

SECTION XXV.

GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

§ 1. Scheme of Parliamentary Government.

1. **General.**—The legislative power of the Commonwealth is vested in the Federal Parliament, which consists of the Sovereign, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. The Sovereign is represented throughout the Commonwealth by the Governor-General, who, subject to the Constitution of the Commonwealth, has such powers and functions as the Sovereign is pleased to assign to him. In each State there is a State Governor, who is the representative of the Sovereign for the State, and who exercises such powers within the State as are conferred upon him by the Letters Patent which constitute his office, and by the instructions, which inform him in detail of the manner in which his duties are to be fulfilled. The Legislature in each State is also bi-cameral, and consists of (a) a Legislative Council and (b) a Legislative Assembly, or House of Assembly, the legislative powers of these chambers being delimited by the Commonwealth and the State Constitutions. The latter chamber, which is the larger, is always elective; the qualification for the franchise varies in character. The former chamber is, in the case of New South Wales and Queensland, nominated by the Governor-in-Council, but in the other States it is elective, the constituencies being differently arranged and some property or special qualification for the electorate being required. In the Federal Parliament, however, the qualifications for the franchise are identical for both Houses. A brief account of the constitutional history of each of the States was given in previous issues of this book (see especially Year Book No. 4, pp. 27 to 32).

2. **Number of Members of the Legislatures.**—The following table shews the number of members in each of the legislative chambers in the Commonwealth and in each State at 1st August, 1921 :—

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA, 1921.

Members in—		C'wealth.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
Upper House	..	36	68	34	59	20	30	18	265
Lower House	..	75	90	65	72	46	50	30	428
Total	..	111	158	99	131	66	80	48	693

The use of the expressions "Upper House" and "Lower House" in the above statement, though not justified constitutionally, is convenient, inasmuch as the legislative chambers are known by different names in the Commonwealth and in some of the States.

In the Commonwealth Parliament the Upper House is known as the Senate, and in the State Parliaments as the Legislative Council. The Lower House is known as follows:—In the Commonwealth Parliament as the House of Representatives, in the State Parliaments of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Western Australia as the Legislative Assembly, and in the State Parliaments of South Australia and Tasmania as the House of Assembly.

3. The Cabinet and Executive Government.—The Sections of the Commonwealth Constitution Act dealing with the Executive Government will be found on page 18 hereinbefore. In both the Commonwealth and the State Legislatures the forms of government have been founded on their prototypes in the Imperial Government, and the relations established between the Ministry and the representatives of the people are in accordance with those prevailing in Great Britain. The executive powers in the Commonwealth and in the State Governments are vested in the Governor-in-Council. The Executive Council in the Commonwealth and in the majority of the States is practically co-extensive with a group of departmental chiefs, who are usually spoken of as the Cabinet, and who change with the rise and fall of party majorities. In the Commonwealth Government, however, as well as in the States of Victoria and Tasmania, the Cabinet on leaving office remain members of the Executive Council, though they no longer attend its meetings, and it is in fact an essential feature of the Cabinet system of Government that they should not do so, except to assist the Governor in transacting purely formal business, or to advise on non-political questions.

(i) *The Executive Council.* This body is composed of the Governor and the Ministers of State holding office for the time being. The latter are sworn both as Executive Councillors and as Ministers controlling the different administrative departments. It should be observed that all persons living who have held Ministerial office under former Governments are also technically members of the Executive Council, and are thus liable to be specially summoned for attendance at meetings of that body. The meetings are official in character; they are presided over by the Governor-General (or Governor) and are attended by the clerk, who keeps a formal record of the proceedings. At these meetings the decisions of the Cabinet are put into official form and made effective, appointments are confirmed, resignations accepted, proceedings ordered, and notices and regulations published.

The official members of the Executive Council in August, 1921, have been previously specified (see page 30). In addition, all living members of past Ministries (see following pages) are technically liable to be officially summoned to attend meetings of the Executive Council.

Particulars of previous Commonwealth Ministries are given on pages 27 to 30 hereinbefore.

(ii) *The Cabinet.* The meetings of this body are private and deliberative. No one is admitted but the actual Ministry of the day, no records of the meetings transpire, and no official notice is taken of the proceedings. The members of the Cabinet, being the leaders of the party in power in Parliament, control the bent of legislation, and must retain the confidence of the people and also of the Governor-General (or Governor), to whom they act as an advising body. They also in effect wield, by virtue of their seats on the Executive Council, the whole executive force of the community. In summoning, proroguing, or dissolving Parliament, the Governor-General (or Governor) is usually guided by the advice tendered him by the Cabinet, though legally in no way bound to accept such advice. The following statement gives the names of the Ministers of State for the Commonwealth who have held office since the inauguration of the Commonwealth Government:—

MINISTERS OF STATE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA FROM 1st JANUARY, 1901, to OCTOBER, 1921.

HOME AND TERRITORIES. (Prior to 14/11/16 known as External Affairs).

Name.	From—	To—
Rt. Hon. E. BARTON, P.C., K.C. (a) (b) ..	1/1/01	23/9/03
Hon. A. DEAKIN (a) ..	23/9/03	26/4/04
Hon. W. M. HUGHES (k) ..	26/4/04	17/8/04
Rt. Hon. G. H. REID, P.C., K.C. (a) (g) ..	17/8/04	4/7/05
Hon. A. DEAKIN (a) ..	4/7/05	12/11/08
Hon. E. L. BATCHELOR ..	12/11/08	2/6/09
Hon. L. E. GROOM ..	2/6/09	29/4/10
Hon. E. L. BATCHELOR ..	29/4/10	18/10/11
Hon. J. THOMAS ..	14/10/11	24/6/13
Hon. P. McM. GLYNN, K.C. ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Hon. J. A. ARTHUR ..	17/9/14	19/12/14
Hon. HUGH MAHON ..	14/12/14	14/11/16
Hon. F. W. BAMFORD ..	14/11/16	17/2/17
Hon. P. McM. GLYNN, K.C. ..	17/2/17	3/2/20
Hon. A. POYNTON ..	4/2/20	(e)

TRADE AND CUSTOMS.

Name.	From—	To—
Rt. Hon. C. C. KINGSTON, P.C., K.C. ..	1/1/01	24/7/03
Hon. Sir W. J. LYNE, K.C.M.G. ..	7/8/03	26/4/04
Hon. A. FISHER (h) ..	26/4/04	17/8/04
Hon. A. MCLEAN ..	17/8/04	4/7/05
Hon. Sir W. J. LYNE, K.C.M.G. ..	4/7/05	29/7/07
Hon. A. CHAPMAN ..	29/7/07	12/11/08
Hon. F. G. TUDOR ..	12/11/08	2/6/09
Hon. Sir R. W. BEST, K.C.M.G. ..	2/6/09	29/4/10
Hon. F. G. TUDOR ..	29/4/10	24/6/13
Hon. L. E. GROOM ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Hon. F. G. TUDOR ..	17/9/14	14/9/16
Rt. Hon. W. M. HUGHES, P.C. ..	29/9/16	14/11/16
Hon. W. O. ARCHIBALD ..	14/11/16	17/2/17
Hon. J. A. JENSEN ..	17/2/17	13/12/18
Hon. W. A. WATT (n) ..	13/12/18	17/1/19
Hon. W. M. GREENE ..	17/1/19	(e)

ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

Name.	From—	To—
Hon. A. DEAKIN ..	1/1/01	23/9/03
Hon. J. G. DRAKE ..	23/9/03	26/4/04
Hon. H. B. HIGGINS, K.C. ..	26/4/04	17/8/04
Hon. Sir J. H. SYMON, K.C.M.G., K.C. ..	17/8/04	4/7/05
Hon. I. A. ISAACS ..	4/7/05	11/10/06
Hon. L. E. GROOM ..	11/10/06	12/11/08
Hon. W. M. HUGHES (k) ..	12/11/08	2/6/09
Hon. P. M. GLYNN ..	2/6/09	29/4/10
Hon. W. M. HUGHES (k) ..	29/4/10	24/6/13
Hon. W. H. IRVINE, K.C. (j) ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Hon. W. M. HUGHES (a) (k) ..	17/9/14	(e)

TREASURER.

Name.	From—	To—
Rt. Hon. Sir G. TURNER, P.C., K.C.M.G. ..	1/1/01	26/4/04
Hon. J. C. WATSON (a) ..	26/4/04	17/8/04
Rt. Hon. Sir G. TURNER, P.C., K.C.M.G. ..	17/8/04	4/7/05
Rt. Hon. Sir J. FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G. (l) ..	4/7/05	29/7/07
Hon. Sir W. J. LYNE, K.C.M.G. ..	29/7/07	12/11/08
Hon. A. FISHER (a) (h) ..	12/11/08	2/6/09
Rt. Hon. Sir J. FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G. (l) ..	2/6/09	29/4/10
Rt. Hon. A. FISHER, P.C. (a) ..	29/4/10	24/6/13
Rt. Hon. Sir J. FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G. (l) ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Rt. Hon. A. FISHER, P.C. (a) ..	17/9/14	27/10/15
Hon. W. G. HIGGS ..	27/10/15	27/10/16
Hon. A. POYNTON ..	24/11/16	17/2/17
Rt. Hon. Sir J. FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G. (l) ..	17/2/17	27/3/18
Hon. W. A. WATT (n) ..	27/3/18	15/6/20
Rt. Hon. Sir JOSEPH COOK, P.C., G.C.M.G. ..	28/7/20	(e)

WORKS AND RAILWAYS. (Prior to 14/11/16 known as Home Affairs).

