

CHAPTER XIV.

DEFENCE.

§ 1. Military Defence.

1. *State Systems.*—A detailed historical account of the Australian defence forces prior to Federation will be found in Official Year Book No. 2, pp. 1075–1080. See also Official Year Book No. 12, p. 999.

The strength of the military forces of the States on the 31st December, 1900, (the eve of Federation) was :—New South Wales, 9,338 ; Victoria, 6,335 ; Queensland, 4,028 ; South Australia, 2,932 ; Western Australia, 2,696 ; Tasmania, 2,024 ; total for Australia, 27,353. This total was exclusive of cadets, reservists, and rifle club members.

2. *Commonwealth System.*—(i) *General.* Under the terms of the Constitution Act 1900, the Commonwealth took over control of defence matters in March, 1901. The growth of the Commonwealth Military Forces may be considered to have taken place in three phases, viz. :—

- (a) The first phase, *i.e.*, the welding together of the military forces of the States into one homogeneous army, was entrusted by the Government in 1902 to Major-General Sir Edward Hutton, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., and a sound foundation was laid, upon which the subsequent organization and training were based.
- (b) The second phase was the introduction of Universal Training in 1911. During the year 1909 a measure providing for universal training was enacted, and the scheme came into force in 1911 after the advice and recommendations of the late Lord Kitchener had been obtained. By the Defence Acts of 1903 and 1904 all male inhabitants between the ages of 18 and 60 years were made liable to serve in Australia with the defence forces in *time of war*. The more recent Acts make training and service compulsory up to the age of 26 years *in time of peace*. By the Act of 1909 the principle of universal liability to training was made law for the first time in any English-speaking community. More detailed reference to these matters will be found in Official Year Book No. 12, p. 999 *et seq.*
- (c) The third phase, Divisional Organization, came into operation from the 1st May, 1921. Under this system a war organization, evolved from the Australian Imperial Force, is applied to peace conditions, with a minimum of permanent staff and forces. Numbers of units and formations have been altered to correspond with those of the A.I.F. and every effort is being made to maintain the traditions established by those units in the Great War.

(ii) *Military Population.* In connexion with the numbers available, the figures of male population are of interest. The total number at cadet age, *i.e.*, between 12 and 18, at the Census of 1921 (4th April) was about 300,000 ; at citizen soldier age, *i.e.*, between 18 and 26, 354,000 ; these latter, with 409,000 at ages between 26 and 35, give 763,000 as the total males at the best period for military service. It is estimated that 529,000 of those available between the ages of 18 and 35 were not married or widowers without children, and 233,000 were married or widowers with children. In addition, there were about 768,000 between the ages 35 and 60.

(iii) *Allotment of Units.* The organization is territorial, and the divisions based upon infantry units. There are 60 battalions, forming 15 brigades. The areas have approximately equal numbers of males of citizen soldier age, and each furnishes a battalion of infantry, and a proportion of other troops.

ALLOTMENTS OF UNITS TO AREAS, 1st FEBRUARY, 1929.

State.	Military District.	Brigade Areas.	Battalion Areas.									
			Providing the undermentioned Units—									
			Number of Areas.	Infantry Battalions.	Light Horse Regiments.	Field Artillery Batteries.	Medium Artillery.		Heavy Artillery.		Artillery Survey.	Anti-aircraft Battery.
							Brigade Head-quarters.	Batteries.	Brigade Head-quarters.	Batteries.		
New South Wales ..	2nd	5	21	22	7	18	1	3	1	4	1	1
Victoria ..	3rd	5	20	21	6	17	1	3	1	2	1	..
Queensland ..	1st	5	8	8	4	6	..	..	..	2	..	..
South Australia ..	4th	1	4	4	4	4	..	..	..	1	..	..
Western Australia ..	5th	1	3	3	1	3	..	..	..	2	..	..
Tasmania ..	6th	1	2	2	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
Total ..	..	15	58	60	23	50	2	6	2	12	2	1

State.	Military District.	Battalion Areas.											
		Providing the undermentioned Units—											
		Engineers.			Signals.		A.A.S.C.		A.A.M.C.		A.A.O.C. Companies.	A.A.V.C. Sections.	Training Areas.
		Field.		For-tress.	Sections.	Troops.	Companies.	Depot Sections.	Field Ambulance.	Field Hygiene Sections.			
Companies.	Troops.	Companies.											
New South Wales ..	2nd	7	3	2	23	5	10	3	7	3	2	4	35
Victoria ..	3rd	7	3	1	22	5	10	3	7	3	2	4	26
Queensland ..	1st	2	1	1	6	1	4	1	2	1	1	1	10
South Australia ..	4th	1	1	..	3	1	3	1	1	1	1	1	7
Western Australia ..	5th	1	..	1	4	..	(a)2	1	1	1	..	..	6
Tasmania ..	6th	1	..	1	4	..	(a)2	1	1	1	..	..	4
Total ..	..	19	8	6	62	12	31	10	21	10	6	10	88

(a) Includes Horse Transport Section.

