .. .	10,818	46,335	..	3,015	60,168
Bendigo (d) (5) .. .. .	12,469	10,278	..	..	22,747
Geelong (e) (5) .. .. .	745	23,060	..	4,330	28,135
Mildura* ("Carnegie") (1) .. .. .	700	13,615	..	2,374	16,689
Warrnambool (1) .. .. .	4,556	6,362	..	494	11,412
Total .. .. .	29,288	99,650	..	10,213	139,151

(a) Volumes not classified.

(b) At 30th September, 1945.

(c) Estimated.

(d) Includes library at School of Mines.

(e) There were 12,645 volumes in the Geelong City municipal library and 4,340 in the Chilwell municipal library.

## THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1896, is situated on the south side of the River Yarra. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Adjoining the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Shrine, the Domain, the

Observatory, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres.

#### ZOOLOGICAL BOARD OF VICTORIA.

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

#### PUBLIC RESERVES.

On 1st October, 1943, the area devoted to public reserves in Greater Melbourne was 9,644 acres, of which 3,117 were acquired by municipal councils at a cost of £819,380.

The particulars for each municipality comprising Greater Melbourne were published in the *Year-Book* for 1942-43, page 245.

#### HOUSING.

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

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

Country municipalities in which housing estates are being developed include—

<i>Cities</i>	..	Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong West, Mildura, Warrnambool.
<i>Towns</i>	..	Ararat, Hamilton, Newtown and Chilwell.
<i>Boroughs</i>	..	Castlemaine, Colac, Eaglehawk, Shepparton, Swan Hill, Wangaratta.
<i>Shires</i>	..	Mildura, Morwell, Traralgon.

Since its inception 48 estates, including 19 in the country, have been developed by the Commission and 2,091 houses provided thereon. In addition 1,134 houses are in various stages of construction.

In accordance with the agreement made between the Commonwealth and State Governments, the quota of Government sponsored housing allocated to Victoria from 1st April, 1944, to 30th June, 1945, was 2,160 homes.

To 30th June, 1945, projects have been determined for the construction of 2,107 houses for Victoria's quota allocated as follows:—

Houses.	Metropolitan.	Country.
	No.	No.
Completed .. .. .	475	124
Under construction .. .. .	838	296
Tenders called for .. .. .	18	57
Plans in preparation .. .. .	21	278
Total .. .. .	1,352	755

In its normal house programme to 30th June, 1945, the Commission has expended £2,271,500.

Net revenue for rents for the year ended 30th June, 1945, amounted to £91,019.

During the year a further 745 sub-standard houses were dealt with, repairs being effected in 479 houses. The balance of 266 houses were considered beyond repair and were ordered to be demolished, but, because of house shortage, the majority will be deferred until a more appropriate time.

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

### VICTORIA—RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

A statement showing the number of adherents to the various religious denominations and sects, as ascertained at the Census of 4th April, 1921, and of 30th June, 1933, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1937-38, page 226.

### FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

The principal legislative provisions relating to friendly societies are contained in the *Friendly Societies Act* 1928, a summary of which was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 (pages 383-387). Amending Acts were passed in 1934, 1938, and 1939. The main provisions of the first of these amending Acts were published in the *Year-Book* for 1934-35, page 213, and those of the remaining two amending Acts in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39, page 237. The provisions of the amending Act of 1939 with regard to the sum of money payable at the death of a member have been affected, to some extent, by a Commonwealth National Security Regulation made in 1941. The objects of this Regulation are given under "Legislation," in the *Year-Book* for 1940-41, page 261.

Under an Order made by the Hon. the Premier by virtue of a Commonwealth National Security Regulation, the managing body of any society could postpone, for a period not extending beyond two

years after 11th March, 1942, the holding of any meeting or election required by its rules, and during the war may amend its rules to the extent necessary to meet circumstances arising out of the war.

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

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

**Progress of  
Friendly  
Societies.**

The following table shows the number and classification of members of Victorian Friendly Societies at 30th June, 1944 :—

Members Contributing for—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Sick and funeral benefits .. .. .	184,349	20,654	205,003
Medical benefits only (including widows) .. .. .	14,721	17,318	32,039
No benefits (honorary) .. .. .	2,578	2,029	4,607
Grand Total .. .. .	201,648	40,001	241,649

During the five years ended June, 1944, there was a net increase of 17,673 in the number of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits; this increase was slightly more than 9 per cent. of the number of such members at the beginning of the period.

The total funds, exclusive of those of dispensaries, increased during the period of five years ended June, 1944, by £864,229, or nearly 14 per cent. The funds at the end of the period amounted to £7,169,687. The funds are well invested, the average rate of interest obtained on the sick and funeral funds during 1943-44 being 4.16 per cent. Since 1940-41 there has been a fall of .28 per cent. in the rate of interest; this is due mainly to a decrease in mortgage investments and a corresponding increase in investments in Commonwealth Government loans and in debentures.

The total assets of the dispensaries at the end of 1943-44 amounted to £269,071.

Separate funds to provide for payments to hospitals for treatment received by members and their dependants have been established by all societies with the exception of a few small societies, dividing societies and societies of a special nature. The benefit payments made from these funds in 1943-44 amounted to £21,915.

The statement which follows contains information (exclusive of that relating to dispensaries) in regard to Friendly Societies in Victoria for the five years, 1939-40 to 1943-44.

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

**VICTORIAN FRIENDLY SOCIETIES—MEMBERSHIP, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS, 1939-40 TO 1943-44.**

	Year ended 30th June—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Number of societies .. .. .	83	83	84	89	92
Number of branches .. .. .	1,475	1,471	1,457	1,466	1,458
Number of members contributing at end of year for sick and funeral benefits .. .. .	191,864	195,902	200,179	202,643	205,003
Number of members (including widows) contributing at end of year for medical benefits only ..	26,458	27,974	29,836	31,248	32,039
Number of members who received sick pay .. .. .	50,138	54,320	48,288	48,746	49,228
Weeks for which sick pay was allowed .. .. .	511,550	519,086	493,657	477,751	479,632
Deaths of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits ..	2,159	2,203	2,358	2,466	2,490
Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits .. .. .	683	626	683	659	672
<b>Receipts—</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	505,905	514,337	508,556	505,021	512,766
Medical and Management Funds ..	456,072	467,942	474,646	470,286	484,060
Other Funds .. .. .	161,853*	198,486	170,100	202,143	234,228
Less inter-fund transfers .. ..	- 75,829	- 98,761	- 55,431	- 71,443	- 81,336
<b>Total receipts .. .. .</b>	<b>1,048,001*</b>	<b>1,082,004</b>	<b>1,097,871</b>	<b>1,106,007</b>	<b>1,149,718</b>
<b>Expenditure—</b>					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	383,992	414,075	364,143	373,537	376,473
Medical and Management Funds ..	446,795	452,877	460,155	451,745	458,311
Other Funds .. .. .	138,970	146,782	162,812	176,913	194,592
Less inter-fund transfers .. ..	- 75,829	- 98,761	- 55,431	- 71,443	- 81,336
<b>Total Expenditure .. .. .</b>	<b>893,928</b>	<b>914,973</b>	<b>931,679</b>	<b>930,752</b>	<b>948,040</b>
<b>Excess of Receipts over Expenditure .. .. .</b>	<b>154,073*</b>	<b>167,031</b>	<b>166,192</b>	<b>175,255</b>	<b>201,678</b>
<b>Amount of Funds—</b>					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	5,237,155	5,337,417	5,481,830	5,613,314	5,749,607
Medical and Management Funds ..	249,842	264,907	279,398	297,939	323,638
Other Funds .. .. .	972,534*	1,024,238	1,031,526	1,056,756	1,096,392
<b>Total Funds .. .. .</b>	<b>6,459,531*</b>	<b>6,626,562</b>	<b>6,792,754</b>	<b>6,968,009</b>	<b>7,169,637</b>
<b>Disposal of Funds—</b>					
<b>Amounts Invested—</b>					
Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds .. .. .	5,218,481	5,322,740	5,465,491	5,595,424	5,738,267
Medical and Management Funds ..	239,761	257,651	270,868	287,700	312,198
Other Funds .. .. .	950,257*	1,003,769	1,008,473	1,033,683	1,075,497
<b>Amounts uninvested—</b>					
All Funds .. .. .	51,032	42,402	47,922	51,202	43,725

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

\* After the deduction of an overstatement of £856.

**Secessions and Expenses.** During the twelve months ended June, 1944, the societies lost by secession 7,445 sick and funeral benefit members; this was equal to about 3·7 per cent. of the membership at the beginning of that period. The corresponding rates of secession in 1939-40, 1940-41, 1941-42 and 1942-43 were 5·5, 5·1, 4·7 and 4·2 respectively. As a rule, most of the secessions were those of new members who allowed their membership to lapse before they had time to appreciate its value. The cost of management per member in the year 1943-44 was 14s. 1d. This was 5d. more than the cost in the year 1942-43.

**Sickness and mortality experience.** The following statement shows in regard to members of societies (other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature) the average number of effective members, and the number of weeks of sickness in respect of which claims for sick-pay were granted for the years 1924-25, 1929-30 and 1934-35, and for each year of the last five years. The statement also shows the number of weeks of sickness per effective member, the number of deaths of members, and the number of deaths per 1,000 effective members.

## SICKNESS AND MORTALITY EXPERIENCE.

Year.	Average Number of Effective Members.	Weeks of Sickness.		Deaths.	
		Number.	Per Average Effective Member.*	Number.	Per 1,000 Average Effective Members.
		Weeks.	Weeks. Days.		%
<i>Male Societies.†</i>					
1924-25 ..	123,505	247,524	2 0	1,296	10·49
1929-30 ..	131,655	321,779	2 3	1,515	11·51
1934-35 ..	130,152	424,341	3 2	1,732	13·31
1939-40 ..	146,832	463,033	3 1	1,974	13·44
1940-41 ..	149,733	467,680	3 1	2,000	13·36
1941-42 ..	153,154	443,433	2 5	2,106	13·75
1942-43 ..	155,818	425,761	2 4	2,215	14·22
1943-44 ..	157,676	423,158	2 4	2,218	14·07
<i>Female Sections and a Female Society.</i>					
1924-25 ..	9,308	14,663	1 3	39	4·19
1929-30 ..	10,717	21,288	2 0	45	4·20
1934-35 ..	12,318	30,414	2 3	56	4·55
1939-40 ..	15,163	36,490	2 2	69	4·55
1940-41 ..	15,342	37,293	2 3	84	5·48
1941-42 ..	15,527	35,119	2 2	90	5·80
1942-43 ..	15,717	34,436	2 1	101	6·43
1943-44 ..	16,217	34,928	2 1	87	5·36

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

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

After the year 1930-31 the average period of sickness per effective member showed a tendency to increase, until it seemed to be stable in 1939-40 and 1940-41 at three weeks one day per annum for males.

Since June, 1941, less sick pay has been drawn, the average period for males falling to two weeks four days in 1943-44. It is believed that the significant fall is associated with the war effort.

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

At the end of 1943-44 there were 33 United Friendly Societies' Dispensaries registered, under the Friendly Societies Acts of Victoria, as separate friendly societies. There was also one society consisting of a number of registered friendly societies' dispensaries. The chief object for which the dispensaries are established is to provide the societies with a means of supplying medicine and medical and surgical appliances to their members and to persons claiming through members. The number of members connected with the dispensaries at the end of 1943-44 was 146,097. As the greater portion of the receipts and expenditure of the dispensaries are interwoven with those of the medical and management funds of the ordinary friendly societies, they are not given here.

The assets and liabilities of the dispensaries at the end of 1943-44 amounted to £269,071 and £13,024 respectively. The assets consisted of freehold property, £135,296; stock, fittings, and sundry debtors, £88,126; cash, £34,271; and securities, £11,378. The liabilities consisted of sundry creditors, £11,290; bank overdrafts, £594; and mortgages, £1,140.

### CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

The earliest attempt at regulating the conditions of labour in Victoria was made by the passing of an Act dated 11th November, 1873, forbidding the employment of any female in a factory for more than eight hours in any day. This Act defined "factory" to be a place where not fewer than ten persons were working. Since 1873 the definition of "factory" has been broadened until now it includes any place in which mechanical power exceeding one-half horse power is in use or in which four or more persons are engaged in any handicraft or in preparing articles for trade or sale. In some circumstances, notably where bread or pastry is baked for trade or sale, or where a process involving the use of a compound of lead is employed, one or more persons constitutes a factory even where no mechanical power is used. The general recognition of the necessity of securing the health, the comfort and the safety of the workers has been expressed in many further legislative enactments.