Name.	From—	To—
Hon. Sir W. J. LYNE, K.C.M.G. ..	1/1/01	7/8/03
Rt. Hon. Sir J. FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G. (l) ..	7/8/03	26/4/04
Hon. E. L. BATCHELOR ..	26/4/04	17/8/04
Hon. D. THOMSON ..	17/8/04	4/7/05
Hon. L. E. GROOM ..	4/7/05	11/10/06
Hon. T. T. EWING (c) ..	11/10/06	23/1/07
Hon. J. H. KEATING ..	23/1/07	12/11/08
Hon. H. MAHON ..	12/11/08	2/6/09
Hon. G. W. FULLER ..	2/6/09	29/4/10
Hon. K. O'MALLEY ..	29/4/10	24/6/13
Hon. JOSEPH COOK (a) (i) ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Hon. W. O. ARCHIBALD ..	17/9/14	27/10/15
Hon. K. O'MALLEY ..	27/10/15	14/11/16
Hon. P. J. LYNCH ..	14/11/16	17/2/17
Hon. W. A. WATT (n) ..	17/2/17	27/3/18
Hon. L. E. GROOM ..	27/3/18	(e)

DEFENCE.

Name.	From—	To—
Hon. Sir J. R. DICKSON, K.C.M.G. ..	1/1/01	10/1/01
Rt. Hon. Sir J. FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G. (l) ..	17/1/01	7/8/03
Hon. J. G. DRAKE ..	7/8/03	23/9/03
Hon. A. CHAPMAN ..	23/9/03	26/4/04
Hon. A. DAWSON ..	26/4/04	17/8/04
Hon. J. W. MCCAY (m) ..	17/8/04	4/7/05
Hon. T. PLAYFORD ..	4/7/05	23/1/07
Hon. Sir T. T. EWING, K.C.M.G. ..	23/1/07	12/11/08
Hon. G. F. PEARCE ..	12/11/08	2/6/09
Hon. J. COOK (i) ..	2/6/09	29/4/10
Hon. G. F. PEARCE ..	29/4/10	24/6/13
Hon. E. D. MILLEN ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Hon. G. F. PEARCE ..	17/9/14	(e)

(a) Prime Minister. (b) Afterwards the Rt. Hon. Sir E. Barton, P.C., G.C.M.G., etc. (c) Afterwards the Hon. Sir T. T. Ewing, K.C.M.G. (d) Afterwards the Hon. Sir N. E. Lewis, K.C.M.G. (e) Still in office. (f) Died while holding office. (g) Afterwards the Rt. Hon. Sir G. H. Reid, P.C., G.C.M.G. (h) Afterwards the Rt. Hon. A. Fisher, P.C. (i) Afterwards the Rt. Hon. Sir J. Cook, P.C., G.C.M.G. (j) Afterwards the Hon. Sir W. H. Irvine, K.C.M.G., K.C. (k) Afterwards the Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, P.C. (l) Afterwards Lord Forrest of Bunbury. (m) Afterwards the Hon. Sir J. W. McCay, K.C.M.G. (n) Afterwards the Rt. Hon. W. A. Watt, P.C.

MINISTERS OF STATE FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA FROM
1ST JANUARY, 1901, TO OCTOBER, 1921—*continued.*

POSTMASTER-GENERAL.			VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.		
Name.	From—	To—	Name.	From—	To—
Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN FORREST, P.C., G.C.M.G. (l) ..	1/1/01	17/1/01	Hon. R. E. O'CONNOR, K.C. ..	1/1/01	23/9/03
Hon. J. G. DRAKE ..	5/2/01	7/8/03	Hon. T. PLAYFORD ..	23/9/03	26/4/04
Hon. Sir P. O. FYSH, K.C.M.G. ..	7/8/03	26/4/04	Hon. G. MCGREGOR ..	26/4/04	17/8/04
Hon. H. MAHON ..	26/4/04	17/8/04	Hon. J. G. DRAKE ..	17/8/04	4/7/05
Hon. S. SMITH ..	17/8/04	4/7/05	Hon. T. T. EWING (c) ..	4/7/05	11/10/06
Hon. A. CHAPMAN ..	4/7/05	29/7/07	Hon. J. H. KEATING ..	11/10/06	19/2/07
Hon. S. MAUGER ..	29/7/07	12/11/08	Hon. Sir R. W. BEST, K.C.M.G. ..	19/2/07	12/11/08
Hon. J. THOMAS ..	12/11/08	2/6/09	Hon. G. MCGREGOR ..	12/11/08	2/6/09
Hon. Sir J. QUICK ..	2/6/09	29/4/10	Hon. E. D. MILLEN ..	2/6/09	29/4/10
Hon. J. THOMAS ..	29/4/10	14/10/11	Hon. G. MCGREGOR ..	29/4/10	24/6/13
Hon. C. E. FRAZER ..	14/10/11	14/6/13	Hon. J. H. MCCOLL ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Hon. AGAR WYNNE ..	24/6/13	17/9/14	Hon. A. GARDINER ..	17/9/14	27/11/16
Hon. W. G. SPENCE ..	17/9/14	27/10/15	Hon. W. G. SPENCE ..	27/11/16	17/2/17
Hon. W. WEBSTER ..	27/10/15	3/2/20	Hon. E. D. MILLEN ..	17/2/17	16/11/17
Hon. G. H. WISE ..	4/2/20	(e)	Hon. L. E. GROOM ..	16/11/17	27/3/18
			Hon. E. J. RUSSELL ..	27/3/18	(e)
THE NAVY.			REPATRIATION.		
Name.	From—	To—	Name.	From—	To—
Hon. J. A. JENSEN ..	12/7/15	17/2/17	Hon. E. D. MILLEN ..	28/9/17	(e)
Rt. Hon. J. COOK, P.C. (t)	17/2/17	28/7/20			
Hon. W. H. LAIRD SMITH	28/7/20	(e)	HEALTH.		
			Name.	From—	To—
			Hon. W. M. GREENE ..	10/3/21	(e)
WITHOUT PORTFOLIO.					
Name.	From—	To—	Name.	From—	To—
Hon. N. E. LEWIS (d) ..	1/1/01	23/4/01	Hon. W. H. KELLY ..	24/6/13	17/9/14
Hon. Sir P. O. FYSH, K.C.M.G. ..	23/4/01	7/8/03	Hon. H. MAHON ..	17/9/14	14/12/14
Hon. J. H. KEATING ..	5/7/05	11/10/06	Hon. J. A. JENSEN ..	17/9/14	12/7/15
Hon. S. MAUGER ..	11/10/06	29/7/07	Hon. E. J. RUSSELL ..	17/9/14	27/3/18
Hon. J. H. COOK ..	28/1/08	12/11/08	Hon. W. H. LAIRD SMITH	14/11/16	17/2/17
Hon. J. HUTCHISON ..	12/11/08	2/6/09	Hon. L. E. GROOM ..	17/2/17	16/11/17
Hon. A. DEAKIN (a) ..	2/6/09	29/4/10	Hon. A. POYNTON ..	26/3/18	4/2/20
Col. Hon. J. F. G. FOXTON, C.M.G. ..	2/6/09	29/4/10	Hon. G. H. WISE ..	26/3/18	4/2/20
Hon. E. FINDLEY ..	29/4/10	24/6/13	Hon. W. M. GREENE ..	26/3/18	17/1/19
Hon. C. E. FRAZER ..	29/4/10	14/10/11	Hon. R. B. ORCHARD ..	26/3/18	31/1/19
Hon. E. A. ROBERTS ..	23/10/11	24/6/13	Hon. Sir G. de L. RYRIE, K.C.M.G., C.B. ..	4/2/20	(e)
Hon. J. S. CLEMONS ..	24/6/13	17/9/14	Hon. W. H. LAIRD SMITH	4/2/20	28/7/20
			Hon. A. S. RODGERS ..	28/7/20	(e)

See notes on previous page.

(iii) *Constitution of Ministries.* The subjoined table shows the constitution of the Ministries in the Commonwealth and the State Governments in October, 1921 :—

CONSTITUTION OF MINISTRIES, 1921.

Ministers with Seats in—	C'wealth.	N.S.W.	Vict.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tas.	Total.
The Upper House ..	3	2	3	1	2	1	2	14
The Lower House ..	9	11	8	9	4	5	5	51
Total	12	13	11	10	6	6	7	65

The names of the members of the Ministries in each State in October, 1921, are shewn in the following statement :—

MEMBERS OF STATE GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, 1921.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—MINISTRY.

Premier—

*HON. JOHN STOREY.

Colonial Secretary and Minister of Housing—

HON. JAMES DOOLEY.

Treasurer—

HON. J. T. LANG.

Attorney-General—

HON. E. A. McTIERNAN.

Secretary for Lands and Minister of Forests—

HON. P. F. LOUGHLIN.

Secretary for Public Works and Minister of Railways—

HON. J. ESTELL.

Minister of Public Instruction and Local Government—

HON. T. D. MUTCH.

Secretary for Mines and Minister of Labour and Industry—

HON. G. CANN.

Minister of Agriculture—

HON. W. F. DUNN.

Minister of Public Health and Motherhood—

HON. J. J. G. MCGIRR.

Solicitor-General—

HON. R. SPROULE, M.L.C.

Vice-President of the Executive Council—

HON. E. J. KAVANAGH, M.L.C.

Minister for Justice—

HON. W. J. MCKELL.

* Died on 5th October, 1921. Succeeded on 8th October by Hon. James Dooley, and the Ministry was reconstructed, Mr Dooley remaining Colonial Secretary. A new portfolio of State Industrial Enterprises was created, and allotted to Mr. Lazzarini. Other minor alterations were also made.

VICTORIA.—MINISTRY.

Premier and Minister of Agriculture and of Water Supply—

HON. H. S. W. LAWSON.

Treasurer—

HON. W. M. McPHERSON.

Attorney-General and Solicitor-General—

HON. A. ROBINSON, C.M.G., M.L.C.

Minister of Public Instruction and of Labour and of Forests—

HON. SIR A. J. PEACOCK, K.C.M.G.