(iv) *Strength of Military Forces.* (a) *Districts.* There was little alteration in the numbers serving in the Australian military forces from the institution of the Commonwealth to the year of the introduction of the compulsory training system. From 1913 to 1918, however, the annual increase was considerable. As a result of the International Conference which met at Washington on the 11th November, 1921, it was decided by the Australian Government in 1922 that the universal training law is to be continued, but its operation is to be restricted to the more populous centres and to certain quotas only. From 1st July, 1922, to 30th June, 1925, training in the Senior Cadets was limited to two quotas instead of four, and in the Citizen Forces to two quotas instead of seven. Since 1st July, 1925, Senior Cadet training has been reduced to one quota only, while Citizen Force training has been increased to three quotas. Senior Cadet training now

commences on 1st July of the year in which Senior Cadets reach the age of 17 years, and on 1st July of the following year they are allotted to the Citizen Forces, in which training continues until the 30th June of the year in which the trainee attains the age of 21 years. Notwithstanding these reductions in training, the liability to register at the age of 14 years and to serve for the full period prescribed by the Defence Act remains. Junior Cadet training of boys of the ages of 12 and 13 years was in abeyance during the years 1922-23 and 1923-24, but has been resumed as an activity of the Defence Department as from 1st July, 1924. The existing Divisional Organization of the Field Force is being retained in skeleton form, units being maintained at considerably below war strength.

TRAINING STRENGTH OF MILITARY FORCES, 1901, 1913, AND 1922 TO 1929.

(a) District.	1901. (b) 1/3/01.	1913. 30/6/13.	1922. 31/12/22.	1925. 1/2/25.	1926. 1/8/26.	1927. 1/8/27.	1929. 1/2/29.
Hd.-Qrs.(c) ..	..	277	499	130	158	191	197
1st (Q'ld.) ..	4,310	4,625	4,319	4,263	4,908	5,108	5,610
2nd (N.S.W.) ..	9,772	12,105	14,561	15,420	17,249	17,231	18,825
3rd (Vict.) ..	7,011	10,840	11,117	11,847	14,347	14,152	15,110
4th (S. Aus.) ..	2,956	3,228	3,452	3,772	4,235	4,116	4,234
5th (W. Aus.) ..	2,283	1,685	2,018	2,205	2,399	2,486	2,600
6th (Tas.) ..	2,554	1,777	1,190	1,252	1,338	1,351	1,355
Total ..	28,886	34,537	37,156	38,889	44,634	44,635	47,931

(a) Approximately coterminous with boundaries of States. (b) Date of taking over the military forces from States by Commonwealth. (c) Including cadets at Royal Military College of Australia, and Staff Corps Officers abroad, unallotted, or training with other Commonwealth Departments.

(b) *Various Arms.* The numbers of the different arms of the service on the 1st February, 1929, were as follows:—

**ARMS OF THE AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES, ACTIVE LIST,
1st FEBRUARY, 1929.(a)**

Head-quarters Staffs	86	Infantry	24,870
Staff Corps	271	Army Service Corps	2,146
Corps of Staff Cadets	75	Army Medical Corps	1,654
Instructional Corps	575	Army Ordnance Corps (b)	261
Light Horse	4,275	Army Veterinary Corps	240
Royal Australian Artillery	491	Army Legal Department	36
Field Artillery	5,763	Engineer and Railway Staff	
Garrison Artillery	2,344	Corps	62
Royal Australian Engineers	144	Provost Staff (Universal	
Field Engineers	2,448	Training)	15
Fortress Engineers	390		
Signals	1,785	Total	47,931

(a) Excluding civilian staff. (b) Includes Ordnance Officers and Artificers.

(c) *Classification of Land Forces.* The following table shows the strength of the land forces in each State, classified according to nature of service, on the 1st February, 1929:—

**DISTRIBUTION OF LAND FORCES,(a) ACTIVE AND RESERVE LISTS,
1st FEBRUARY, 1929.**

Branch of Service.	Army Head-quarters.	1st Military District. (Q'ld.)	2nd Military District. (N.S.W.)	3rd Military District. (Vic.)	4th Military District. (S. Aus.)	5th Military District. (W. Aus.)	6th Military District. (Tas.)	Total.
Permanently employed ..	(b) 189	148	665	478	86	124	65	1,755
Citizen soldiers ..	8	5,462	18,160	14,632	4,148	2,476	1,290	46,176
Unattached List of Officers ..	7	43	103	88	30	49	20	340
Reserve of Officers ..	..	967	2,900	2,630	736	640	282	8,155
Chaplains ..	7	52	125	111	37	25	17	374
Total	211	6,672	21,953	17,939	5,037	3,314	1,674	56,800

(a) Excluding civilian staff. (b) Including Staff and cadets at Royal Military College of Australia, and Staff Corps Officers unallotted, stationed abroad, and training with other Commonwealth Departments.