Number of  
Factories.

At December, 1943, there were registered 11,482 factories in which 227,407 persons were employed and, in 1944, 12,091 factories employing 229,397 persons.

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

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1941, No. 4874, however, deserves special mention here because it is fairly recent and because of its far-reaching provisions. The legislation is based on unanimous recommendations of a Board of Inquiry set up by the Government in 1940, and makes material changes in the working of the Wages Board system. The main provisions of the measure are summarized here :—

Section 2 (1) provides that Wages Boards shall consist of a maximum of six representatives instead of ten. Section 2 (2) directs the appointment of Wages Boards for nurserymen and market gardeners to be operative within a radius of forty miles from Melbourne. The appointment of such Boards to include country districts within the forty-mile radius was not possible under earlier legislation.

Sections 3 to 10 make important alterations in the qualifications of representatives on Wages Boards and in the manner of their appointment.

Section 11 alters the system of appointing Wages Board Chairmen by providing for the appointment by the Governor-in-Council of a panel of two permanent salaried chairmen to perform this work exclusively.

Sections 17 to 29 deal with the appointment and functions of an Industrial Appeals Court.

The new Court has three main duties as follows :—

- (i) to decide appeals against determinations of Wages Boards (in this respect it supersedes the Court of Industrial Appeals as constituted under the Principal Act);
- (ii) to deal with proceedings ordered to be transferred to it from a Court of Petty Sessions in cases where the defendant alleges that the relationship of employer and employee does not exist (in this respect it supersedes the Trade Tribunals set up under the provisions of an earlier Act);
- (iii) to hear appeals against convictions or orders of the Metropolitan Industrial Court or any Court of Petty Sessions for offences under the Factories and Shops Acts, or against any refusal to make an order.

The constitution of the Industrial Appeals Court differs from that of the Court of Industrial Appeals which it superseded in that its members are appointed permanently and not for each individual case. The President of the Court shall be a judge of county courts having experience in industrial matters and, of the two other members, one

shall be a person having industrial experience appointed to represent employers and one with similar qualifications appointed to represent employees. The appointments are for a period of five years and provision is made for the appointment of deputies to act in the event of the inability of the President or members to do so.

**Shops, Metropolitan District and outside thereof.** The hours for closing of shops in both metropolitan and country districts, as defined in the Factories and Shops Acts, are as set out hereafter.

Orders made under National Security Regulations, however, have fixed, during the war period, 6 p.m. on week days for all except a few special classes of shops. Shops unaffected by the Orders are those conducted for the primary purpose of supplying medical or chemical requisites, cordials, fruit, vegetables, or other food or foodstuffs of a perishable nature.

### VICTORIA—CLOSING HOURS FOR ALL SHOPS SITUATED WITHIN THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

Class of Shop.	Hours of Closing.						Effect of Closing Shop for the whole of a Public Holiday which falls on any Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.	
	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	Fri.	Sat.		
	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.		
1. Booksellers and Newsagents*	8	8	8	8	9.30	1 Can re-open 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.	May remain open on half-holiday	
2. Butcher	5	5	5	5	5	12 noon.	No effect	
3. Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry	Closing hours not fixed by law. The shopkeeper may therefore decide for himself when his shop shall close.						No effect	
4. Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)*	6	6	6	6	9	1	Same as No. 1	
5. Fish and Oyster*	7	7	7	..	..	..	No effect	
6. Flower ..	Same as No. 3						No effect	
7. Fruit and Vegetable * †	During June, July, August, September, and October May, July, and						1	No effect
8. Hairdressers and Tobacconists	7	7	7	7	9	7 1	No effect May remain open on preceding day till 9 p.m.	
9. Motor oil, motor spirit and accessories	Special provisions under <i>Factories and Shops Act 1938 (No. 4578)</i> and <i>Factories and Shops (Garages) Act 1941 (No. 4836)</i>							
10. All shops of any kind not mentioned above	6	6	6	6	9	1	May remain open on preceding day till 9 p.m.	

NOTE.—On the Thursday preceding Good Friday and on the last day on which the shop is open preceding Christmas Day a shopkeeper may keep his shop open one hour later than the hour fixed for closing.

\* These hours were fixed by Regulation under section 84.

† Regulation not applicable to central portion of City of Melbourne.

VICTORIA—CLOSING HOURS FOR ALL SHOPS OUTSIDE THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT.

Class of Shop.	Hours of Closing.						Effect of Closing Shop for the whole of a Public Holiday which falls on any Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.
	Mon.	Tu.	Wed.	Th.	Fri.	Sat.	
	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	p.m.	
1. Booksellers and Newsagents	Closing hours not fixed by law. The shopkeeper may therefore decide for himself when his shop shall close						No effect
2. Butchers	7	7	7	7	9	1	May remain open preceding day until 9 p.m.
3. Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry	Same as No. 1						No effect
4. Cooked Meat (other than tinned meat)	Same as No. 1						No effect
5. Fish and Oyster	Same as No. 1						No effect
6. Flower	Same as No. 1						No effect
7. Fruit and Vegetable	Same as No. 1						No effect
8. Hairdressers or Tobacconists at Ballarat, Bendigo, Warrnambool, Geelong District, Castlemaine, Eaglehawk, Sebastopol, and Kyneton	7	7	7	7	10	1	May remain open preceding day until 10 p.m.
9. Hairdressers or Tobacconists in other parts of Victoria	If Wednesday chosen for half-holiday						} May remain open preceding day until 10 p.m.
	7	7	1	7	7	10	
10. Motor oil, motor spirit and accessories	If Saturday chosen for half-holiday						}
	7	7	7	7	10	1	
11. All shops of any kind not mentioned above	Special provisions under <i>Factories and Shops Act 1938 (No. 4578)</i> and <i>Factories and Shops (Garages) Act 1941 (No. 4836)</i> .						May remain open preceding day until 9 p.m.
	7	7	7	7	9	1	

NOTE.—The hours given in this table are the shop closing hours as fixed by law. The Factories Acts, however, provide for their alteration and variation by regulation wherever a majority of shopkeepers sign a petition. There are so many regulations in force throughout the country districts of Victoria applying to different localities that it would be impracticable to print them here. The hours given above must therefore be taken to be varied wherever such a regulation is in force.

On the Thursday preceding Good Friday and on the last day on which the shop is open preceding Christmas Day a shopkeeper may keep his shop open one hour later than the hour fixed for closing. The Minister has power to vary the hours of closing in certain circumstances when Christmas Day is observed on a Monday.

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

Registered shops are divided into 25 classes. During the year 1944, there was an increase compared with 1943 of 753 shops, and an increase of 1,224 workers. Particulars of the shops registered and number of workers therein are given below:—

**VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBER OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1944 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES).**

Class of Shop.	Metropolitan.		Provincial Cities and Country.		Whole State.	
	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.	Number of Shops.	Number of Workers.
Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry ..	3,537	6,011	1,854	3,483	5,391	9,494
Booksellers, Newsagents ..	742	1,564	331	709	1,073	2,273
Boot Dealers ..	247	868	205	466	452	1,334
Boot Repairers ..	606	686	394	496	1,000	1,182
Butchers ..	1,072	2,844	829	1,959	1,901	4,803
Chemists ..	555	1,446	329	801	884	2,247
Crockery ..	26	76	6	10	32	86
Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites ..	745	1,594	981	1,909	1,726	3,503
Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat ..	580	1,357	95	228	675	1,585
Drapery and Men's Clothing ..	1,767	10,851	890	2,986	2,657	13,837
Electrical and Radio ..	259	672	160	281	419	953
Fancy Goods Dealers ..	233	1,787	130	547	363	2,334
Fish ..	269	442	88	154	357	596
Florists ..	347	517	51	80	398	597
Fruit and Vegetable ..	1,296	2,157	792	1,478	2,088	3,635
Fuel and Fodder ..	599	1,019	225	393	824	1,412
Furniture ..	270	1,019	113	314	383	1,333
Grocers ..	2,343	4,588	1,129	2,574	3,472	7,162
Hairdressers ..	1,366	2,760	695	1,089	2,061	3,849
Hardware ..	397	1,709	349	891	746	2,600
Jewellery ..	179	423	136	238	315	661
Leather Goods ..	127	227	146	191	273	418
Musical Instruments ..	19	189	14	33	33	222
Tobacconists ..	1,103	1,259	252	277	1,355	1,536
Mixed Trades and Shops not classified	1,847	3,545	2,213	6,903	4,060	10,448
Total 1944*	20,531	49,610	12,407	28,490	32,938	78,100
Total 1943*	19,901	48,980	12,284	27,806	32,185	76,876
Total 1942*	20,125	54,911	12,512	28,347	32,637	83,258
Total 1941 ..	22,755	33,706	13,991	15,716	36,746	49,422
Total 1940 ..	24,534	34,922	16,074	17,214	40,608	52,136

\* Up to and including 1941 the figures show only the numbers of employees in shops, but the figures for 1942 and following years include all workers in shops, including shopkeepers themselves and members of their families.

**Wages  
Boards.**

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

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

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

- (a) work and days and hours of work ;
- (b) pay, wages and reward ;
- (c) privileges, rights and duties of employers and employees ;
- (d) the mode, terms and conditions of employment or non-employment ;
- (e) the relations of employers and employees ;
- (f) the employment or non-employment of persons of any sex or age ;

- (g) the demarcation of functions of any employees or class of employees; and
- (h) all questions of what is fair and right in relation to any industrial matter having regard to the interests of the persons immediately concerned and of society as a whole.

The Act also empowered the Governor in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Labour, to appoint a Wages Board known as the "General Board" to determine the wages, &c., of persons in any trade specified by the Governor in Council in which no Wages Board Determination was operative. This provision had for its object the protection of persons engaged in industries which previously were unregulated by any Determination. Forty-two separate trades have been so specified.

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

**Enforcement of determinations.** A statement of the procedure with regard to the application and enforcement of determinations of Wages Boards was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29 on page 395.

**New Boards and Alterations of Powers.** Two Boards were appointed during 1944 to deal with classes of workers not previously subject to Wages Board control. In addition, three Boards were set up for administrative reasons to replace Boards or sections of Boards already existing. Alterations were made to the powers of three Boards.

**New Boards.**—The Boarding School Employees Board provides for persons employed at domestic work in or in connexion with sub-primary, primary, or secondary boarding schools.

The Commercial Artists Board deals with the process, trade, business, or occupation of making (for reproduction by means of printing processes) original designs, drawings, illustrations or lettering, in colour or otherwise, for advertising purposes, for use in connexion with commerce or industry, or in connexion with the marketing of commodities.

**Replaced Boards.**—A new Breadcarters and a new Charworkers Board were appointed in place of Boards of the same names and with the same powers. The new Boards, however, apply to wider areas than those which they replace. This method was adopted in order that persons affected within the area not previously covered should have an opportunity of being represented on the Boards.

An Industrial Gases Board was appointed under the provisions of section 6 (3) of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1936 to cover persons (previously subject to the General Board) employed in the trade of manufacturing or preparing carbon dioxide or other industrial gases for trade or sale in gas, liquid or solid form.

*Altered Powers—*

*Fibrous Plasterers Board.*—Additional powers were conferred on this Board to enable it to fix rates for persons employed :—

- (a) Manufacturing gypsum plaster board ;
- (b) fixing gypsum plaster board on walls or ceilings of buildings.

*Hospital Nurses Board.*—Certificated nurses in benevolent homes were brought within the jurisdiction of the Board.

*Mineral Earths Board.*—Persons employed in the process, trade, business, or occupation of manufacturing or preparing any insulating material fabricated from molten stone are now subject to the control of this Board.

**Fixation of weekly hours by Boards.** Wages Boards, when fixing weekly wages, also determine, almost invariably, the maximum number of hours for which such weekly wages shall be payable and provide overtime rates for time worked in excess of the number of hours fixed. The Commercial Travellers Board and the Entertainment Employees (Performers) Board, however, have departed from this practice and have not fixed any weekly hours.

