

Victorian Year-Book, 1943-44.

PART I.

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, AREA, AND CLIMATE.

Victoria is situated at the south-eastern extremity of the Australian continent, of which it occupies about a thirty-fourth part, and contains about 87,884 square miles, or 56,245,760 acres. The following islands, together with a number of small islands around the coast and in the bays and inlets, are included in its territory:—Phillip, French, Churchill and Elizabeth islands in Western Port Bay; Snake, Little Snake and Sunday islands at Corner Inlet; and Lady Julia Percy island off the coast near Port Fairy. The areas in acres of these islands are—Phillip, 24,320; French, 42,000; Churchill, 140; Elizabeth, 64; Snake, 11,500; Little Snake, 1,240; Sunday, 2,640; and Lady Julia Percy, 650. Victoria is bounded on the north and north-east by New South Wales, from which it is separated by the River Murray, and by a straight line running in a south-easterly direction from a place near the head-waters of that stream, called The Springs, on Forest Hill, to Cape Howe. The total length of this boundary, following the windings of the Murray River from the South Australian border along the Victorian bank to the Indi River, thence by the Indi or Murray River to Forest Hill and thence by the straight line from Forest Hill to Cape Howe, is 1,175 miles. The length of the Murray River forming part of the boundary is 997 miles, of the Indi or Murray River, 68 miles, and of the straight line from Forest Hill to Cape Howe, 110 miles. On the west it is bounded by South Australia, the dividing line being about 280 geographical miles in length, approximating to the position of the 141st meridian of east longitude, and extending from the River Murray to the sea. On the south and south-east its shores are washed by the Southern Ocean, Bass Strait, and the Pacific Ocean. It lies approximately between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. Its greatest length from east to west is about 493 miles, its greatest breadth about 290 miles, and its extent of coast-line 980 miles, including the length around Port Phillip Bay 164 miles, Western Port 90 miles, and Corner Inlet 50 miles. Great Britain, inclusive of the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, contains 89,041 square miles, and is therefore slightly larger than Victoria.

The most southerly point of Wilson's Promontory, in latitude 39 deg. 8 min. S., longitude 146 deg. 26 min. E., is likewise the southernmost point of Victoria and of the Australian continent

the northernmost point is the place where the western boundary of the State meets the Murray, latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S., longitude 140 deg. 58 min. E.; the point furthest east is Cape Howe, situated in latitude 37 deg. 31 min. S., longitude 149 deg. 59 min. E. The westerly boundary lies upon the meridian 140 deg. 58 min. E., and extends from latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S. to latitude 38 deg. 4 min. S., a distance of 280 miles.

Climate. The climate of Victoria is characterized by warm summers, rather cold winters and rain in all months with a maximum in winter. The heaviest rainfall occurs in the north-eastern mountain region, along the Central Divide, and in the Cape Otway Ranges where the annual average amounts to 60 inches or more in some localities. Amounts decrease towards the north-west, the driest area being the North-western Mallee where the annual average is 10 to 12 inches.

Mean temperatures in midsummer (January) range from 65 deg. in the south to 75 deg. in the north-west, corresponding means of the daily maxima being 80 deg. in the south and 90 deg. in the north-west. In midwinter (July) the mean temperature is generally below 50 deg., means of the night minima being below 40 deg. In the eastern mountain region mean temperatures may be as much as 10 deg. lower than the figures quoted above. Temperatures of over 110 deg. are not uncommon in the north in summer and severe frosts occur in winter, more particularly from June to August in the lower level country, but occasionally, in some districts, as early as April and as late as October. The highest temperature recorded in the shade in any part of the State was 123·5 deg. at Mildura on 5th January, 1906, and the lowest 9 deg. on Mount Hotham on 30th July, 1931. This station, however, is 5,964 feet above sea level. The lowest recorded at approximately sea level was 19 deg. at Bairnsdale on 16th August, 1896.

The relative humidity in Victoria is usually low in hot weather, though warm humid conditions may occasionally be experienced in summer. The average 3 p.m. relative humidity in January is below 30 per cent. in Northern Victoria, but south of the divide increases towards the coast from 40 to over 70 per cent. at Wilson's Promontory and Gabo Island.

Prevailing winds are southerly from November to February inclusive, with a moderate percentage of northerlies often associated with high temperatures. Considerable fluctuations of temperature occur with changes of wind in the summer months. Northerly or westerly winds predominate from March to October inclusive. Snow falls on the mountains in the winter and spring months, but is of rare occurrence in low level parts of the State.

At Melbourne the highest shade temperature recorded in the 86 years ended 1941 was 114.1 deg. Fahr. on 13th January, 1939, and the lowest 27 deg. on 21st July, 1869. On the average, temperatures of 90 deg. or over are recorded on nineteen days per year and over 100 deg. on four days per year. Night temperatures fall below 32 deg. on about two nights per year and remain above 70 deg. also on only two nights per year.

High wet bulb temperatures are infrequent, such temperatures exceeding 75 deg. on only about two occasions in three years. The average relative humidity of the atmosphere on a summer afternoon is 50 per cent. but on very warm days it may fall to 10 per cent. or lower: in June and July in the morning it is 82 or 83 per cent. Fogs occur on four or five mornings per month in May, June, and July (twenty occurrences in June, 1937) and on 21 days per year. The average number of hours of sunshine per day is 5.6 and the average wind speed is 6.2 m.p.h. Gusts occasionally exceed 60 m.p.h., the highest on record being 72 m.p.h. on 30th May, 1923. Rain on an average falls on 141 days per year, the annual average amount being 25.57 inches.

Further information in regard to climatic and weather conditions will be found in part "Production" of this volume.

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF VICTORIA.

An article on the "Physical Geography and Geology of Victoria," by Mr. W. Baragwanath, Director of Victorian Geological Survey, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1927-28 on pages 20 to 30, and addenda thereto appear in subsequent issues of the *Year-Book*.

MOUNTAINS AND HILLS, RIVERS AND LAKES.

The highest mountain in Victoria is Mount Bogong, situated in the county of the same name, 6,509 feet above sea-level; the next highest peaks are—Mount Feathertop, 6,306 feet; Mount Nelson 6,170 feet; Mount Fainter 6,160 feet; Mount Hotham, 6,100 feet; Mount McKay, 6,030 feet; and Mount Cope, 6,027 feet; all situated in the same county; also the Cobboras, 6,030 feet, situated between the counties of Benambra and Tambo. These, so far as is known, are the only peaks which exceed 6,000 feet in height, although, according to a list which was published in the *Year-Book* for 1915-16, there are 39 peaks between 5,000 and 6,000 feet high, and 40 between 4,000 and 5,000 feet high. It is known, moreover, that there are many peaks rising to upwards of 4,000 feet above the level of the sea whose actual heights have not yet been determined. Although the peaks and higher plateaus are covered with snow during the winter, it is not perpetual and disappears during the spring.

Mountains and Hills.

Rivers. The Rivers of the State form two main systems—those flowing north into or toward the Murray River and those flowing south toward the sea. The chief use of these streams is as suppliers of water for irrigation to towns and townships, and for domestic and stock purposes, either by direct diversion or after storage in reservoirs. Owing to the variability of the season and the absence of perpetual snow, the flows vary greatly from season to season and from year to year. The largest stream in Australia is the Murray, which forms the northern boundary of the State and has a total length of 1,609 miles, of which 1,211 miles are along the border. Its waters, under an Interstate agreement, are shared by New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. The longest and one of the most reliable streams in Victoria is the Goulburn, which enters the Murray near Echuca. The average annual flow of the Goulburn is 2,300,000 acre feet, and it has varied from 6,000,000 acre feet in 1917 to 567,000 in 1914. Other streams show more variation, thus the Loddon, which is next in length to the Goulburn, has an average flow of 186,000 acre feet but has varied from 600,000 acre feet in 1893 to 11,700 in 1938.

Prior to the construction of railways throughout the State, the Goulburn and the Murray in the north and the Latrobe, Mitchell, Tambo and Snowy in Gippsland were used to some extent for navigation in their lower reaches, but the only remaining river traffic is that on the Murray below Swan Hill. The tidal portion of the Yarra River, which forms part of the port of Melbourne, is used extensively by shipping.

Lakes. Victoria contains numerous lakes and lagoons. These have been added to by the aforementioned water supply reservoirs, several of which, both in size and beauty, compare most favourably with the natural lakes. The lakes have various origins, some, such as Corangamite and Colac in the south-west, are of volcanic origin; others, such as the Kerang Lakes, form part of old river courses and are filled at flood periods. On the other hand the Gippsland Lakes form an estuary for a number of rivers, and are separated from the sea by only a narrow belt of sand dunes.

The main lakes formed by reservoirs are at Eildon, Nagambie, and Waranga in the Goulburn River system, at the Hume, Yarrawonga, Torrumbarry, and Mildura on the Murray River, and at Lonsdale and Wartook in the Grampians Mountains. In addition, there are reservoirs at Yan Yean, Toorourrong, Maroondah, O'Shannassy, and Silvan. These are the five main storage basins contributing to the metropolitan water supply system.

A list of mountains and hills, rivers, and lakes in Victoria was published in the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1915-16. This list contains information in regard to heights, lengths, and areas respectively.

THE HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

An article on this subject contributed by Professor Ernest Scott, late Professor of History in the University of Melbourne, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 1 to 31.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF LEADING EVENTS.

A chronological table of leading events connected with the discovery and the history of Victoria for the years 1770 to 1934 inclusive, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1933-34. Since then the principal happenings of the year in the State have been recorded in the *Year-Book* relating thereto.

