

## CHAPTER III. GENERAL GOVERNMENT.

### § 1. Scheme of Parliamentary Government.

1. **General.**—The legislative power of the Commonwealth is vested in the Parliament of the Commonwealth, 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 was bi-cameral till 1922, in which year the Queensland Parliament became uni-cameral. In the bi-cameral States it consists of (a) a Legislative Council and (b) a Legislative Assembly, or House of Assembly. In Queensland the Legislative Assembly constitutes the legislature. In the Commonwealth Parliament the Upper House is known as the Senate, and in the State Parliaments as the Legislative Council. The Lower House in the bi-cameral States is known as follows:—In the Commonwealth Parliament as the House of Representatives, in the State Parliaments of New South Wales, Victoria, and Western Australia as the Legislative Assembly, and in the State Parliaments of South Australia and Tasmania as the House of Assembly. The legislative powers of these Parliaments are delimited by the Commonwealth and the State Constitutions. The Assembly (Queensland as pointed out above is now uni-cameral), which is the larger, is always elective, the qualifications for the franchise varying in character. The Council is, in the case of New South Wales, nominated by the Governor in Council; in 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, the qualifications for the franchise are identical for both Houses. A brief account of the constitutional history of each of the States is given in Chapter I., and a conspectus of the Constitutions of the Commonwealth and States in Year Book No. 13, pp. 927 to 951. The information given therein respecting Queensland must of course be considerably modified in view of the abolition of the Upper House in 1922.

2. **Powers and Functions of the Governor-General and of the State Governors.**—A detailed statement of the powers and functions of the Governor-General and of the State Governors will be found in preceding issues of the official Year Book (see No. 18, pp. 78 to 80), but considerations of space preclude the repetition of this information in the present volume.

3. **Governor-General and State Governors.**—The present Governor-General is the Right Honourable JOHN LAWRENCE, BARON STONEHAVEN, P.C., G.C.M.G., D.S.O. He assumed office on the 8th October, 1925.

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

|                   |    |  |
|-------------------|----|--|
| New South Wales   | .. | Admiral SIR DUDLEY RAWSON STRATFORD DE CHAIR,<br>K.C.B., M.V.O.                              |
| Victoria          | .. | Lieut.-Colonel the Rt. Hon. ARTHUR HERBERT TENNYSON,<br>BARON SOMERS, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C. |
| Queensland        | .. | Hon. WILLIAM LENNON, Lieutenant-Governor.  |
| South Australia   | .. | Lieut.-General SIR GEORGE TOM MOLESWORTH BRIDGES,<br>K.C.B., K.C.M.G., D.S.O.                |
| Western Australia | .. | Colonel SIR WILLIAM ROBERT CAMPION, K.C.M.G.,<br>D.S.O.                                      |
| Tasmania          | .. | Captain SIR JAMES O'GRADY, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., J.P.  |

4. **The Cabinet and Executive Government.**—(i) *General.* The sections of the Commonwealth Constitution Act dealing with the Executive Government will be found on page 26 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 are vested in the Governor-General in Council, and in the State Governments 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.

(ii) *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.

(iii) *The Appointment of Ministers and of Executive Councillors.* 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.)

(iv) *Ministers in Upper or Lower Houses.* The subjoined table shows the number of Ministers with seats in the Upper or Lower Houses of each Parliament in June, 1926 :—

**AUSTRALIAN PARLIAMENTS—MINISTERS IN UPPER OR LOWER HOUSES.  
1926.**

| Ministers with Seats in— | C'wealth. | N.S.W. | Vict. | Q'land. | S. Aust. | W. Aust. | Tas. | Total. |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------|-------|---------|----------|----------|------|--------|
| The Upper House ..       | 3         | 2      | 4     | ..      | 2        | 2        | 1    | 14     |
| The Lower House ..       | 10        | 11     | 8     | 10      | 4        | 7        | 5    | 55     |
| Total .. ..              | 13        | 13     | 12    | 10      | 6        | 9        | 6    | 69     |

(v) *The Cabinet.* (a) *General.* The meetings of this body are private and deliberative. The actual Ministers of the day are alone present, 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.

(b) *Commonwealth Ministers of State.* A statement showing the names of Ministers of State who have held office since the inauguration of the Commonwealth Government will be found in Official Year Book No. 18, pages 82 and 83, but considerations of space preclude its inclusion in the present issue.

(c) *State Ministries.* A list of the members of the Ministry in each State in June, 1926, will be found in Chapter 1.

5. **Number and Salary of Members of the Legislatures.**—The following table shows the number and annual salary of members in each of the legislative chambers in June, 1926 :—

**MEMBERS OF COMMONWEALTH AND STATE PARLIAMENTS, AND ANNUAL SALARIES, 1926.**

| Members in—           | C'wealth. | N.S.W. | Vict. | Q'land. | S. Aust. | W. Aust. | Tas.  | Total. |
|-----------------------|-----------|--------|-------|---------|----------|----------|-------|--------|
| <b>MEMBERS.</b>       |           |        |       |         |          |          |       |        |
| Upper House ..        | 36        | 99     | 34    | (a)     | 20       | 30       | 18    | 237    |
| Lower House ..        | 76        | 90     | 65    | 72      | 46       | 50       | 30    | 429    |
| Total ..              | 112       | 189    | 99    | 72      | 66       | 80       | 48    | 666    |
| <b>ANNUAL SALARY.</b> |           |        |       |         |          |          |       |        |
| Upper House ..        | £ 1,000   | £ ..   | £ 200 | £ (a)   | £ 400    | £ 400    | £ 300 | ..     |
| Lower House ..        | 1,000     | 875    | 500   | 500     | 400      | 400      | 300   | ..     |

(a) Council abolished in 1922.

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.

6. **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 Chapter I.). In the States, laws are enacted in the name of the Sovereign by and with the consent of the Legislative Council (except in Queensland) 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.

## § 2. Parliaments and Elections.

1. **Qualifications for Membership and for Franchise.**—The conspectus in § 4 of "General Government" in Year Book No. 13 contains particulars, as in 1920, relating 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. (These are, in the main, applicable in 1926, but it must be remembered that Queensland abolished

the Upper House in 1922.) Disqualification of persons otherwise eligible, either as members or voters, is 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 Government.**—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 half the members 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, 28; Victoria, 20; Queensland, 10; South Australia, 7; Western Australia, 5; Tasmania, 5; Northern Territory, 1—total, 76. 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 in Chapter I.