(d) *Numbers serving under Compulsory Provisions. (1) General.* The following tables show the numbers registered and training under the compulsory system, distinguishing Citizen Forces and Senior Cadets. :—

(2) *Citizen Forces 1907, 1908, and 1909 Quotas.* Registrations under these quotas at the 30th June, 1928, are given hereunder. :—

UNIVERSAL TRAINING.—CITIZEN FORCES REGISTRATIONS, QUOTAS IN TRAINING (1907, 1908 AND 1909 QUOTAS), AT 30th JUNE, 1928.

Military Formations.	1909 Quota.	1908 Quota.	1907 Quota.	Total.
1st Division	3,350	3,997	4,373	11,720
2nd Division	6,055	7,521	7,879	21,455
3rd Division	4,602	5,518	5,654	15,774
4th Division	2,287	3,050	3,501	8,838
11th Mixed Brigade	3,224	4,093	4,307	11,624
Field Troops, 4th M.D.	2,287	3,032	2,850	8,169
Field Troops, 5th M.D.	1,462	1,788	1,943	5,193
Field Troops, 6th M.D.	595	1,055	1,103	2,753
5th District Base	28	39	19	86
Total	23,890	30,093	31,629	85,612

(3) *Registrations, 1902 to 1906 Quotas.* Figures relating to these quotas have been included in the next table :—

CITIZEN FORCES.—REGISTRATIONS, QUOTAS NOT IN TRAINING (1902 TO 1906 QUOTAS), AT 30th JUNE, 1928.(a)

Military Districts.	Total Registrations in Training Areas.					Total.
	Quota, 1902.	Quota, 1903.	Quota, 1904.	Quota, 1905.	Quota, 1906.	
1st	4,260	3,673	4,154	4,163	4,212	20,462
2nd	10,451	10,968	12,052	11,962	12,474	57,907
3rd	7,248	8,359	9,340	9,354	9,338	43,639
4th	2,805	2,874	3,261	2,868	2,950	14,758
5th	1,347	1,989	2,095	2,026	1,777	9,234
6th	1,181	1,204	1,300	1,294	1,163	6,142
Total	27,292	29,067	32,202	31,667	31,914	152,142

(a) Latest particulars available, as no training is required of these quotas.

(4) *Exemptions and Missing Trainees.* Particulars for the 1907, 1908, and 1909 quotas are given hereunder :—

CITIZEN FORCES.—EXEMPTIONS AND MISSING TRAINEES, QUOTAS IN TRAINING. (1907, 1908, AND 1909 QUOTAS), 30th JUNE, 1928.

Military Formations.	Exemptions.				Missing Trainees.
	1909 Quota.	1908 Quota.	1907 Quota.	Total.	1909, 1908, and 1907 Quotas.
1st Division	1,346	2,138	2,739	6,223	162
2nd Division	3,022	4,690	5,356	13,068	407
3rd Division	1,832	2,917	3,176	7,925	552
4th Division	1,064	1,938	2,282	5,284	264
11th Mixed Brigade	1,744	2,725	3,249	7,718	99
Field Troops, 4th M.D.	1,137	1,903	1,839	4,879	60
Field Troops, 5th M.D.	752	1,147	1,310	3,209	14
Field Troops, 6th M.D.	332	740	860	1,932	21
5th District Base	12	20	19	51	..
Total	11,241	18,218	20,830	50,289	1,579

(5) *Senior Cadets—Registrations, etc.* Registrations and numbers in training from the 1910 to 1914 quotas at 30th June, 1928, are shown in the next table :—

SENIOR CADETS.—REGISTRATIONS AND NUMBER ACTUALLY IN TRAINING, 30th JUNE, 1928 (1910 TO 1914 QUOTAS).

Military Formations.	Total Registrations—Senior Cadets.						Number actually Training—Senior Cadets.
	1914 Quota.	1913 Quota.	1912 Quota.	1911 Quota.	1910 Quota.	Total. (a)	1910 Quota.
1st Division	4,031	4,216	3,981	3,673	3,638	15,508	2,331
2nd Division	6,450	6,966	6,704	6,734	6,809	27,213	4,133
3rd Division	5,071	5,370	5,421	4,917	5,109	20,817	3,076
4th Division	2,874	2,935	2,747	2,281	2,457	10,420	1,372
Field Troops, 4th M.D. ..	3,576	3,611	3,630	3,142	3,405	13,788	1,517
11th Mixed Brigade ..	2,821	2,801	2,682	2,503	2,430	10,416	1,329
Field Troops, 6th M.D. ..	1,560	1,695	1,659	1,441	1,529	6,324	830
Field Troops, 5th M.D. ..	898	957	1,025	667	710	3,359	367
5th District Base	44	58	38	43	44	183	25
Total	27,325	28,609	27,887	25,401	26,131	108,028	14,980

(a) Does not include 1914 Quota, which was not liable for training until 1st July, 1928.