Commissioner of Public Works—

HON. F. G. CLARKE, M.L.C.

Minister of Railways and Mines—

HON. S. BARNES.

Chief Secretary and Minister of Public Health—

MAJOR THE HON. M. BAIRD.

Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey—

HON. D. S. OMAN.

Ministers without Portfolio—

HON. J. McWHAE, M.L.C.

HON. H. ANGUS.

HON. J. W. PENNINGTON.

QUEENSLAND.—MINISTRY.

Premier and Chief Secretary—

HON. E. G. THEODORE.

Treasurer, Secretary for Public Works, and Attorney-General—

HON. J. A. FHELLY.

Home Secretary—

HON. W. McCORMACK.

Secretary for Public Lands—

HON. J. H. COYNE.

Secretary for Railways—

HON. J. LARCOMBE.

Secretary for Public Instruction—

HON. J. HUXHAM.

Secretary for Mines—

HON. A. J. JONES, M.L.C.

Secretary for Agriculture and Stock—

HON. W. N. GILLIES.

Attorney-General—

HON. J. MULLAN.

Secretary for Public Works—

HON. W. F. SMITH.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—MINISTRY.

Premier and Attorney-General—

HON. H. N. BARWELL.

Treasurer and Minister for Education—

HON. G. RITCHIE.

Commissioner of Crown Lands and Immigration and Minister of Repatriation—

HON. G. R. LAFFER.

Chief Secretary and Minister of Marine—

HON. J. G. BICE, M.L.C.

Commissioner of Public Works and Minister of Railways and of Industry—

HON. W. HAGUE.

Minister of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Mines—

HON. T. PASCOE, M.L.C.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.—MINISTRY.

Premier, Colonial Treasurer, and Minister for Lands and Repatriation—

HON. SIR JAMES MITCHELL, K.C.M.G.

Minister for Education, North-West Territory, and Justice—

HON. H. P. COLEBATCH, M.L.C.

Minister for Works, Trading Concerns, and for Water Supply—

HON. W. J. GEORGE, C.M.G.

Minister for Mines, Railways, Police, Industries, and Woods and Forests—

HON. J. SCADDAN.

Colonial Secretary and Minister for Public Health—

HON. F. T. BROWN.

Minister for Agriculture—

HON. H. K. MALEY.

TASMANIA.—MINISTRY.

Premier and Chief Secretary and Minister for Education—

HON. W. H. LEE, Kt.

Attorney-General and Minister for Railways—

HON. W. B. PROPSTING, C.M.G., M.L.C.

Treasurer and Minister for Mines—

HON. SIR N. E. LEWIS, K.C.M.G.

Minister for Works and Agriculture—

HON. J. B. HAYES.

Minister for Lands—

HON. A. HEAN, C.M.G.

Ministers without Portfolio—

HON. T. SHIELDS, M.L.C.

HON. H. HAYS.

4. *The Appointment of Ministers and of Executive Councillors.*(a)—Although it is technically possible for the Governor to make and unmake cabinets at his pleasure, under all ordinary circumstances his apparent liberty in choosing his Executive Council is virtually restricted by the operation of constitutional machinery. When a Ministry is defeated in Parliament or at the polls, the procedure both in the Commonwealth and the State Parliaments generally, though not invariably, follows that prevailing in the Imperial Parliament. The customary procedure in connexion with the resignation or acceptance of office by a Ministry is described fully in previous issues of the Year Book. (See No. 6, page 942.)

5. *Enactments of the Parliament.*—In the Commonwealth, all laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign, the Senate, and the House of Representatives. The subjects with respect to which the Commonwealth Parliament is empowered to make laws are enumerated in the Constitution Act (see pp. 15 and 16 hereinbefore). In the States, laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign by and with the consent of the Legislative Council and Legislative Assembly or House of Assembly. The Governor-General or the State Governor acts as Viceroy as regards giving the Royal Assent to or vetoing Bills passed by the Legislatures, or reserving them for the special consideration of the Sovereign. In the States, the Councils and Assemblies are empowered generally, subject to the Commonwealth Constitution, to make laws in and for their respective States, in all cases whatsoever. Subject to certain limitations, they may alter, repeal, or vary their Constitution. Where a law of a State is inconsistent with a law of the Commonwealth the latter prevails, and the former is, to the extent of the inconsistency, invalid.

(a) See Jenks' "Government of Victoria," pp. 269 *et seq.*

6. Powers and Functions of the Governor-General and of the Governors.—The Governor-General and the State Governors act under the authority of the Commissions by which they are appointed and the Letters Patent under the Great Seal of the United Kingdom, and according to instructions issued by the Colonial Office and passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet.

The office of Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Commonwealth was constituted by Letters Patent issued on the 29th October, 1900, in pursuance of the provisions of the Commonwealth Constitution Act (see page 9 hereinbefore). The powers and duties of the Governor-General were further defined by Royal instructions issued on the same date. The principal and most important of his functions, legislative as well as executive, are expressly conferred upon him by the terms of the Constitution itself. He is the custodian of the Great Seal of the Commonwealth, and has the appointment of political officers to administer Departments of State of the Commonwealth.

His legislative functions are exercised with respect to proposed laws as finally passed by the Federal Houses of Parliament. Such Bills are presented to the Governor-General for his assent in the King's name, on receiving which they become law throughout the Commonwealth. The Governor-General may, however, withhold his assent, or may reserve any Bill for the King's pleasure. He may return to the House in which it originated any proposed law with suggested amendments. The King may disallow any law within one year from the date on which it was assented to by the Governor-General.

The Governor-General's executive functions are, under ordinary circumstances, exercised on the advice of his responsible Ministers. Various specific powers are vested in him by the Constitution; he may summon or prorogue Parliament and may dissolve the House of Representatives. He is the Commander-in-Chief of the military and naval forces of the Commonwealth, and is invested by the Crown with the prerogative of mercy in cases of offences committed against the laws of the Commonwealth.

The Governor-General is also invested with authority in certain matters of Imperial interest, such as the control of the naval and military forces of the Commonwealth; the observance of the relations of foreign States to Great Britain, so far as they may be affected by the indirect relations of such States to the Commonwealth; and the treatment of neutral and belligerent ships in Commonwealth waters in time of war.

The Governor-General may not leave the Commonwealth without having first obtained leave from the Imperial Government, to whom alone he is responsible for his official acts.

The powers and functions of the State Governors are, within their respective States, very similar to those exercised by the Governor-General for the Commonwealth, and are defined by the terms of their Commissions and by the Royal instructions accompanying the same. A State Governor is the official head of the State Legislature, and assents in the name of the Crown to all Bills passed by the Parliament, except those reserved for the Royal Assent. The latter include certain classes of Bills, which are regulated by the Constitution Acts and by the instructions issued by the Imperial Government. The Governors are, under ordinary circumstances, guided by their Executive Councils, the chief matters in which the exercise of discretion is required being the granting or withholding of a dissolution of Parliament when requested by a Premier; the appointment of a new Ministry; or the assenting to, vetoing, or reserving of Bills passed by the legislative chambers. The Governors are authorised, under certain restrictions, to administer the prerogative of mercy by the reprieve or pardon of criminal offenders within their jurisdiction, and to remit fines and penalties due to the Crown. All moneys to be expended for the public service are issued from the Treasury under the Governor's warrant.

In a publication* in which the above matters are exhaustively discussed, it is indicated that there are important functions in the hands of a Governor, and that his influence may extend beyond what is anticipated by those who are unfamiliar with the activities of actual government. This is, however, essentially a matter of individual character. A Governor is entitled to the fullest confidence of his Ministers, to be informed at once of any important decisions taken by his Cabinet, and to discuss them with the utmost freedom. He can point out objections, give advice, deprecate measures, and

* "Responsible Government in the Dominions," A. B. Keith, Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1912, Vol. I.

urge alterations, subject, however, to his remaining always behind the scenes. It should be remembered, moreover, that the State Executive Councils owe their existence to the Royal Letters Patent constituting the office of Governor and that, in law, the Governor is never bound to accept the advice of his Ministers. He cannot indeed do many things without their advice, for it is provided by law (either in the Constitution or Interpretation Acts, or by authoritative usage) that a Governor-in-Council must act on the advice of the Council. He cannot therefore perform any act in Council without a majority, though he can always refuse to act, and thus force his Ministers either to give way on the point at issue or to resign their posts. Even in the case of a ministerial act, he can forbid a Minister to take any action on pain of dismissal. Nominally a Governor will, of course, be justified in accepting the advice of his Ministers as being a correct statement of the facts and law, but he is not bound to be so satisfied, and in matters of law he must exercise his own judgment if he be in doubt. A Governor is not, however, entitled to refuse to act on the advice of his Ministers because he personally does not approve of their action or policy; his duty is not to his own conscience, but to the people of the State which he governs, and he should execute that duty independently of every other consideration.

Although the above furnishes a brief résumé of the powers of a Governor from a legal point of view, in practice the exercise of his powers is generally limited by his ability to persuade his Ministers as to the desirability of any particular course of action. Disagreement with Ministers is only justifiable in extreme cases, and even then it involves the responsibility of finding other Ministers, who must either shew that they have as much support as any other party, or be prepared to administer during a dissolution, pending an appeal to the people. It may be remarked that a Governor who cannot work with Ministers possessing the support of the people must be recalled, unless he has acted on Imperial grounds, and the dispute is not one between him and Ministers, but between the Imperial and State Governments.

It may also be pointed out that a Governor, besides acting according to law, has, within the range of what is lawful, to act according to the instructions of the Secretary of State. He is called upon to do so by the instruments which create his office and appoint him Governor, and he obeys the Secretary of State as the mouthpiece of the Crown. Historically, there have been many cases in which these instructions have placed Governors in opposition to their Ministers.