Some of the principal events in Victorian and Australian history from 1st January, 1944, to 30th June, 1945, were as follow :—

1944	
3rd January	.. Death of Dr. T. C. Brennan, K.C., former Senator and Federal Minister and distinguished lawyer.
14th January	.. Outbreak of serious bush and grass fires in many parts of the State causing loss of life. Many homes destroyed and thousands of acres of farm lands and forests devastated.
17th January	.. Meat rationed throughout Australia.
2nd February	.. Lt.-General Sir Edmund Herring, K.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., K.C., appointed Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Victoria.
14th February	.. Bush and grass fires in Gippsland were responsible for the loss of lives and damage to property. The "open cut" at the Yallourn Brown Coal Mine was ignited and, in addition to loss and damage of equipment, this caused suspension of electricity supplies to a large portion of the metropolitan area. (An article on the Bush Fires was published in the <i>Year Book</i> for 1942-43, page 292.)
19th February	.. Judge Stretton appointed a Royal Commission to conduct the inquiry decided on by State Cabinet into the cause of the outbreak of fires in Yallourn district.
21st February	.. Australia and New Zealand signed an agreement known as the Anzac Pact for collaboration in defence and other mutual problems in the Pacific Zone.
22nd February	.. Federal Cabinet adopted the "pay-as-you-earn" tax plan recommended by the All Party Parliamentary Committee. Deductions commenced from 1st July, 1944.
17th March	.. Conclusion of a mutual aid agreement between Australia and Canada announced by Minister for External Affairs (Dr. Evatt).
28th March	.. Opening of First Victory Loan for £150,000,000.
31st March	.. Death of Mr. Maurice Blackburn, member for Bourke in the Federal Parliament.
5th April	.. Mr. J. G. Barclay appointed High Commissioner for New Zealand in Australia.

- 9th April .. The Minister for the Army (Mr. Forde) released details of total Australian casualties to 30th March in all branches of the services. These totalled 68,797 of which 16,650 were killed and 26,915 were prisoners of war.
- 12th April .. Death of Mr. W. Dunstone, M.L.A., member for Rodney.
- 19th April .. The Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin), Gen. Sir Thomas Blamey and party arrived in San Francisco on their way to England to attend the Imperial conference.
- 22nd May .. Mr. Makin, Minister for the Navy, announced that Commodore J. A. Collins (former Commander of H.M.A.S. Sydney) had been appointed to command the Royal Australian Naval Squadron.
- 1st June .. Death of Mr. Justice Lukin. When the Commonwealth Arbitration Court was reconstituted in 1926 Mr. Justice Lukin resigned from the Queensland Supreme Court to accept an appointment on that Bench. He retired as judge of the Supreme Court of Canberra and Federal Judge in Bankruptcy towards the end of 1943.
- 2nd June .. New ration books issued to civilians throughout Australia.
- 7th June .. The Acting Prime Minister (Mr. Forde) appointed a member of the Privy Council.
- 8th June .. The Full High Court of Australia allowed the appeal by the Commonwealth Government against the judgment of the New South Wales Full Court which held that Manpower Regulation 15 was invalid. Regulation 15 empowers the Manpower Directorate to direct a person to private employment.
- 8th June .. By unanimous decision the Full High Court of Australia declared that women public servants were not engaged in industrial employment and that the regulations of the Women's Employment Board, when they were limited to such employment, did not apply to such public servants. The application to the Court was made by the Victorian State Government.
- 8th June .. Announced by Senator Cameron (Minister for Aircraft Production) that Mosquito bombers are now being produced in Australia.
- 26th June .. Mr. Curtin (Prime Minister) returned to Australia after visiting Great Britain, U.S.A., and Canada.
- 14th July .. Death announced in London of Lord Somers who was Governor of Victoria from 1926 to 1931 and Acting Governor General of Australia in 1930-31.
- 20th July .. Mr. Drakeford (Minister for Air) stated that Royal Australian Air Force casualties to 31st March, 1944 were—Killed 4,670, missing 1,845, prisoner of war and interned 771, wounded 2,175.
- 19th August .. A Commonwealth Referendum taken to amend the Constitution. Voting was as follows:—"For," 1,963,400; "Against," 2,305,418. Majority "Against", 342,018. Informal votes totalled 56,633. A detailed statement of the voting in each State will be found in page 66.

- 26th July .. Commonwealth proposals for a hospital benefits scheme and for campaigns against tuberculosis and venereal disease agreed to by the Premiers Conference at Canberra. Under the hospitals benefit scheme the Commonwealth agreed to pay a subsidy of 6s. per day to the States in respect of all patients occupying beds in public wards. It will also be paid to patients in intermediate and private wards of public hospitals, and in private hospitals as a contribution towards their hospital fees.
- 1st September .. Officially reported that Lieutenant George H. Lamb, M.L.A., for Lowan since 1935, died in a prisoner-of-war camp in Siam.
- 3rd September .. Fifth anniversary of the commencement of war.
- 6th September .. Mr. Forde, Minister for the Army, stated there were 20,042 Australian soldiers in Japanese hands who had been accounted for and 2,877 soldiers of whom no news had been received and who are officially reported as "missing". Reported by Japan and definitely known to be prisoners-of-war 11,831. These figures do not include men from whom "capture cards" had been received (See Leading Events, 19th September, 1943, page 7 of *Year Book 1942-43*).
- 8th September .. Officially announced that Lord and Lady Gowrie left Australia. Sir Winston Dugan, Governor of Victoria sworn in as Acting Governor-General of Australia. The Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) released details of a mutiny in a prisoner-of-war camp "somewhere in Australia" when 900 Japanese attempted to escape. Casualties included 231 killed and 108 wounded. All escapees were captured. An Australian machine gun crew which attempted to stop the prisoners was killed and, during the search, an Australian officer was murdered by a number of Japanese.
- 25th September .. Opening of the Second Victory Loan of £160,000,000.
- 27th September .. Death of Mr. R. A. James, M.L.A., for Bulla and Dalhousie.
- 12th October .. Judge A. W. Foster of the Victorian County Court appointed to the Commonwealth Arbitration Court bench. Sir Frederick Eggleston appointed Australian Minister to U.S.A. in succession to Sir Owen Dixon who retired to return to the High Court bench. Sir Frederick Eggleston had been Australian Minister to China.
- 27th October .. The Prime Minister (Mr. Curtin) announced that between July, 1942 and December, 1943 eight more attacks were made by enemy submarines on Allied merchant shipping in Australian waters. Seven vessels were attacked off the coast of N.S.W. and one off the north-east coast of Australia. Four of the vessels were sunk. Total crew casualties were 156 lost and 9 injured.
- 16th November .. Sir Raghunath Paranjpye arrived in Perth en route to Canberra to take up his appointment as first High Commissioner for India in Australia.

- 19th November .. The first complete story of hardships suffered by Australian and Allied soldiers in Japanese camps in Burma and Siam given by the Acting Prime Minister (Mr. Forde) when he reported the torpedoing on 12th September, 1944 of an enemy transport carrying 1,300 prisoners of war to Japan, 700 of whom were Australian. U.S. Submarines rescued 152 men who said that malnutrition, disease and exhaustion took heavy toll of men in jungle prison camps.
- 27th November .. Officially announced that under the Empire Air Training scheme, nearly 34,000 Australians had completed training as air crews. Of this number 25,000 men were fully trained in Australia. Australia's cash contribution to the training plan amounted to 145 million pounds. With the successful landing in Europe, the air crew position was so assured that, at the request of the British Government, Australia ceased to send any more men to the European theatre of war.
- 8th December .. Mr. Donald Nelson, President Roosevelt's personal envoy, arrived in Canberra.
- 12th December .. Officially announced that British battleships were in the Pacific. Admiral Sir Bruce Fraser, Commander-in-Chief arrived in Melbourne and conferred with members of the Australian Naval Board.
- 1945.
- 10th January .. Officially announced from General MacArthur's Headquarters that Australian troops had relieved American forces in the Solomons, New Britain and British New Guinea. The Royal Australian Navy and Royal Australian Air Force assisted in the landing of troops at Jacquinot Bay, New Britain.
- 29th January .. Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester arrived in Sydney and, later, proceeded to Canberra.
- 30th January .. His Royal Highness the Duke of Gloucester sworn in as Governor-General of Australia.
The Minister for the Army (Mr. Forde) released details of casualties suffered by the Australian Army, Navy and Air Force in the war against Japan. To 30th November, 1944, 18,015 were killed, 6,913 missing, 34,336 wounded and 25,597 prisoners.
- 2nd February .. Federal Cabinet announced the following diplomatic appointments:—Lieut.-Colonel W. R. Hodgson as Minister to France; Mr. Alfred Stirling as High Commissioner in Canada (in succession to Sir William Glasgow); Mr. L. R. Macgregor as Minister-at-large representing Australia in South America.
- 8th February .. State Cabinet appointed Mr. A. L. Read a judge of the County Court.
- 15th February .. Delegates from nine nations with other officials assembled at Lapstone, N.S.W. for the seventh meeting of the Far Eastern Committee of the Council of U.N.R.R.A. (Council of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration). The conference, with Dr. Tingfu Tsiang (China) as chairman, was opened on 16th February by Dr. Evatt.

- 21st February .. The 3rd session of the 17th Commonwealth Parliament was opened by the Governor-General, His Royal Highness, the Duke of Gloucester.
- 23rd February .. Their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester arrived in Melbourne on a four days visit.
- 4th March .. Death of General Sir Harry Chauvel, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.
- 5th March .. Eleven persons killed when a Royal Australian Air Force plane crashed into the sea near Cairns (Queensland).
- 12th March .. The Third Victory Loan of £100,000,000 opened.
- 24th March .. The new graving dock at Sydney opened by the Governor-General (The Duke of Gloucester). It was named "Captain Cook" Dock by the Duchess of Gloucester.
- 27th March .. The Premier (Mr. Dunstan) announced the retirement of Sir Frederick Mann who was Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria for nine years.
- 10th April .. Death of Mr. A. E. Cook, M.L.A., for Bendigo since 1927.
- 16th April .. Mr. Curtin stated that in succession to Admiral Sir Gny Royle, Vice-Admiral Sir Louis Hamilton had been appointed First Naval Member of the Commonwealth Naval Board from 1st June, 1945.
- 16th April .. The Minister for Air (Mr. Drakeford) gave the following Royal Australian Air Force casualties to the end of February, 1945. Killed 7,069; Missing 2,481; Prisoner of War 1,036; wounded 2,978—total 13,564. There were 13,000 Royal Australian Air Force air crew serving in the European war areas.
- 18th April .. The Director of Land Transport (Sir Harold Clapp) submitted a report on the standardization of the main railways in Australia to the Federal Cabinet. The scheme will take eleven years to complete.
- 2nd May .. The Acting Prime Minister (Mr. Chifley) announced that Australian troops were in action in Borneo.
- 11th May .. The Premier (Mr. Dunstan) announced that Mr. N. A. Martin, M.L.A., had been appointed Agent-General for Victoria in London.
- 24th May .. Death of Mr. H. M. Cremean, M.L.A., for Clifton Hill and Deputy Leader of the Labor Party.
- 30th May .. Lieutenant-General Sir Edmund Herring, K.B.E., D.S.C., M.C., K.C., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria in succession to Sir Frederic Mann, K.C.M.G., retired.
- 2nd June .. Ration books issued throughout Australia. Civilians required to complete an Occupational Survey card.
- 13th June .. Mr. Chifley (Acting Prime Minister) appointed a Privy Councillor.