3. **Federal Elections.**—There have been nine complete Parliaments since the inauguration of Federation. The fifth Parliament, which was opened on the 9th July, 1913, was dissolved on the 30th July, 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 tenth Parliament opened on the 13th January, 1926. Particulars regarding the last five Commonwealth elections may be found in the table given hereunder :—

#### FEDERAL ELECTIONS, 1914 to 1925.

| Date.                  | Electors Enrolled. |           |           | Electors who Voted. |           |           | Percentage of Electors who Voted. |       |        |
|------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|
|                        | Males.             | Fem.      | Total.    | Males.              | Fem.      | Total.    | Males.                            | Fem.  | Total. |
| THE SENATE.            |                    |           |           |                     |           |           |                                   |       |        |
| 5th September, 1914 .. | 1,478,468          | 1,333,047 | 2,811,515 | 1,139,933           | 902,403   | 2,042,336 | 77.10                             | 67.69 | 72.64  |
| 5th May, 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  |
| 13th December, 1919 .. | 1,439,818          | 1,410,044 | 2,849,862 | 1,094,534           | 938,403   | 2,032,937 | 76.02                             | 65.55 | 71.33  |
| 16th December, 1922 .. | 1,494,508          | 1,487,916 | 2,982,424 | 966,551             | 761,695   | 1,728,246 | 64.67                             | 51.19 | 57.95  |
| 14th November, 1925 .. | 1,656,286          | 1,645,730 | 3,302,016 | 1,515,608           | 1,499,345 | 3,014,953 | 91.51                             | 91.11 | 91.31  |

#### THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES. (CONTESTED ELECTORATES.)

|                        |           |           |           |           |           |           |       |       |       |
|------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| 5th September, 1914 .. | 1,225,990 | 1,122,451 | 2,348,441 | 954,768   | 772,138   | 1,726,906 | 77.88 | 68.79 | 73.53 |
| 5th May, 1917 ..       | 1,262,527 | 1,207,938 | 2,470,465 | 1,041,552 | 892,926   | 1,934,478 | 82.50 | 73.82 | 78.30 |
| 13th December, 1919 .. | 1,395,165 | 1,367,468 | 2,762,633 | 1,063,029 | 914,816   | 1,977,845 | 76.19 | 66.90 | 71.59 |
| 16th December, 1922 .. | 1,396,020 | 1,378,254 | 2,774,274 | 920,177   | 726,686   | 1,646,863 | 65.91 | 52.72 | 59.36 |
| 14th November, 1925 .. | 1,635,842 | 1,632,897 | 3,268,739 | 1,499,006 | 1,488,194 | 2,987,200 | 91.63 | 91.14 | 91.39 |

The percentage of electors who exercised the franchise at each election rose from 53.04 for the Senate and 55.69 for the House of Representatives in 1901 to 77.69 and 78.30 respectively in 1917. The next election in 1919 showed a considerable falling off, and in 1922 the decrease was still more marked, the respective percentages for that year being 57.95 and 59.36, or very little more than those for 1901. The Elections of 1925 were the first held since the introduction of Compulsory Voting, the result of which was reflected in the high percentage of voters, viz., 91.31 for the Senate and 91.39 for the House of Representatives.

4. **Federal Referenda.**—According to section 128 of the Act, any proposed law for the alteration of the Constitution must, in addition to being passed by an absolute majority of each House of Parliament, be submitted to a referendum of the electors in each State, and must further be approved by a majority of the States and of the electors who voted. Several referenda have been held from time to time, but in two cases only has any proposed law been assented to by the required majority of the electors. A statement dealing with the various referenda and the voting thereon was given in previous issues of the Official Year Book (See No. 18, pp. 87 to 89), but space will not permit of the incorporation of this information in the present volume.

5. **The Parliament of New South Wales.**—(i) *Constitution.* 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, and the number of members at the latest available date was ninety-nine. 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.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the introduction of responsible government in New South Wales there have been twenty-seven Parliaments, the first of which opened on the 22nd May, 1856, and was dissolved on the 19th December, 1857, while the twenty-seventh opened on the 24th June, 1925. The last-mentioned Parliament was elected on the 30th May, 1925. The proportional representation system came into operation at the election of 1922. Particulars of voting at elections from 1913 to 1925 are given below :—

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, NEW SOUTH WALES, 1913 to 1925.

| Year. | Electors Qualified to Vote. |          |           | Electors who Voted. |          |         | Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates. |          |        |
|-------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|---------------------|----------|---------|--|----------|--------|
|       | Males.                      | Females. | Total.    | Males.              | Females. | Total.  | Males.   | Females. | Total. |
| 1913  | 553,633                     | 484,366  | 1,037,999 | 385,838             | 302,389  | 688,227 | 72.20  | 64.55    | 68.63  |
| 1917  | 574,308                     | 535,522  | 1,109,830 | 328,030             | 295,354  | 623,384 | 62.40  | 60.57    | 61.52  |
| 1920  | 593,244                     | 561,193  | 1,154,437 | 363,115             | 285,594  | 648,709 | 61.21  | 50.89    | 56.19  |
| 1922  | 636,662                     | 614,361  | 1,251,023 | 466,949             | 408,515  | 875,464 | 73.34  | 66.49    | 69.98  |
| 1925  | 678,749                     | 660,331  | 1,339,080 | 489,126             | 435,853  | 924,979 | 72.06  | 66.00    | 69.07  |

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.

6. The Parliament of Victoria.—(i) *Constitution.* 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 June, 1926, 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. An elector for the Legislative Assembly may vote once only, 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.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the introduction of responsible government in Victoria there have been twenty-seven complete Parliaments, the first of which opened on the 21st November, 1856, and closed on the 9th August, 1859, while the twenty-seventh was dissolved on the 28th May, 1924. The first session of the twenty-eighth Parliament was opened on the 8th July, 1924, and closed on the 9th January, 1925. The second session was opened on 8th July, 1925, and closed on the 19th January, 1926. Particulars of voting at the last five elections are given in the subjoined table :—

### VICTORIAN ELECTIONS, 1913 to 1925.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL (LAST ELECTION 1925).

| Year.      | Electors Enrolled. | Electors Enrolled in Contested Electorates. | Electors who Voted. | Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates. |
|------------|--------------------|---|---------------------|--|
| 1913 .. .. | 270,175            | 99,646                                      | 47,666              | 47.89  |
| 1916 .. .. | 300,321            | 92,421                                      | 34,853              | 37.71  |
| 1919 .. .. | 317,593            | 133,058                                     | 40,393              | 30.35  |
| 1922 .. .. | 353,440            | 161,731                                     | 47,008              | 29.07  |
| 1925 .. .. | 399,510            | 172,875                                     | 56,033              | 32.41  |

#### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

| Year. | Electors Enrolled. |          |         | Electors who Voted. |          |         | Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates. |          |        |
|-------|--------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|----------|---------|--|----------|--------|
|       | Males.             | Females. | Total.  | Males.              | Females. | Total.  | Males.   | Females. | Total. |
| 1914  | 398,234            | 411,792  | 810,026 | 166,502             | 153,448  | 319,950 | 57.55  | 50.46    | 53.92  |
| 1917  | 397,585            | 430,645  | 828,230 | 172,317             | 184,682  | 356,999 | 54.30  | 54.12    | 54.21  |
| 1920  | 418,085            | 450,763  | 868,848 | 232,604             | 235,621  | 468,225 | 66.23  | 61.38    | 63.70  |
| 1921  | 414,818            | 456,638  | 871,456 | 167,812             | 158,415  | 326,227 | 61.29  | 53.53    | 57.26  |
| 1924  | 433,357            | 467,070  | 900,427 | 190,153             | 180,810  | 370,963 | 63.02  | 55.72    | 59.24  |

The franchise was extended to women by the Adult Suffrage Act 1908.