The present Governor-General is the Right Honourable LORD HENRY WILLIAM FORSTER OF LEPE, P.C., G.C.M.G. He assumed office on the 6th October, 1920. Particulars of previous Governors-General are given on p. 27 hereinbefore.

The following is a list of the Governors of the various States of the Commonwealth :—

New South Wales ..	SIR WALTER EDWARD DAVIDSON, K.C.M.G.
Victoria	Colonel the Rt. Hon. GEORGE EDWARD JOHN MOWBRAY ROUS, EARL OF STRADBROKE, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.V.O., C.B.E.
Queensland ..	Lieutenant-Colonel the Rt. Hon. SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, P.C., G.C.M.G.
South Australia ..	Lieutenant-Colonel SIR WILLIAM ERNEST GEORGE ARCHIBALD WEIGALL, K.C.M.G.
Western Australia ..	SIR FRANCIS ALEXANDER NEWDIGATE, NEWDEGATE, K.C.M.G.
Tasmania ..	SIR WILLIAM LAMOND ALLARDYCE, K.C.M.G.

7. Cost of Parliamentary Government.—The following statement shews the cost of parliamentary government in the Commonwealth and in each State, as well as the cost per head of population, for the year ended the 30th June, 1920. In order to avoid any incorrect conclusions as to the cost of the Governor-General's or Governor's establishment, it may be pointed out that a very large part of the expenditure (with the exception of item "Governor's salary") under the head of Governor-General or Governor represents official services entirely outside the Governor's personal interests, and carried out at the request of the Government.

COST OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT, 1919-20.

Particulars.	C'with.	N.S.W.	Vic.	Q'land.	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1.* Governor-General or Governor—								
Governor's salary ..	10,000	5,000	5,000	2,561	4,000	4,000	2,750	33,311
Official Secretary's salary ..	850	440		300	..	350	..	
Governor's establishments ..	7,313	526	4,620	846	..	1,935	452	38,600
Repairs and maintenance of Governor's residences ..	9,243	2,274		1,369	3,922	2,876	1,484	
Miscellaneous ..	..	923	(e) 255	2,345	141	..	495	4,159
Total ..	27,206	9,163	9,875	7,421	8,063	9,161	5,181	76,070
2. Executive Council—								
Salaries of Officers ..	206	250	640	20	..	350	..	1,466
Other expenses ..	4	257	14	71	..	10	..	356
Total ..	210	507	654	91	..	360	..	1,822
3. Ministry—								
Salaries of Ministers ..	15,231	10,924	8,400	8,300	5,000	6,200	3,636	57,691
Other expenses ..	..	801	(d)	..	..	2,679	538	4,018
Visits of Commonwealth Ministers to London ..	3,520	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,520
Total ..	18,751	11,725	8,400	8,300	5,000	8,879	4,174	65,229
4. Parliament—								
A. The Upper House :								
Allowances to members ..	22,376			1,759	3,600	11,000	4,705	43,440
Railway passes ..	(a) 9,379	10,430	(e) 5,000	(f)	1,033	(f)	750	26,592
Other expenses of members ..	(a) 570	..	..	..	142	89	5	806
B. The Lower House :								
Allowances to members ..	40,993	37,392	17,099	37,485	8,011	17,852	8,271	167,103
Railway passes ..	(b)	13,821	(e)	(f)	2,375	(f)	1,250	17,446
Other expenses of members ..	(b)	1,836	..	1,510	432	276	114	4,177
C. Miscellaneous :								
Salaries of officers and staff ..	16,275	23,654	15,901	6,155	5,369	3,381	3,960	74,695
Printing ..	17,220	13,219	2,055	4,394	6,716	(l)	2,469	46,073
Hansard (including printing)	13,682	7,147	7,626	8,919	5,198	4,974	..	47,546
Library ..	5,703	874	..	1,285	886	408	..	..
Refreshment rooms ..	1,453	(c)	1,974	1,362	1,499	1,700	..	..
Water, power, light, and heat ..	781	630	457	544	890	..	775	30,276
Postage, stores, and stationery ..	(j) 2,382	1,169	703	382	528	..	..	..
Miscellaneous ..	(j) 6,495	2,215	391	932	463	..	..	..
Total ..	137,309	112,387	52,174	64,756	37,142	41,087	22,299	467,154
5. Electoral Office—								
Salaries of officers and staff ..	52,029	1,629	900	2,420	4,557	2,305	3,283	137,944
Other expenses ..	42,507	(i)	15,000	7,267	4,335	1,712	..	..
Total ..	94,536	1,629	15,900	9,687	8,892	4,017	3,283	137,944
6. Cost of Elections ..	4 98,111	82,084	2,614	..	286	1,288	(g)	184,383
7. Royal Commissions and Select Committees ..	22,803	18,599	2,084	3,985	1,152	266	1,128	50,017
GRAND TOTAL ..	398,926	236,094	91,701	194,240	60,535	65,058	36,065	982,610
Cost per head of population ..	1s. 6.0d.	2s. 3.6d.	1s. 2.5d.	2s. 6.6d.	2s. 6.6d.	3s. 10.5d.	3s. 3.2d.	3s. 8.1d.

* See preceding paragraph. (a) Including Lower House. (b) Included in Upper House. (c) Included in Miscellaneous. (d) See note (e). Ministers are allowed £1 per day when travelling. (e) £5,000 is paid to the Railway Department to cover issue of passes to State Governor and Staff, members of Parliament of Victoria and other States, and Executive Councillors. (f) Not available. Each member of both Houses has a pass for the whole of the State Railways. (g) Included in Electoral Office. (h) Exclusive of travelling expenses of members, free passes, special trains, etc. (i) Included in cost of elections. (j) Stationery included with miscellaneous. (k) Including referenda, alterations to Constitution. (l) Included in item Hansard.

§ 2. Parliaments and Elections.

1. **Qualifications for Membership and for Franchise.**—The conspectus in § 4 of this section in the previous issue of the Year Book gives particulars as to the legislative chambers in the Commonwealth and State Parliaments, and shows concisely the qualifications necessary for membership and for the franchise in each House. Disqualification of persons otherwise eligible, either as members or voters, are generally on the usual grounds of being of unsound mind or attainted of treason, being convicted of certain offences, and, as regards membership, on the grounds of holding a place of profit under the Crown, being pecuniarily interested in a Government contract, or being an undischarged bankrupt.

2. **The Federal Parliament.**—The Senate consists of 36 members, six being returned by each of the original federating States. Members of this chamber are elected for a term of six years, but by a provision in the Constitution a certain number retire at the end of every third year, although they are eligible for re-election. In accordance with the Constitution the total number of members of the House of Representatives must be as nearly as possible double that of the Senate. In the House of Representatives the States are represented on a population basis, and the numbers stand at present as follows:—New South Wales, 27; Victoria, 21; Queensland, 10; South Australia, 7; Western Australia, 5; Tasmania, 5—total, 75. The Constitution provides for a minimum of five members for each original State. Members of the House of Representatives are elected for the duration of the Parliament, which is limited to three years. In elections for Senators, each State is counted as a single electorate, but an elaborate scheme of subdivision had to be undertaken in order to provide workable electorates in each State for members of the House of Representatives. Members of both Houses are paid at the rate of £1,000 per annum. Further information regarding the Senate and the House of Representatives is given on pages 10 to 14 hereinbefore.

Particulars of Elections. There have been seven complete Parliaments since the inauguration of Federation. The dates of the opening and dissolution of these Parliaments are given on page 26. The fifth Parliament, which was opened on the 9th July, 1913, was dissolved on the 27th June, 1914, in somewhat unusual circumstances. Under Section 27 of the Constitution, it is provided that, should the Senate fail to pass, or pass with amendments, any proposed law previously passed by the House of Representatives, and should the latter House, after a specified interval, again pass the proposed law, with or without the amendments of the Senate, and the Senate for a second time reject it or pass it with amendments to which the lower House will not agree, then the Governor-General may dissolve the two Houses simultaneously. For the first time in the history of the Commonwealth this deadlock between the Senate and the House of Representatives occurred in the second session of the fifth Parliament, and, in accordance with the section of the Constitution referred to above, both Houses were dissolved by the Governor-General. The first session of the eighth Parliament opened on the 26th February, 1920. Particulars regarding Commonwealth elections may be found in the tables given hereunder:—

FEDERAL ELECTION, MARCH, 1901.

State.	Number of Electors.		Electors who Voted.		Percentage of Electors who Voted.	
	Total.	In contested Districts for the House of Representatives.	Senate.	House of Representatives.	Senate.	House of Representatives.
New South Wales ..	331,765	317,902	218,456	211,035	65.81	66.38
Victoria ..	280,661	233,051	149,012	130,610	53.09	56.04
Queensland ..	103,806	103,806	51,336	62,656	49.45	60.35
South Australia ..	154,281	154,281	62,952	62,892	40.80	40.76
Western Australia ..	87,920	70,230	28,733	25,945	32.68	36.95
Tasmania ..	39,528	39,528	18,822	18,572	47.62	46.99
Commonwealth ..	997,961	918,798	529,311	511,710	53.04	55.69

FEDERAL ELECTIONS OF 16th DECEMBER, 1903, 12th DECEMBER, 1906, 13th APRIL, 1910, 31st MAY, 1913, 5th SEPTEMBER, 1914, 5th MAY, 1917, AND 19th DECEMBER, 1919.