FLORA OF VICTORIA.

An article on the "Flora of Victoria" by Mr. J. W. Audas, F.L.S., F.R.M.S. (National Herbarium, Melbourne), was published in the *Year Book* 1927-28 on pages 3 to 19, and addenda thereto in subsequent issues of the *Year Book*. The need for strict economy in the use of newsprint is responsible for the withholding from this issue of further addenda prepared by Mr. A. W. Jessep, M.Agr.Sc., B.Sc., Dip. Ed., Director of Botanic Gardens and Government Botanist.

THE FAUNA OF VICTORIA.

An article on the "Fauna of Victoria," by the late T. S. Hall, M.A., D.Sc. (University of Melbourne), and Mr. J. A. Kershaw, F.Z.S., Curator of the National Museum, Melbourne, was published in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, and addenda thereto by Mr. Kershaw in the *Year-Books* for 1918-19 and 1920-21. Additional notes on this subject by Mr. D. Mahony, M.Sc., Director of the National Museum, Melbourne, were published in the *Year-Book* for 1931-32.

Other articles on the fauna of Victoria by members of the Museum staff have appeared in previous issues of the *Year-Book*. The titles of the articles, the names of the contributors, and the year of publication were published in the *Year Book* for 1941-42, page 13.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.

Constitutional History. Regular Government of the district of Port Phillip, then part of the Crown Colony of New South Wales, was first established in 1836, when Captain Lonsdale was sent from Sydney to act as Resident Magistrate. On 1st July, 1851, following upon an Act of the Imperial Parliament, dated 5th August, 1850, and entitled "An Act for the better Government of Her Majesty's Australian Colonies", the district of Port Phillip was separated from New South Wales and erected into and formed a separate colony known and designated as the Colony of Victoria.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Act afore-mentioned, the Governor and Legislative Council of New South Wales passed the Victoria Electoral Act of 1851, which provided that the Legislative Council of Victoria should consist of 30 members, ten to be appointed by Her Majesty and twenty to be elected.

In 1852 the Imperial Government decided to invite each of the Australian Colonies to frame such a Constitution for its government as its representatives might deem best suited to its own peculiar circumstances.* The Constitution framed in Victoria, approved by the

* *Vide* article on the Constitution of Victoria by Edward Carlile, Esq., Barrister at Law, Clerk Assistant of the Legislative Assembly and formerly Parliamentary Draftsman of Victoria, p. 610, *et seq.*, *Year-Book* 1883-84.

British Parliament and proclaimed in Victoria on the 23rd November, 1855, was avowedly based upon that of the United Kingdom. It provided for the establishment of two Houses of Legislature with power "to make laws, in and for Victoria in all cases whatsoever" subject to the assent of the Crown as represented generally by the Governor of the Colony; the Legislative Council, or Upper House, to consist of thirty, and the Legislative Assembly, or Lower House, of sixty members: members of both Houses to be elective and to possess property qualifications; electors of both Houses to possess either property or professional qualifications, the property qualification of both members and electors being lower in the case of the Assembly than in that of the Council: the Council not to be dissolved, but five members to retire every two years and to be eligible for re-election: the Assembly to be dissolved every five years, or oftener, at the discretion of the Governor: certain officers of the Government, four at least of whom should have seats in Parliament, to be deemed "Responsible Ministers": any member of either House accepting an office of profit under the Crown to vacate his seat, but to be capable of being re-elected.

Modifications of the Constitution to meet changing conditions or to improve the machinery of government were made from time to time up to 1900, the more important of which may be summarized chronologically as follow:—

- 1856. The ballot as a means of electing members of both Houses of Parliament prescribed by Act 19 Vict. No. 12.
- 1857. The property qualification of members of the Legislative Assembly abolished by Act 21 Vict. No. 12.
- 1857. Universal manhood suffrage for electors of the Legislative Assembly made law by Act 21 Vict. No. 33.
- 1858. Number of members of the Legislative Assembly increased to 78 and of electoral districts to 49.
- 1869. Property qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council reduced by Act 32 Vict. No. 334.
- 1876. By the *Electoral Act Amendment Act 1876* (40 Vict. No. 548) the number of electoral districts for the Legislative Assembly was increased from 49 to 55 and the number of members thereof from 78 to 86.
- 1881. Property qualification of members and electors of the Legislative Council further reduced, number of Provinces and members increased, and tenure of seats shortened by Act 45 Vict. No. 702.
- 1886. Reimbursement of the expenses of members of the Legislative Assembly in relation to their attendance in the discharge of their Parliamentary duties of £300 per annum provided for by Act No. 888.

1888. The number of members of the Legislative Council increased to 48 by Act 52 Vict. No. 995. The number of members of the Legislative Assembly increased to 95 and boundaries of Electoral Districts altered so that their number should be 84 and so that—with a few exceptions—only one member should represent each Constituency, by Act 52 Vict. No. 1008.
1899. Plural voting in the Legislative Assembly abolished by Act No. 1606.
1900. Voting by post introduced by Act No. 1701. The Act was to apply for a term of three years: subsequent Acts continued the measure to 31st December, 1910, when the Electoral Act (No. 2288) of that year made permanent provision for voting by post.

The Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act (63 and 64 Vict. Chapter 12) which constituted the Commonwealth as from the 1st January, 1901, was given the Royal assent on 9th July, 1900. This Act may be regarded as the culmination of the labours of the Federal Council constituted by the *Federal Council of Australasia Act* 1885 (48 and 49 Vict. Cap. 60). The Acts passed by the Council had force only in those colonies which were specially legislated for, until repealed by the Federal Council.

Section 106 of the *Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act* provided that, subject to that Constitution, the Constitution of each State of the Commonwealth should continue as at the establishment of the Commonwealth until altered in accordance with the Constitution of the State.

Following the inauguration of the Commonwealth, the need for reducing the numbers of members in the States' Houses and for the reform of their constitutions was made manifest. Accordingly, in Victoria, there was passed the *Constitution Act* 1903, which provided for a reduction in the number of responsible ministers from ten to eight, and their salaries from £10,400 to £8,800; in the number of members of the Legislative Council from 48 to 35, but an increase in the number of electoral provinces from 14 to 17, each being represented by two members elected for six years—one retiring every three years by rotation, except at a general election when one half of the members were to be elected for only three years. The property qualification of members of the Council was reduced from £110 to £50 as the annual value of the freehold, and that of electors qualifying as lessees or occupying tenants from an annual value of £25 to one of £15. A reduction was also made in the number of members of the Legislative Assembly from 95 to 68 and in that of the electoral districts from 84 to 65.

Power was given to any Minister who was a member of the Assembly to sit in the Council—or *vice versa*—in order to explain the provisions of any measure connected with any department administered by him. The Council was empowered to suggest alterations in any Appropriation Bill, viz. (a) when in Committee, (b) on the report of the Committee, (c) on the third reading. The remedy provided to meet disagreements between the two Houses was the simultaneous dissolution of both after a Bill had been twice submitted to and rejected by the Council—viz. once before, and once after a dissolution of the Assembly in consequence of such first rejection.

Although modifications of the Constitution of 1903 have been made from time to time, its essential framework is very little changed. A detailed description of the present Constitution will be found in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 9 to 16. The principal modifications since 1903 are as follow:—

The present Constitution.

1908. The *Adult Suffrage Act* 1908, No. 2185, conferred the suffrage on women aged 21 years and upwards for all elections of the Assembly, and also placed them on an equality with men at elections of the Legislative Council.
1910. The *Electoral Act* 1910, No. 2288, now incorporated in The Constitution Act, provided (a) that every person of the full age of 21 years, a natural born or naturalized subject of His Majesty, and who had resided in Victoria for the six months and in any district for one month immediately preceding the date of any electoral canvass or of his claim for enrolment, was entitled to be enrolled as an elector for the Legislative Assembly; and (b) for voting by post at elections for the Legislative Council or Assembly.
1911. The preferential system of voting at elections for the Assembly was provided for by Act No. 2321. (In 1921, by Act No. 3139, this system was made applicable at elections for the Council.)
1920. The *Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1919 (No. 3044) provided for the payment to any member of the Assembly who is for the time being the Leader of His Majesty's Opposition (in addition to reimbursement of his expenses in relation to his attendance in the discharge of his parliamentary duties) of any sum provided by Parliament as an allowance in consideration of his services as such leader.
1920. The *Constitution Act Amendment Act*, 1920 (No. 3118) (a) increased the amount for Ministerial salaries to £10,000; (b) increased the amount of reimbursement of expenses of each member of the Assembly to £500 per annum.