7. The Parliament of Queensland.—(i) *Constitution.* As pointed out previously, the Legislative Council in Queensland was abolished in 1922, the date of Royal assent to the Act being the 23rd March. 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.)

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the establishment of responsible government in Queensland there have been twenty-two complete Parliaments, the first of which opened on the 29th May, 1860, and dissolved on the 20th May, 1863, while the twenty-second

Parliament opened on the 15th November, 1920, and closed on the 13th April, 1923. At the elections held in May, 1915, the principle of compulsory voting was introduced for the first time in Australia. Of the total number of electors enrolled at the 1923 elections, 82.23 per cent. went to the polls. Statistics regarding the last five elections for which details are available are given below.

QUEENSLAND LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS, 1912 to 1923.

| Year. | Electors Enrolled. |          |         | Electors who Voted. |          |         | Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates. |          |        |
|-------|--------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|----------|---------|--|----------|--------|
|       | Males.             | Females. | Total.  | Males.              | Females. | Total.  | Males.   | Females. | Total. |
| 1912  | 173,801            | 135,789  | 309,590 | 122,844             | 95,795   | 218,639 | 75.92  | 75.02    | 75.52  |
| 1915  | 184,627            | 150,568  | 335,195 | 140,396             | 125,844  | 266,240 | 86.46  | 90.09    | 88.14  |
| 1918  | 233,342            | 191,074  | 424,416 | 176,768             | 163,901  | 340,669 | 75.75  | 85.78    | 80.27  |
| 1920  | 238,750            | 206,931  | 445,681 | 187,575             | 168,651  | 356,226 | 78.57  | 81.50    | 79.93  |
| 1923  | 257,001            | 219,476  | 476,477 | 194,287             | 174,980  | 369,267 | 80.72  | 83.96    | 82.23  |

Particulars of the elections in 1926, if available, will be published in the Appendix.

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.

8. The Parliament of South Australia.—(i) *Constitution.* 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.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the inauguration of responsible government in South Australia there have been twenty-four complete Parliaments, the first of which was opened on the 22nd April, 1857. The first session of the twenty-fifth Parliament began on the 24th July, 1924. Particulars of voting at the last five elections are given below :—

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS, 1912 to 1924.

| Year. | Electors Enrolled. |          |        | Electors who Voted. |          |        | Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates. |          |        |
|-------|--------------------|----------|--------|---------------------|----------|--------|--|----------|--------|
|       | Males.             | Females. | Total. | Males.              | Females. | Total. | Males.   | Females. | Total. |

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

|      |        |        |        |        |        |        |       |       |       |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1912 | 59,228 | 19,985 | 79,213 | 40,709 | 13,016 | 53,725 | 80.91 | 72.56 | 78.71 |
| 1915 | 66,614 | 21,635 | 88,249 | 11,436 | 4,808  | 16,244 | 75.69 | 71.25 | 74.32 |
| 1918 | 71,510 | 23,461 | 94,971 | 42,987 | 11,800 | 54,787 | 60.11 | 50.30 | 57.69 |
| 1921 | 69,986 | 23,062 | 93,048 | 38,597 | 11,309 | 49,906 | 64.23 | 53.96 | 61.57 |
| 1924 | 67,429 | 22,018 | 89,447 | 36,626 | 10,492 | 47,118 | 65.79 | 54.94 | 63.02 |

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

|      |         |         |         |        |        |         |       |       |       |
|------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1912 | 117,440 | 106,971 | 224,411 | 87,530 | 73,732 | 161,262 | 74.53 | 68.93 | 71.86 |
| 1915 | 128,594 | 124,797 | 253,391 | 70,898 | 65,157 | 136,055 | 77.22 | 72.64 | 74.95 |
| 1918 | 126,669 | 132,043 | 258,712 | 71,501 | 62,742 | 134,243 | 56.45 | 47.52 | 51.89 |
| 1921 | 134,091 | 137,931 | 272,022 | 91,451 | 77,600 | 169,051 | 70.10 | 57.64 | 63.77 |
| 1924 | 141,944 | 147,899 | 289,843 | 87,712 | 73,453 | 161,165 | 69.65 | 56.05 | 62.71 |

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.

9. The Parliament of Western Australia.—(i) *Constitution.* 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 junior 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 junior 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.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* Since the establishment of responsible government in Western Australia there have been eleven complete Parliaments, the first of which was opened on the 30th December, 1890, while the twelfth Parliament was elected on 22nd March, 1924. The preferential system of voting in use in Western Australia is described in Year Book No. 6, page 1184. Particulars relating to the latest five Assembly and Council elections respectively are given in the tables below :—

◦ WESTERN AUSTRALIAN ELECTIONS, 1911 to 1924.

| Year. | Electors Enrolled. |          |        | Electors who Voted. |          |        | Percentage of Electors who Voted in Contested Electorates. |          |        |
|-------|--------------------|----------|--------|---------------------|----------|--------|--|----------|--------|
|       | Males.             | Females. | Total. | Males.              | Females. | Total. | Males.   | Females. | Total. |

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

|      |        |        |        |        |       |        |       |       |       |
|------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1916 | 45,325 | 13,683 | 59,008 | 10,672 | 2,464 | 13,136 | 53.49 | 50.52 | 52.91 |
| 1918 | 46,272 | 14,700 | 60,972 | 14,043 | 3,930 | 17,973 | 39.04 | 31.83 | 37.20 |
| 1920 | 37,137 | 14,900 | 52,037 | 12,450 | 3,406 | 15,856 | 45.07 | 28.28 | 40.27 |
| 1922 | 40,360 | 14,838 | 55,198 | 17,524 | 4,763 | 22,287 | 46.16 | 33.81 | 42.82 |
| 1924 | 43,897 | 14,904 | 58,801 | 16,552 | 4,569 | 21,121 | 47.06 | 39.25 | 45.12 |

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

|      |         |        |         |        |        |        |       |       |       |
|------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1911 | 91,814  | 60,831 | 152,645 | 53,355 | 38,281 | 91,636 | 74.44 | 75.50 | 74.88 |
| 1914 | 126,598 | 88,143 | 214,741 | 54,612 | 41,993 | 96,605 | 56.59 | 58.29 | 57.32 |
| 1917 | 93,106  | 73,845 | 166,951 | 45,453 | 40,167 | 85,620 | 59.46 | 65.51 | 62.15 |
| 1921 | 89,523  | 75,165 | 164,688 | 54,747 | 44,211 | 98,958 | 69.16 | 65.22 | 67.34 |
| 1924 | 101,717 | 88,152 | 189,869 | 55,591 | 43,800 | 99,391 | 66.00 | 59.00 | 62.32 |

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.