State.		Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot Papers were Issued.			Percentage of Voters to Electors Enrolled.		
		Males.	Fem.	Total.	Males.	Fem.	Total.	Males.	Fem.	Total.
THE SENATE.										
New South Wales	1903	360,285	326,764	687,049	189,877	134,487	324,364	52.70	41.16	47.21
	1906	392,077	345,522	737,599	229,654	151,682	381,336	58.57	43.90	51.70
	1910	444,269	390,393	834,662	301,167	211,635	512,802	67.79	54.21	61.44
	1913	554,028	482,159	1,036,187	405,152	312,703	717,855	73.13	64.85	69.28
	1914	576,309	506,820	1,083,129	407,464	294,939	702,403	70.70	58.19	64.85
	1917	566,345	528,489	1,094,834	430,514	343,143	773,657	76.02	64.93	70.66
	1919	550,363	529,076	1,079,439	400,477	317,088	717,565	72.77	59.93	66.48
Victoria	1903	302,069	310,403	612,472	171,839	141,648	313,487	56.89	45.63	51.18
	1906	335,886	336,168	672,054	209,252	171,933	381,185	62.30	51.14	56.72
	1910	346,050	357,649	703,699	245,666	222,869	468,535	70.99	62.32	66.58
	1913	407,852	422,539	830,391	326,856	300,005	626,861	80.14	71.00	75.49
	1914	401,055	413,685	814,740	335,057	309,841	644,898	83.54	74.90	79.15
	1917	393,794	425,913	819,707	345,804	342,131	687,935	87.81	80.33	83.92
	1919	403,650	433,758	837,408	323,187	314,911	638,098	80.07	72.60	76.20
Queensland	1903	127,914	99,166	227,080	79,938	44,569	124,507	62.49	44.94	54.83
	1906	150,037	121,072	271,109	79,567	44,972	124,539	53.03	37.14	45.94
	1910	158,436	120,595	279,031	104,570	66,064	170,634	66.00	54.78	61.15
	1913	209,727	156,355	366,082	163,380	117,145	280,525	79.03	74.92	77.26
	1914	207,587	160,620	368,207	163,709	112,695	276,404	78.06	70.16	75.07
	1917	204,280	174,016	378,296	183,486	153,265	336,751	89.82	88.08	89.02
	1919	209,437	179,763	389,200	176,489	153,742	330,231	84.27	85.52	84.85
South Australia	1903	85,947	81,828	167,775	35,736	19,049	54,785	41.58	23.28	32.65
	1906	97,454	95,064	192,518	43,318	27,199	70,517	44.45	28.43	36.51
	1910	105,301	102,354	207,655	63,384	47,119	110,503	60.19	46.03	53.22
	1913	124,222	119,804	244,026	103,739	91,724	195,463	83.51	76.56	80.10
	1914	131,758	125,595	257,353	110,049	96,195	206,244	83.52	76.59	80.14
	1917	132,260	133,519	265,779	103,707	87,471	191,178	78.41	65.51	71.93
	1919	132,541	135,694	268,235	97,284	80,808	178,092	73.40	59.55	66.40
Western Australia	1903	74,754	42,188	116,942	26,878	6,270	33,148	35.96	14.86	28.35
	1906	91,427	54,046	145,473	37,180	15,532	52,712	40.67	28.74	36.23
	1910	80,996	53,983	134,979	53,704	30,189	83,893	66.30	55.92	62.15
	1913	106,264	73,520	179,784	80,011	52,138	132,149	75.29	70.92	73.50
	1914	107,005	75,102	182,107	79,150	50,984	130,134	73.97	67.89	71.46
	1917	93,049	74,981	168,030	76,518	54,154	130,672	82.23	72.22	77.77
	1919	97,921	75,023	163,544	60,731	42,504	103,235	69.07	56.21	63.12
Tasmania	1903	43,515	38,753	82,268	28,729	13,292	37,021	54.53	34.30	45.00
	1906	47,306	42,903	90,209	29,164	19,715	48,879	61.65	45.95	54.18
	1910	51,731	46,725	98,456	33,539	24,070	57,609	64.83	51.51	58.51
	1913	54,856	51,890	106,746	43,639	36,859	80,398	79.37	71.03	75.32
	1914	54,754	51,225	105,979	44,504	37,749	82,253	81.23	73.69	77.61
	1917	54,405	54,276	108,681	44,634	37,974	82,608	82.04	69.96	76.01
	1919	55,906	56,130	112,036	36,366	29,350	65,716	65.05	52.29	58.66
Commonwealth	1903	994,484	899,102	1,893,586	527,997	359,315	887,312	53.09	39.96	46.86
	1906	1,114,187	995,375	2,109,562	628,135	431,033	1,059,168	56.38	43.30	50.21
	1910	1,186,783	1,071,699	2,258,482	802,030	601,946	1,403,976	67.58	56.17	62.16
	1913	1,453,949	1,306,267	2,760,216	1,122,677	910,574	2,033,251	77.22	69.71	73.66
	1914	1,478,468	1,333,047	2,811,515	1,139,933	902,403	2,042,336	77.10	67.69	72.64
	1917	1,444,133	1,391,194	2,835,327	1,184,663	1,018,138	2,202,801	82.03	73.18	77.69
	1919	1,439,818	1,410,044	2,849,862	1,094,534	938,403	2,032,937	76.02	65.55	71.33

(a) For the House of Representatives the number of electors enrolled in contested divisions only is given.

FEDERAL ELECTIONS OF 16TH DECEMBER, 1903, 12TH DECEMBER, 1906, 13TH APRIL, 1910, 31ST MAY, 1913, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 1914, 5TH MAY, 1917, AND 19TH DECEMBER, 1919—continued.

State.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot Papers were Issued.			Percentage of Voters to Electors Enrolled.			
	Males.	Fem.	Total.	Males.	Fem.	Total.	Males.	Fem.	Total.	
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES—continued.										
South Australia ..	1903	23,856	25,789	49,645	12,394	7,728	20,122	51.95	29.97	40.53
	1906	42,065	38,578	80,643	19,850	12,669	32,519	47.19	32.84	40.32
	1910	59,581	61,594	121,175	37,189	29,852	67,041	62.42	48.47	55.33
	1913	90,009	85,304	175,313	74,316	65,704	140,020	82.57	77.02	79.87
	1914	116,594	111,372	227,966	97,182	84,956	182,138	83.35	76.28	79.90
	1917	116,568	114,749	231,317	91,642	75,450	167,092	78.61	65.75	72.23
Western Australia	1919	132,541	135,694	268,235	97,284	80,808	178,092	73.40	59.55	66.40
	1903	41,500	28,324	69,824	16,824	4,409	21,233	40.54	15.57	30.41
	1906	91,427	54,046	145,473	36,976	15,740	52,716	40.44	29.12	36.24
	1910	80,996	53,983	134,979	53,704	30,189	83,893	66.30	55.92	62.15
	1913	87,570	62,088	149,658	65,754	44,310	110,064	75.09	71.37	73.98
	1914	89,824	64,736	154,560	66,221	44,456	110,677	73.72	68.67	71.61
Tasmania ..	1917	74,370	61,940	136,310	61,531	45,112	106,643	82.74	72.83	78.24
	1919	87,921	75,823	163,744	60,731	42,504	103,235	69.07	56.21	63.12
	1903	43,515	38,753	82,268	23,729	13,284	37,013	54.53	34.28	44.99
	1906	37,779	34,839	72,618	23,753	16,441	40,194	62.87	47.19	55.35
	1910	51,731	46,725	98,456	33,539	24,070	57,609	64.83	51.51	58.51
	1913	54,856	51,890	106,746	43,539	36,859	80,398	79.37	71.03	75.32
Commonwealth	1914	42,995	41,122	84,117	34,789	30,314	65,103	80.91	73.72	77.40
	1917	42,430	43,661	86,091	35,103	30,770	65,873	82.73	70.47	76.52
	1919	55,906	56,130	112,036	36,366	29,350	65,716	65.05	52.29	58.66
	1903	767,809	703,093	1,470,902	432,582	305,820	739,402	56.47	43.50	50.27
	1906	1,020,917	899,480	1,920,397	585,535	403,018	988,553	57.35	44.81	51.48
	1910	1,128,496	1,020,473	2,148,969	768,714	580,912	1,349,626	68.12	56.93	62.80
Commonwealth	1913	1,401,042	1,260,335	2,661,377	1,078,997	876,726	1,955,723	77.01	69.56	73.49
	1914	1,225,990	1,122,451	2,348,441	954,768	772,138	1,726,906	77.88	68.79	73.53
	1917	1,262,527	1,207,938	2,470,465	1,041,552	892,926	1,934,478	82.50	73.92	78.30
	1919	1,395,155	1,367,468	2,762,633	1,063,029	914,816	1,977,845	76.19	66.90	71.59

In the Senate the figures for the year 1906 shew that ballot-papers were issued to 50.21 per cent. of the electors, and are a slight improvement on those for the year 1903, when only about 47 per cent. of the electors visited the polls. There was, however, a substantial increase in the number of electors who voted at the 1910 elections, 62.16 per cent. of the persons on the rolls exercising the franchise. The elections of 1913 shewed a gratifying increase over those of 1910, no less than 73.66 per cent. of the persons on the rolls exercising their right to vote, while in 1914, the percentage was almost as high, viz., 72.64 per cent. It will be seen from the foregoing table that the electors of the Commonwealth are setting a higher value on the privilege of the franchise. The percentage of female voters in 1914, while still considerably below that of the males, shews a marked increase on that of female voters in the earlier years of Federation. At the elections in 1917, the proportion of voters of both sexes was the highest yet recorded. In 1919 the proportion is lower, approximating to the results of the 1913 and 1917 elections.

3. Commonwealth Referenda, 26th April, 1911.—Two proposed laws for the alteration of the Constitution were submitted to the people for acceptance or rejection on the 26th April, 1911. They were (a) The Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1910, and (b) the Constitution Alteration (Monopolies) 1910. If, in a majority of the States, a majority of the electors voting approve the proposed laws, and if a majority of all the electors voting also approve them, they are presented to the Governor-General for the King's assent. Particulars of the alterations proposed have already been given (see page 15).

Results of the Referenda of 1911 are given in the following table, which shews the number of electors enrolled, electors to whom ballot papers were issued, and the number of votes in favour of, and against, each of the proposed laws. As will be seen, neither of the proposed laws was approved by the people.