1922. *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1922* (No. 3218) provided for reimbursement of expenses of each member of the Council at the rate of £200 per annum.
1923. *The Parliamentary Elections (Woman Candidates) Act 1923* (No. 3337) provided that no woman by reason only of sex or marriage should be disqualified or disabled from or be incapable of being a candidate at any election whether for the Council or the Assembly or being elected a member of the Council or the Assembly or voting therein if elected.
1926. *The Compulsory Voting (Assembly Elections) Act 1926* (No. 3488) made it compulsory for every elector to record his vote at every election for which he is entitled to vote. (The compulsory provision was extended to elections of the Legislative Council by the *Legislative Council Elections Act 1935* (No. 4350)).
1927. *The Electoral (Absent Voters) Act 1927* (No. 3525) provided for the voting by absent voters at elections for the Assembly. (This provision was extended to elections of the Council by the *Legislative Council Elections Act 1935* (No. 4350)).
1935. *The Parliamentary Elections (Railway Employés and Civil Servants) Act 1935* (No. 4334) allows Railway Employés and Civil Servants to contest any parliamentary election without having first to resign from the service.
1936. *The Responsible Ministers of the Crown Act 1936* (No. 4367) increased the maximum number of salaried responsible Ministers of the Crown from eight to nine, and the maximum total amount of salaries paid to such Ministers from £10,000 to £11,250.
1937. *The Constitution (Reform) Act 1937* (No. 4533) altered the procedure to be adopted in the event of a disagreement between the two Houses of Parliament. In addition, the qualifications of members of the Council were widened by reducing the age of qualification from 30 to 21 years, and the property qualifications from £50 to £25. The deposit required from a candidate for election to the Council was reduced from £100 to £50.
1940. *The Statute Law Revision Act, 1940* (No. 4726) by amendment of section 27 of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act, 1928* (No. 3660), as amended by section 3 of the *Members of Parliament (Disqualification) Act 1939* (No. 4718) provided that it shall be lawful for the holders of the offices of (a) the Unofficial Leader of the Council

and (b) "the Leader in the Assembly of any recognized party which consists of fifteen (amended to twelve by the *Constitution Act Amendment Act 1942*) members at least of the Assembly of which party no member is a responsible Minister of the Crown," to receive (in addition to reimbursement of their expenses in relation to their attendance in discharge of their parliamentary duties) any sum provided by Parliament as an allowance in consideration of their services in such offices.

1944. The *Constitution Act Amendment Act 1944* provided for an allowance at the rate of £250 per annum to each of not more than three responsible Ministers of the Crown not receiving a salary as such, the allowance to be in addition to the reimbursement of his expenses in relation to his attendance in the discharge of his parliamentary duties as a member of the Council or of the Assembly. The Act also repealed a provision penalizing members of Parliament who accept offices of profit under the Crown within six months after they cease to be members and increased the reimbursement of expenses of members of the Legislative Council from £200 to £350 per annum and of members of the Legislative Assembly from £500 to £650 per annum.

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA.

The following statement shows the names and periods of office of Governors and Acting Governors of Victoria since the first appointment of Mr. Charles Joseph La Trobe as Superintendent, in 1839:—

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Charles Joseph La Trobe	30th September, 1839 ..	5th May, 1854
John Vesey Fitzgerald Foster (Acting)	8th May, 1854 ..	22nd June, 1854
Captain Sir Charles Hotham, R.N., K.C.B.	22nd June, 1854 ..	31st December, 1855
Major-General Edward Macarthur (Acting)	1st January, 1856 ..	26th December, 1856
Sir Henry Barkly, K.C.B.	26th December, 1856 ..	10th September, 1863
Sir Charles Henry Darling, K.C.B.	11th September, 1863 ..	7th May, 1866
Brigadier-General George Jackson Carey, C.B. (Acting)	7th May, 1866 ..	15th August, 1866
The Honorable Sir John Henry Thomas Manners-Sutton, K.C.B.	15th August, 1866 ..	2nd March, 1873
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting)	3rd March, 1873 ..	19th March, 1873
Sir George Ferguson Bowen, G.C.M.G.	31st March, 1873 ..	22nd February, 1879
Sir Redmond Barry, Kt. (Acting)	3rd January, 1875 ..	10th January, 1875
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting)	11th January, 1875 ..	14th January, 1876
The Most Honorable George Augustus Constantine Phipps, Marquis of Normanby, G.C.M.G., P.C.	27th February, 1879 ..	18th April, 1884
Sir William Foster Stawell, Kt. (Acting)	18th April, 1884 ..	15th July, 1884
Sir Henry Brougham Loch, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.	15th July, 1884 ..	8th March, 1889
	18th October, 1889 ..	15th November, 1889

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—continued.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Sir William Cleaver Francis Robinson, G.C.M.G. (Acting)	9th March, 1889 ..	17th October, 1889
The Right Honorable John Adrain	16th November, 1889 ..	27th November, 1889
Louis Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, G.C.M.G.	28th November, 1889 ..	12th July, 1895
The Honorable John Madden, LL.D. (Acting)	26th January, 1893 ..	11th May, 1893
The Right Honorable Baron Brassey, K.C.B.	27th March 1895 ..	24th October, 1895
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D. (Acting)	25th October, 1895 ..	31st March, 1900
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	29th December, 1896 ..	16th February, 1897
Sir George Sydenham Clarke, K.C.M.G. F.R.S.	27th September, 1897 ..	10th October, 1897
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	23rd March, 1898 ..	21st October, 1898
Sir George Sydenham Clarke, K.C.M.G. F.R.S.	15th January, 1900 ..	10th December, 1901
The Honorable Sir John Madden, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	10th December, 1901 ..	24th November, 1903
Major-General Hon. Sir Reginald Arthur James Talbot, K.C.B.	24th November, 1903 ..	25th April, 1904
The Honorable Sir John Madden, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	25th April, 1904 ..	6th July, 1908
Sir Thomas David Gibson Carmichael, Baronet, K.C.M.G.	20th March, 1907 ..	18th November, 1907
The Honorable Sir John Madden, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	6th July, 1908 ..	27th July, 1908
Sir Thomas David Gibson Carmichael, Baronet, K.C.M.G.	27th July, 1908 ..	19th May, 1911
The Honorable Sir John Madden, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	19th May, 1911 ..	24th May, 1911
Sir John Michael Fleetwood Fuller, Baronet, K.C.M.G.	24th May, 1911 ..	31st January, 1914
The Honorable Sir John Madden, G.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	28th August, 1913 ..	23rd February, 1914
Sir Arthur Lyulph Stanley, K.C.M.G.	23rd February, 1914 ..	30th January, 1920
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	30th July, 1919 ..	24th February, 1921
The Right Hon. the Earl of Stradbroke, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.V.O., C.B.E.	24th February, 1921 ..	7th April, 1926
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	1st April, 1923 ..	24th October, 1923
Lieutenant-Colonel The Right Hon. Arthur Herbert Tennyson, Baron Somers, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.*	8th April, 1926 ..	27th June, 1926
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	28th June, 1926 ..	23rd June, 1931
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor	26th April, 1929 ..	27th October, 1929
Captain The Right Hon. William Charles Arcedeckne, Baron Huntingfield, K.C.M.G. †	3rd October, 1930 ..	21st January, 1931
Sir Frederick Wollaston Mann, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting) ‡	24th June, 1931 ..	14th May, 1934
Major-General Sir Winston Joseph Dugan, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.	14th May, 1934 ..	5th April, 1939
Sir Frederick Wollaston Mann, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting) ‡	20th May, 1937 ..	28th September, 1937
Major-General Sir Winston Joseph Dugan, K.C.M.G., C.B., D.S.O.	29th March, 1938 ..	24th September, 1938
	5th April, 1939 ..	17th July, 1939
	17th July, 1939 ..	

NOTE.—Captain William Lonsdale, formerly of the 4th Regiment, was appointed Police Magistrate of the District of Port Phillip on 9th September, 1836, and assumed office on the 29th of the same month. In that capacity he was in charge of the District until the appointment of Mr. C. J. La Trobe as Superintendent. Subsequently, Captain Lonsdale acted as Superintendent during the temporary absence of Mr. La Trobe, who was called on to administer the Government of Tasmania from the 13th October, 1846, to the 24th January, 1847.

* On leave from 26th April, 1929, to 27th October, 1930, and administered the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia from 3rd October, 1930, to 21st January, 1931.

† On leave from 20th May, 1937, to 28th September, 1937, and administered the Government of the Commonwealth of Australia from 29th March, 1938, to 24th September, 1938.

‡ Resigned on 28th March, 1945. The commission was given to Lieutenant-General Sir Edmund Herring, K.B.E., D.S.O., D.S.C., M.C., K.C., on 30th May, 1945.

MINISTERS PRIOR TO RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

The names of Ministers who held office from the date of Victoria's separation from New South Wales in 1851 to the establishment of responsible Government in 1855, together with the office held and the date of their assumption thereof, is shown on page 29 of the *Year-Book* for 1928-29.

MINISTRIES SINCE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

During the period 28th November, 1855, to 22nd November, 1928, there were 45 Ministries. A statement showing the name of the Premier, the date of assumption of, the date of retirement from, and the duration of office of each of these Ministries was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 30 and 31. Similar information in regard to the forty-sixth and subsequent Ministries is as follows:—

Number of Ministry and Name of Premier.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.	Duration of Office.
Forty-sixth—Sir William Murray McPherson, K.B.E.	22nd November, 1928	12th December, 1929	Days. 385
Forty-seventh—Edmond John Hogan	12th December, 1929	19th May, 1932	889
Forty-eighth—Sir Stanley Seymour Argyle, K.B.E., M.R.C.S.	19th May, 1932	2nd April, 1935	1,048
Forty-ninth—Albert Arthur Dunstan	2nd April, 1935	14th September, 1943	3,088
Fiftieth—John Cain ..	14th September, 1943	18th September, 1943	5
Fifty-first—Albert Arthur Dunstan	18th September, 1943	2nd October, 1945	746

The 51st Ministry, in which the Hon. A. A. Dunstan was Premier, assumed office on 18th September, 1943.

It comprised the following members:—

- The Hon. A. A. Dunstan, M.L.A. Premier, Treasurer, and Minister of Decentralization.
- „ „ T. T. Holloway, M.L.A. Minister of Public Instruction, and Minister of Labour.