10. **The Parliament of Tasmania.**—(i) *Constitution.* 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. The 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.)

In 1924 and again in 1925 the House of Assembly contested, with at least temporary success, the power of the Legislative Council to amend money bills. The question is likely to be definitely settled by legislation in 1926.

(ii) *Particulars of Elections.* The first Tasmanian Parliament opened on 2nd December, 1856, and closed on 8th May, 1861. There have been twenty-one complete Parliaments since the inauguration of responsible government. Particulars of the voting at the last five elections for the House of Assembly are given hereunder :—

#### TASMANIAN ELECTIONS, HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, 1913 to 1925.

| Year. | Electors Enrolled. |          |         | Electors who Voted. |          |        | Percentage of Electors<br>who Voted in<br>Contested Electorates. |          |        |
|-------|--------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|----------|--------|--|----------|--------|
|       | Males.             | Females. | Total.  | Males.              | Females. | Total. | Males.   | Females. | Total. |
| 1913  | 53,372             | 51,920   | 105,292 | 38,700              | 32,102   | 70,802 | 72.51  | 61.83    | 67.24  |
| 1916  | 54,466             | 52,855   | 107,321 | 41,427              | 37,557   | 78,984 | 76.06  | 71.05    | 73.60  |
| 1919  | 53,205             | 54,336   | 107,541 | 37,037              | 34,027   | 71,064 | 69.61  | 62.62    | 66.08  |
| 1922  | 54,958             | 55,591   | 110,549 | 38,457              | 31,295   | 69,752 | 69.96  | 56.30    | 63.09  |
| 1925  | 56,667             | 58,234   | 114,901 | 41,322              | 35,959   | 77,281 | 72.92  | 61.81    | 67.25  |

The present members of the Legislative Council have been elected at various dates, and the following particulars are given of the last contested election in each case—number of electors on the roll, 40,195 ; number of votes recorded, male 16,860, female 4,703, total 21,563 ; percentage of persons who voted to the number on the roll, 53.66.

The suffrage was granted to women under the Constitution Amendment Act 1903.

### § 3. Cost of Parliamentary Government.

1. **General.**—The following statement shows 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, 1925. In order to avoid 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 the 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, 1924-1925.

| Particulars.   | C'with.        | N.S.W.         | Vic.          | Q'land.       | S.A.          | W.A.          | Tas.          | Total.         |
|--|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| <b>1. Governor-General or Governor—</b>                    | £              | £              | £             | £             | £             | £             | £             | £              |
| Governor's Salary ..                                       | 10,000         | 5,000          | 5,000         | 3,000         | 5,000         | 3,495         | 2,238         | 33,733         |
| Official Secretary's salary ..                             | 650            | 683            | (c) 179       | 306           | ..            | 350           | ..            | 1,989          |
| Clerks ..  | 1,222          | 353            | 340           | 300           | ..            | 351           | ..            | 2,405          |
| Orderly ..   | ..             | 65             | ..            | ..            | 350           | 268           | ..            | 1,627          |
| Other messengers ..  | 177            | ..             | ..            | ..            | 1,082         | ..            | 530           | 1,854          |
| Wages—Housemaids, stewards, gamekeepers, etc. ..           | 6,460          | 1,281          | 1,295         | 1,341         | 616           | 1,012         | 78            | 12,083         |
| Country residence—   |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Gardener ..  | ..             | 293            | 323           | ..            | 228           | 112           | ..            | 1,542          |
| Other wages ..   | ..             | 586            | 658           | 1,936         | 345           | ..            | ..            | ..             |
| Incidental expenses ..                                     | 3,543          | 731            | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..             |
| Furniture, stores, and stationery ..                       | 459            | 615            | 690           | ..            | 252           | 388           | 446           | 16,085         |
| Postal, cables, etc. ..                                    | 1,152          | 95             | 355           | 1,907         | 38            | ..            | 202           | ..             |
| Travelling expenses and conveyance of officers ..          | 1,106          | 95             | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..            | 72            | ..             |
| Incidental expenses (country residence) ..                 | ..             | 391            | 599           | ..            | 50            | ..            | ..            | 1,040          |
| Other expenses ..  | 2,008          | ..             | 2,787         | 427           | 74            | 268           | 661           | 6,225          |
| <b>Total ..</b>  | <b>26,777</b>  | <b>10,528</b>  | <b>12,555</b> | <b>9,217</b>  | <b>8,035</b>  | <b>6,244</b>  | <b>4,227</b>  | <b>77,583</b>  |
| <b>2. Executive Council—</b>                               |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Salaries of officers ..                                    | (a)            | 532            | 780           | 30            | ..            | 100           | (h)           | 1,442          |
| Other expenses ..  | (a)            | 254            | 60            | 72            | ..            | ..            | (h)           | 386            |
| <b>Total ..</b>  | <b>(a)</b>     | <b>786</b>     | <b>840</b>    | <b>102</b>    | <b>..</b>     | <b>100</b>    | <b>(h)</b>    | <b>1,828</b>   |
| <b>3. Ministry—</b>  |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Salaries of Ministers ..                                   | 14,409         | 18,000         | 10,000        | 8,829         | 7,750         | 6,200         | 3,000         | 68,188         |
| Ministerial functions ..                                   | (b) 796        | (b) 10         | (b) ..        | ..            | 45            | 1,712         | 857           | 3,410          |
| Special Reports for Cabinet ..                             | (b) 100        | 16             | ..            | ..            | 110           | ..            | 9             | 10             |
| Premiers' Conference ..                                    | ..             | ..             | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..            | 235            |
| Premier's official visit to England—Travelling expenses .. | 3,015          | ..             | ..            | ..            | ..            | 2,600         | ..            | 5,615          |
| <b>Total ..</b>  | <b>17,524</b>  | <b>18,822</b>  | <b>10,000</b> | <b>8,829</b>  | <b>7,905</b>  | <b>10,512</b> | <b>3,866</b>  | <b>77,458</b>  |
| <b>4. Parliament—</b>                                      |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| <b>A. Upper House :</b>                                    |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| President and Chairman of Committees ..                    | 1,600          | 1,425          | 1,149         | ..            | 800           | 1,200         | 850           | 7,024          |
| Allowance to members ..                                    | 35,135         | ..             | 6,000         | ..            | 6,800         | 11,090        | 4,680         | 63,705         |
| Railway passes ..  | 5,569          | 13,716         | (d) 5,000     | ..            | 1,260         | 4,752         | 750           | 31,047         |
| Postage for members ..                                     | 800            | 72             | (e)           | ..            | 15            | 107           | 5             | 999            |
| <b>B. Lower House :</b>                                    |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Speaker and Chairman of Committees ..                      | 1,600          | 2,088          | 2,205         | 1,586         | 1,312         | 1,200         | 900           | 10,891         |
| Allowance to members ..                                    | 74,628         | 47,311         | 28,380        | 29,284        | 15,938        | 19,286        | 8,406         | 223,233        |
| Railway passes ..  | 9,435          | 17,416         | (f)           | ..            | 2,898         | 7,920         | 1,250         | 38,919         |
| Postage for members ..                                     | 2,495          | 2,893          | (e)           | 1,485         | 260           | 322           | 10            | 7,265          |
| <b>C. Both Houses :</b>                                    |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Standing Committee on Public Works—                        |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Remuneration of members ..                                 | 2,000          | 4,785          | 1,500         | ..            | ..            | ..            | 63            | 21,180         |
| Salaries of staff and contingencies ..                     | 1,950          | 2,087          | 1,361         | 933           | 2,324         | 3,636         | 50            | ..             |
| Printing—  |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Hansard ..   | 7,666          | 8,010          | 2,618         | 3,000         | 2,668         | 2,126         | ..            | 26,088         |
| Other ..   | 20,940         | 11,175         | 4,034         | 2,699         | 7,331         | 1,160         | 3,312         | 50,651         |
| Parliamentary reporting staff—                             |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Salaries ..  | 11,019         | 8,561          | 5,241         | 3,911         | 4,252         | 3,601         | ..            | 36,585         |
| Contingencies ..   | 243            | ..             | 1,074         | ..            | 167           | ..            | ..            | 1,484          |
| Library—   |                |                |               |               |               |               |               |                |
| Salaries ..  | 4,411          | 2,486          | 1,160         | 935           | 600           | 50            | ..            | 93,897         |
| Contingencies ..   | 2,859          | 884            | (g) 1,247     | 799           | 598           | 275           | 2,739         | ..             |
| Salaries of other officers and staff ..                    | 23,722         | 22,249         | 14,810        | 6,468         | 4,606         | 2,999         | ..            | ..             |
| Travelling expenses of officers and staff ..               | 281            | ..             | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..            | ..            | 281            |
| Other ..   | 6,125          | ..             | ..            | ..            | 2,201         | ..            | ..            | 8,326          |
| <b>Carried forward ..</b>                                  | <b>212,478</b> | <b>144,958</b> | <b>76,279</b> | <b>51,100</b> | <b>54,030</b> | <b>59,724</b> | <b>23,015</b> | <b>621,584</b> |