During the year 1944 determinations were in force in respect of 186 Boards, in 167 of which a uniform set of hours for all employees was prescribed. In 17 determinations, however, varying sets of hours according to the lass of work or to the sex of the worker were fixed by the Boards. The particulars are summarized in the following table :—

**VICTORIA—WAGES BOARDS—DETERMINATIONS OF HOURS.**

Boards which Determined Fixed Hours for all Employees.		Boards which Determined Differential Hours for Employees.	
Number of Boards.	Weekly Hours Adopted.	Number of Boards.	Weekly Hours Adopted.
4 .. ..	Less than 44	5 .. ..	44 and less than 44
136 .. ..	44	1 .. ..	46 and 44
10 .. ..	46	1 .. ..	47 " 44
1 .. ..	47	1 .. ..	47 " 46.
15 .. ..	48	5 .. ..	48 " 44
1 .. ..	More than 48	2 .. ..	48 " 47
		1 .. ..	49 " 46
		1 .. ..	46, 48, and 50

On 31st December, 1944, there were 195 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 278,000 employees.

## THE BASIC WAGE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Basic weekly rates of wage and the date on which they became payable are shown hereunder for the years 1929-1945:—

MELBOURNE—BASIC WEEKLY WAGE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

## RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

Retail Price  
Index-  
Numbers—  
“C” Series.

The “C” Series (all items) of retail price index-numbers for Melbourne is prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician. This series comprises the costs of food, groceries, rent of four and five-roomed houses, clothing, and miscellaneous expenditure, and is applied to the majority of awards of the Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration in accordance with its judgment of 17th April, 1934. It was superseded by an index number of the Court’s own construction as described in the Report of the “Basic Wage Inquiry, 1937” (see page 230). The weighted average for the six Capital Cities during the five-yearly period, 1923-27, expressed as 1,000, is the basis of comparison in the following table:—

MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS, “C”  
SERIES, “ALL ITEMS,” 1914-1945.

Period.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. “All Items.”	Year.	Retail Price Index-Numbers Household Expenditure. “All Items.”
November, 1914 ..	671	1936 .. ..	844
November, 1921 ..	1003	1937 .. ..	868
Years 1923-1927 ..	990	1938 .. ..	896
1929 ..	1017	1939 .. ..	924
1930 ..	956	1940 .. ..	964
1931 ..	846	1941 .. ..	1,008
1932 ..	813	1942 .. ..	1,100
1933 ..	789	1943 .. ..	1,139
1934 ..	801	1944 .. ..	1,135
1935 ..	824	1945 .. ..	1,135

## APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

Under the *Apprenticeship Act* 1928 (No. 3636), which was proclaimed on 8th May, 1928, an Apprenticeship Commission was appointed to administer the Act and to supervise apprenticeship in trades proclaimed as apprenticeship trades thereunder. The provisions of the Acts apply only within the Metropolitan District as proclaimed under such Acts.

The proclaimed apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in each of the years 1941 to 1945 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROCLAIMED APPRENTICESHIP TRADES  
1941 TO 1945.

Trade.	Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June—				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Plumbing and Gasfitting ..	483	565	646	668	816
Carpentry and Joinery ..	360	429	492	599	823
Painting, Decorating, and Signwriting .. ..	119	111	117	134	186
Plastering .. ..	43	39	34	35	39
Printing .. ..	691	819	987	1,035	1,181
Electrical .. ..	665	741	910	988	1,055
Motor Mechanics .. ..	440	459	460	521	628
Bootmaking .. ..	577	589	601	620	652
Moulding .. ..	296	286	289	285	265
Engineering .. ..	2,209	2,774	3,279	3,395	3,225
Fibrous Plastering .. ..	128	145	142	133	140
Boilermaking and/or Steel Construction .. ..	167	221	242	226	248
Sheet Metal .. ..	100	132	156	171	185
Bread Making and Baking ..	89	98	136	142	145
Pastrycooking .. ..	43	47	61	68	89
Butchering and/or Small Goods Making .. ..	122	212	270	316	453
Cooking .. ..	2	1	3	5	4
Hairdressing .. ..	..	55	232	444	685
Total .. ..	6,534	7,723	9,057	9,785	10,819*

\* These figures include 2,548 apprentices who have enlisted for the duration of the war in the A.I.F., R.A.N.R., R.A.A.F., or A.M.F., whose indentures have been suspended but who are still under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Since the inception of the Commission, 5,728 apprentices have completed their term of apprenticeship.

### GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

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

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

**Sustenance.** Every male person who receives sustenance is required on demand, and in return for such sustenance, to perform work of such class as is prescribed on the recommendation of the Employment Council of Victoria for the municipality within whose municipal district sustenance is received.

War-time conditions and the consequent absorption of the able-bodied into essential work or the Services has caused a virtual disappearance of unemployment and a consequent reduction in the amount spent on relief and sustenance works. At June, 1945, the number receiving sustenance totalled 113 and of these 45 were purely benevolent cases receiving the minimum rate. Of the balance approximately 60 per cent. were over 60 years of age, 75 per cent. over 55 years, and 90 per cent. over 50 years, and these, on account of age, infirmity or other disability, could not find suitable employment. For all practical purposes therefore, they were regarded as definitely unemployable, although not eligible to receive either the Invalid or Old-age Pension.

Persons eligible may be granted sustenance so that the total gross amount of income (including sustenance) received from all sources by a family unit shall in no case exceed £4 15s. in any one week.

The rates of tax and of stamp duties for the relief of unemployment on incomes and wages earned during the year ended 30th June, 1931, were published on pages 255 and 256 of the *Year-Book* for 1930-31. The Stamps (Unemployment Relief) Acts expired on 5th November, 1932, and legislative provision was made for the collection of relief moneys by annual assessment based upon income instead of by stamp duty.

The revenue raised by unemployment relief taxation from the date of the commencement of the operation of the tax in 1930-31 to 30th June, 1944, amounted to £21,296,845, of which £227,639 was refunded to taxpayers. The net revenue from taxation (£21,069,206), supplemented during 1942-43 and 1943-44 by additional contributions from Revenue amounting to £1,040,000 make the total from State Revenue £22,109,206. The yearly net collections of tax during the five years 1940-44 were as follow:—1939-40, £1,994,258; 1940-41, £1,580,702; 1941-42, £1,280,248; 1942-43, £534,593; and 1943-44, £74,664.

The amounts in 1942-43 and 1943-44 consisted of arrears of taxation collected by the Commonwealth on behalf of the State of Victoria pursuant to the Victorian *Income Tax (War-time Collection) Act* 1942 (No. 4888).

In addition to the revenue from the above-mentioned taxation, moneys for relief have been raised by way of loan from interest on advances, &c., and from contributions and grants made by the Commonwealth Parliament.

The following table from the annual report of the Employment Council of Victoria shows the expenditure from Unemployment Relief Funds during 1943-44 :—

**VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE FROM UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF FUNDS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1944.**

Item of Expenditure.	Fund from which Expended.				Total.
	State Unemployment Relief Fund.	Commonwealth Grants.	Commonwealth—State Joint Loan Fund.	Unemployment Relief Loan Funds and State Loans Repayment Fund.	
	£	£	£	£	£
Relief works ..	789	..	..	3,938	4,727
Sustenance other than work in return for sustenance ..	2,995	..	..	..	2,995
Work in return for sustenance ..	8,398	..	..	..	8,398
Commonwealth—State (Local Public Works) Fund ..	27,400	27,400	..	..	54,800
Administration ..	1,436	..	..	..	1,436
Interest and Sinking Fund charges ..	491,819	..	..	..	491,819
Total ..	532,837	27,400	..	3,938	564,175

**PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.**

Information relating to receipts, expenditure, accommodation and inmates of public hospitals and charitable and reformatory institutions in Victoria during the year ended 30th June, 1944, is contained in the following tables. The numbers, in respect of indoor and out-door patients, refer to the "cases" treated and not to persons. It is considered probable that some persons obtained relief or became inmates at more than one establishment, but there is no information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

Statistical information relating to public hospitals (including the intermediate and private sections thereof) and charitable institutions is obtained from the annual report of the Charities Board of Victoria. Institutions directly controlled by Governmental or semi-Governmental authorities, such as Sanatoria (Greenvale, Gresswell, Heatherton) and the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, furnish separate information. Statistics of mental hospitals, gaols, and the Children's Welfare Department are supplied directly by the Departments concerned.

A summary of the particulars in respect of public hospitals, charitable and reformatory institutions is given in the following table. A detailed statement of the Receipts and Expenditure of institutions appearing under the heading of "Hospitals" below will be found on pages 475 and 476 of this issue:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1944.

Name of Institution, &c.	Number of Institutions.	Receipts.					Expendi- ture (inc. cost of Out- patients).
		From Govern- ment.	Contributions from—		Other.	Total Receipts.	
			In- patients or Inmates.	Out- patients			
		£	£	£	£	£	
<b>HOSPITALS.</b>							
Special†	8	294,766	90,493	41,530	213,587	640,376	505,111
General Hospitals—							
Metropolitan	6	442,344	97,937	58,549	267,298	866,128	658,787
Provincial	50	487,237	108,461	16,366	421,690	1,033,754	733,408
Auxiliary Hospitals	2	28,490	17,206	2,670	15,996	64,362	56,019
Queen's Memorial Infec- tious Diseases Hos- pital	1	51,026	..	..	56,239	107,265	104,955
Convalescent Hospitals	2	871	1,317	..	5,274	7,462	4,420
Sanatoria	3	48,273	4,527	..	6,713	59,513	59,273
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses	12	540,482	81,854	..	11,293	633,620	633,620
Total	84	1,893,489	401,795	119,115	998,090	3,412,489	2,755,602
<b>ASYLUMS AND HOMES.</b>							
Foundling Homes	5	7,891	3,629	..	23,445	35,025	33,158
Benevolent Homes	9	71,080	82,292	..	36,495	189,867	184,874
Children's Homes	28	108,647	25,547	..	98,320	232,514	180,629
Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions	2	3,357	1,078	..	62,163	66,598	54,251
Total	44	190,975	112,606	..	220,423	524,004	452,912
<b>REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.</b>							
Rescue Homes and Female Refuges	10	33,599	11,494	..	42,573	87,666	59,961
Inebriates' Institution	1	125	2,748	..	5	2,878	2,803
Children's Welfare De- partment	..	193,234	..	..	22,469	215,703	215,703
Gaols and Penal Es- tablishments	8	164,983	..	..	..	164,983	164,983
Total	19	391,941	14,242	..	65,047	471,230	443,450
<b>MISCELLANEOUS INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES.</b>							
Benevolent Societies	89*	3,415	..	..	15,988	19,403	12,913
Other Institutions	517*	49,127	..	1,974	532,371	583,472	506,583
Total	606	52,542	..	1,974	548,359	602,875	519,496
Grand Total	753	2,528,947	528,643	121,089	1,831,919	5,010,598	4,171,460

\* Inclusive of branches.

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

VICTORIA — RECEIPTS OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND  
SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH  
JUNE, 1944.

Institution.	Receipts.						Total Receipts.
	Maintenance Receipts.				Capital Receipts.		
	Government.	Contributions from In-patients and Out-patients.	Inter-mediate and Private Patients Section.	Other	Government.	Other.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>METROPOLITAN.</b>							
<b>Special Hospitals—</b>							
Austin ..	51,061	10,256	20,277	30,521	24,875	8,060	145,050
Caritas Christi ..	900	5,403	..	3,117	10,000	694	20,114
Children's ..	39,144	23,407	..	46,288	5,000	3,423	117,262
Dental ..	6,159	14,493	..	1,410	20,000	1,753	43,815
Queen Victoria ..	26,697	30,471	20,175	14,108	15,000	6,359	112,810
Talbot Colony ..	2,269	4,601	..	4,523	..	..	11,393
Eye and Ear ..	13,601	15,637	..	11,855	10,000	4,290	55,383
Women's ..	35,715	27,755	..	36,230	34,345	504	134,549
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases ..	51,026	..	..	56,239	..	..	107,265
<b>General Hospitals—</b>							
Royal Melbourne ..	92,597	47,687	..	47,662	..	53,900	241,846
Alfred ..	72,113	45,495	18,213	41,240	20,173	4,307	201,541
Prince Henry's ..	36,652	24,047	..	21,221	95,000	2,105	179,025
St. Vincent's ..	49,092	33,835	15,569	34,008	20,000	831	153,335
Williamstown ..	3,394	4,127	4,542	4,053	6,500	..	22,616
Dandenong ..	1,823	1,295	4,210	3,218	..	383	10,929
Box Hill† ..	..	..	..	..	20,000	11,086	31,086
Brighton† ..	..	..	..	..	5,000	100	5,100
Preston and Northcote† ..	..	..	..	..	20,000	650	20,650
<b>Auxiliary Hospitals—</b>							
After Care ..	11,624	9,185	..	9,947	5,000	..	35,756
Caulfield Convalescent ..	11,866	10,691	..	6,049	..	..	28,606
<b>PROVINCIAL.</b>							
Base Hospitals (10) ..	116,432	70,737	97,437	99,072	160,627	14,148	558,453
General Hospitals (40) ..	88,616	54,090	112,672	75,431	121,562	22,930	475,301
Total ..	710,781	433,212	293,095	546,192	593,082	135,523	2,711,885
Convalescent Hospitals ..	871	1,317	..	4,845	..	429	7,462
Sanatoria (Tuberculosis) ..	48,273	4,527	..	6,713	..	..	59,513
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses ..	540,482	81,854	..	11,293	..	..	633,629
Grand Total ..	1,300,407	520,910	293,095	569,043	593,082	135,952	3,412,489

† Grants and contributions during 1943-44 towards the establishment of hospitals in these localities.