The Hon. A. E. Lind, M.L.A.	..	President of the Board of Land and Works, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, Minister of Forests.
..	..	Ian Macfarlan, K.C., M.L.A. Attorney-General, Solicitor-General, and Minister of Health.
..	..	H. J. T. Hyland, M.L.A. Chief Secretary.
..	..	N. A. Martin, M.L.A... Minister of Agriculture, and a Vice- President of the Board of Land and Works.
..	..	J. G. B. McDonald, M.L.A. Minister of Water Supply, and Minister in Charge of Electrical Undertakings.
..	..	J. H. Lienhop, M.L.C. .. Commissioner of Public Works, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
..	..	J. A. Kennedy, M.L.C... Minister of Transport, Minister of Mines, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
..	..	T. D. Oldham, M.L.A. }
..	..	G. J. Tuckett, M.L.C. .. } Ministers without Portfolio.
..	..	G. L. Chandler, M.L.C. }

The foregoing Ministry resigned on 2nd October, 1945, and the 52nd *Ministry under the leadership of the Hon. Ian Macfarlan, K.C., took office on the same date.

It comprises the following members :—

The Hon. Ian Macfarlan, K.C., M.L.A.	Premier, Treasurer, Attorney-General and Solicitor-General.
..	.. T. K. Maltby, M.L.A. .. Chief Secretary and Minister in Charge of Electrical Undertakings.
..	.. W. C. Haworth, M.L.A. Minister of Health and Minister of Housing.
..	.. W. R. Cumming, M.L.A. Minister of Agriculture and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
..	.. E. J. Mackrell, M.L.A. Minister of Water Supply and Minister of Decentralization.
..	.. L. H. Hollins, M.L.A. .. Minister of Public Instruction and Minister of Labour.
..	.. W. H. Everard, M.L.A... President of the Board of Land and Works, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey and Minister of Forests.
..	.. J. S. Disney, M.L.C. .. Minister of Transport, Minister of Mines and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
..	.. L. H. McBrien, M.L.C. .. Commissioner of Public Works and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
..	.. A. Michaelis, M.L.A. .. Minister without Portfolio.

*For 53rd Ministry see Appendix.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1944.

The names of members, the constituencies which they represent, and the name of the clerk of Parliaments are given below:—

VICTORIA—THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President: Hon. Sir Clifden Eager, K.C.

Name of Province.	Name of Member.	Date of Retirement.
Ballaarat ..	Hon. A. J. Pittard	1949
	Hon. G. Bolster	1946
Bendigo ..	Hon. J. H. Lienhop	1949
	Hon. Col. G. V. Lansell, C.M.G., V.D. ..	1946
Doutta Galla ..	Hon. P. J. Clarey	1949
	Hon. P. Jones	1946
East Yarra ..	Hon. W. H. Edgar	1949
	Hon. Sir Clifden Eager, KC. (President) ..	1946
Gippsland ..	Hon. W. MacAulay	1949
	Hon. T. Harvey	1946
Higinbotham ..	Hon. J. A. Kennedy	1949
	Hon. J. S. Disney (Minister of Transport, Minister of Mines and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works)	1946
Melbourne ..	Hon. D. L. McNamara	1949
	Hon. W. J. Beckett	1946
Melbourne North	Hon. L. H. McBrien (Commissioner of Public Works, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works)	1949
	Hon. A. M. Fraser	1946
Melbourne West ..	Hon. P. L. Coleman	1949
	Hon. P. J. Kennelly	1946
Monash ..	Hon. Sir F. G. Clarke, K.B.E.	1949
	Hon. Sir Frank Beaurepaire	1946
Northern ..	Hon. G. J. Tuckett	1949
	Hon. R. Kilpatrick	1946
North-Eastern ..	Hon. P. P. Inchbold (Chairman of Committees)	1949
	Hon. Sir John Harris, K.B.E.	1946
North-Western ..	Hon. Sir G. L. Goudie	1949
	Hon. P. T. Byrnes	1946
Southern ..	Hon. G. L. Chandler	1949
	Hon. Sir W. Angliss	1946
South-Eastern ..	Hon. C. P. Gartside	1949
	Hon. C. E. Isaac	1946
South-Western ..	Hon. G. S. McArthur	1949
	Hon. A. E. McDonald	1946
Western ..	Hon. L. R. Rodda	1949
	Hon. R. C. Rankin	1946

Clerk of the Parliaments and Clerk of the Legislative Council: P. T. Pook.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1944-45—*continued.*

VICTORIA—THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Speaker: Brigadier The Hon. Sir George Knox, C.M.G., V.D.

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Albert Park	Hon. W. C. Haworth (Minister of Health and Minister of Housing)
Allandale	P. L. Denigan.
Ballaarat	Hon. T. T. Hollway.
Barwon	Hon. T. K. Maltby (Chief Secretary, and Minister in Charge of Electrical Undertakings).
Benalla	F. A. Cook.
Benambra	J. R. Paton.
Bendigo	L. W. Galvin
Boroondara	Hon. T. D. Oldham.
Brighton	Hon. I. Macfarlan, K.C. (Premier, Treasurer, Attorney-General, Solicitor-General).
Brunswick	J. R. Jewell.
Bulla and Dalhousie	L. L. Webster.
Carlton	Hon. W. Barry.
Castlemaine and Kyneton	W. D. Hodson.
Caulfield	A. A. Hughes.
Clifton Hill	J. L. Cremean.
Coburg	C. Mutton.
Collingwood	Hon. T. Tunnecliffe.
Dandenong	Hon. F. Field.
Dundas	Hon. W. Slater.
Essendon	S. Merrifield.
Evelyn	Hon. W. H. Everard (President of the Board of Land and Works, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, and Minister of Forests).
Flemington	Hon. J. J. Holland.
Footscray	J. M. Mullens.
Geelong	Mrs. F. E. Brownbill.
Gippsland East	Hon. A. E. Lind.
Gippsland North	W. O. Fulton.
Gippsland South	Hon. H. J. T. Hyland.
Gippsland West	M. Bennett.
Goulburn Valley	Hon. J. G. B. McDonald.
Grant	F. C. T. Holden.
Gunbower	Hon. N. A. Martin.
Hampden	Hon. W. R. Cumming (Minister of Agriculture and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works).

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1944-45—*continued.*

THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—*continued.*

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Hawthorn	Hon. L. H. Hollins (Minister of Public Instruction and Minister of Labour).
Heidelberg	H. P. Zwar.
Kara Kara and Borung ..	F. A. Cameron.
Kew	Lieut.-Colonel Hon. W. S. Kent Hughes, M.V.O., M.C.
Korong and Eaglehawk ..	Hon. A. A. Dunstan.
Lowan	W. J. Mibus.
Maryborough and Daylesford	Hon. C. P. Stoneham.
Melbourne	T. Hayes.
Mildura	A. G. Allnutt.
Mornington	A. J. Kirton.
Northcote	Hon. J. Cain.
Nunawading	R. J. Gray.
Oakleigh	S. H. Reid (Chairman of Committees).
Ouyen	K. Dodgshun.
Polwarth	E. F. Guye.
Port Fairy and Glenelg ..	H. R. Hedditch.
Port Melbourne	T. P. Corrigan.
Pahran	W. Quirk.
Richmond	E. J. Cotter.
Rodney	R. K. Brose.
St. Kilda	Hon. A. Michaelis (Minister without Portfolio).
Stawell and Ararat	A. McDonald
Swan Hill	Hon. F. E. Old.
Toorak	H. E. Thonemann.
Upper Goulburn	Hon. E. J. Mackrell (Minister of Water Supply and Minister of Decentralization).
Upper Yarra	Brigadier Hon. Sir George Knox, C.M.G., V.D., (Speaker).
Walhalla	W. A. Moncur.
Wangaratta and Ovens ..	L. V. Diffey.
Waranga	W. B. Heily.
Warranheip and Grenville	R. J. A. Hyatt.
Warrnambool	Hon. H. S. Bailey.
Williamstown	Hon. J. Lemmon.
Wonthaggi	Hon. W. G. McKenzie.

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly: F. E. Wanke.

During the period 1856 to 1937 there were 33 Parliaments. A statement showing the duration in days of each Parliament, the number of days in session, and the percentage of the latter to the former was published in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 21. Similar information in regard to the twenty-ninth and subsequent Parliaments is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—DURATION OF PARLIAMENTS AND SESSIONS,
1927 TO 1943.

Number of Parliament.	Period.	Duration of Parliament.	Days in Session.	
			Number.	Percentage to Duration.
		Days.		
Twenty-ninth	1927-29	850	542	63·8
Thirtieth	1929-32	864	596	69·0
Thirty-first	1932-35	963	471	48·9
Thirty-second	1935-37	902	506	56·1
Thirty-third	1937-40	848	403	47·5
Thirty-fourth	1940-43	1093	735	67·2

ELECTORAL DISTRICTS ACT 1944.

The *Electoral Districts Act* 1944 (see page 47) which provides for a redivision of the State into new electoral districts for the Legislative Assembly, was proclaimed by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Winstan Dugan, on 3rd July, 1945.

VICTORIA—STATE ACTS PASSED DURING 1943 and 1944.

The following is a synopsis of each Act passed by the State Parliament during the year 1943 and 1944:—

Act No.	Date (1943).	
4943 ..	1st July	.. This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £3,853,458 to the service of the year 1943-44.
4944 ..	1st July	.. This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £875,519 to the service of the year 1942-43.
4945 ..	9th August	.. The <i>State Development Act</i> 1943 amends the <i>State Development Act</i> 1941 by reducing the number of members of the State Development Committee from eight to six, with a consequential reduction of the quorum from five to four, by reducing the period of existence of that committee from four years to two years, and by extending the right to fees for attendance at meetings to members of the Committee who are Ministers of the Crown but receive no salaries as such.