(6) *Senior Cadets—Exemptions and Missing Trainees.* Figures regarding these at 30th June, 1928, are shown below :—

SENIOR CADETS.—EXEMPTIONS AND MISSING TRAINEES, 30th JUNE, 1928.

Military Formations.	Exemptions, 30th June, 1928.					Missing Trainees.
	1913 Quota.	1912 Quota.	1911 Quota.	1910 Quota.	Total.	
1st Division	57	98	834	1,281	2,270	49
2nd Division	74	124	1,994	2,511	4,703	312
3rd Division	22	53	1,302	1,900	3,277	279
4th Division	31	59	614	1,023	1,727	73
Field Troops, 4th M.D. ..	115	277	1,437	1,845	3,674	123
11th Mixed Brigade ..	45	87	920	1,082	2,134	29
Field Troops, 6th M.D. ..	6	9	552	685	1,252	23
Field Troops, 5th M.D. ..	18	48	234	326	626	13
5th District Base	1	3	12	19	35	..
Total	369	758	7,899	10,672	19,698	901

(7) *Citizen Forces—Medical Examinations.* The following table shows the results of examinations of the 1909 quota at 30th June, 1928 :—

**CITIZEN FORCES.—MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, 1910 QUOTA, YEAR ENDED
30th JUNE, 1928.**

Military Formations.	Number of Examinations carried out.	Fit.		Unfit (A.M.R. and O. 793).		Unfit (other than those under A.M.R. and O. 793).	
		Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
1st Division ..	3,058	2,253	73.68	5	0.16	800	26.16
2nd Division ..	5,787	3,812	65.87	18	0.31	1,957	33.82
3rd Division ..	4,400	3,056	69.45	38	0.86	1,306	29.68
4th Division ..	1,946	1,309	67.27	10	0.51	627	32.22
Field Troops, 4th M.D.	2,490	1,569	63.01	25	1.00	896	35.98
11th Mixed Brigade ..	2,002	1,324	66.13	9	0.45	669	33.42
Field Troops, 6th M.D.	1,171	820	70.03	12	1.02	339	28.95
Field Troops, 5th M.D.	497	359	72.23	8	1.61	130	26.16
5th District Base ..	28	25	89.29	..	..	3	10.71
Total ..	21,379	14,527	67.95	125	0.58	6,727	31.47

(v) *Administration and Instruction.* The staff provided for the administration and training of the various arms consists of 271 officers (Staff Corps), 60 quartermasters, and 540 warrant and non-commissioned officers (Australian Instructional Corps).

(vi) *Royal Military College, Duntroon.* This College was established at Duntroon in the Federal Capital Territory for the purpose of providing trained officers for the permanent forces. Admission is by open competitive examination, a definite number of vacancies being allotted to each State on a population basis. Further particulars respecting the College are given on page 915 of Official Year Book No. 15. On 1st February, 1929, the staff numbered 36—military, 23; and civil, 13. The cadets in training at the same date numbered 75.

(vii) *Railways and Defence.* A War Railway Council, consisting of military and railways officers, was instituted in 1911. Its chief duties are to furnish advice and information regarding railway transport for military purposes, and to secure co-operation between the Defence Department and the Railway Departments in regard to concentration and mobilization of troops. To prevent delay in the transport of troops, particularly that caused by the transhipment of baggage and implements of war, the Council has recommended the adoption of a uniform railway gauge on lines linking up the States' capitals. An Engineer and Railway Staff Corps has been instituted, and numbered 62 officers on 1st February, 1929. Fuller details will be found in Official Year Book No. 6, pp. 1070-1.

(viii) *Rifle Clubs.* On the 30th June, 1928, there were 1,137 rifle clubs with a membership of 40,187, and 79 miniature rifle clubs having a membership of 2,740. Members of rifle clubs must fire an annual course of musketry, but do not undergo any systematic drill.

The administration of rifle clubs is under the control of the Secretary for Defence, and rifle clubs do not form part of the military organization. Government grants however are made for the construction and maintenance of rifle ranges, etc., and 200 rounds of ammunition are issued free annually to each efficient member.

§ 2. Naval Defence.

1. *State Systems.*—Information regarding naval defence systems prior to 1901 will be found in Official Year Book No. 12, p. 1011, but considerations of space preclude its insertion in the present volume.