For Notes see next page.

## COST OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT—continued.

| Particulars.  | C'with. | N.S.W.  | Vic.    | Q'land. | S.A.    | W.A.    | Tas.    | Total.    |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
|   | £       | £       | £       | £       | £       | £       | £       | £         |
| Brought forward ..  | 212,478 | 144,958 | 76,279  | 51,100  | 54,030  | 59,724  | 23,015  | 621,584   |
| 5. <i>Miscellaneous</i> —   |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |           |
| Fuel, light, heat, power, water ..  | 1,169   | 1,117   | 632     | 658     | 1,027   |         |         |           |
| Posts, telegraphs, telephones   | 654     | 844     | 288     | 341     | 364     |         | 122     |           |
| Furniture, stores, and stationery (Parliamentary officers) ..   | 2,447   | 1,347   | 519     | 76      | 1,293   | 2,986   | 459     | 37,778    |
| Contingencies ..  | 8,580   | 1,677   | 328     | 3,784   |         |         | 1,685   |           |
| Cab fares—Late sittings, etc.   |         | 1,268   | 296     |         | 22      |         |         |           |
| Other ..  |         |         | 2,078   | 1,290   | 422     |         |         |           |
| Total ..  | 225,328 | 151,211 | 80,420  | 57,249  | 57,158  | 62,710  | 25,281  | 659,357   |
| 6. <i>Electoral</i> —   |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |           |
| Salaries ..   | 74,036  | 2,808   | 1,378   | 3,127   | 3,076   | 2,433   | (h)     | 86,908    |
| Cost of elections, contingencies, etc. (including all payments by railway officers) ..  | 43,093  | 57,175  | 10,023  | 7,608   | 2,516   | 5,462   | 3,738   | 129,615   |
| Total ..  | 117,179 | 59,983  | 11,401  | 10,735  | 5,592   | 7,895   | 3,738   | 216,523   |
| 7. <i>Royal Commissions, Select Committees, etc.</i> , including fees and other expenses of Commissioners, fees of counsel, costs incurred by Ministers, cost of overtime worked by departments preparing information, bonuses, etc. .. | 17,213  | 47,001  | 410     | 276     | 2,719   | 4,877   | 366     | 72,862    |
| Total ..  | 17,213  | 47,001  | 410     | 276     | 2,719   | 4,877   | 366     | 72,862    |
| GRAND TOTAL ..  | 404,021 | 288,331 | 115,626 | 86,408  | 81,409  | 92,338  | 37,478  | 1,105,611 |
| Cost per head of population ..  | 1s. 4d. | 2s. 7d. | 1s. 7d. | 2s. 1d. | 3s. 0d. | 5s. 1d. | 3s. 5d. | 3s. 9d.   |

(a) Included under Governor-General. (b) Not available. (c) Included under Executive Council. (d) Both Houses. (e) Included under Library. (f) Included under Upper House. (g) Including members' postage. (h) Duties performed by Chief Secretary's Department.

Figures showing total cost and cost per head during each of the last five years are given in the next table.