Act No.	Date (1943).	
4946 ..	16th August	.. The <i>Grain Elevators Act</i> 1943 permits the appointment of a Commissioner of Railways as the railways representative on the Grain Elevators Board without affecting his position as such Commissioner, provides for payment to the public service officer present at Board meetings of a remuneration to be fixed by the Governor in Council, and establishes a special financial year ending on the 31st October in relation to the Board's accounts, balance sheets, estimates and reports.
4947 ..	1st September	.. This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £3,745,019 to the service of the year 1943-44.
4948 ..	6th September	.. The <i>Lunacy Act</i> 1943 extends the operation of the provision permitting persons to receive lodge or board ex-members of the fighting forces suffering from mental disorder arising from wounds shock or other causes so as to relate to ex-members of the forces of the present or any future war as well as to those of the war of 1914-1918.
4949 ..	6th September	.. The <i>National Security (Emergency Powers) Act</i> 1943 continues the operation of the <i>National Security (Emergency Powers) Act</i> 1939 for a further period of twelve months.
4950 ..	*8th September	.. The <i>Commonwealth Powers Act</i> 1943. The Bill for this Act was introduced to give effect to the resolutions of a convention of representatives of the Commonwealth and the several Australian States convened to meet at Canberra in November, 1942. The Bill was passed by both Houses of the Victorian Parliament during the session of 1942-43, and the Royal Assent thereto was published in the <i>Government Gazette</i> on the 8th September, 1943. The Act refers certain specified matters to the Parliament of the Commonwealth (as contemplated in placitum (xxxvii) of section 51 of the Commonwealth Constitution) until the expiration of a period of five years after Australia ceases to be engaged in hostilities in the present war. The Act is to come into operation when the Governor in Council declares that he is satisfied that the same or substantially the same legislation has been enacted in each of the other States, and is not to be repealed or amended except with the approval of a majority of electors voting at a referendum of electors qualified to vote at Legislative Assembly elections.
4951 ..	20th October	.. This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £2,307,904 to the service of the year 1942-43.
4952 ..	25th October	.. The <i>Factories and Shops (Chairmen of Wages Boards) Act</i> 1943 provides that a person appointed to the panel of chairmen of Wages

* Reserved 15th March, 1943. Proclamation of the Royal Assent published in the Victoria Government Gazette, 8th September, 1943.

- | Act No. | Date (1943). | |
|---------|------------------------------------|---|
| 4952 .. | 25th October—
<i>continued.</i> | Boards shall, if he is a public servant at the time of such appointment, be eligible for re-appointment to a corresponding or higher office in the public service on ceasing to be such chairman, and that the superannuation rights (if any) of a person so appointed shall continue while he is such chairman. |
| 4953 .. | 25th October .. | <p>The <i>Country Roads (Forest Roads and Stock Routes) Act 1943</i> provides for the proclamation as forest roads of existing roads or new roads in or adjacent to State forests or in timbered mountainous or undeveloped areas. The Country Roads Board is charged with the construction maintenance and permanent improvement of such forest roads, but the Board is empowered to contract with local municipal councils for the carrying out of any such works on its behalf.</p> <p>Such construction maintenance or improvement may be defrayed from moneys provided by Parliament for the purpose or from any moneys, apart from the Country Roads Board Fund, at the disposal of the Board, but that Fund is to be available only for works of maintenance and improvement on such roads.</p> <p>The Act also provides for the proclamation of any road or any part of any State highway or main road (other than the carriage way) as a stock route to be constructed maintained and improved by the Board out of the Country Roads Board Fund, and empowers the Board to call on the local municipality for a contribution of not more than one-quarter of the amount expended annually in maintenance of any such stock route which is not a part of or a deviation from a State highway.</p> <p>The Act further provides for the making of regulations requiring the droving of stock along stock routes and prohibiting such droving along State highways or main roads except upon such parts thereof as have been proclaimed as stock routes.</p> |
| 4954 .. | 25th October .. | The <i>State Schools (Bush Fire Relief) Act 1943</i> provides that, when the Governor in Council is satisfied that children who suffered in bush fires in the years 1938 and 1939 have been adequately provided for out of a fund raised in State schools at that time for their relief, the fund may be made available for the relief of children who suffer in later bush fires, and permits the increase of the number of trustees of that fund from three to five. |
| 4955 .. | 3rd November .. | This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £3,833,722 to the service of the year 1943-44. |

Act No.	Date (1943)	
4956	.. 8th November	.. The <i>Coal Mines Regulation Act 1943</i> makes certain corrections of a drafting nature in the <i>Coal Mines Regulation Act 1928</i> (as previously amended) and removes certain anomalies as to the proper times for the annealing cleaning and recording of particulars with regard to safety hooks.
4957	.. 8th November	.. The <i>Petrol Pumps (Licence Fees) Act 1943</i> enables municipal councils, during the war and the term of six months thereafter, to remit, reduce or repay fees payable or paid under the <i>Petrol Pumps Act 1928</i> in respect of petrol pump licences where the use of the pumps in question has been discontinued as the result of the Pool Agreement referred to in the Commonwealth National Security (Petroleum Products Distribution) Regulations.
4958	.. 8th November	.. The <i>Superannuation (Contributions) Act 1943</i> provides that, in the case of such officers absent on loan to or performing work for the Commonwealth as the Superannuation Board thinks fit, any increase in the rate of salary of such officer which occurs during such absence shall be deemed for superannuation purposes to be paid from the first pay-day after such increase or, if the increase occurred before the commencement of the Act, from the first pay-day after such commencement. The Act also provides that upon the re-transfer of a contributor who had been transferred to the Commonwealth Public Service under the <i>Commonwealth Income Tax (War-time Arrangements) Act 1942-1943</i> , his units of contribution shall be reduced to the number appropriate to his salary after re-transfer or to the number in force before the transfer, whichever is the greater (but to not less than four unless he so elects) and for the refund of the actuarial reserve portion of the other units.
4959	.. 15th November	.. The <i>Coal Mine Workers Pensions Act 1943</i> provides a payment from the Coal Mine Workers Pension Fund in the case of a mine worker who, having been retained in his employment beyond the age of sixty years, is absent from such employment by reason of sickness for fourteen days or more.
4960	.. 15th November	.. The <i>Forests (Exchange of Lands) Act 1943</i> authorizes the exchange during a period of three years of any land in any reserved forest for any unoccupied Crown land without special statutory authority in each case.
4961	.. 15th November	.. The <i>Local Government (Valuations) Act 1943</i> validates the latest municipal valuations of properties made before the commencement of the Act both retrospectively and prospectively for four months after such commencement, and

- | Act No. | Date (1943) | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 4961 .. | 15th November—
<i>continued.</i> | further provides for the extension of the operative period of any such valuation by Order in Council until twelve months after the end of the present war. |
| 4962 .. | 15th November .. | The <i>Railway Construction (Extensions) Act 1943</i> is an Act relating to the Comperdown and Curdie's River Railway the Wedderburn Road and Wedderburn Railway and the Bowser to Peechelba Railway and provides that certain unauthorized extensions of the railways referred to shall be deemed to have been constructed under and pursuant to the relevant railway construction Acts and to be part of the respective railways. |
| 4963 .. | 22nd November .. | The <i>Mental Hygiene (Mode of Citation) Act 1943</i> provides that the Acts heretofore known and cited as the Lunacy Acts shall hereafter be known and cited as the Mental Hygiene Acts, and makes the necessary statutory amendments consequent upon such change of citation. |
| 4964 .. | 22nd November .. | The <i>Administration and Probate Duties Act 1943</i> continues for a further period of twelve months the provisions of Part III. of the <i>Finance Act 1930</i> which temporarily imposed additional duties on the estates of deceased persons and on certain settlements. |
| 4965 .. | 29th November .. | The <i>Sewerage Districts Act 1943</i> is an Act to make provision for the payment by the Treasurer of Victoria to meet liabilities of Sewerage Authorities and for other purposes and authorizes the Treasurer to pay to every Sewerage Authority in each financial year a sum equal to the amount of interest in excess of the rate of three per cent payable by that Authority in that financial year on its loan liability otherwise than to the Crown, and reduces to three per cent. the rate of interest payable by every such Authority on advances from the Crown.

The Act also provides for the making by municipal councils on behalf of Sewerage Authorities of valuations of properties rateable for sewerage purposes in cases where no valuations are made for municipal purposes. |
| 4966 .. | 29th November .. | The <i>Stamps (Increased Duty Continuance) Act 1943</i> continues for a further period of twelve months the increased stamp duties on bills of exchange payable on demand (cheques, &c.), receipts, conveyances and transfers on sale of real property, partitions of real property, leases, sub-leases, deeds of settlement and gift, and annual licences in relation to insurance business. |

Act No.	Date (1943)	
4967 ..	29th November ..	This Act declares the rate of Land Tax for the year ending the 31st of December, 1944.
4968 ..	29th November ..	The <i>Surplus Revenue Act 1943</i> is an Act relating to the surplus revenue of the financial year ended on the 30th day of June, 1943, and provides for the application of the amount of £754,000, being the surplus revenue of the financial year 1942-43, for certain specific public works.
4969 ..	29th November ..	The <i>Financial Emergency (Grants and Funds) Act 1943</i> provides for the transfer, as on the 30th June, 1944, to consolidated revenue of the surplus of the Licensing Fund, and continues for the financial year 1943-44 the suspension of payments out of consolidated revenue for the endowment of municipalities and the reduction by 20 per cent. of the amounts to be paid into the Forestry Fund out of consolidated revenue.
4970 ..	29th November ..	The <i>Partially Blinded Soldiers Fund Act 1943</i> validates the trusts upon which certain funds for the benefit of partially blinded soldiers are held, and for purposes connected therewith.
4971 ..	29th November ..	The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Contributions) Act 1943</i> extends for one year, that is, until the 1st October, 1944, the period during which the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is required to make annual contributions to certain municipalities under the <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Contributions) Act 1927</i> .
4972 ..	6th December ..	The <i>Milk Pasteurization Act 1943</i> . The general purpose of this Act is to provide for the pasteurization of milk for consumption in the "metropolis", which (subject to additions by proclamation) comprises the cities in the Greater Melbourne area as well as the Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham. Provision is made for the extension of the Act to urban districts to be defined by proclamation. The Act provides for the appointment of a milk pasteurization committee, the functions of which include the survey of existing facilities and the consideration of what additional facilities are necessary for pasteurization and bottling of milk for consumption in the metropolis and the submission to the Governor in Council of a general scheme for such pasteurization and bottling. Special schemes for particular areas may be submitted in advance of the general scheme. The scheme is to provide for the use of existing facilities, so far as practicable, and for the establishment of municipal pasteurization depots.