VICTORIA — EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND  
SANATORIA DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE  
1944.

Institution.	Expenditure.						
	In-patients, Expenditure on—			Out-patients, Total Aggregate Cost.	Total Cost of all patients.	Capital Expendi- ture.	Total Expendi- ture.
	Salaries and Wages.	Other.	Total.				
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
METROPOLITAN.							
Special Hospitals—							
Austin ..	65,807	55,268	121,075	..	121,075	3,051	124,126
Caritas Christi ..	3,930	4,165	8,095	..	8,095	..	8,095
Children's ..	50,181	36,021	86,202	22,864	109,036	5,363	114,429
Dental* ..	..	..	..	20,686*	20,686	325	21,011
Queen Victoria ..	47,158	29,509	76,667	12,019	88,686	2,598	91,284
Talbot Colony ..	5,162	3,281	8,443	..	8,443	..	8,443
Eye and Ear ..	15,706	10,208	25,914	10,459	36,373	71	36,444
Women's ..	47,177	42,803	89,980	10,453	100,433	846	101,279
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases ..	66,405	38,550	104,955	..	104,955	..	104,955
General Hospitals—							
Royal Melbourne ..	84,310	51,252	135,562	43,368	178,930	80,333	259,263
Alfred ..	75,609	62,660	138,269	34,402	172,671	3,531	176,202
Prince Henry's ..	28,734	31,715	60,449	15,895	76,344	261	76,605
St. Vincent's ..	52,923	43,204	96,127	25,563	121,690	..	121,690
Williamstown ..	6,099	7,579	13,678	729	14,407	..	14,407
Dandenong ..	4,443	4,595	9,038	19	9,057	1,393	10,450
Box Hill ..	..	..	..	..	..	170	170
Brighton ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Preston and North- cote ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Auxiliary Hospitals—							
After Care ..	8,727	7,714	16,441	10,306	26,747	..	26,747
Caulfield Convales- cent ..	16,633	12,630	29,272	..	29,272	..	29,272
PROVINCIAL.							
Base Hospitals (10) ..	197,541	177,175	374,716	16,400	391,116	19,752	410,868
General Hospitals (40)	163,365	141,802	305,167	1,442	306,609	15,931	322,540
Total ..	939,910	760,140	1,700,050	224,605	1,924,655	133,625	2,058,280
Convalescent Hos- pitals ..	2,133	2,287	4,420	..	4,420	..	4,420
Sanatoria (Tuber- culosis) ..	29,638	29,635	59,273	..	59,273	..	59,273
Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses	331,647	262,262	593,909	..	593,909	39,720	633,629
Grand Total	1,303,328	1,054,324	2,357,652	224,605	2,582,257	173,345	2,755,602

\* The dental hospital caters for out-patients only. The total aggregate cost shown consists of salaries, £13,206; other, £7,480.



**Income of  
Charitable  
Institutions.**

The receipts of hospitals, charitable, and reformatory institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) in the State under various headings for the year ended 30th June, 1944, are shown hereunder:—

**VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS  
AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1943-44.**

Receipts.	Hospitals.							Total.
	Public.	Convalescent Mental, and, Sanatoria.	Foundling Hospitals.	Benevolent Homes.	Orphanages (Children's Homes).	Rescue Homes and Female Refuges.	Other Institutions*.	
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid ..	1,303,863	589,626	7,891	71,080	75,755	31,597	249,258	2,329,070
Child Endowment ..	..	..	5,187	..	32,892	2,002	3,541	43,622
Municipal Grants and Contributions ..	98,631	6,638	280	1,034	711	133	43,011	150,438
Donations ..	166,319	480	6,491	5,387	26,294	4,490	39,782	249,243
Proceeds of Entertain- ments ..	83,008	..	2,937	3,189	4,621	437	15,045	100,237
Legacies and Bequests ..	167,290	2,358	464	10,530	42,364	7,519	10,056	240,581
Hospital Sunday and Church Donations ..	59,426	365	1,384	5,596	3,768	1,355	1,667	73,561
Contributions of In- patients or Inmates ..	314,097	87,698	3,689	82,292	25,547	11,494	22,266	547,083
Contributions from Out- patients ..	119,115	..	..	..	..	..	1,974	121,089
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour ..	..	..	..	..	9,075	27,720	11,814	48,618
Income from Investments	43,595	155	3,864	5,642	5,580	449	3,990	63,275
Fees from Intermediate patients ..	293,095	..	..	..	..	..	..	293,095
Other Sources ..	63,446	13,284	2,838	5,117	5,907	461	485,650	576,703
Total ..	2,711,885	700,604	35,025	189,867	232,514	87,666	888,054	4,845,615

\* Including Children's Welfare Department, and Benevolent Societies, but excluding Gaols and Penal Establishments.

**Charitable  
Institutions—  
receipts and  
expenditure.**

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) during each year of the period of five years ended on 30th June, 1944, is given in the following table. For the year 1943-44, Government aid was equivalent to 48·97 per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments to 3·11 per cent.; contributions of in-patients, inmates, and out-patients to 13·79 per cent.; donations to 5·14 per cent.; legacies and bequests to 4·96 per cent.; and receipts from all other sources to 24·03 per cent.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF PUBLIC HOSPITALS AND CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1939-40 TO 1943-44.

Item.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
<i>Receipts.</i>	£	£	£	£	£
Government Aid .. .. .	1,768,941	1,640,219	1,617,022	1,762,737	2,329,070
Child Endowment* .. .. .	..	..	28,969	45,747	43,622
Municipal Grants and Contributions	122,227	99,525	126,421	134,378	150,438
Patients' and Inmates' Contributions .. .. .	446,133	514,821	555,428	623,530	668,172
Donations (Annual, Other) .. .. .	223,005	247,156	280,568	217,519	249,243
Legacies and Bequests .. .. .	306,072	607,683	638,729	286,481	240,581
Entertainments, &c. .. .. .	64,376	63,295	58,209	89,393	109,237
Lord Mayor's Fund, Hospital Sunday, and Church Donations	22,264	29,089	37,618	57,001	73,561
Income from Investments .. .. .	64,318	65,063	51,642	63,023	63,275
Proceeds of Inmates' Labour .. .. .	76,032	79,253	86,678	76,927	48,618
Loan Receipts .. .. .	345,997	95,749	76,750	60,834	..
Other Sources .. .. .	368,695	292,851	376,814	485,895	576,703
Intermediate and Private Section of Public Hospitals .. .. .	105,174	118,376	131,251	244,288	293,095
<b>Total Receipts .. .. .</b>	<b>3,913,234</b>	<b>3,853,080</b>	<b>4,075,099</b>	<b>4,147,753</b>	<b>4,845,615</b>
<i>Expenditure.</i>					
Maintenance (In-patients or In-mates) .. .. .	2,733,843	2,720,426	2,830,764	3,245,671	3,530,007
Out-patients (Public Hospitals) .. .. .	157,204	163,283	172,895	205,540	224,605
Extraordinary .. .. .	47,061	42,141	74,926	81,757	55,012
Building .. .. .	589,778	702,814	605,219	285,886	196,853
<b>Total Expenditure .. .. .</b>	<b>3,527,886</b>	<b>3,633,664</b>	<b>3,683,804</b>	<b>3,818,854</b>	<b>4,006,477</b>

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

Accommodation and inmates.

The next table shows the normal bed provision and the actual number of inmates maintained in the named institutions during the year ended 30th June, 1944:—

VICTORIA—PUBLIC HOSPITALS, CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ETC., ACCOMMODATION AND INMATES, 1943-44.

Institution.	Number of Beds in—		Daily Average of occupied Beds in Public Section.	Total Treated in—		Out-patients (including Casualties). Persons Treated.
	Public Section.	Intermediate and Private Section.		Public Section.	Intermediate and Private Section.	
	No.	No.		No.	No.	No.
<b>Special Hospitals—</b>						
Austin ..	441	72	357·3	1,134	1,743	..
Caritas Christi Hospice ..	47	13	57·8	296	..	..
Children's ..	428	..	317·0	6,178	..	16,952
Dental ..	..	..	..	..	..	21,254
Queen Victoria ..	136	63	175·7	4,639	1,612	10,005
Talbot Colony for Epileptics ..	138	..	98·2	131	..	..
Eye and Ear ..	128	..	85·3	5,384	..	43,041
Women's ..	314	..	221·0	8,336	..	8,013
Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases ..	720	..	435·0	6,063	..	..
<b>General Hospitals—</b>						
Royal Melbourne ..	378	..	391·7	8,115	..	41,217
Alfred ..	405	91	379·1	6,729	1,337	29,573
Prince Henry's ..	213	..	183·3	4,032	..	16,864
St. Vincent's ..	248	63	242·8	3,938	1,180	33,406
Williamstown ..	38	22	25·9	593	579	977
Dandenong ..	12	22	11·7	339	458	162
Auxiliary Hospitals ..	320	..	305·8	6,850	..	3,218
Provincial Hospitals ..	2,969	1,137	1,789·3	34,544	25,393	35,381
Convalescent Hospitals ..	66	..	40·2	800	..	..
Sanatoria ..	424	..	363·0	804	..	..
<b>Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses ..</b>	<b>6,711</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>6,290·0</b>	<b>8,344*</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>..</b>
<b>Total Hospitals</b>	<b>14,136</b>	<b>1,483</b>	<b>..</b>	<b>107,249</b>	<b>32,302</b>	<b>260,063</b>
	Number of Beds.		Daily Average.	Admitted during Year.		
	For Children.	For Adults.		Children.	Adults.	
	No.	No.		No.	No.	
Foundling Homes ..	488	85	419·4	850	149	
Benevolent Homes ..	..	2,678	2,273·2	..	4,033	
Children's Homes ..	3,069	..	2,707·7	4,398	..	
Deaf, Dumb and Blind Institutions ..	..	188†	96·7	..	171†	
Rescue Homes (Female) ..	..	677‡	589·3	..	808‡	
Refuges (Maternity Homes) ..	158	182	367·9	893	867	

\* Represents total cases under care during year ended 31st December, 1944.  
 † Total males and females. ‡ Details not available.

## HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1928.

An Act to consolidate the law relating to the management of Hospitals and Charities in the State of Victoria was passed in the year 1928 and proclaimed on 18th December, 1929; important amendments were passed in 1936, 1939, and 1945.

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

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

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

Since the date of the operation of the last-named Act the sum of £2,590,504 has been paid. The total amount available for distribution from the Hospitals and Charities Fund (including Totalizator Receipts) for the year ended 30th June, 1945, was £944,081. Grants to institutions from Government funds for building purposes during the same period amounted to £399,717.

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

- (a) The financial position of such institution or benevolent society and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the financial year other than that from the Fund.
- (b) The probable net receipts and expenditure for the financial year.
- (c) The actual number of persons relieved during the preceding financial year.
- (d) The average number of beds (if any) occupied during the preceding financial year and the average cost per bed.
- (e) The average length of stay of each in-patient during the preceding financial year.

- (f) The general conditions and management.
- (g) Any exceptional circumstances with regard to the geographical position.
- (h) Such other matters as are prescribed or as the Board thinks fit.

Hospital  
Decentraliza-  
tion.

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

### HOSPITAL BENEFITS SCHEME.

The Commonwealth Government's proposal for a Hospital Benefits Scheme was formally approved by the States at the Premiers' Conference, Canberra, on 26th July, 1944.

Subsequently the Commonwealth *Hospital Benefits Act* 1945 (No. 47 of 1945) was enacted, and was assented to on 11th October, 1945. This Act provided *inter alia*, for the execution, by or on behalf of the Commonwealth, of agreements with all or any of the States, relating to the provision of hospital benefits, substantially in accordance with the heads of agreement specified in the Schedule to the Act.