## COST OF PARLIAMENTARY GOVERNMENT, 1920-21 TO 1924-25.

| Year.                   | C'with. | N.S.W.  | Vic.    | Q'land. | S.A.   | W.A.   | Tas.   | Total.    |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|
| TOTAL.                  |         |         |         |         |        |        |        |           |
|                         | £       | £       | £       | £       | £      | £      | £      | £         |
| 1920-21 ..              | 386,636 | 241,932 | 115,066 | 115,421 | 68,935 | 84,126 | 36,433 | 1,048,549 |
| 1921-22 ..              | 406,041 | 332,975 | 113,149 | 99,008  | 67,743 | 80,808 | 36,694 | 1,136,418 |
| 1922-23 ..              | 479,658 | 212,056 | 109,137 | 109,020 | 72,417 | 75,360 | 37,084 | 1,094,732 |
| 1923-24 ..              | 367,479 | 204,817 | 128,143 | 89,101  | 83,031 | 82,410 | 35,629 | 990,610   |
| 1924-25 ..              | 404,021 | 288,331 | 115,626 | 86,408  | 81,409 | 92,338 | 37,478 | 1,105,611 |
| PER HEAD OF POPULATION. |         |         |         |         |        |        |        |           |
|                         | s. d.   | s. d.   | s. d.   | s. d.   | s. d.  | s. d.  | s. d.  | s. d.     |
| 1920-21 ..              | 1 5     | 2 4     | 1 6     | 3 0     | 2 9    | 5 0    | 3 5    | 3 10      |
| 1921-22 ..              | 1 6     | 3 1     | 1 5     | 2 7     | 2 8    | 4 10   | 3 4    | 4 0       |
| 1922-23 ..              | 1 8     | 1 11    | 1 5     | 2 9     | 2 10   | 4 5    | 3 4    | 3 11      |
| 1923-24 ..              | 1 3     | 1 10    | 1 7     | 2 2     | 3 2    | 4 8    | 3 3    | 3 5       |
| 1924-25 ..              | 1 4     | 2 7     | 1 7     | 2 1     | 3 0    | 5 1    | 3 5    | 3 9       |

### § 4. Commonwealth Government Departments.

Owing to exigencies of space the statement showing the various matters dealt with and the Acts administered by the Minister of each of the Commonwealth Departments, which was incorporated in Official Year Book No. 17. pp. 97 to 100, cannot be repeated in this issue.

### § 5. Strength of the Civil Service.

The strength of the permanent Civil Service at a definite point of time is not available, as the dates to which annual records are made up vary in different State Departments. The following table excludes temporary (except railways and Government tramways) and part-time officers (registrars of births and deaths, postal contractors, etc.); naval, air, and military employees; and certain others, such as those employed in State trading undertakings:—

**CIVIL SERVICE—NUMBER OF PERMANENT OFFICERS, 1924-25.**

|                                 | C'wlth.       |       | N.S.W.        |       | Victoria.     |       | Queensland.   |       | South Australia. |       |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|---------------|-------|------------------|-------|
|                                 | M.            | F.    | M.            | F.    | M.            | F.    | M.            | F.    | M.               | F.    |
| (a) Railways and Tramways .. .. | (b) 1,243     |       | 52,760        |       | 34,896        |       | 21,721        |       | 12,835           |       |
| Police .. ..                    | ..            | ..    | 2,886         | 4     | 1,806         | 4     | 1,127         | ..    | 605              | 11    |
| Teachers .. ..                  | ..            | ..    | 4,310         | 5,886 | 2,660         | 4,686 | 1,729         | 2,312 | 950              | 1,728 |
| Other Departments .. ..         | 22,766        | 3,366 | 6,291         | 1,510 | 3,593         | 965   | 4,457         | 1,266 | 1,713            | 182   |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>              | <b>27,375</b> |       | <b>73,647</b> |       | <b>48,610</b> |       | <b>32,612</b> |       | <b>18,024</b>    |       |

|                                 | W. Australia. |       | Tasmania.    |     | N. Territory. |     | Australia. |        |                |
|---------------------------------|---------------|-------|--------------|-----|---------------|-----|------------|--------|----------------|
|                                 | M.            | F.    | M.           | F.  | M.            | F.  | M.         | F.     | Total.         |
| (a) Railways and Tramways .. .. | 8,189         |       | 1,466        |     | (c)           |     | (d)        | (d)    | 133,110        |
| Police .. ..                    | 518           | 5     | 239          | 2   | 32            | ..  | 7,213      | 26     | 7,239          |
| Teachers .. ..                  | 666           | 1,283 | 314          | 888 | 4             | 8   | 10,633     | 16,791 | 27,424         |
| Other Departments .. ..         | 1,305         | 175   | 530          | 139 | (c)           | (c) | 40,655     | 7,603  | 48,258         |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>              | <b>12,141</b> |       | <b>3,578</b> |     | <b>44</b>     |     | (d)        | (d)    | <b>216,031</b> |

(a) Salaried and wages staff; includes temporary employees—Municipal Tramways excluded.  
 (b) Trans-Australian and Northern Territory only. Oodnadatta line is worked by S.A. Railways, and Federal Capital Territory lines by N.S.W. Railways, and the officers are included in the returns for those States. (c) Included with Commonwealth. (d) Not available.

### § 6. Legislation during 1925.

1. **General.**—The following summary which refers to the more important legislative enactments of the Commonwealth and State Parliaments during the year 1925 is exclusive of the ordinary Appropriation and Loan Acts. The principal Ordinances promulgated during the same year in the Northern Territory and Federal Capital Territory have, for the sake of convenience, been included after the heading 2, Commonwealth, immediately following.

2. **Commonwealth.**—(i) *Export Guarantee.* Assistance is extended to growers of primary produce used in preparation of goods for export.

(ii) *States Loan.* Agreements may be made with the States for the Commonwealth to raise money to be loaned to the States, and to convert State loans.

(iii) *Immigration.* Provision is made for prohibiting the entrance of aliens of specified nationality and the deportation of certain persons guilty of creating industrial disturbance or of offences prejudicial to public welfare.

(iv) *Navigation.* Power is given to suspend certain provisions of the Navigation Act relating to coasting trade.

(v) *Nationality.* Definitions of British Consulate and of natural-born British subjects are amended.

- (vi) *Peace Officers.* Power is given to appoint Peace Officers.
- (vii) *Commonwealth Bank (Rural Credits).* Provision is made for the establishment of a Rural Credits Department of the Commonwealth Bank.
- (viii) *Main Roads Development.* An additional sum of £750,000 is provided for development or reconditioning of main roads.
- (ix) *Australian War Memorial.* Provision is made for an Australian War Memorial. A Board of Management is to be appointed and a fund established.
- (x) *Commonwealth Electoral.* Provisions regarding persons entitled to enrolment and qualifications of members of House of Representatives are amended.
- (xi) *Customs.* Conditions as to the application of the Preferential Tariff are defined.
- (xii) *Entertainments Tax.* Rates of tax are altered.
- (xiii) *Invalid and Old-age Pensions.* The maximum pension is raised to £52 per annum.
- (xiv) *Income Tax Assessment.* Taxable income is further defined especially as regards the income of companies.
- (xv) *Income Tax.* Rates for 1925-26 are declared.
- (xvi) *Excise Tariff Validation.* Validates Excise duties introduced into Parliament on 2nd September, 1925.
- (xvii) *Customs Tariff Validation.* Validates Tariff proposals introduced into Parliament during September, 1925.