Act No. Date (1943)
4972 .. 6th December—
 continued.

On adoption of a general or special scheme by the Governor in Council, pasteurization licences may be granted to occupiers of existing pasteurization plants and councils or groups of councils may be required to establish pasteurization depots. With the consent of the Governor in Council, councils or groups of councils may acquire premises and plant or other property used in connection with pasteurization or may close any such premises, upon payment of compensation to be agreed on or settled by arbitration before a county court judge as arbitrator. A council or group of councils conducting a pasteurization depot is empowered to buy milk for pasteurization, treatment and bottling, to pasteurize, treat and bottle such milk and to sell it by wholesale to dairymen and also to sell cream by wholesale.

After the commencement of the Act no new pasteurization or bottling plant is to be established in the metropolis except with the consent of the Governor in Council, and, in any municipal district where a council or group of councils has established a depot, no other plant is to be established without the consent of that council or group of councils.

Where a pasteurization depot has been licensed or has been established by a council or group of councils, provision is made for the proclamation of a pasteurization area, within which no milk is to be sold unless it is pasteurized at a pasteurization depot specified by the Minister and bottled.

Provision is also made for the mode of appointment and term of office of members of the committee, for the borrowing of moneys by councils for the purposes of the Act, for the payment of compensation to owners and occupiers of premises at which milk was formerly pasteurized or bottled for consumption in the metropolis, and for the making of regulations for securing proper construction, sanitation and cleanliness of pasteurization depots, for prescribing pasteurization and bottling standards and methods and for fixing maximum prices for milk sold to dairymen from pasteurization depots.

4973 .. 6th December .. *Country Roads Board Fund Act 1943* continues for a further period of twelve months the provisions of the *Country Roads Board Fund Act 1932* (No. 2). That Act provided temporarily that fees for licences to drive motor cars should be credited to consolidated revenue instead of to the Country Roads Board Fund, and also suspended temporarily the annual payment of £50,000 from consolidated revenue into that fund.

Act No.	Date (1943).	
4974 ..	6th December ..	The <i>Workers' Compensation Act 1943</i> increases the maximum annual remuneration of a "worker", that is, an employé eligible for the payment of workers compensation, from £400 to £520, and also provides that a person engaged in driving a passenger hire vehicle under a contract of bailment shall, for purposes of workers compensation, be deemed to be employed by the person from whom the use of the vehicle is obtained.
4975 ..	6th December ..	The <i>Public Works Loan and Application Act 1943</i> authorizes the raising of further money for public works and other purposes and sanctions the issue and application for such purposes of the money so raised or of money in the State Loans Repayment Fund.
4976 ..	6th December ..	The <i>Factories and Shops (Saturday Half-holiday) Act 1943</i> enables any regulation, made under the <i>Factories and Shops Act 1915</i> or a corresponding previous enactment, under which a weekly half-holiday for shops other than Saturday was fixed for some municipal district or specified locality outside the Metropolitan District, to be revoked either as to the whole or as to any part of that district or locality.
4977 ..	6th December ..	The <i>Springvale Necropolis Land Act 1943</i> provides for the revocation of the reservation of certain land in the Parish of Dandenong permanently reserved as a site for railway purposes and to provide for the permanent reservation and grant of the said land for cemetery purposes.
4978 ..	6th December ..	The <i>South Melbourne to Melbourne Tramway Construction Act 1943</i> authorizes the construction by the Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board of an electric tramway from South Melbourne to Melbourne.
4979 ..	6th December ..	The <i>Water Supply Loans Application Act 1943</i> sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money available under loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment Fund for irrigation works, water supply works, and drainage and flood protection works in country districts and for works under the River Murray Waters Acts, and for other purposes.
4980 ..	6th December ..	The <i>Forests Act 1943</i> removes the time limitation on the operation of a provision of the <i>Forests Act 1939</i> under which the Minister is empowered to authorize forest officers to prohibit certain timber-getting operations in fire-protected areas during periods of acute fire danger.
4981 ..	6th December ..	The <i>State Forests Loan Application Act 1943</i> sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money available under Loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment fund for State Forests.

Act No. Date (1943)!

4982 .. 6th December .. The *Administration and Probate (War Service) Act* 1943 extends the limited exemption from probate duty given by the *Administration and Probate (War Service) Act* 1940 so as to apply with respect to members of the merchant navy who, during the present war or the period of six months thereafter, die while serving in theatres of war or as a result of injuries received or disease contracted while so serving.

4983 .. 13th December .. The *Water Act* 1943 authorizes the Governor in Council by Order to transfer to the "Capital Expenditure Borne by the State Account" in the books of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission as on the 30th June, 1943, such portion of the capital indebtedness of the Commission for the cost of works serving urban districts of waterworks districts and urban divisions of irrigation and water supply districts under the Commission's jurisdiction as would enable water rates in those districts and divisions to be reduced by 33½ per cent. subject to certain limitations as to minimum charges.

The Act also authorizes the Governor in Council by Order to reduce, as on the 1st July, 1943, the capital liability to the Crown of waterworks trusts and local governing bodies by such amounts as would compensate such trusts and bodies for the loss of revenue resulting from a reduction of their water rates by 33½ per cent. subject to certain limitations as to minimum charges.

Provision is made for the excision from waterworks districts of lands which cannot obtain the benefits of water by reason of being above the level of or too remote from the water channels, and for the adjustment or reduction of the liability of the appropriate Authorities to compensate them for the resultant loss of revenue.

The rate of interest to be charged in the Commission's books to any district or division in respect of the cost of works executed by the Commission after the 30th June, 1943, is fixed at 3 per cent.; and the amount of half-yearly payments by Authorities in respect of advances from the Crown after that date is fixed at 3½ per cent. of the respective amounts of those advances but so that each such payment shall include interest at a rate of not more than 3 per cent. on the outstanding balance.

The Act also provides for the setting out in every financial report by the Commission of a complete balance-sheet and revenue statement for each financial year instead of the statement of balances brought forward and carried

Act No. Date (1943).

4983 .. 13th December—
continued.

forward as formerly required, for the application of revenue from certain works towards the replacement of plant and machinery therein, for the valuation of properties by municipal councils on behalf of Authorities where there are no municipal valuations in force, for the provision of meters by persons using water for domestic purposes, for the repair of meters by Authorities at the cost of the persons using them, and for notification to the Commission by the vendors of lands subject to rates or flood protection charges of the names and addresses of the purchasers of those lands.

4984 .. 13th December .. The *Farmers Protection (Amendment) Act* 1943 extends, until the 1st March, 1945, the period during which a farmer may apply for a limited stay order in respect of an "old debt", that is, a debt incurred before 9th September, 1940, and allows of the making of any limited stay order or of any general stay order to remain in force until any date not later than the 1st March, 1946.

4985 .. 13th December .. This Act amends the *Stamps Act* 1928.

Under the *Stamps Act* 1928 companies, persons and firms carrying on or desiring to carry on insurance or assurance business in Victoria are required to hold annual licences upon which duty, based on the amount of premium receipts of the previous year, is payable. This Act makes it clear that the duty is to be assessed on premiums which are received charged or credited in Victoria, or upon business transacted in Victoria, or (in the case of marine insurance) in respect of risks of which one of the termini is in Victoria; and provides that a mere notation in the books of a head office in Victoria of premiums actually received charged or credited at a branch or agency is not to be deemed a charging or crediting for the purpose of assessing the amount of duty payable.

The duty payable in cases where the amount of premiums received outside Victoria on dutiable marine risks is not stated in the application for a licence, is altered from £200 to a sum, to be determined in each case by the Collector of Imposts, of not less than £100 and not more than £1,200, and the duty *prima facie* payable by companies, persons and firms acting as agents for or insuring under certain open policies on marine risks is increased from £500 to £1,200.

In addition, the Act exempts from stamp duty instruments for the conveyance of property to the Housing Commission.

- | Act No. | Date (1943). | |
|---------|------------------|--|
| 4986 .. | 13th December .. | The <i>Railway Loan Application Act</i> 1943 sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money available for railways under Loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment Fund, and for other purposes. |
| 4987 .. | 13th December .. | The <i>Farmers Debts Adjustment Act</i> 1943 removes the limitation on the duration of the Farmers Debts Adjustment Acts; provides for the appointment of deputy conciliation officers to act during the temporary absence of conciliation officers; establishes in the Treasury a Farmers Debts Adjustment (Victorian) Account, consisting of moneys appropriated for the purpose by the Victorian Parliament, from which payments may be made to adjust debts of farmers in the same way as they were formerly made from the Farmers Debts Adjustment Fund established with moneys granted by the Commonwealth; provides for the allocation of repayments between the new Account and the Fund; makes provision for payments from the Victorian Account to discharge securities held by persons in priority to securities of the Farmers Debts Adjustment Board; and makes provision, having both retrospective and prospective operation, for and with respect to the accepting of securities by the Board in respect of debts of farmers to the Board. |
| 4988 .. | 23rd December .. | The <i>Ministry of Health Act</i> 1943 provides for the establishment of a Department of Health, in place of the existing Department of Public Health, under the control of a Minister of Health who is to have the duty of carrying out and co-ordinating measures conducive to the health of the people, including the prevention and cure of diseases, the treatment of physical defects and mental diseases and disorders, the training of persons for health services, the control and care of mental defectives and epileptics, the initiation and direction of research and the collection and dissemination of information relating to those matters. The present Minister of Public Health is to be the first Minister of Health.
<p>The Department is to include a General Health Branch under the Chief Health Officer, a Mental Hygiene Branch (as from an appointed day) under the Director of Mental Hygiene, and such other branches as may be established by the Governor in Council. A secretary to the Department is to be appointed as permanent head with the duty of administering the Department subject to the Minister.</p> <p>The Department of Health is to have all the administrative functions of the former Department of Public Health and in addition</p> |

Act No. Date (1943).
 4988 .. 23rd December—
 continued.

is to take over, as on respective appointed days of transfer, the administration of the Mental Hygiene Acts, the *Mental Deficiency Act* 1939, the Poisons Acts, the Inebriates Acts, the Hospitals and Charities Acts, and the Acts relating to the Talbot Colony for Epileptics, and of certain provisions of other Acts which relate to medical examinations treatment and the like.