2. *The Present System.*—(i) *General.* An outline of the development of Australian naval policy was given in Official Year Book No. 3, pp. 1060–61, and No. 12, p. 1012. Some account of the building of the Australian Fleet, the proposed and modified cost thereof, the compact with the Imperial Government, etc., appears in Official Year Book No. 15, pp. 921 *et seq.* Up to the 30th June, 1928, the expenditure on construction amounted to £12,163,129.

The Washington Conference of 1921 has had a marked effect on Naval Defence schemes, and all warship building and naval base construction were for a time suspended. The Fleet personnel was reduced from 4,843 in 1921 to 3,500 in 1923, and the ships in commission were reduced from 25 to 13. H.M.A.S. *Australia* was sunk in accordance with the provisions of the Washington Treaty on 12th April, 1924.

In 1925 the Commonwealth Government, however, decided to build two cruisers of 10,000 tons (the maximum size at present allowed for new construction under the Washington Naval Treaties), two ocean-going submarines, and a seaplane-carrier. The two cruisers, which were named *Australia* and *Canberra*, were commissioned in 1928, H.M.A.S. *Australia* becoming the Flagship of the Australian Squadron. The two submarines, *Otway* and *Oxley*, which were built in England, arrived at Thursday Island on 25th January, 1929. The seaplane-carrier *Albatross*, built at Cockatoo Island Dockyard, Sydney, by the Commonwealth Shipping Board, was commissioned on 23rd January, 1929.

To ensure closer co-operation with the Royal Navy, arrangements have been concluded with the Admiralty for the periodical exchange of a cruiser, thus giving an opportunity for Australian sailors to gain experience in fleet exercises on a large scale.

The British Admiralty have, in addition, lent to the Royal Australian Navy the sloop *Silvia*, which was refitted in England as a surveying ship, and renamed H.M.A.S. *Moresby*. This vessel has been principally employed in surveying the Great Barrier Reef. The Commonwealth Government has also entered into an agreement with the New South-Wales Government whereby the latter, in consideration of the payment of a subsidy of £135,000, is constructing at Walsh Island, Newcastle, a floating dock capable of lifting 15,000 tons. This dock will be capable of docking the new 10,000-ton cruisers.

(ii) *Naval College.* A naval college was established at Geelong in 1913, and was transferred in 1915 to Captain's Point, Jervis Bay, New South Wales. The course is similar to that carried out in naval colleges in England. In February, 1929, there were 54 cadet midshipmen under training. A boy who reaches the age of thirteen years during the calendar year in which the entrance examination is held is eligible to compete provided he is the son of natural-born or naturalized British subjects. From amongst those qualified the selection committee chooses the number required. The Commonwealth Government bears the whole expense of uniforms, victualling, travelling, as well as that of the educational course. Altogether 169 officers who have passed through the College are now serving with the Fleet.

(iii) *Training Establishments.* For the time being seamen recruits from 17 to 21 years of age receive their preliminary training at the Naval Depot, Westport, where, in addition to the new entry school, instruction is given in Gunnery and Torpedo, Signals and Wireless Telegraphy, Engineering, etc. The entry and training of boys has been suspended for the present.

(iv) *The Naval Station.* A description of the limits of the Australian Naval Station is contained in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 18, pp. 608–9), but lack of space precludes its repetition in the present issue. The limits have recently been altered slightly.

(v) *Vessels.* A list of the vessels of the Royal Australian Navy is given hereunder :—

SHIPS OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY, JANUARY, 1929.

Vessel.	Description.	Displacement.	Power.
		Tons.	H.P.
<i>Adelaide</i>	Cruiser	5,500	25,000
<i>Albatross</i>	Seaplane Carrier	6,000	12,000
<i>Anzac</i>	Flotilla Leader	1,660	36,000
<i>Australia</i>	Cruiser	10,000	80,000
<i>Brisbane</i> .. ..	.. ..	5,400	25,000
<i>Canberra</i> .. ..	.. ..	10,000	80,000
<i>Cerberus</i>	Motor-boat	61	220
<i>Geranium</i>	Sloop	1,250	2,000
<i>Huon</i>	Destroyer	700	10,000
<i>Mallow</i>	Sloop	1,200	1,800
<i>Marguerite</i> .. ..	.. ..	1,250	2,000
<i>Moresby</i> .. ..	.. ..	1,320	2,500
<i>Otway</i>	Submarine	1,400	..
<i>Oxley</i> .. ..	.. ..	..	..
<i>Parramatta</i>	Destroyer	700	10,000
<i>Penguin</i>	Depot Ship	5,880	12,500
<i>Platypus</i> .. ..	.. ..	3,460	3,500
<i>Stalwart</i>	Destroyer	1,075	27,000
<i>Success</i> .. ..	.. ..	1,075	27,000
<i>Swan</i> .. ..	.. ..	700	10,000
<i>Swordsman</i> .. ..	.. ..	1,075	27,000
<i>Tasmania</i> .. ..	.. ..	1,075	27,000
<i>Tatoo</i> .. ..	.. ..	1,075	27,000
<i>Torrens</i> .. ..	.. ..	700	10,000
<i>Warrego</i> .. ..	.. ..	700	10,000
<i>Yarra</i> .. ..	.. ..	700	10,000
FLEET AUXILIARIES—			
<i>Biloela</i>	Fleet Collier and Oiler	5,700	2,300
<i>Kurumba</i>	Fleet Oiler	3,970	2,000