**COMMONWEALTH REFERENDA (LEGISLATIVE POWERS AND MONOPOLIES),
TAKEN ON 26th APRIL, 1911.**

State.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot Papers were Issued.			Legislative Powers.		Monopolies.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Fe- males.	Total.	Total Number of Votes given in Favour of the Prop'd Law.	Total Number of Votes given Not in Favour of the Prop'd Law.	Total Number of Votes given in Favour of the Prop'd Law.	Total Number of Votes given Not in Favour of the Prop'd Law.
N.S.W. ..	481,196	406,998	888,194	233,668	150,520	384,188	135,968	240,605	138,237	238,177
Victoria ..	355,381	367,996	723,377	236,194	212,372	448,566	170,288	270,390	171,453	268,743
Q'land ..	167,725	125,278	293,003	101,245	60,890	162,135	69,552	89,420	70,259	88,472
S. Aust. ..	110,217	105,810	216,027	72,761	61,041	133,802	50,358	81,904	50,835	81,479
W. Aust.	83,850	54,847	138,697	42,598	18,884	61,482	33,043	27,185	33,592	26,561
Tasmania	54,008	48,318	102,326	33,103	24,950	58,053	24,147	33,200	24,292	32,960
Totals for C'wealth	1,232,377	1,109,247	2,341,624	719,569	528,657	1,248,226	483,356	742,704	488,668	736,392

4. Commonwealth Referenda, 31st May, 1913.—At the general elections that took place on 31st May, 1913, the question of altering the Constitution so as to extend the powers of the Commonwealth was again submitted to the people. The particulars of the proposed laws have been given on page 15 hereinbefore. The results of the Referenda of 1913 are given below, and, as will be seen, none of the proposed laws was approved by the electors.

COMMONWEALTH REFERENDA (LEGISLATIVE POWERS) TAKEN ON 31st MAY, 1913.

State.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot Papers were issued.			Percentage of Voters to Electors Enrolled.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
N.S.W. ..	554,028	482,159	1,036,187	405,152	312,703	717,855	73.13	64.85	69.28
Victoria ..	407,852	422,539	830,391	326,856	300,005	626,861	80.14	71.00	75.49
Queensland ..	206,727	156,355	363,082	163,380	117,145	280,525	79.03	74.92	77.26
South Aust. ..	124,222	119,804	244,026	103,739	91,724	195,463	83.51	76.56	80.10
Western Aust.	106,264	73,520	179,784	80,011	52,138	132,149	75.29	70.92	73.50
Tasmania ..	54,856	51,890	106,746	43,539	38,559	80,398	79.37	71.03	75.32
Totals for Com- monwealth	1,453,949	1,306,267	2,760,216	1,122,677	910,574	2,033,251	77.22	69.71	73.66

The following table shews the number of votes cast for and against each of the proposed laws in each of the States:—

**COMMONWEALTH REFERENDA, 31st MAY, 1913.—RESULTS OF THE VOTING ON EACH
PROPOSED LAW.**

State.	Trade and Commerce.		Corporations.		Industrial Matters.		Railway Disputes.		Trusts.		Nationalisation of Monopolies.	
	Votes in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes Not in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes Not in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes Not in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes Not in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes Not in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes in Favour of Pro- posed Law.	Votes Not in Favour of Pro- posed Law.
N.S.W. ..	317,848	359,418	317,668	361,255	318,622	361,044	316,928	361,743	319,150	358,155	301,192	341,724
Victoria ..	297,290	307,975	298,479	308,915	297,892	309,804	296,255	310,921	301,729	305,268	287,379	298,326
Q'land ..	146,187	122,813	146,936	123,632	147,171	123,554	146,521	123,859	147,871	122,088	139,019	117,609
S. Aust. ..	96,085	91,144	96,309	91,273	96,626	91,361	96,072	91,262	96,400	90,185	91,411	86,915
W. Aust.	66,349	59,181	66,595	59,445	66,451	59,612	65,957	59,965	67,342	58,312	64,988	57,184
Tasmania	34,660	42,084	34,724	42,304	34,839	42,236	34,625	42,296	34,839	41,935	35,176	40,189
Totals	958,419	982,615	960,711	986,924	961,601	987,611	956,358	990,046	967,331	975,943	917,165	941,947

5. **Commonwealth Referendum, 28th October, 1916.**—A special referendum was held on the 28th October, 1916, when the following question with regard to military service was submitted to the people :—" Are you in favour of the Government having, in this grave emergency, the same compulsory powers over citizens in regard to requiring their military service, for the term of this War, outside the Commonwealth, as it now has in regard to military service within the Commonwealth ? " In New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia the majority of voters were not in favour of the prescribed question ; and in Victoria, Western Australia and Tasmania the majority of votes were cast in its favour, the net result being a majority of 72,476 votes not in favour.

**COMMONWEALTH REFERENDUM (MILITARY SERVICE), TAKEN ON
28th OCTOBER, 1916.**

State	Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot Papers were Issued.			Percentage of Voters to Electors Enrolled.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
N.S.W. ..	556,187	499,799	1,055,986	475,669	382,730	858,399	85.52	76.58	81.29
Victoria ..	398,975	425,997	824,972	354,067	342,617	696,684	88.74	80.43	84.45
Queensland ..	199,602	166,440	366,042	173,448	136,473	309,921	86.90	81.99	84.67
South Australia	131,636	131,145	262,781	113,461	97,791	211,252	86.19	74.57	80.39
Western Aust.	94,456	73,146	167,602	82,067	58,581	140,648	86.88	80.09	83.92
Tasmania ..	54,758	53,117	107,875	47,020	41,211	88,231	85.87	77.59	81.79
Federal Territories ..	3,296	1,276	4,572	2,576	892	3,468	78.16	69.91	75.85
Total ..	1,438,910	1,350,920	2,789,830	1,248,308	1,060,295	2,308,603	86.75	78.49	82.75

The following table shews the number of votes cast in each State in favour and not in favour of the prescribed question :—

**COMMONWEALTH REFERENDUM, 28th OCTOBER, 1916.—RESULTS OF VOTING
ON THE PRESCRIBED QUESTION.**

State.	Votes given in Favour of the Prescribed Question.	Votes given Not in Favour of the Prescribed Question.	Percentage of Votes recorded in Favour of the Prescribed Question.	
			To Formal Votes.	To Electors Enrolled.
New South Wales	356,805	474,544	42.92	33.79
Victoria	353,930	328,216	51.88	42.90
Queensland	144,200	158,051	47.71	39.39
South Australia	87,924	119,236	42.44	33.46
Western Australia	94,069	40,884	69.71	56.13
Tasmania	48,493	37,833	56.17	44.95
Federal Territories	2,136	1,269	62.73	46.72
Total	1,087,557	1,160,033	48.39	38.98

6. **Commonwealth Referendum, 20th December, 1917.**—A further referendum was held on 20th December, 1917, the question being, " Are you in favour of the proposal of the Commonwealth Government for reinforcing the Australian Imperial Force oversea ? " The proposal was that, while voluntary enlistment was to continue, compulsory reinforcements should be called up by ballot to make the total reinforcements up to 7,000 per month. In New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia the majority of voters were not in favour of the prescribed question ; and in Western Australia, Tasmania and the Federal Territories, the majority of votes were cast in its favour, the net result being a majority of 166,588 votes not in favour.

**COMMONWEALTH REFERENDUM (MILITARY SERVICE), TAKEN ON.
20th DECEMBER, 1917.**

State.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot Papers were Issued.			Percentage of Voters to Electors Enrolled.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
N.S.W. ..	540,713	515,170	1,055,883	473,693	380,201	853,894	87.81	73.80	80.87
Victoria ..	383,511	423,820	807,331	348,211	330,595	678,806	90.80	78.00	84.08
Queensland ..	202,656	175,722	378,378	175,959	134,205	310,164	86.83	76.37	81.97
South Aust. ..	129,249	132,412	261,661	107,116	90,854	197,970	82.88	68.61	75.66
Western Aust. ..	88,126	74,221	162,347	81,365	54,228	135,593	92.33	73.06	83.52
Tasmania ..	53,030	53,773	106,803	43,981	34,811	78,792	82.94	64.74	73.77
Federal Territories ..	2,855	1,182	4,037	2,254	748	3,002	78.95	63.28	74.36
Total ..	1,400,140	1,376,300	2,776,440	1,232,579	1,025,642	2,258,221	88.03	74.52	81.34

The votes cast in each State were as follows :—

**COMMONWEALTH REFERENDUM, 20th DECEMBER, 1917.—RESULTS OF
VOTING ON THE PRESCRIBED QUESTION.**

State.	Votes given in Favour of the Prescribed Question.	Votes given Not in Favour of the Prescribed Question.	Percentage of Votes recorded in Favour of the Prescribed Question.	
			To Formal Votes.	To Electors Enrolled.
New South Wales ..	341,256	487,774	41.16	32.32
Victoria ..	329,772	332,490	49.79	40.85
Queensland ..	132,771	168,875	44.02	35.09
South Australia ..	86,663	106,364	44.90	33.12
Western Australia ..	84,116	46,522	64.39	51.81
Tasmania ..	38,881	38,502	50.24	36.40
Federal Territories ..	1,700	1,220	58.22	42.11
Total ..	1,015,159	1,181,747	46.21	36.56

7. Commonwealth Referenda, 19th December, 1919.—Referenda were taken on 19th December, 1919, regarding a constitutional extension of Commonwealth powers in legislation and the nationalization of monopolies. In each case the majority of votes was not in favour of the proposed extension.