The Victorian *Hospital Benefits Act* 1945 (No. 5101) approved the agreement with the Commonwealth and the execution and approval of such agreement was published in the *Government Gazette* of 28th December, 1945, from which date the agreement became effective. The Act makes necessary amendments to the *Hospitals and Charities Act* 1928 and incorporates the heads of the agreement between the Commonwealth and the States. It also provides that any moneys received by the State from the Commonwealth under the agreement shall be paid into a fund in the Treasury to be called the "Hospitals Benefit Fund" and shall be expended as authorized by the Commonwealth Act.

The heads of the agreement include, *inter alia*, the following:—

The State shall ensure that no means test is imposed on, and that no fees are charged to or in respect of, "qualified persons" occupying beds in public wards in public hospitals.

The State shall ensure that the charges per day payable by "qualified persons" in respect of beds in non-public wards in public hospitals shall be reduced by the amount of the Commonwealth Hospital Benefit Rate for non-public wards.

The State shall ensure that, except with the concurrence of the Commonwealth, no charge is made to "qualified persons" for services or comforts in public or non-public wards in public hospitals for which it was not customary to make a charge as at the first day of September, 1945.

The Commonwealth Hospital Benefit Rate for public wards and for non-public wards means Six shillings or such other rate as is, from time to time, agreed upon between the Commonwealth and the State.

The term "qualified person" in the agreement means a person who was ordinarily resident in Australia at the time of admission to a public hospital and is occupying a bed for the purposes of hospital treatment, and includes, where two or more children are born at one birth, any child born at that birth in excess of one, and also any newly born child except during the time the mother of that child is occupying a bed, but does not include a member of the staff of a public hospital receiving treatment in his own quarters or a person whose fees are borne by the Commonwealth or who has received, or is entitled to receive, those fees under any law in force in the State.

#### GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals. Descriptive details of the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals will be found on pages 277-279 of the *Year-Book* 1942-43. Statistical information for the year ended 30th June, 1944, is contained in a table on pages 475, 476 and 479 of this issue.

#### **Royal Melbourne Hospital.**

The origin of this institution belongs to the earliest days of Melbourne. The *Year-Books* for 1915-16 and 1916-17 contain a statement of the circumstances associated with the foundation of the hospital in 1846, and a reference to its rebuilding in 1910. During the year 1934 Their Majesties the King and Queen bestowed their patronage on this hospital.

This institution has always been the most important of the general hospitals of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students.

The new hospital, which, as a result of the provisions of the *Royal Melbourne Hospital Acts* of 1935 and 1938, was built on 11 acres of land at Parkville, adjacent to the University of Melbourne, was used as the Fourth General Hospital, U.S. Army, from March, 1942, until March, 1944.

The transfer of the hospital, which was formerly situated in Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, was effected on the 10th December, 1944, and Melbourne now possesses a modern general hospital, planned and executed on world standards.

The building includes the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine and, as a teaching centre, it has five teaching schools—medical, nursing, dietetic, almonry and massage.

Other features of the new hospital include the following:—  
 a nurses' home to accommodate 406; a lecture and demonstration room for students and nurses; 12 clinics—medical, surgical, and specialists; 12 operating theatres, including 2 for out-patients, 1 casualty, 1 X-ray, and 1 radium; special accommodation and facilities necessary for medical students.

At present the wards contain 480 beds, but with additions being made there will be provision for 558 beds in 1946. The hospital will also be able to treat up to 1,200 out-patients per day.

In the year 1944-45 the number of in-patients treated, including those at the old hospital up to the date of transfer, was 7,518; the daily average number was 362.4.

During the year, 40,540 persons were treated in the out-patients and casualty departments; the aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 194,244.

To relieve the pressure on the general hospitals in the city of Melbourne, the Convalescent Hospital at Caulfield was established in 1925. The management is undertaken by the Committee of the Royal Melbourne Hospital. In eight wards there are 208 beds. During the year 1944-45 the number of patients treated was 3,270, the daily average number being 187.

When the Royal Melbourne Hospital vacated its premises in Lonsdale-street, Melbourne, and transferred to Parkville in 1944, the Government purchased the entire building for the sum of £549,000. It was decided to continue its use as a hospital and it was handed over to the control of the Minister of Health for that purpose.

Provision is to be made for treatment of cancer, tuberculosis, medical, surgical, and venereal diseases cases. The bed accommodation for each of these sections will be approximately as under:—

Cancer	..	..	..	..	100
Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	98
Medical and surgical	..	..	..	..	200
Venereal diseases	..	..	..	..	15

The cancer section, which will be controlled by the Anti-cancer Council of Victoria, will also provide for deep ray therapy for suitable out-patients.

The tuberculosis section will mainly be used for the accommodation of patients transferred from Sanatoria for surgical treatment. After such treatment the patients will return to Sanatoria.

The venereal diseases section will take over both the male and female clinics at present operated elsewhere by the Health Department. In addition, a ward for fifteen female bed patients will be set up in which the latest methods of treatment of these diseases by penicillin, heat treatment, &c., will be carried out. At the same time a prophylactic service will be established which will function 24 hours a day every day in the year.

A certain amount of renovation was necessary to fit the building for hospital purposes and this is still being carried out. Occupation of some of the tuberculosis and general beds has already begun and the balance will be brought into use as medical, nursing and domestic staff becomes available. Major building alterations are required to provide for the cancer section and it is not anticipated this portion will be opened before 1948.

The whole of the buildings will be under the control of an administrator, but the professional services of each section will be under direct medical supervision.

**Queen's  
Memorial  
Infectious  
Diseases  
Hospital.**

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

The patients treated during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1945, numbered 4,686 (5,599), and the maximum number of occupied beds in any one day, 473 (516). Figures in parenthesis relate to the year ended 30th June, 1944.

For the same period receipts amounted to £104,120 (£107,265), and expenditure to £103,611 (£104,955).

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

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

#### TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

With the definite object of obtaining improved results in the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, a State Director of Tuberculosis was appointed in 1927. Since this appointment, a new feature in the control and cure of the disease has been the establishment of



tuberculosis bureaux in the metropolis and in the provincial centres of the State. With the co-operation of the Bureaux, a larger proportion of cases in the early stages of the disease has been admitted to the Sanatoria.

The following table shows the accommodation of, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in Sanatoria during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1944 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA—  
ACCOMMODATION, ETC., 1943-44.

Sanatorium.	Accommodation.		Admissions.		Discharges.		Deaths.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Greenvale .. ..	..	172	..	146	..	110	..	30
Austin .. ..	90	50	123	91	86	73	42	12
Heatherton .. ..	..	124	..	135	..	110	..	25
Royal Park—								
Dunstan Chalet ..	19	..	14	..	9	..	9	..
Eleanor Shaw								
Chalet .. ..	..	12	..	15	..	8	..	3
Greenswell .. ..	192	..	162	..	146	..	18	..
Bendigo Chalet ..	14	10	23	22	18	20	4	3
Ballarat Chalet ..	6	6	10	15	6	7	5	7
Total .. ..	321	374	332	424	265	328	78	80

If Miniature Radiography is applied to the Civil Population on an extensive scale it will involve considerable increase in existing Sanatoria accommodation. A new sanatorium for males, with accommodation for 200 beds, will be required in the near future.

Following up the splendid work of the Army authorities in submitting recruits to miniature radiography, five units have been established for the civilian population—at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau, Prahran, South Melbourne, Williamstown, and Newtown (Geelong).

Sanatorium beds available in Victoria in 1927 numbered 413; at June, 1944, 695. Plans are in hand to increase existing sanatorium accommodation, provision having been made for the erection of a new 72-bed block at Greenvale, and a similar block at Heatherton, consisting of three storeys each of 24 beds.

Work is in progress for new Chalets of approximately 14 beds each at the Base Hospitals—Mildura, Hamilton, and Horsham. It is intended to build Chalets at Geelong, Sale, Wangaratta, Mooroopna, and Warrnambool.

The Branch Bureaux at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Prahran have done useful work. Work at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau has further increased during the year. Attendances at this Bureau were 17,478 in 1940-41, 21,550 in 1941-42, 22,434 in 1942-43, and 24,225 in 1943-44. The work of the Bureaux is much appreciated by general practitioners, from whom many encouraging messages have been received. In recent years doctors in private practice have sent to the Bureaux an increasing number of patients for examination and report. During the year ended 30th June, 1944, 8,596 domiciliary visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the ten nurses attached to the various Bureaux.

The following table illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 30th June, 1944 :—

**VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX ACTIVITIES, 1943-44.**

Type of Service.	Metropolitan—				Country—	
	Central.		Prahran.		Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
New cases applying .. ..	2,569	2,955	139	180	229	276
Re-attendances .. ..	8,128	10,987	268	421	1,206	1,577
Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions ..	350	429	2	10	47	44
Contacts—						
New—Examined .. ..	871	1,304	20	57	79	138
Old—Re-examined .. ..	631	910	12	40	271	470
Found Tuberculosis .. ..	52	62	..	..	6	4
Infecting cases .. ..	412		27	44	169	160
Visits to Parents' Homes—						
By Nurses .. ..	2,769	3,321	163	179	..	..
,, Nurses (Bendigo-Ballararat) ..	..	..	..	..	784	728
,, Nurses (Geelong) .. ..	..	..	..	..	320	332
X-ray Screen Examinations—						
Films .. ..	3,622	4,305	126	149	503	618
Screens .. ..	2,339	2,530	..	..	1	14
Pneumothorax Refills .. ..	590	607	..	5	130	170

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during the period of twelve months ended on 30th June in each of the eighteen years, 1927 to 1944, was as follows :—

VICTORIA—ATTENDANCES OF PATIENTS AT TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX, 1927 TO 1944.

Year.	Bureau.					Total.
	Central.	Trarhran.	Bendigo.	Geelong.	Ballarat.	
1927	5 6	..	..	..	..	596
1928	1,115	..	..	..	..	1,115
1929	3,309	..	..	..	..	3,309
1930	6,088	177	..	..	..	6,265
1931	8,212	316	512	..	..	9,040
1932	9,235	285	543	164	..	10,227
1933	9,527	370	838	944	..	11,679
1934	10,370	365	939	1,028	..	12,702
1935	10,836	474	1,204	926	439	13,879
1936	12,319	431	1,184	731	654	15,319
1937	13,765	501	1,064	959	735	17,024
1938	13,565	571	1,147	1,312	714	17,309
1939	15,581	748	904	1,576	759	19,568
1940	17,203	737	1,029	1,415	693	21,077
1941	17,478	418	1,431	1,332	626	21,285
1942	21,550	600	1,417	1,236	583	25,386
1943	22,434	622	1,454	1,474	665	26,649
1944	24,225	722	968	1,648	603	28,166

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1943 and 1944:—

VICTORIA — PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 31st DECEMBER, 1943 AND 1944.

Location.	On 31st December—		Increase (+). Decrease (-).
	1943.	1944.	
In State Hospitals	6,250	6,238	- 12
On Trial Leave from State Hospitals	693	703	+ 10
Boarded Out	309	301	- 8
In licensed Private Mental Homes	43	39	- 4
On Trial Leave from licensed Private Mental Homes	16	8	- 8
Total Number of Certified Insane	7,311	7,289	- 22
In Receiving Institutions	105	111	+ 6
Total	7,416	7,400	- 16
Voluntary Boarders	236	272	+ 36
Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers at Repatriation Mental Hospital, Bundoora (not included in other statistics)	99	103	+ 4

There was a decrease in the year 1944, compared with 1943 in the number of certified patients in State Mental Hospitals. The number of certified insane in the State at the end of 1944 proportionately to the population, was 1 in 275. At 31st December, 1944, there were 234 military mental cases known to the Department and 272 voluntary boarders in various institutions.

The number of admissions to mental hospitals for each of the years 1940 to 1944 was as follows:—

**VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—ADMISSIONS, 1940 TO 1944.**

Year.	First Admissions.			Re-admissions.			Total Admissions.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1940 ..	409	393	802	37	59	96	898
1941 ..	346	431	777	41	73	114	891
1942 ..	393	383	776	32	34	66	842
1943 ..	367	427	794	31	42	73	867
1944 ..	370	411	781	38	60	98	879

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1940 to 1944 are given below:—

**VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—DISCHARGES AND DEATHS, 1940 TO 1944.**

Year.	Discharges.			Deaths.			Total of Discharges and Deaths.
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	
1940 ..	216	244	460	191	182	373	833
1941 ..	174	195	389	216	218	434	823
1942 ..	180	207	387	263	262	525	912
1943 ..	156	158	314	266	288	554	868
1944 ..	158	198	356	234	293	527	883

**CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.**

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

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

**Wards of the  
Children's  
Welfare  
Department.**

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

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

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

The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Children's Welfare Department at the end of each of the five years, 1940-1944.