(vi) *Naval Forces.* Besides the sea-going forces, there is a R.A.N. Reserve, which is composed of Citizen Naval Trainees. The personnel of the sea-going forces, which was originally largely composed of Imperial officers and men, is now 94 per cent. Australian. The strength of the naval forces is given hereunder :—

**STRENGTH OF NAVAL FORCES (PERMANENT AND RESERVES),
15th FEBRUARY, 1929.**

Description of Force.	Numbers Borne.		
	In Training.	Officers.	Men.
Royal Australian Navy (Sea-going)	450	4,409
Royal Australian Naval Auxiliary Services	42	180
Cadet Midshipmen undergoing training at R.A.N. College	54	..	..
Royal Australian Naval Reserve (Sea-going)	44	..
Royal Australian Fleet Reserve	121
Royal Australian Naval Reserve	253	6,919
Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserve	47	20

§ 3. Air Defence.

1. **General.**—A statement in regard to the preliminary steps taken in connexion with the development of air defence will be found in Official Year Book No. 18, p. 610.

The Royal Australian Air Force is administered by a Board consisting of two Air Force members and a Finance member. To this Force is entrusted the air defence of Australia, the training of personnel for co-operation with the naval and military forces, and the refresher training of pilots engaging in civil aviation. The present establishment of the Force includes the following units :—(a) Head-Quarters Royal Australian Air Force, with representation at the Air Ministry in London; (b) a Flying Training School; (c) a Stores Depot; (d) two composite squadrons and one flight; and (e) an Experimental Section.

2. **Establishment.**—The present approved establishment of the Permanent Air Force is 110 officers and 860 airmen, and of the Citizen Air Force, 54 officers and 285 airmen.

3. **Aerial Routes.**—Aerodromes and Alighting Sites have been prepared between the capital cities and on certain parts of the coast for service and civil purposes. The total number prepared to date is 176.

4. **Civil Aviation.**—Details regarding the formation and activities of the Civil Aviation Department will be found in Chapter VII., Section D. Aircraft.

§ 4. Expenditure on Defence.

1. **Expenditure, 1901–2 to 1928–29.**—The following table shows Defence expenditure, exclusive of war services, in 1901–2 and during each of the last five years. Details of the expenditure of the Defence Department and the cost of the war, repatriation, and war services are given in Chapter VIII.—Finance.

DEFENCE EXPENDITURE (EXCLUDING WAR SERVICES).—AUSTRALIA, 1901–2 TO 1928–29.

Item.	1901–2.	1924–25.	1925–26.	1926–27.	1927–28.	1928–29. (a)
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Central Administration ..	5,594	27,966	28,311	29,603	26,700	27,946
Naval	178,819	2,393,502	2,020,985	2,765,033	2,597,864	2,582,897
Military	732,626	1,558,268	1,547,819	1,526,108	1,494,201	1,459,916
Air Services—						
R. A. Air Force .. ..	..	398,026	429,373	571,769	516,639	570,070
Civil Aviation .. ..	..	104,734	113,588	111,689	113,368	100,000
Munitions Supply Branch .. ..	..	574,410	557,548	433,338	461,638	395,847
Rifle Clubs and Associations	41,653	37,174	48,920	48,880	47,699	48,000
Special Appropriations—						
Naval Construction .. ..	..	60	946,950	2,262,100	2,060,676	1,187,000
Survey of Gt. Barrier Reef .. ..	..	33,850	112,119	26,903	46,217	58,000
Purchase of Arms, etc. .. ..	..	247,894	..	..	..	..
Reconditioning Equipment and Purchase of Aircraft Equip- ment .. ..	..	16,902	25,327	115,436	7,076	127,000
Development of Civil Aviation .. ..	..	..	..	..	13,722	85,000
	958,692	5,392,786	6,430,940	7,890,839	7,385,800	6,641,676

(a) Estimated.

In addition to the above, expenditure on war services, naval and military only, directly under the control of the Defence Department amounted in 1927–28 to £114,108 from Revenue and £6,248 from Loans, while the estimated expenditure in 1928–29 was £112,594 from Revenue, and £50,000 from Loans.

The total cost of war services including interest, sinking fund, war pensions, repatriation, etc., amounted to £29,008,815 from Revenue and £728,842 from Loans during 1927–28.

§ 5. Munitions Supply.