**COMMONWEALTH REFERENDA (LEGISLATIVE POWERS AND
NATIONALIZATION OF MONOPOLIES), 19th DECEMBER, 1919.**

State.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors to whom Ballot Papers were Issued.			Percentage of Electors to whom Ballot Papers were Issued to Electors Enrolled.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
N.S.W. ..	550,363	529,076	1,079,439	400,477	317,088	717,565	72.77	59.93	66.48
Victoria ..	403,650	433,768	837,408	323,187	314,911	638,098	80.07	72.60	76.20
Queensland ..	209,437	179,763	389,200	176,489	153,742	330,231	84.27	85.52	84.85
South Aust. ..	132,541	135,694	268,235	97,284	80,808	178,092	73.40	59.55	66.40
Western Aust. ..	87,921	75,623	163,544	60,781	42,504	103,285	69.07	56.21	63.12
Tasmania ..	55,906	56,130	112,036	36,366	29,350	65,716	65.05	52.29	58.66
Total ..	1,439,818	1,410,044	2,849,862	1,004,534	938,403	2,032,937	76.02	65.55	71.33

The votes cast in each State for each of the questions were as follows :—

COMMONWEALTH REFERENDA, 19th DECEMBER, 1919.—RESULTS OF VOTING ON THE PRESCRIBED QUESTIONS.

State.	Proposed Law.	Votes given in Favour of Proposed Law.	Votes given Not in Favour of Proposed Law.	Percentage of Votes recorded in Favour of Proposed Law.	
				To Formal Votes.	To Electors* Enrolled.
New South Wales	Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919	259,751	390,450	39·95	24·06
	Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919 ..	227,156	365,847	38·31	21·04
Victoria	Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919	369,210	201,869	64·65	44·09
	Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919 ..	324,343	188,129	63·29	38·73
Queensland	Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919	175,225	130,299	57·35	45·02
	Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919 ..	162,062	122,650	56·92	41·64
South Australia	Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919	40,520	119,789	25·28	15·11
	Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919 ..	38,503	112,259	25·54	14·35
Western Australia	Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919	48,142	44,892	51·75	29·44
	Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919 ..	45,285	38,584	53·99	27·70
Tasmania	Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919	18,509	36,861	33·43	16·52
	Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919 ..	16,531	31,982	34·08	14·76
Total	Constitution Alteration (Legislative Powers) 1919	911,357	924,160	49·65	31·98
	Constitution Alteration (Nationalization of Monopolies) 1919 ..	813,880	859,451	48·64	28·56

8. The Parliament of New South Wales.—The Legislative Council in this State is a nominee chamber, the Legislative Assembly being an elective body. Theoretically the Legislative Council may contain an unlimited number of members, but in practice the number is restricted to about sixty, the members at the latest available date being sixty-eight. The tenure of the seat is for life; four-fifths of the members must be persons not holding any paid office under the Crown, but this is held not to include officers of His Majesty's sea or land forces on full or half-pay, or retired officers on pensions. The

Legislative Assembly consists of ninety members, who hold their seats during the existence of the Parliament to which they are elected. Nine electorates return five members each, and fifteen return three members each. The duration of Parliament is limited to three years.

Particulars of Elections. Since the introduction of responsible government in New South Wales there have been twenty-five complete Parliaments, the first of which opened on the 22nd May, 1856, and was dissolved on the 19th December, 1857, while the twenty-fifth opened on the 27th April, 1920. The last mentioned Parliament was elected on the 20th March, 1920, under the proportional representation system. Particulars of voting at elections from 1894 to 1920 are given below :—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, NEW SOUTH WALES, 1894 TO 1920.

Date of Opening of Parliament.	Electors upon the Roll.	Members Returned.	Members Unopposed.	Contested Electorates.			
				Electors upon the Roll.	Votes Recorded.	Per-centage of Votes Recorded.	Per-centage of Informal Votes.
7th August, 1894..	298,817	125	1	254,105	204,246	80.38	1.62
13th August, 1895 ..	267,458	125	8	238,233	153,034	64.24	0.88
16th August, 1898 ..	324,339	125	3	294,481	178,717	60.69	0.92
23rd July, 1901 ..	346,184	125	13	270,861	195,359	72.13	0.79
23rd August, 1904 {	Males 363,062	90	2	304,396	226,057	74.26	0.59
	Females 326,428			262,433	174,538	66.51	
2nd October, 1907 {	Males 392,845	90	5	370,715	267,301	72.10	2.87
	Females 353,055			336,680	204,650	60.78	
15th Nov., 1910.. {	Males 458,626	90	3	444,242	322,199	72.53	1.78
	Females 409,069			400,139	262,154	65.52	
23rd Dec., 1913 .. {	Males 553,633	90	3	534,379	385,838	72.20	2.10
	Females 484,366			468,437	302,389	64.55	
17th April, 1917 {	Males 574,308	90	8	525,681	328,030	62.40	0.94
	Females 535,522			487,585	295,354	60.57	
27th April, 1920 {	Males 607,859	90	Nil	607,859	363,115	61.21	9.69
	Females 574,736			574,736	285,594	50.89	

The franchise was extended to women (*Women's Franchise Act*) in 1902, and was exercised for the first time at a State election in 1904.

9. The Parliament of Victoria.—Both of the Victorian legislative chambers are elective bodies, but there is a considerable difference in the number of members of each House, as well as in the qualifications necessary for members and electors. The number of members in the Upper House in October, 1921, was 34, and in the Lower House, 65. In the Legislative Council the tenure of the seat is for six years, but one member for each province retires every third year, except in the case of a dissolution, when one half of the newly elected members hold their seats for three years only. Members of the Legislative Assembly are elected for the duration of Parliament, which is limited to three years. The franchise was extended to women by the *Adult Suffrage Act 1908*. An elector for the Legislative Assembly may vote only once, plurality of voting having been abolished in 1899; an elector, however, qualified in more than one district, may select that for which he desires to record his vote. A preferential system of voting (see Year Book No. 6, page 1182) was for the first time adopted in Victoria at the election held in November, 1911.

Particulars of Elections. Since the introduction of responsible government in Victoria there have been twenty-five complete Parliaments, the first of which opened on the 21st November, 1856, and closed on the 9th August, 1859, while the twenty-fifth closed on the 30th September, 1920. The first session of the twenty-sixth Parliament opened on the 10th November, 1920, and closed on the 7th January, 1921.

PARTICULARS OF VICTORIAN ELECTIONS, 1902 TO 1920.

Year.	Legislative Council.				Legislative Assembly.			
	Electors on Roll.	Electors in Contested Districts.	Voters in Contested Districts.	Per-centage.	Electors on Roll.	Electors in Contested Districts.	Voters in Contested Districts.	Per-centage.
1902..	134,087	(a)	(a)	(a)	290,241	216,063	141,471	65.47
1904..	172,526	104,865	66,182	63.11	264,709	223,600	149,192	66.72
1907..	180,738	78,512	27,152	34.58	261,088	191,131	117,098	61.26
1908..	185,234	(a)	(a)	(a)	263,876	164,919	88,461	53.64
1910..	240,520	136,479	40,053	35.21	487,661	(a)	(a)	(a)
1911..	249,481	(a)	(a)	(a)	701,451	619,644	394,189	63.61
1913..	270,175	99,646	47,719	47.89	670,775	(a)	(a)	(a)
1914..	284,089	(a)	(a)	(a)	810,026	593,334	319,950	53.92
1916..	300,321	92,421	34,853	37.71	767,378	(a)	(a)	(a)
1917..	308,339	(a)	(a)	(a)	828,230	658,488	356,999	54.21
1918..	310,987	(a)	(a)	(a)	816,172	(a)	(a)	(a)
1919..	317,593	133,058	40,393	30.35	805,703	(a)	(a)	(a)
1920..	326,261	(a)	(a)	(a)	868,848	735,054	468,225	63.70

(a) Not contested.

As the table shews, the number of voters for the Legislative Council is considerably less than that for the Legislative Assembly.

10. The Parliament of Queensland.—No limit is set by the Constitution Act to the number of members of the Legislative Council of Queensland, the total at the latest available date being fifty-nine. Members are appointed by the State Governor, and it is provided that not less than four-fifths of the members must consist of persons not holding any office under the Crown, except officers of His Majesty's sea or land forces on full or half-pay, or retired officers on pensions. The members are nominated for life. The Legislative Assembly is composed of seventy-two members, and the State is divided into that number of electoral districts. A modified system of optional preferential voting is in operation in Queensland. (See Year Book No. 6, page 1183.)

Particulars of Elections. Since the establishment of responsible government in Queensland there have been nineteen complete Parliaments, the first of which opened on the 29th May, 1860, and dissolved on the 20th May, 1863, while the first session of the twentieth Parliament opened on the 12th July, 1915. At the elections held in May, 1915, the principle of compulsory voting was introduced for the first time in Australia. It will be seen that of the total number of electors enrolled, 88.14 per cent. went to the polls. Statistics regarding the last nine elections are given below :—

ELECTIONS FOR QUEENSLAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1902 TO 1920.

Year.	Number of Seats.	Number of Candidates Nominated.	Candidates sent to the Poll.	Electors Enrolled.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Electors Voting in Contested Electorates.		
				Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Total.
1902	72	159	154	108,548	..	108,548	80,076	..	80,076	78.88	..	78.88
1904	72	140	117	103,943	..	103,943	60,265	..	60,265	74.16	..	74.16
1907	72	185	179	125,140	95,049	220,189	(a)	(a)	152,049	73.42	68.64	71.61
1908	72	137	125	117,385	88,507	205,892	77,632	61,115	138,747	66.13	69.05	67.39
1909	72	145	133	135,841	106,913	242,754	89,609	66,809	156,418	75.34	69.36	72.67
1912	72	144	139	173,801	135,789	309,590	122,844	95,795	218,639	75.92	75.02	75.52
1915	72	148	138	184,627	150,568	335,195	140,396	125,844	266,240	86.46	90.09	88.14
1918	72	(b)	149	233,342	191,074	424,416	176,768	163,901	340,669	75.75	85.78	80.27
1920	72	(b)	144	238,750	206,931	445,681	187,575	168,651	356,226	78.57	81.50	79.93

(a) Incomplete; percentages based on available returns.