Year.	Boarded Out in Foster Homes.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	At Royal Park Depot.	In Other Institutions.	Total.
1940 ..	1,668	1,397	249	251	1,780	5,345
1941 ..	1,424	1,314	251	228	1,715	4,932
1942 ..	1,149	1,084	258	251	1,957	4,699
1943 ..	971	1,193	279	237	1,701	4,381
1944 ..	834	1,597	265	223	1,841	4,760

**Wards of the  
Department for  
Reformatory  
Schools.**

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

and location of wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools at the end of each of the five years 1940-44:—

Year	At Royal Park Reformatory School.	In Other Reformatory Schools.	On Probation with Friends or Relatives.	With Employers on Service Conditions.	Total.
1940 ..	1	54	47	9	111
1941 ..	3	43	32	3	81
1942 ..	..	70	10	3	83
1943 ..	3	93	11	6	113
1944 ..	3	65	43	9	120

**Infant Life Protection.** Part II. of the Children's Welfare Act (Infant-Life Protection) provides that no person shall, for payment or reward, retain or receive into her care or charge in any home any infant under the age of five years for the purpose of nursing or maintaining such infant apart from its parents for more than three consecutive days, or for the purpose of adopting such infant, unless such person and such home is registered by the Department (section 95). Exemptions from the operation of this section in the case of a relative or for other special reasons may be granted by the Minister (section 107). Payments are to be made through the Secretary and in no other way (section 103). If payments fall into arrears for four weeks the child *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Children's Welfare Department (section 103). The following is a statement of the operations of this part for the year ended 31st December, 1944.

	1944.
Children already placed at 1st January .. .. .	235
Children placed during year .. .. .	319
Total ..	554
Discharged from operations of Part II. during year—	
Custody resumed by parent .. .. .	188
Made wards through arrears .. .. .	66
Deaths .. .. .	3
Attained five years of age .. .. .	41
Adopted .. .. .	41
Transferred to Kew Cottages .. .. .	3
Under supervision at 31st December .. .. .	212
Total ..	554

**Assistance for Children.** Part III. of the *Maintenance Act* 1928 enables a mother whose child is without sufficient means of support, and who is unable to provide or to obtain by any available

legal proceedings sufficient means of support for such child, to apply in the prescribed form to the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department for assistance for or towards the maintenance thereof. "Child" means any person (whether born in lawful wedlock or not) under the maximum age provided under the Education Acts at which attendance at school ceases to be compulsory.

The following statement shows the number of children in respect of whom assistance under the Maintenance Act was being afforded at the 31st December, in the years 1941 to 1944, and the total amount of such assistance paid in each year, together with the average payments per child per week:—

Year.	Number of Children Assisted.	Total Amount of Assistance Payments.	Average Payment per Child per Week.
		£	s. d.
1941 .. ..	5,680	144,872	8 8
1942 .. ..	4,313	130,144	8 10
1943 .. ..	3,545	93,792	9 3
1944 .. ..	3,138	82,717	9 7

The following statement shows the financial operations of the Department for the year ended 31st December, 1944.

		At 31st December, 1944.
EXPENDITURE.		£
Children's Welfare Department—		
Boarded-out children .. ..		78,606
Royal Park Depot .. ..		10,048
Fairhaven .. ..		60
Department for Reformatory Schools .. ..		..
Maintenance Act—		
Children .. ..		82,720
Widows .. ..		41
General Maintenance Items—		
(Medical attention, School requisites, &c.) .. ..		3,054
Administration .. ..		38,669
Gross Expenditure .. ..		215,703
RECEIPTS.		
Collection from parents .. ..		21,981†
Other receipts .. ..		488
		22,469
Net Expenditure .. ..		193,234

† Includes £3,541 Child Endowment.

The following statement shows the Net Expenditure of the Department during the ten years 1935-1944:—

Year.		Net Expenditure.	Year.		Net Expenditure.
		£			£
1935	.. ..	251,614	1940	.. ..	302,424
1936	.. ..	262,792	1941	.. ..	279,476
1937	.. ..	272,788	1942	.. ..	256,309
1938	.. ..	297,011	1943	.. ..	200,910
1939	.. ..	310,048	1944	.. ..	193,234

### INFANT WELFARE AND BUSH NURSING.

#### Infant Welfare.

With the object of reducing the wastage of child life due to preventable causes, Infant Welfare Centres have been established throughout Victoria since 1917. They are maintained by various municipalities employing a full time Infant Welfare Sister, and these municipalities are subsidised by the Government at a flat rate of £165 per annum. In certain cases the permanent Sister's services are made available to adjacent unsubsidized municipalities. On 30th June, 1944, there were 134 municipalities maintaining 259 centres. Of these municipalities, 29 in the metropolitan area were supporting 94 centres, and 105 in the country were supporting 165 centres. During the year ended 30th June, 1944, the number of individual children who were given attention at centres was 79,408, compared with 67,061 in 1943. Their attendances numbered 758,440 in 1944 and 658,000 in 1943, and the nurses made 76,596 and 74,950 visits in 1944 and 1943 respectively. Also at the end of June, 1944, there were four Mobile Infant Welfare Services operated by car or caravan. The number of nurses actually employed in infant welfare centre work was 144, but, including Infant Welfare nurses in the Public Health Department and those attached to voluntary organizations and training schools, there were 173.

The following statement gives particulars of Infant Welfare Centres for the year 1917-18 (the first year in operation) and for the five years 1939-40 to 1943-44:—

### VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

	1917-18.	Year ended 30th June—				
		1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
Number of Centres .. ..	3	221	227	233	244	272
Nurses in Centres .. ..	1	118	123	123	130	144
Home Visits .. ..	1,407	75,271	76,980	75,279	74,950	76,593
Total Individual Children ..	913	56,809	60,906	66,187	67,061	77,403
Total Attendances .. ..	4,116	560,321	597,982	654,798	658,000	758,440



There are eight Infant Welfare and Mothercraft training schools for nurses. Of these schools three train Infant Welfare and Mothercraft nurses, and five train Mothercraft nurses only. These schools are supported by voluntary organizations and church bodies and are as follow :—

Training Infant Welfare and Mothercraft Nurses.	Number who Completed Training During the Year Ended 30th June—	
	1943	1944
Presbyterian Babies' Home .. .. .	16	29
Victorian Baby Health Centres Association Training School .. .. .	..	..
Tweddle Baby Hospital .. .. .	12	8
St. Joseph's Foundling Hospital* .. .. .	30	18
Methodist Babies' Home* .. .. .	19	14
Bethany Babies' Home* .. .. .	13	8
St. Gabriel's Church of England Babies' Home* .. .. .	12	10
Foundling Hospital, Upper Beaconsfield* .. .. .	16	11

\* Training Mothercraft nurses only.

Since the inauguration of the Department of Health Mothercraft Nurses' examinations in 1930, 980 trainees had satisfactorily passed to the end of June, 1944. The number of Mothercraft nurses who passed the examination during the year ended 30th June, 1944, was 81.

During the year 1943-44, ten Mothercraft nurses received Department of Health certificates for pre-school Mothercraft nursing; twenty-eight nurses have received certificates since the course was inaugurated in 1942.

There were 847 Infant Welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 30th June, 1944, and 980 Mothercraft nurses eligible to obtain the Health Department certificate of competency.

There are eleven creches or day nurseries supported by voluntary effort and money derived from Trust funds. The children are admitted as a rule from the age of six weeks to six years. The original charge of 3d. to 4d. per day, varying with different creches, remains the same for soldiers' children, but in cases where the father and mother are earning good wages, a higher charge is made. The daily payment includes provision of three meals and a bath. The total attendances for the year ended 30th June, 1944, were 88,256.

**Bush Nursing.** Bush nursing centres are distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At 30th June, 1944, the centres numbered 82, inclusive of 67 bush nursing hospitals. The bush nurses numbered 191 on permanent staff and 10 on relieving staff, the majority of whom held infant welfare as well as general and midwifery certificates.

At 30th June, 1945, there were 79 centres (including 64 hospitals) employing 163 bush nurses on the permanent staff, and 23 on the relieving staff.

The following table shows details of the receipts and expenditure of bush nursing centres whose financial statements were published in the annual reports of the Victorian Bush Nursing Association for the years ended 30th June, 1944 and 1945:—

VICTORIA—BUSH NURSING CENTRES.

	Year ended 30th June—	
	1944.	1955.
RECEIPTS.		
	£	£
Grants—		
Government .. .. .	10,365	19,946
Municipalities .. .. .	1,594	1,706
Donations .. .. .	9,542	11,724
Proceeds from entertainments .. .. .	6,600	5,532
Nursing fees .. .. .	79,107	87,592
Members' fees .. .. .	20,830	21,997
Interest and rent .. .. .	369	549
Proceeds from sale of medicine .. .. .	1,257	1,491
Loans—		
From Central Council .. .. .	1,900	..
From other sources .. .. .	..	..
Miscellaneous .. .. .	2,121	1,679
Total receipts .. .. .	133,685	152,216
EXPENDITURE.		
Salaries—		
Nurses (paid to Central Council) .. .. .	38,685	43,275
Other .. .. .	22,262	25,462
Provisions, fuel, lighting .. .. .	26,090	29,437
Surgery and medicine .. .. .	2,462	2,854
Repairs and maintenance .. .. .	8,957	9,597
Printing, stationery, &c. .. .. .	2,131	2,365
Insurance, rent, bank charges .. .. .	3,823	3,997
Other maintenance costs .. .. .	2,206	2,853
Loans and interest repayments .. .. .	3,134	4,078
Land and buildings .. .. .	5,911	4,293
Equipment .. .. .	1,710	2,729
Total expenditure .. .. .	117,371	130,940

Information regarding bush fires in Victoria during the latter part of 1943 and January and February, 1944, was published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 292.

### MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The Lord Mayor's Fund was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, and was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930. The Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund was formed in 1873 and remained in operation until the year 1923, when the Hospital Saturday section was merged with the Lord Mayor's Fund, the Hospital Sunday section remaining a separate fund, but being carried on in close co-operation with the Lord Mayor's Fund. Since the date of the inauguration of the latter fund subscriptions and donations amounting to £1,682,626 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £281,689.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1934-35 to 1944-45 were as follows:—

Year Ended 30th June—	Lord Mayor's Fund.	Hospital Sunday Fund.	Total.
	£	£	£
1935 .. .. .	78,717	8,633	87,350
1936 .. .. .	93,045	8,551	101,596
1937 .. .. .	105,714	8,843	114,557
1938 .. .. .	78,886	9,123	88,009
1939 .. .. .	72,509	8,986	81,495
1940 .. .. .	62,240	9,205	71,445
1941 .. .. .	65,413	12,867	78,280
1942 .. .. .	71,461	14,398	85,859
1943 .. .. .	97,561	20,320	117,881
1944 .. .. .	120,933	25,634	146,567
1945 .. .. .	141,340	26,725	168,065

Information in regard to the aims of the British Empire Bombing Victims' Fund, Bush Fires (1944) Relief Fund and the Blinded Soldiers' Appeal was published in the *Year-Book* 1942-43, page 294. Contributions totalled £316,628: £258,773, and £81,772 respectively.

### LORD MAYOR'S BRITISH CHILDREN'S TOY APPEAL, 1944.

This appeal was inaugurated by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor Sir Thos. Nettlefold) on the 25th September, 1944, with the object of forwarding a supply of home-made toys from the people of Victoria to the children of London and Southern England.

Approval for the appeal to be launched was granted on the understanding that the same was to be for toys and not for funds, and that the toys were to be home-made and not bought, as otherwise a shortage of toys would be created for Australian children.

As a result of the appeal approximately 60,000 toys were forwarded to the Lord Mayor of London.

The appeal was repeated during 1945 and resulted in 57,000 toys being shipped abroad.

### LORD MAYOR'S SWEETS FOR BRITAIN APPEAL, 1944.

This appeal, which was launched by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor Sir Thos. Nettlefold) had as its object the provision of sweets for people of England. A special type of hard panned candy was selected as the most suitable type of sweet and as the result of the appeal an amount of £4,903 was subscribed which enabled 3,609 cases containing a total of 108,270 lb. of sweets to be forwarded to Britain.