1. **General.**—A statement dealing with the powers and functions of the Munitions Supply Board is given on p. 612 of Official Year Book No. 18, but limits of space preclude its repetition in the present volume.

2. **Factories.**—(1) *General.* The Explosives Factories at Maribyrnong, Victoria, which manufacture explosives for cartridges and artillery ammunition, were established in 1911. The staff at 30th June, 1928, numbered 125.

The Acetate of Lime Factory, established at Bulimba, Brisbane, in September, 1918, provides acetate of lime (a raw material used in the manufacture of acetone) and is now being held in reserve. Employees at 30th June, 1928, numbered 4.

The Clothing Factory at Melbourne, Victoria, which had a staff of 252 employees on 30th June, 1928, commenced output in July, 1912, and since that date has been able to supply the whole of the uniform clothing required for the Defence forces, and the Post-master-General's Department. It also supplies clothing required by State Departments and local public bodies.

The Small Arms Factory at Lithgow, New South Wales, which was opened on 1st June, 1912, and delivered the first instalment of Australian arms in May, 1913, had on its pay roll on 30th June, 1928, 350 employees. Rifles are being produced, and the manufacture of pistols and machine guns has been undertaken.

On 1st January, 1921, by virtue of an agreement with the Colonial Ammunition Company Limited, the Defence Department entered into possession on lease of the Company's works at Footscray, Victoria, but on 1st January, 1927, they were purchased by the Commonwealth Government for the manufacture of rifle and pistol ammunition. The works are known as the Small Arms Ammunition Factory, and the staff at 30th June, 1928, numbered 261.

(ii) *Investment in Factories.* Up to 30th June, 1928, the amount invested in lands, buildings, machinery and plant, factory fittings and furniture in connexion with the factories now in operation was approximately as follows:—Small Arms Factory, £463,712; Explosives Factories, £503,195; Clothing Factory, £10,162; Acetate of Lime Factory, £92,279.

§ 6. Remount Depot.

Information in regard to the establishment of this branch of activity is contained in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 18, p. 613). When war was declared in 1914 little difficulty was experienced by the Remount Service in coping with the enormous task of obtaining and training horses for the mounted units of the A.I.F. and in providing for the shipment of horses to Egypt and India as required.

§ 7. Australian Contingents.

1. **General.** In previous issues of the Year Book an account was given of the composition, etc., of the Australian contingents dispatched for service in the New Zealand and Sudan Campaigns, in South Africa, China, and the Great War of 1914–18 (see Official Year Book No. 12, pp. 1019 *et seq.*).

2. **Australian Troops (Great War).**—Particulars of the enlistments, casualties, honours and decorations won, and engagements of the Australian Imperial Force during the Great War were given in Official Year Book No. 16, pp. 628 *et seq.* Limits of space, however, preclude the repetition of this information in the present volume.

§ 8. War Gratuity.

Reference was made in preceding Year Books (see No. 15, p. 930) to the bonus payable in accordance with the War Gratuity Acts of 1920 as a war service gratuity to soldiers and sailors who served in the Great War. Owing to limitations of space this information cannot be repeated, but it may be noted that the gratuity was paid in Treasury Bonds, maturing not later than 31st May, 1924, and bearing interest at 5½ per cent. In necessitous cases payment was made in cash when desired by the person entitled. The first gratuities were made available about the beginning of June, 1920. The total amount paid to 30th June, 1928, was £27,476,985.

§ 9. Special Defence Legislation.

Information regarding special defence legislation enacted by the Commonwealth Government during the War was given in Official Year Book No. 15, p. 930. It may be pointed out here that the War Precautions Act Repeal Act of 1920 repealed the Act 1914-18, but a limited number of matters dealt with under the original Act are now provided for under the War Precautions Act Repeal Act of 1920-28 or by regulations made thereunder.

§ 10. Repatriation.

1. *General.*—The expenditure by the Commonwealth Government in making provision for its ex-soldiers subsequent to discharge from the forces up to the 30th June, 1928, was £182,945,564. The amounts paid by way of war gratuities, in land settlement, and on war service homes were disbursed by the Department of Defence, the State Governments concerned, and the War Service Homes Commission respectively. The Department of Repatriation's expenditure was £94,673,592, comprising £73,149,210 on war pensions, and £21,524,382 on general repatriation.

2. *Department of Repatriation.*—An outline of the activities leading up to the formation of the Commonwealth Department of Repatriation was given in Official Year Book No. 15, p. 931, but limits of space preclude its repetition in the present volume. Some account was given also in the Year Book referred to, and in subsequent issues, of the policy and activities of the Department generally, while detailed information was incorporated in regard to such matters as sustenance rates and pensions to soldiers and dependents. (See Official Year Book 17, pp. 598 to 601.) During the year ended 30th June, 1928, sustenance rates were amended to bring them into line with war pensions rates, and the scale of rates in respect to war pensions was amplified by providing for an allowance to the third or subsequent child at such a rate as will provide together with pension in respect of that child, a sum of 15s. per fortnight.