(b) Not available.

The election of 1907 was the first State election in Queensland at which women voted, the privilege being conferred under the *Elections Acts Amendment Act 1905*. Some of the returns did not separate the sexes in the figures respecting the number of electors who voted, and the percentage of males and females was therefore calculated on the total returns where the subdivision was made.

11. **The Parliament of South Australia.**—In this State there is a Legislative Council composed of twenty members and a House of Assembly with forty-six members, both chambers being elective. The State is divided into five districts, which return four members each to the Legislative Council. For the House of Assembly, eight districts return three members each, and eleven districts two members each.

Particulars of Elections. Since the inauguration of responsible government in South Australia there have been twenty-three complete Parliaments, the first of which was opened on the 22nd April, 1857, and dissolved on the 1st September, 1859, while the twenty-third was opened on the 25th July, 1918, and terminated on the 28th February, 1921. The first session of the twenty-fourth Parliament began on the 21st July, 1921. Particulars of voting at the different elections from the year 1900 are given below :—

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 1900 TO 1921.

Year.	Electors on Rolls.			(a) Electors who Voted.			(a) Percentage of Electors Voting.	
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.								
1900 ..	38,688	9,854	48,542	21,403	3,907	25,310	55.32	39.65
1902 ..	38,413	13,496	51,909	29,978	7,940	37,918	78.04	58.83
1905 ..	39,011	13,873	52,884	28,820	8,328	37,148	79.88	60.03
1910 ..	48,145	16,157	64,302	32,540	9,356	41,896	81.84	65.89
1912 ..	59,228	19,985	79,213	40,709	13,016	53,725	80.91	72.56
1915 ..	66,614	21,635	88,249	11,436	4,808	16,244	75.69	71.25
1918 ..	71,510	23,461	94,971	42,987	11,800	54,787	60.11	50.30
1921 ..	69,986	23,062	93,048	38,597	11,309	49,906	64.23	53.96

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

1902 ..	77,147	72,030	149,177	53,471	36,545	90,016	39.31	50.73
1905 ..	95,396	92,249	187,645	64,330	50,246	114,576	67.43	54.47
1906 ..	96,724	93,438	190,162	60,109	45,997	106,106	62.14	49.22
1910 ..	94,656	88,762	183,418	73,464	56,830	130,294	77.61	64.03
1912 ..	117,440	106,971	224,411	87,530	73,732	161,262	74.53	68.93
1915 ..	128,594	124,797	253,391	70,898	65,157	136,055	77.22	72.64
1918 ..	126,669	132,043	258,712	71,501	62,742	134,243	56.45	47.52
1921 ..	134,091	137,931	272,022	91,451	77,600	169,051	70.10	57.64

(a) In contested districts.

It is interesting to note that South Australia was the first of the States to grant women's suffrage (under the *Constitution Amendment Act 1894*), the franchise being exercised for the first time at the Legislative Assembly election on the 25th April, 1896.

12. **The Parliament of Western Australia.**—In this State both chambers are elective. For the Legislative Council there are thirty members, each of the ten provinces returning three members, while the Legislative Assembly is composed of fifty members, one member being returned by each of the fifty electoral districts. At the expiration of two years from the date of election to a seat in the Legislative Council, and every two years thereafter, the senior member for the time being for each province retires. Seniority is determined (a) by date of election, (b) if two or more members are elected on the same day, then the senior is the one who polled the least number of votes, (c) if the election be uncontested, or in case of an equality of votes, then the seniority is determined by the alphabetical precedence of surnames and, if necessary, Christian names. Members of the Legislative Assembly are elected for three years.

Particulars of Elections. Since the establishment of responsible government in Western Australia there have been ten complete Parliaments, the first of which was opened on the 30th December, 1890, while the eleventh Parliament was elected on 12th March, 1921. Women's suffrage was granted by the *Electoral Act* of 1899. At the 1921 elections, the first woman member elected to an Australian Parliament was returned. The preferential system of voting in use in Western Australia is described in Year Book No. 6, page 1184. Particulars relating to the last eight Assembly and seven Council elections are given in the tables below:—

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, 1901 TO 1921.

Year.	Electors on the Roll.			In Contested Districts.			Votes Recorded.			Percentage of Electors Voting.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1901 ..	74,874	16,648	91,522	67,967	14,775	82,742	29,832	8,255	38,087	44	56	46
1904 ..	108,861	54,965	163,826	88,524	49,791	138,315	43,285	23,500	66,785	49	47	48
1905 ..	79,025	42,697	121,722	65,296	36,706	102,002	33,482	19,435	52,917	51	53	52
1908 ..	83,060	52,919	135,979	69,277	44,804	114,081	46,411	29,412	75,823	67	66	66
1911 ..	91,814	60,831	152,645	71,675	50,700	122,375	53,355	38,281	91,636	74	75	75
1914 ..	126,598	88,143	214,741	96,503	72,043	168,546	54,612	41,993	96,605	57	58	57
1917 ..	93,106	73,845	166,951	76,445	61,310	137,755	45,453	40,167	85,620	59	65	62
1921 ..	89,523	75,165	164,688	79,161	67,787	146,948	54,747	44,211	98,958	69	65	67

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

1901 ..	74,874	16,648	91,522	67,967	14,775	82,742	29,832	8,255	38,087	44	56	46
1904 ..	108,861	54,965	163,826	88,524	49,791	138,315	43,285	23,500	66,785	49	47	48
1905 ..	79,025	42,697	121,722	65,296	36,706	102,002	33,482	19,435	52,917	51	53	52
1908 ..	83,060	52,919	135,979	69,277	44,804	114,081	46,411	29,412	75,823	67	66	66
1911 ..	91,814	60,831	152,645	71,675	50,700	122,375	53,355	38,281	91,636	74	75	75
1914 ..	126,598	88,143	214,741	96,503	72,043	168,546	54,612	41,993	96,605	57	58	57
1917 ..	93,106	73,845	166,951	76,445	61,310	137,755	45,453	40,167	85,620	59	65	62
1921 ..	89,523	75,165	164,688	79,161	67,787	146,948	54,747	44,211	98,958	69	65	67

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

1908 ..	29,255	6,543	35,798	19,233	4,508	23,741	10,210	2,283	12,493	53	51	52
1910 ..	31,983	7,553	39,536	31,290	7,495	38,785	12,020	2,461	14,481	38	33	35
1912 ..	36,716	10,437	47,153	33,490	9,818	43,308	20,733	5,552	26,285	62	57	59
1914 ..	43,299	12,423	55,722	36,793	9,822	46,615	22,963	5,556	28,519	62	57	61
1916 ..	45,325	13,683	59,008	19,950	4,877	24,827	10,672	2,464	13,136	53	51	53
1918 ..	46,272	14,700	60,972	35,962	12,348	48,310	14,043	3,930	17,973	39	31	37
1920 ..	37,137	14,900	52,037	27,621	11,753	39,374	12,450	3,406	15,856	45	29	40

13. **The Parliament of Tasmania.**—In Tasmania there are two legislative chambers—the Legislative Council and the House of Assembly, both bodies being elective. The Council consists of eighteen members, returned from fifteen districts, Hobart returning three, Launceston two, and the remaining thirteen districts sending one member each. There are five House of Assembly districts corresponding to the Commonwealth electoral districts, each returning six members, who are elected under a system of proportional representation which first came into force at the 1909 elections. (See Year Book No. 6, page 1185.) Women's suffrage was first granted in this State under the *Constitution Amendment Act 1903*.

Particulars of Elections. The first Tasmanian Parliament opened on 2nd December, 1856, and closed on 8th May, 1861. There have been nineteen complete Parliaments since the inauguration of responsible government. The first session of the twentieth Parliament opened on 22nd July, 1919. Particulars of the voting at the last eight elections are given hereunder :—

ELECTIONS, HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, TASMANIA, 1900 TO 1919.

Year.	Electors on Roll.		Electors in Contested Districts.		Votes Recorded.		Percentage of Electors Voting.		Percentage of Informal Votes on Votes Recorded
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1900	39,002	..	29,022	..	18,872	..	65·02	..	..
(a) 1903	43,999	..	40,267	..	23,766	..	59·87	..	1·48
1906	47,400	41,629	37,120	33,415	23,128	17,194	62·80	51·46	1·21
(b) 1909	50,221	45,563	50,221	45,563	30,509	19,893	60·74	43·67	2·66
1912	52,853	50,660	52,853	50,660	40,713	35,337	77·03	69·73	2·85
1913	53,372	51,920	53,372	51,920	38,700	32,102	72·51	61·83	2·87
1916	54,466	52,855	54,466	52,855	41,427	37,557	76·06	71·05	5·66
1919	53,205	54,336	53,205	54,336	37,037	34,027	69·61	62·62	3·96

(a) Manhood suffrage, Act 64 Vic., No. 5. Universal adult suffrage, Act 3 Edward VII., No. 17, has been prescribed in all subsequent elections. (b) First election with six-member districts and single transferable vote.

During the same period, the percentages of informalities in Senate elections in Tasmania were 4·05, 4·48, 3·29, 6·15, and 3·72.

§ 3. Administrative Government.

In previous issues of the Official Year Book a conspectus was given in tabular form of the various departments in each State, together with a list of the principal Acts administered by them and the matters dealt with by them or under their control. See Official Year Book No. 12, pp. 924 *et seq.*

§ 4. Conspectus of Acts relating to the Constitutions of the Commonwealth and the Australian States.

The principal provisions of the Acts at present in force relating to the Constitution of the Commonwealth and the six States were given in summarized form in Official Year Book, No. 13, pp. 928 *et seq.* Some minor alterations have been made since the summary was prepared.