### TOTALLY AND PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED EX-SERVICEMEN'S APPEAL.

This appeal was launched by the Lord Mayor (Councillor Sir Thos. Nettlefold) for the purpose of obtaining funds to assist cases of hardship amongst totally and permanently incapacitated ex-servicemen and women and their families.

The amount raised to 29th August, 1945, was £42,977.

The work carried on by this Association is described in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and of the injured. During the year ended 30th September, 1944, 4,588 students have been instructed in first aid and home nursing, of whom 2,771 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association in 1883, 140,801 persons have been awarded certificates. The Association medallion has been awarded to 13,517 students.

This service attended to 25,468 calls, of which 5,273 were connected with accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1944; the mileage travelled was 273,129. In 5,273 cases no fee was paid. The fleet of nineteen ambulances has

**St. John  
Ambulance  
Association.**

**Victorian Civil  
Ambulance  
Service.**

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

In addition, 24 Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, and 68 stretchers and first-aid outfits have been supplied to police stations in smaller centres.

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

Ballarat (2 cars)	Horsham	Mornington	Swan Hill
Beechworth	Kerang	Rushworth	Terang
Benalla	Korumburra	Sale	Wangaratta
Bendigo	Kyabram	Shepparton	Warragul
Castlemaine	Maffra	(2 cars)	Warrnambool
Echuca	Mildura	Stawell	Yarram
Heyfield			

**Royal  
Humane  
Society.**

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

During the year ended 30th June, 1943, 68 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 30 certificates of merit, 19 bronze medals and 1 silver medal were granted. Out of 77 applications for awards during the year ended 30th June, 1944, 65 were granted :—27 certificates of merit, 31 bronze medals, 6 silver medals, and 1 bar to a bronze medal.

**Royal Life  
Saving  
Society.**

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

During the year ended 30th June, 1945, the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 7,499. The total income of the Centre for 1944-45 was £1,359, and the expenditure £1,272.

**Society for  
the Protection  
of Animals.**

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1945, 2,280 cases were dealt with, of which 969 were connected with cruelty to horses, and 599 to dogs. There were 21 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in 18 of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1945, amounted to £2,238, and the expenditure to £3,185.

**Cost of Social Services.**

Expenditure on Social Services by the Government of Victoria during each of the last five years is shown hereunder.

Amounts shown include expenditure from Revenue, Loan Funds and Surplus Revenue. Interest charges—except in the case of Unemployment Relief—and the cost of pensions have been excluded from the table:—

**EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE OF VICTORIA ON  
SOCIAL SERVICES, 1939-40 TO 1943-44.**

Social Service.	Year Ended 30th June—				
	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.
	£	£	£	£	£
Law, Order, and Public Safety ..	1,385,282	1,446,572	1,651,231	1,967,127	1,830,716
Regulation of Trade and Industry ..	106,656	115,010	133,692	150,061	208,925
Education ..	3,370,147	3,335,965	3,369,433	3,483,277	3,749,014
Promotion of Public Health and Recreation ..	1,503,945	1,671,266	1,773,144	2,107,828	2,270,101
Social Amelioration (excluding Unemployment Relief and Bush Fire Relief) ..	661,513	647,236	371,518	295,093	301,738
Unemployment Relief* ..	3,451,372	1,829,760	897,467	576,618	536,775
Bush Fire Relief ..	335	..	..	2,042	88,235
Total ..	10,479,250	9,045,809	8,196,485	8,582,046	8,985,504

\* Excludes Commonwealth Grants as follows:—1939-40, £38,135; 1940-41, £28,274; 1941-42, £30,095; 1942-43, £27,400; 1943-44, £27,400.

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

### CHILD ENDOWMENT.

The *Child Endowment Act* 1941-1945 (Commonwealth Act No. 8 of 1941) which was assented to on 7th April, 1941, and amended by Act No. 5 of 1942 and Act No. 10 of 1945, is an Act to provide for the payment of endowment, in respect of certain children under the age of sixteen years at the rate of seven shillings and sixpence per week per endowable child. (Increased rate operated as from 26th June, 1945).

The general administration of the Act is vested in the Director General, Department of Social Services, who is required to furnish to the Minister annually, for presentation to Parliament, a report of the administration and operation of the Act.

Endowment may be granted to any person maintaining more than one child, in respect of each child in excess of one maintained by him.

Where a person is maintaining a child born in Australia who is a child of an alien father, and is also maintaining a child under the age of sixteen years not born in Australia who is the child of such father, an endowment may be granted in respect of such child born in Australia who is maintained by him.

An endowment shall not be granted unless—

- (a) The person (not being an institution) claiming the endowment is in Australia on the date on which the claim is made, and, if not born in Australia, has, for the period of twelve months immediately preceding that date, had his usual place of residence in Australia; and
- (b) The child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed is in Australia, and, if not born in Australia, has been resident in Australia for the period of twelve months immediately preceding the date on which the claim is made.

A child shall be deemed to have been born in Australia if at the date of his birth the usual place of residence of his mother was in Australia and her absence from Australia was temporary only.

An endowment may be granted to an aboriginal native of Australia unless—

- (a) He is nomadic; or
- (b) The child in respect of whom the endowment is claimed is wholly or mainly dependent upon the Commonwealth or a State for his support.

Upon the grant of an endowment it shall be paid—

- (a) To the mother of the child in respect of whom it is granted; or
- (b) In such cases as are prescribed, to such persons as are respectively prescribed.

Endowment is paid also to any Institution approved by the Minister (not being an institution maintained by the Commonwealth or a State) in respect of every child maintained by it and to any institution approved by the Minister and maintained by the Commonwealth or State in respect of every child who is an inmate thereof, other than a child the expenses of whose maintenance are met wholly and mainly by his parents or guardian. Endowment is not payable in respect of children in Commonwealth or State maintained hospitals for the insane.

For Commonwealth Income Tax purposes, endowment will not be regarded as income.

On the estimate that there were in Australia about 1,000,000 children dependent in excess of one child in each family, the cost of the scheme at its inception was computed at £13,000,000 of which £9,000,000 would be raised by pay-roll tax. (The actual receipts during 1944-45 from pay-roll tax amounted to £11,088,088 and the expenditure in respect of Endowment, £12,036,248.)

Provision for the tax on pay-rolls is made by the *Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act 1941* (No. 2 of 1941), as amended by the *Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act 1942* (No. 48 of 1942), and by the *Pay-roll Tax Act*

1941 (No. 3 of 1941). The latter Act imposes a tax of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per centum "on all wages paid or payable by any employer in respect of any period of time occurring after the 30th day of June, 1941," and provides that the tax "shall be paid by the employer who pays or is liable to pay the wages." The general administration of the former Act is placed in the hands of a Commissioner of Taxation, who is required to furnish annually a report to Parliament on the working of the Act.

Every employer who pays or is liable to pay wages in excess of £20 per week is required to make application to the Commissioner for registration as an employer. He is also required to make a monthly return of all wages paid or payable by him.

The total amount paid in endowment in Victoria for the twelve months ended 30th June, 1943, 1944, and 1945 was £2,902,616, £3,014,497, and £2,984,645 respectively.

The following statement contains information in regard to Child Endowment in Victoria during the years 1941-42 to 1944-45.

**VICTORIA—NUMBER OF CLAIMS CURRENT, ENDOWABLE CHILDREN AND TOTAL AMOUNT PAID.**

	Year Ended 30th June—			
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Rate* per Endowment period (4 weeks).	No. of Claims.	No. of Claims.	No. of Claims.	No. of Claims.
£1 (Two child family) .. .. .	70,014	70,728	74,055	76,670
£2 (Three child family) .. .. .	31,085	31,579	32,209	32,757
£3 (Four child family) .. .. .	13,309	12,985	12,730	12,932
£4 (Five child family) .. .. .	5,665	5,585	5,444	5,344
£5 (Six child family) .. .. .	2,553	2,436	2,285	2,185
£6 (Seven child family) .. .. .	1,107	947	951	953
£7 (Eight child family) .. .. .	448	456	453	440
£8 (Nine child family) .. .. .	195	184	173	167
£9 (Ten child family) .. .. .	72	65	56	56
£10 (Eleven child family) .. .. .	8	14	22	16
£11 (Twelve child family) .. .. .	6	5	2	5
£12 (Thirteen child family) .. .. .	1	2	..	1
£13 (Fourteen child family) .. .. .	..	..	1	..
Total Claims Current .. .. .	124,463	124,986	128,381	131,526
Number of Endowable Children .. .. .	219,680	218,551	220,884	224,146
Average number of Endowable children per claim .. .. .	1.765	1.748	1.721	1.704
Average four-weekly rate .. .. .	£ s. d. 1 15 3.6	£ s. d. 1 14 11.6	£ s. d. 1 14 4.9	£ s. d. 2 11 1
Number of children maintained in Institutions for whom Endowment is paid .. .. .	4,475	4,875	5,128	4,995
Number of approved institutions at end of year .. .. .	61	69	72	73
Total Amount paid in Endowment .. .. .	£2,809,529	£2,902,616	£3,014,497	£2,984,645

\* From 26th June, 1945, the rates shown in this table were increased by 50 per cent.



COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE IN VICTORIA ON  
CERTAIN SOCIAL SERVICES AND REPATRIATION.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONERS.

**Federal  
Invalid and  
Old-age  
Pensioners Act.**

These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an Act passed in 1908 and amending Acts. The commencing age for old-age pensioners is 65 years in the case of men and 60 years in the case of women. The maximum rate of pension payable at 30th June, 1945, was £70 4s. per annum, or 27s. per week. Payment is subject to a "means" test.

**Pensioners,  
1935-36 to  
1944-45.**

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1945, was as follows:—Old-age pensioners—men, 23,074; women, 44,166; total, 67,240. Invalid pensioners—men, 5,957; women, 6,641; total, 12,598.

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year and the amount expended each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1945, are shown in the following statement:—

VICTORIA—OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS,  
1935-36 TO 1944-45.

Year ended 30th June.	Number of Pensioners at end of Period.			Actual Amount Paid in Pensions.*
	Old-Age.	Invalid.	Total.	
1936 .. .. .	60,548	17,741	78,289	3,463,701
1937 .. .. .	62,755	18,282	81,037	3,750,068
1938 .. .. .	65,203	18,817	84,020	4,218,918
1939 .. .. .	67,896	19,471	87,367	4,307,432
1940 .. .. .	76,081	12,739	88,820	4,413,702
1941 .. .. .	76,371	12,447	88,818	4,588,266
1942 .. .. .	75,240	12,550	87,790	5,037,118
1943 .. .. .	72,102	11,938	84,040	5,715,268
1944 .. .. .	69,156	12,446	81,602	5,787,445†
1945 .. .. .	67,240	12,598	79,838	5,604,739†

\* Includes payment of pensions to eligible inmates of institutions. On 30th June, 1945, there were 1,457 such pensions in force. The weekly rate of pension paid was 4s. from 8th October, 1925; 5s. 6d. from 4th October, 1928; 5s. from 23rd July, 1931; 3s. 9d. from 13th October, 1932; 5s. from 26th October, 1933; 5s. 6d. from 24th September, 1936; 6s. from 9th September, 1937; 6s. 6d. from 26th December, 1940; 6s. 9d. from 3rd April, 1941; 7s. 9d. from 11th December, 1941; 8s. from 2nd April, 1942; 8s. 6d. from 9th July, 1942; 8s. 9d. from 1st October, 1942; 9s. from 7th January, 1943; 9s. 3d. from 1st April, 1943; 9s. 6d. from 19th August, 1943; and 11s. from 5th July, 1945.

† Includes payments in respect of allowances to wives of invalid pensioners, details of which are shown on page 502.

By an Act passed in 1943, which came into operation on 1st September, 1943, a measure of reciprocity between the Commonwealth and New Zealand in regard to invalid and old-age pensions was agreed to. The following were the main provisions:—

- (a) Residence in New Zealand (immediately prior to residence in Australia) to be treated as residence in Australia.
- (b) Permanent incapacity or blindness occurring in New Zealand to be treated as if it had occurred in Australia.
- (c) A claimant regarded as a British subject while resident in New Zealand to be treated as a British subject in Australia, if resident in New Zealand immediately prior to becoming resident in Australia.
- (d) Maoris resident in Australia to be eligible for pension if otherwise qualified.
- (e) The more restrictive conditions of the pensions laws of the two countries to apply in respect of the grant of pension.
- (f) The rate of pension not to exceed the maximum rate payable in the country which has the lower maximum rate.