3. *Northern Territory.*—(i) *Meat Industry Encouragement.* Provides for the establishment of a Meat Industry Encouragement Fund to which levies shall be paid by owners of stock. The Administrator may make recommendations regarding increase of production and establishment of meatworks, etc.

(ii) *Lotteries.* Lotteries for charitable purposes are allowed. Balance-sheets must be produced. The printing and sale of other lottery tickets are prohibited.

(iii) *Crown Lands.* Prescribes the rental of leases exchanged for an existing lease.

4. *Federal Capital Territory.*—(i) *Real Property.* Provides for the declaration of title to land and facilitates transfer.

(ii) *Industrial Board.* Provision is made for an Industrial Board.

(iii) *Leases (Special Purposes).* Leases may be granted for purposes other than business or residence.

(iv) *Dairies Supervision.* Provision is made for the supervision of dairies.

5. *New South Wales.*—(i) *Marriage Amendment.* The impugning of marriages celebrated in accordance with the Marriage Act 1899 is declared unlawful. Marriage with deceased husband's brother is declared valid.

(ii) *Coal Mines Regulation.* No person without experience is to be employed at the face.

(iii) *Mines Rescue.* Rescue stations and permanent corps and brigades are to be established, and apparatus provided and men trained in the use thereof. Mine owners are to contribute to Mines Rescue Funds.

(iv) *Prickly Pear (Amendment).* A commissioner is to be appointed in lieu of the Prickly Pear Destruction Board.

(v) *Parliamentary Allowances and Salaries.* Allowance to members of Legislative Assembly is increased from £600 to £875 per annum, and appropriation for Ministers from £20,300 to £21,245 per annum.

(vi) *Trustees.* The law relating to trustees and trust property is amended and consolidated. The Wills, Probate and Administration Act 1893 is also amended.

(vii) *Forty-four Hours Week.* The ordinary working hours of employees in industries other than coal mining and shipping shall not exceed forty-four per week nor more than six out of seven consecutive days. Consequential reductions in wages are not allowed.

(viii) *Returned Soldiers (Amendment)* Provision is made for the relief of certain soldier settlers, for the revision of indebtedness to the Crown of discharged soldiers, and for extension of the law relating to waiver and remission of rents and interest on soldiers' holdings and the appraisalment of soldiers' holdings.

(ix) *Widows' Pension.* Subject to certain conditions, a pension not exceeding 20s. per week may be paid to a widow with a dependent child, and 10s. per week in respect of each child under fourteen years of age wholly dependent upon her.

(x) *Income Tax (Management) Amendment.* Provides for method of dealing with profits accruing from the sale of a business as a going concern; varies allowable deductions; provides for dealing with income of foreign taxpayers.

(xi) *Government Railways (Amendment).* Validates action of Railway Commissioners in restoring to previous status officers dismissed in consequence of 1917 strike, and empowers Commissioners to disrate others.

6. *Victoria.*—(i) *Judgments (Reciprocity).* Facilitates the enforcement in Victoria of judgments and awards of Superior Courts in His Majesty's dominions outside the United Kingdom and Australia.

(ii) *Maintenance Orders.* Provides for the enforcement in Victoria of maintenance orders made outside the State.

(iii) *Poisons.* Hawking and distribution of poisons as samples are prohibited. The obtaining of narcotic drugs by false pretences, and the possession without legal authority of certain drugs are made offences.

(iv) *Victorian Wheatgrowers Corporation Ltd. (Guarantee).* The State may guarantee to make good, within limits, any default by Corporation in repayment of advances made by banks.

(v) *Superannuation.* Provision is made for Superannuation on a contributory basis for public officers and dependents.

(vi) *Dried Fruits.* Determines the proportion of the output of dried fruits to be marketed outside the Commonwealth, and provides for the establishment of a Dried Fruits Board.

(vii) *Closer Settlement.* The Act of 1915 is amended especially with regard to Crown Grants. Power is given to defer payment of part of purchase money and interest and to write off debts owing by discharged soldier settlers.

(viii) *Motor Omnibus.* Motor Omnibuses must be licensed as hackney carriages. Developmental routes may be prescribed.

7. *Queensland.*—(i) *Industrial Arbitration.* The Court of Industrial Arbitration is abolished, and a Board of Trade and Arbitration with administrative and judicial functions is established.

(ii) *Wheat Pool Amendment.* The Council of Agriculture is empowered to levy amount required for expenses. The functions of the State Wheat Board may be transferred to a Board constituted under the Pools Act.

(iii) *Workers' Compensation Amendment.* Amends the table of industrial diseases.

(iv) *Lands Act Amendment.* Provides for destruction of noxious plants and the erection of "ring fences."

(v) *Land Tax.* Operation of super tax is extended to year 1925-26.

(vi) *Medical.* Provision is made for a Medical Board, the registration, etc., of medical practitioners, and the conduct of inquests, burials, etc.

(vii) *Coal Mining.* The Acts relating to Coal Mining are amended and consolidated.

(viii) *Primary Producers' Pool Amendment.* Growers may petition Governor in Council to declare that a commodity shall be divested from growers and vested in the Board.

(ix) *Fruit Marketing Organization Amendment.* General powers are given to a Committee of Direction in regard to purchase of land, employment of officers, agents, financial accommodation, fruit marketing and trading.

(x) *Main Road Amendment.* The Main Roads Board is abolished. Provision is made for a Commissioner of Main Roads.

(xi) *Heavy Vehicles.* Provision is made for the establishment of traffic routes, the registration of vehicles, the insurance of motor omnibuses, and the establishment of a Heavy Vehicles Fund from which payments are to be made to local authorities for upkeep of roads.

(xii) *Basic Wage.* Notwithstanding any declaration or award made to the contrary before this Act comes into force, the basic wage made by the Arbitration Court in 1921, with its terms, provisions and discretions, still operates. The minimum rate of wages to employees governed or bound by awards or industrial agreements shall be as fixed by the basic wage declaration or declared by the Court pursuant to such declaration.

8. South Australia.—(i) *Taxation (Motor Spirit Vendors)*. Vendors of Motor Spirit must register and file quarterly returns. A tax of 3d. per gallon sold is levied.

(ii) *Voluntary Wheat Pool Agreement Ratification*. Repayment of moneys advanced by the Commonwealth Bank to the Pool is guaranteed by the State.

(iii) *Adoption of Children*. Conditions relating to the adoption of children are defined.

(iv) *Dried Fruits Amendment*. Provides for registration of growers of fruits for drying and the furnishing of returns.

(v) *State Bank*. Provision is made for the establishment of a State Bank to carry on general banking business and to make advances to primary producers and others engaged in the processing and marketing of primary produce.

(vi) *Taxation (Motor Spirit Vendors) Amendment*. Under certain conditions the principal act may be suspended.