The main activities of the Repatriation Commission at 30th June, 1928, were confined to the grant, review and assessment of war pensions, medical treatment, the renewal and repair of artificial replacements and surgical appliances, the grant and review of living allowances, and the administration of the Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.

3. *Pensions.*—The pensions in force on the 30th June, 1928, numbered 266,670, and the amount expended thereon during the twelve months ending 30th June, 1928, was £7,690,890.

4. *Summary of Activities.* The following is a summary of the work of the Department from 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1928 :—

(i) *Employment.* Number of applications, 251,203; number of positions filled, 132,628.

(ii) *Vocational Training.* Number of men completed training, 36,563; number in training, 384.

(iii) *Assistance other than Vocational Training and Employment.* Applications received, 726,654; applications approved, 637,440.

(iv) *Soldiers' Children Education Scheme.* From the inauguration of the scheme in February, 1921, up to 30th June, 1928, 11,259 applications for assistance had been received. Of these 9,936 had been approved, of which 3,049 recipients of the benefits had completed their training, 5,641 were undergoing training, 86 applications were pending, and the remainder had been refused or withdrawn.

Up to 30th June, 1928, the expenditure was £732,160.

(v) *Assistance Granted.* The total expenditure incurred during the period from 8th April, 1918, to 30th June, 1928, was £16,059,376, of which £9,125,538 represented gifts, £1,674,056 loan, and £5,259,782 general expenditure. Of the total the largest amounts were absorbed by vocational training, with £5 millions, and expenses of providing employment, £2½ millions.

(vi) *Medical Treatment.* At 30th June, 1928, there were 1,431 in-patients and 6,599 out-patients receiving medical treatment. The expenditure to this date was £4,172,186.

5. *Settlement of Soldiers on the Land.*—At the Premiers' Conference in Melbourne in 1917 it was agreed that the States should undertake the work of settling on the land returned soldiers and munition and war workers, but that the Commonwealth should finance them for this purpose.

The original arrangement provided that the Commonwealth should take the responsibility of finding up to £500 per settler as working capital for improvements, implements, seed, etc., an amount which was subsequently increased to £625 per settler, together with £375 per settler for resumptions and works incidental to land settlement approved by the Commonwealth. Particulars of the advances to the States are shown in the following table:—

ADVANCES TO STATES FOR SOLDIER SETTLEMENT, AT 30th JUNE, 1928.

State.	No. of Settlers.	Advances agreed upon.	Advanced during 1927-28.	Advanced to 30th June, 1928.	Advances outstanding 30.6.28.
	No.	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	8,405	12,254,191	..	9,826,203	9,805,983
Victoria	11,000	15,708,514	..	11,968,176	11,794,075
Queensland	3,898	3,290,789	..	2,717,697	2,700,583
South Australia	5,000	6,265,471	..	2,857,780	2,833,005
Western Australia	5,186	6,278,750	..	5,463,782	5,431,202
Tasmania	2,821	3,521,234	..	2,168,303	2,129,563
Total	36,310	47,318,949	..	35,001,941	34,694,411

Prior to the occupancy of the land, the Repatriation Department was empowered to pay sustenance for a limited period, subject to certain conditions, also for 6 months during the first 2 years of occupancy while awaiting production.

6. *Conspectus of State Laws affecting Settlement of Returned Soldiers on the Land.*—In Official Year Book No. 13, pp. 1018 *et seq.*, will be found a table giving particulars of the laws of the various States relating to returned soldiers' land settlement.

Later modifications have been made with a view to simplifying procedure and liberalizing the conditions under which holdings may be acquired.

§ 11. War Service Homes.

The operations of the War Service Homes Commission at 31st March, 1929, may be briefly set out as follows:—39,375 applications involving advances amounting to approximately £24,464,555 had been approved; 19,467 houses had been completed; 33 applicants had been assisted to complete or enlarge dwelling-houses partly owned; 772 houses were in course of construction; and 334 building applications had been approved in respect of which building operations had not been commenced.

In addition, the Commission had purchased on behalf of eligible applicants 12,688 already-existing properties, and had taken over mortgages existing on 2,395 dwelling-houses. Homes are insured under a comprehensive policy, the total insurances in force, including cover notes, amounting to £15,532,013. The total receipts received by the Commission to 30th June, 1928, were £13,284,250, of which £4,351,272 was paid to the National Debt Sinking Fund. Only one per cent. of repayment arrears were due to the Commission on 30th June, 1928.

The foregoing figures include the operations of the State Bank of South Australia and the State Savings Bank of Victoria, which are now carrying out the provisions of the War Service Homes Act in their respective States, the Commonwealth's obligations being to make available to the Government in each State as a loan the funds required for the purpose.