**Allowances to Wives of Invalid Pensioners.**

By an Act passed in 1943 provision was made for payment as from 8th July, 1943, of allowances to wives of invalid pensioners. The maximum rate of allowance is £39 per annum (15s. per week), and is subject to the same means test as invalid and old-age pensions. Where the wife of a pensioner is maintaining one or more children under sixteen years of age she may receive an additional allowance of £13 per annum (5s. per week).

The allowance is not payable to a woman who is living apart from her husband or is in receipt of a service pension or whose husband is an inmate of a benevolent asylum or an asylum for the insane.

The number of wives' allowances in operation in Victoria at 30th June, 1944 and 1945, was as follows:—

	1944.	1945.
Class A—allowance for wife and child ..	725	802
Class B—allowance for wife only ..	712	819
Class C—allowance for child only ..	105	121
	£64,012	£71,318
	1,542	1,742

**Funeral Benefits for Invalid and Old Age Pensioners.**

By the same Act provision was made for the payment of a funeral benefit not exceeding the actual cost of the funeral or £10 whichever is the less, in respect of every invalid or old-age pensioner who dies on or after 1st July, 1943. The

benefit is payable to the person who has paid, or is liable to pay the cost of the funeral, or to the person who has actually borne the cost of the funeral. The benefit must be claimed within six months after the death of the pensioner.

The benefit is not payable to a person administering a Contributory Funeral Benefit Fund, unless such person is a Friendly Society registered under State or Commonwealth law or is exempted from the disqualification by the Minister or Director-General of Social Services.

The number of funeral benefits paid during the twelve months ended June, 1945, was 5,157, the total cost being £50,113.

#### MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

An Act was passed by the Federal Parliament in October, 1912, providing for the payment, on application, of £5 to the mother of each child born in the Commonwealth on and after 10th October, 1912.

The *Commonwealth Financial Emergency Acts* of 1931 and 1932 reduced the rate of payment and imposed income restrictions. Rates of payment and income restrictions were modified by the *Commonwealth Financial Relief Act* of 1934 and 1936, and by the *Maternity Allowance Act* (No. 44 of 1937). The latter Act increased—

- (a) the income limit to £247 per annum where there was no previous surviving issue under fourteen years of age, the additional allowance of £13 per annum in respect of each previous surviving child being retained up to a maximum of £338 per annum ;
- (b) the maternity allowance was also increased to £7 10s. in cases where there were three or more previous surviving children under fourteen years of age, £5 where there were one or two previous children, and £4 10s. for the first child.

By an Act passed in 1943, to come into operation on 1st July, 1943, the means test was abolished and the amount of the maternity allowance was increased in accordance with the following scale :—

- (a) where the claimant is not the mother of a previous surviving child under 14 years of age—£5.
- (b) where there are one or two such children—£6.
- (c) where there are three or more such children—£7 10s. together with 25s. in respect of each of the four weeks immediately before, and 25s. in respect of each of the four weeks immediately after, the birth of the child.

By a further amendment which came into force on 5th April, 1944, an additional payment of £5 was provided in the case of twins and £10 in the case of triplets. The age limit in respect of previous surviving children was also increased to sixteen years.

Since 1st July, 1943, maternity allowances have been paid out of a Trust Account established under the *National Welfare Fund Act* 1943 and known as the National Welfare Fund.

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

### VICTORIA—MATERNITY ALLOWANCES GRANTED.

Year ended 30th June—	Number Granted During Year.	Amount Paid in Allowances During Year.	Total Claims Granted Since Passing of Act.	Total Amount Paid in Allowances Since Passing of Act.
		£		£
1941 .. ..	19,150	102,175	853,094	4,191,730
1942 .. ..	16,120	86,392	869,214	4,278,122
1943 .. ..	11,874	63,635	881,088	4,341,757
1944 .. ..	38,653	590,648	919,741	4,932,405
1945 .. ..	40,582	647,970	960,323	5,580,375

### WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

The *Commonwealth Widows Pensions Act*, No. 19 of 1942, came into operation on 5th June, 1942, on which date it received the Royal Assent.

The Act provides for three classes of widows:—

- (a) Widows of any age who are maintaining at least one child under the age of sixteen years—maximum pension £83 4s. per annum, subject to “means” test. In addition to excluding personal property, together with the house in which she resides and her furniture, the widow is allowed the ownership of £1,000 without disqualifying from pension.
- (b) Widows over fifty years of age without dependent children—maximum pension £70 4s. per annum subject to same “means” test as applied to old-age and invalid pensions.
- (c) Widows under fifty years of age without dependent children who find themselves in indigent circumstances upon the death of their husbands or within 26 weeks thereafter may be paid an allowance at the rate of twenty-seven shillings a week for a period not longer than 26 weeks after the death of the widow's husband or man in respect of whom she was a dependent female.

“Widow” includes—

- (a) a “dependent female,” that is a woman who, for not less than three years immediately prior to the death of the man in respect of whom she was a dependent female was wholly or mainly maintained by him and, although not legally married to him, lived with him as his wife on a permanent and bona fide domestic basis,

- (b) a deserted wife,  
 (c) a divorcee who has not re-married and,  
 (d) a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane.

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

VICTORIA—WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

	Number in Force at 30th June—		
	1943.	1944.	1945.
Class "A" (widow maintaining a child) ..	3,574	3,684	3,575
Class "B" (widow not maintaining a child)	7,130	8,271	9,034
Class "C" (widow in indigent circumstances not maintaining a child) .. ..	6	12	5
Total .. .. .	10,710	11,967	12,614
	£	£	£
Amount paid in pensions .. ..	602,957	787,034	799,652
Total amount paid since passing of Act ..	..	1,389,991	2,189,643

UNEMPLOYMENT AND SICKNESS BENEFITS.

The Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Bill received the Royal Assent on 5th April, 1944, and Benefits payable in accordance with the provisions of the Act commenced on 1st July, 1945. Before introducing this new scheme, which was dealt with by the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Social Security in its Second and Third Interim Reports, the Government carefully reviewed similar schemes in other parts of the world, more particularly those operating in the United Kingdom, New Zealand, Canada and the United States of America. While recognizing the merits of the usual three-party contributory scheme of Unemployment Insurance, the Government considered that some notable disadvantages, such as the fact that the employee contributes more than a fair share, the severe limitations of the period and amount of benefits and the exclusion of certain groups, justified the introduction of an Unemployment and Sickness Benefits Scheme financed through the National Welfare Fund.

The Act includes all males between the ages of sixteen and 65 years and all females between the ages of sixteen and 60 years who have lived in Australia for the twelve months immediately preceding a claim for benefit and who are not qualified to receive a Service pension under the Repatriation Act or an invalid, old-age or widow's pension. The payment of unemployment benefit is subject to the claimant being capable of undertaking and willing to accept suitable work. Except where the applicant lives in remote or inaccessible areas of the Commonwealth or where for some good reason it is impossible to do so, the payment of sickness benefit is subject to the production of a medical certificate.

The rates of benefit provided for both unemployment and sickness are :—

Unmarried male or female—	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
16 years and under 18 years .. .. .	15	0 per week
18 years and under 21 years .. .. .	20	0 „
21 years and over .. .. .	25	0 „

A married person, whether adult or minor, may receive an additional 20s. per week for a dependent spouse and 5s. per week for one child, under sixteen years of age, in his custody, care and control.

All benefits are subject to a means test which disregards the value of property owned by claimants and permits the possession of income up to the following amounts :—

Unmarried males and females—	<i>s.</i>	<i>d.</i>
16 years and under 17 years .. .. .	5	0 per week
17 years and under 18 years .. .. .	10	0 „
18 years and under 21 years .. .. .	15	0 „
In all other cases .. .. .	20	0 „

In applying the means test for sickness benefit, any amount up to 20s. per week received by the claimant from an approved friendly society or other approved benefit society is disregarded.

For the purpose of calculating unemployment benefit, the income of the claimant and spouse and the income (other than personal earnings) of any children under the age of sixteen years in his custody, care and control is taken into account. In the case of sickness benefit the claimant's income only is considered when determining whether there shall be any reduction in benefit because of the possession of income.

Where a person is entitled to some other payment such as war pension or workers' compensation in respect of the disability for which he claims sickness benefit, payment is made only to the extent to which such other payment is less than the amount of benefit.

The Act provides for the payment of benefit indefinitely in the case of unemployment and during the continuance of temporary incapacity in the case of sickness. Where incapacity through sickness becomes permanent, an invalid pension may be granted, subject to the conditions governing the grant of invalid pensions.

Provision is made for a waiting period of seven days during which unemployment or sickness benefit shall not be payable.

For convenience of administration use is made of Commonwealth District Employment Offices. The District Employment Officer in most areas acts as Registrar and in his office there are appointed officers of the Department of Social Services to attend to the detailed work.

*Special Benefit.*—In order to relieve cases of distress where a person is not qualified for either sickness or unemployment benefit by reason of his inability to comply with one or other of the statutory requirements, a special benefit, at a rate not exceeding that which might otherwise have been payable, may be authorized.

Payment of unemployment, sickness and special benefits is made by cheque issued by the Deputy Director of Social Services in the metropolitan areas and by registrars in the country districts where there is a branch of the Commonwealth Bank. Expenditure will be met by the National Welfare Fund.

### REPATRIATION.

On 8th April, 1918, Repatriation became an Australian national undertaking for the provision of benefits for Australian soldiers, sailors, and nurses who served in the war of 1914–18. Its objects are to find employment for the fit, to re-establish the disabled, to provide for the dependants of those who have died and of those who are no longer able, in consequence of war disabilities, to support themselves, and to supply medical and surgical treatment, also artificial limbs and appliances, in respect of disabilities due to or aggravated by war service.

The *Year-Book* for 1920–21 contains, on pages 383 to 385, an epitome of the main work of the Department, also particulars of the sustenance rates granted to applicants awaiting fulfilment by the Department of certain specified obligations, and of the rates of pension payable to ex-members of the Forces and their dependants. The sustenance and some of the pension rates, however, have since been altered.

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

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

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

**Service  
Pensions.**

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

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

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

The maximum rate of service pension for a member coincides with the maximum rate of invalid or old-age pension determined from time to time under the *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act*. The rate at 30th June, 1945, was 54s. per fortnight. The rate for the wife of a member is 44s. per fortnight, and the rates for children under sixteen years of age are, one child, 10s. per fortnight; two children, 15s. per fortnight; three children, 20s. per fortnight; four or more children, 25s. per fortnight.

The actual rate payable in any case is determined after taking into consideration all other income and property received or owned by the pensioner in question, and no service pension can be paid in any case where such other income and property has an assessable value of a certain amount, variable according to the cost of living. At 30th June, 1945, the amount was £102 14s. per annum in the case of a single man, and £205 8s. in the case of a member and his wife.



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

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

**Current Work of Department.** The following statistics for the year 1944-45 show in some degree the type and extent of activity in the State of Victoria :—

	At 30th June, 1945.
War Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces .. .. .	30,138
Dependants of deceased members of the Forces .. .. .	10,755
Dependants of incapacitated members of the Forces .. .. .	37,334
Expenditure for year (paid in pensions) .. .. .	£3,245,026
Service Pensions—Number in force—	
Members of the Forces .. .. .	2,145
Dependants of deceased member pensioners .. .. .	378
Dependants of member pensioners .. .. .	770
Expenditure for year (paid in service pensions) .. .. .	£169,715
Medical Treatment—	
Number of In-patients in Repatriation Institutions—	
General Hospitals .. .. .	438
Sanatoria .. .. .	84
Anzac Hostels .. .. .	15
Mental Hospitals .. .. .	213
(Some patients are being treated in non-departmental institutions and/or in their own homes)	
Attendances of Out-patients (excluding treatments by Local Medical Officers, of whom there are 163 in rural areas) .. .. .	
Expenditure on treatment, &c.—	
Maintenance of Repatriation Institutions .. .. .	£162,635
Maintenance of patients in other than Repatriation Institutions (including Country Hospitals) .. .. .	£31,384
Sustenance during medical treatment .. .. .	£34,053
Conducting Repatriation Artificial Limb Factory .. .. .	£19,327
Other expenditure, including fees to Consultants, &c. .. .. .	£37,895
Soldiers' Children Education Scheme—	
Number of children at school and in training .. .. .	945
Expenditure for year .. .. .	£28,432

## CREMATION.

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

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

## CREMATION IN VICTORIA.

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