(vii) *Taxation*. New rates of income tax are enacted and amendments made in deductions allowed for bad debts, repairs, etc.

(viii) *Industrial Code Amendment*. The principal Act is extended to clubs and club employees. Rules and jurisdiction of Board of Industry are amended.

(ix) *Discharged Soldiers Settlement (Relief)*. Provision is made for remission of interest, for the surrender of fee simple of land in exchange for agreement, and for relief to settlers in irrigation areas.

(x) *Compulsory Acquisition of Land*. More satisfactory provision is made for compulsory acquisition of land for public works, etc., and for payment of compensation therefor.

9. Western Australia.—(i) *Group Settlers' Advances*. Provides that where advances have been made for purchase of stock, etc., the stock or crops shall be mortgaged to the Minister of Lands.

(ii) *Entertainments Tax Assessment*. Provides for the imposition of a tax on payment for admission to entertainments.

(iii) *Water Boards Act Amendment*. Owners of lands adjacent to pipes must provide storage tanks, and power is given to levy rates.

(iv) *Bush Fires Act Amendment*. Fire-protected areas may be declared in which it is unlawful to set fire to bush without authority of Minister.

(v) *Group Settlement*. Provides for grants and conditional purchase leases being made to settlers in group settlements and for payment of expenditure thereon.

(vi) *Main Roads Amendment*. Provides for the construction, maintenance, and supervision of main and developmental roads.

(vii) *Industrial Arbitration Amendment*. Provides for Industrial Boards, conditions for apprentices, and contains amendments relating to the declaration of the basic wage.

10. Tasmania.—(i) *Public Servants' Retiring and Death Allowance*. Provision is made for payment of allowances on retirement or death of public servants.

(ii) *Shops*. The Shops Act 1915 is consolidated and amended.

(iii) *Traffic*. Previous legislation is consolidated, and amendments relating particularly to motor traffic are included.

(iv) *Fish Canning Encouragement*. Provides for the encouragement of fish-canning in Tasmania.

(v) *Lamb Raising Industry Encouragement*. A Board is established with power to advise the trustees of the Agricultural Bank to purchase sheep and sell sheep to farmers, and to make advances to farmers and graziers to enable them to purchase sheep.

(vi) *Migration Agreement*. The Government is empowered to enter into an agreement with the Commonwealth in respect of migration and of borrowing in connexion with settlement.

(vii) *Wood-pulp and Paper Industry Encouragement*. The manufacture of wood-pulp and paper in Tasmania is encouraged, and the rights and concessions in connexion therewith are prescribed.

(viii) *Rubber Industry Encouragement*. The manufacture of tyres and other rubber goods in Tasmania is encouraged.

### § 7. Consular Representatives of Foreign Countries in Australia.

The following tabular statement shows the number of consular representatives of foreign countries in each State for the year 1926 :—

#### CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVES IN AUSTRALIA, 1926.

| Country.                    | Number of Consular Representatives in— |      |         |      |      |      |             |
|-----------------------------|--|------|---------|------|------|------|-------------|
|                             | N.S.W.                                 | Vic. | Q'land. | S.A. | W.A. | Tas. | Total Aust. |
| Argentine Republic .. ..    | 2                                      | 2    | 1       | 1    | ..   | 1    | 7           |
| Austria .. .. .             | ..                                     | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Belgium .. .. .             | 4                                      | 1    | 1       | 1    | 1    | 1    | 9           |
| Brazil .. .. .              | 1                                      | 1    | ..      | 1    | ..   | 1    | 4           |
| Chile .. .. .               | 1                                      | 1    | 1       | 1    | 1    | ..   | 5           |
| China .. .. .               | ..                                     | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Colombia .. .. .            | 2                                      | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 3           |
| Costa Rica .. .. .          | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Czecho-Slovakia .. .. .     | 1                                      | 1    | 1       | ..   | 1    | ..   | 4           |
| Denmark .. .. .             | 4                                      | 2    | 3       | 2    | 1    | 1    | 13          |
| Ecuador .. .. .             | 2                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 2           |
| Estonia .. .. .             | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Finland .. .. .             | 1                                      | 1    | 1       | 1    | ..   | ..   | 4           |
| France .. .. .              | 3                                      | 1    | 1       | 1    | 1    | 1    | 8           |
| Germany .. .. .             | ..                                     | 2    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 2           |
| Greece .. .. .              | 2                                      | 1    | 1       | ..   | 1    | ..   | 5           |
| Guatemala .. .. .           | ..                                     | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Honduras .. .. .            | ..                                     | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Italy .. .. .               | 1                                      | 2    | 1       | 1    | 1    | 1    | 7           |
| Japan .. .. .               | 2                                      | 2    | 1       | 1    | 1    | ..   | 7           |
| Liberia .. .. .             | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | 1    | ..   | ..   | 2           |
| Mexico .. .. .              | ..                                     | 1    | ..      | 1    | ..   | ..   | 2           |
| Netherlands .. .. .         | 3                                      | 1    | 3       | 1    | 1    | 1    | 10          |
| Nicaragua .. .. .           | ..                                     | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Norway .. .. .              | 3                                      | 3    | 2       | 3    | 3    | 2    | 16          |
| Panama .. .. .              | 2                                      | 1    | 1       | ..   | ..   | ..   | 4           |
| Paraguay .. .. .            | 1                                      | 1    | ..      | 1    | 1    | ..   | 4           |
| Peru .. .. .                | 2                                      | 1    | ..      | 1    | ..   | ..   | 4           |
| Poland .. .. .              | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Portugal .. .. .            | 1                                      | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 2           |
| Salvador .. .. .            | ..                                     | 1    | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Serb-Croat-Slovene State .. | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Siam .. .. .                | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Spain .. .. .               | 2                                      | 2    | 1       | 1    | 1    | ..   | 7           |
| Sweden .. .. .              | 3                                      | 1    | 2       | 3    | 2    | 1    | 12          |
| Switzerland .. .. .         | 1                                      | 1    | 1       | ..   | ..   | ..   | 3           |
| U.S.A. .. .. .              | 4                                      | 3    | 1       | 1    | 1    | ..   | 10          |
| Uruguay .. .. .             | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Venezuela .. .. .           | 1                                      | ..   | ..      | ..   | ..   | ..   | 1           |
| Total .. .. .               | 56                                     | 40   | 23      | 23   | 17   | 10   | 169*        |

\* In addition, Northern Territory has a Consul for the Netherlands.

Countries having Consuls-General in Sydney are Belgium, Chile, Czecho-Slovakia, Denmark, Ecuador, France, Greece, Japan, Netherlands, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, and Sweden. Those having Consuls-General in Melbourne are Argentine, China, Colombia, Germany, Honduras, Norway, and Switzerland. The Consul-in-Chief for Panama is located at Newcastle, New South Wales.