Provision is made for the establishment by the Minister of consultative councils of persons having special knowledge of particular aspects of public health and for the prescribing by regulation of their powers and duties.

The Act contains further provisions and amendments of existing legislation consequent upon the re-constitution of the Department and the transfer to it of new administrative functions.

4989 .. 23rd December .. The *Discharged Servicemen's Preference Act* 1943.

The purpose of this Act is to give to discharged servicemen a right to reinstatement in the employment which they held before the commencement of their war service, and also a right to preference in employment generally with respect to appointments and promotions to positions for which they are suitable and competent.

“Discharged servicemen” are those members of the fighting forces of the Empire and of the women's services auxiliary thereto who were enlisted for full-time service during either the war of 1914–1918 or the present war, who served in some theatre of war to be prescribed by regulation, and who were in Victoria or domiciled in Victoria at the time of enlistment or, in the case of persons who served during the war of 1914–1918, are domiciled in Victoria at the commencement of the Act.

For the purposes of the Act a “Discharged Servicemen's Employment Board” is established consisting of three members, of whom two are to be discharged servicemen and one is to be a representative of employers. The Board is to have the functions of assisting discharged servicemen to gain employment, of obtaining information as to opportunities for employment of, and keeping records of unemployment among discharged servicemen, and of recommending prosecutions under the Act.

Subject to certain limitations, a discharged serviceman is entitled upon application within two months after completion of his war service to be re-instated in employment by his former

Act No Date (1943).
4989 .. 23rd December—
 continued.

employer, at his former status and remuneration, or at least, at the most favorable status and remuneration reasonably practicable, and a person so re-instated is not to be dismissed without reasonable cause.

The provisions of the Act relating to appointments and promotions are not to apply to any employer who employs not more than one employé at the relevant date, or to the appointment or promotion of members of the employer's family or of his adopted child or adopter.

Where an employer invites applications publicly for any position, he is required to give preference to any suitable and competent discharged serviceman who duly applies; where the invitation is restricted to those already in his employment the preference to be given is similarly restricted to discharged servicemen already in his employment.

If an employer, without first inviting applications, appoints to any position a non-serviceman from outside his employment or promotes a non-serviceman in his employment, such appointment or promotion is to be regarded as provisional only, and an opportunity to apply within seven days thereafter is given by the Act (in the case of appointment of a person outside his employment) to discharged servicemen generally, and (in the case of promotion of an existing employé) to such discharged servicemen as are already in his employment; and preference is required to be given to the suitable and competent discharged servicemen among such applicants.

The re-instatement and preference provisions are to apply in respect of employment by or under the Crown as well as to employers generally, but special provision is made modifying their operation in favour of certain temporary and supernumerary employés of the public and railways services in respect of their appointment to permanent positions.

Other provisions relate to the extension to all discharged servicemen of certain statutory privileges in respect of employment formerly applicable to returned soldiers of the war of 1914-1918, to the saving of the rights of persons actually on war service and not yet discharged, to the mode of appointment and term of office of members of the Board, to the Board's proceedings, to the penalties to be imposed for contraventions of the Act by employers and by persons falsely pretending to be or producing false evidence of their being discharged servicemen, and to the making and publication of the necessary regulations.

- | Act No. | Date (1943). | |
|---------|------------------|---|
| 4990 .. | 23rd December .. | The <i>Instruments (Insurance Contracts) Act 1943</i> provides that the arbitration of an insurance claim by an insured person shall not be a condition precedent to proceedings in a competent court by the insured or those claiming through or under him, that section 5 of the <i>Arbitration Act 1928</i> (which provides for a stay of proceedings in court where there has been a submission to arbitration) shall not apply to such proceedings, and that no action shall lie against an insured for breach of a provision for arbitration. |
| 4991 .. | 23rd December .. | The <i>Melbourne (Widening of Streets) Act 1943</i> alters the method by which the new alignment of certain streets in the City of Melbourne is to be fixed under the <i>Melbourne (Widening of Streets) Act 1940</i> by substituting a maximum distance of twelve feet from the present kerb for a maximum distance of six feet from the old alignment; opens plans of such re-alignments for inspection in the Titles Office without fee; and provides that street levels for the purposes of that Act are to be determined by reference to the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works datum for levels. |
| 4992 .. | 23rd December .. | The <i>Mines (Petroleum) Act 1943</i> authorizes the Minister to remit licence fees or rents payable in respect of petroleum prospecting licences or petroleum mineral leases for any period not extending beyond six months after the end of the present war where the war or the operation of Commonwealth National Security Regulations has rendered compliance with the Victorian Mines (Petroleum) Acts and the conditions of the licences or leases impossible, and also authorizes the Governor in Council to extend the term of any such licence in the like circumstances. |
| 4993 .. | 23rd December .. | The <i>Education Act 1943</i> comprises general amendments to the <i>Education Act 1928</i> .
The school-leaving age is to be raised, as from a date to be proclaimed after the end of the present war, from fourteen years to fifteen years, and a corresponding amendment is made in the <i>Factories and Shops Act 1928</i> as to the minimum age for employment in factories.
The provisions excusing a child from attendance at school by reason of distance of residence from the nearest State school are altered so as to limit the excuse to those residing more than two miles, if under nine years of age, and more than three miles, if at least nine years of age, from the nearest State school, and so as to make efficient and regular tuition by correspondence necessary in all such cases of non-attendance. |

Act No. Date (1943).
 4993 .. 23rd December—
 continued.

Heavier penalties for failure by parents to send children to school are imposed.

The maximum period of commitment to an institution or of attendance at a special school in the ordinary case of children habitually absent from school is raised from six to twelve months, but provision is made for such commitment until the age of sixteen years where the child's backwardness in educational attainments is attributed to such habitual absence. The maximum sum which a parent may be ordered to contribute per week in such cases is raised from Ten shillings to Twelve shillings and sixpence.

The Council of Public Education is empowered to refuse registration of any school if satisfied that the instruction to be given or the premises of the school are not satisfactory, and to cancel any such registration if satisfied that the instruction has fallen below the required standard, that unregistered teachers have been employed without permission, that the Education Acts or the regulations have been contravened, or that the premises do not conform to the appropriate health standards.

4994 .. 23rd December

The *Land Settlement (Acquisition) Act 1943* authorizes the setting apart of Crown land and the acquisition by purchase or compulsorily of other land for the purposes of settling discharged members of the fighting forces thereon and generally of promoting land settlement.

The Act contains special provisions governing the compulsory acquisition of land for such purposes, the principal features of which are the publication in the *Government Gazette* of a notice of compulsory acquisition which vests the land in the Crown and converts estates and interests therein into claims for compensation, the service of copies of such notice on the interested persons, the making of claims by such persons within 28 days or such further time as the Minister allows, the determination of disputed claims for compensation by a county court judge appointed for the purpose by the senior county court judge, the valuation for compensation purposes of the land acquired at the amount which would be paid therefor by a purchaser intending to use it for the same purpose as that for which it was being used at the time of the passing of the Act, and the right of the Crown to discontinue acquisition within one month after the judge's award of compensation.

Other provisions relate to empowering the Minister to demand production of books and papers relating to land and the operations on land which may be suitable for purchase or

Act No. Date (1943).

4994 .. 23rd December—
 continued.

acquisition, to the making of rules of practice and procedure for the hearing and determination of disputed claims, to the enforcement of determinations as rules of the Supreme Court, to the delivery of possession of lands compulsorily acquired, and to the making and publication of the necessary regulations.

4995 .. 23rd December .. The *Land Settlement Loan and Application Act* 1943 authorizes the raising of loan moneys to the extent of £2,000,000 and sanctions the issue and application thereof for the purposes of the *Land Settlement (Acquisition) Act* 1943 (No. 4994).

4996 .. 23rd December .. The *Housing Act* 1943 which supersedes and replaces Part IV. of the *Slum Reclamation and Housing Act* 1938, considerably alters and extends the powers of the Housing Commission with respect to the acquisition of land and the erection and leasing of houses, confers on the Commission for the first time power to sell houses and to make advances to persons to enable them to purchase erect or enlarge houses and, in consonance with its enlarged functions, increases the Commission's borrowing power from £2,000,000 to £15,000,000.

The number of members of the Commission is increased from four to five by the addition of a member having special knowledge of housing problems in country areas, and the Commission in its administration of the Slum Reclamation and Housing Acts and the exercise of its powers and authorities thereunder is made directly subject to the Minister.

In the acquisition of any area of land the Commission is empowered to give a general notice by publication in the *Government Gazette* and daily and local newspapers in lieu of the individual notices to treat required by the *Lands Compensation Act* 1928, and also to re-plan and re-subdivide areas so acquired and for that purpose to recommend to the Governor in Council the closing of streets and the extinguishment of easements and restrictive covenants. Provision is made for the direct sale of acquired land by the Commission to the Crown, the Minister of Public Instruction, public statutory corporations and municipalities. The Commission is empowered to accept donations gifts and bequests of real and personal property, and municipalities are authorized to acquire land to give to the Commission for its purposes.

The capital cost of houses to be erected by the Commission (including the land) is limited to £1,250 in the case of wooden houses and £1,500 in the case of brick, stone or concrete

Act No. Date (1943).
4996 .. 23rd December—
 continued.

houses, and the erection of such houses is made subject to the regulations made under the *Local Government (Building Regulations) Act 1940* so far as they impose construction standards.

Houses vested in the Commission may be let or leased or sold to eligible persons, that is, persons whose incomes, except in special cases, do not exceed £520. In exercising its powers to let or sell houses and to make advances the Commission is to have regard to existing housing accommodation, size of families and war service (if any) of applicants, and the priority of persons displaced from slum and sub-standard houses in respect of leasing certain of the Commission's houses is preserved.

Sales of houses are to be on a rental purchase basis with weekly monthly quarterly or half-yearly instalments of rental comprising interest and principal arranged on a credit foncier plan.

A title in fee simple subject to a mortgage for the amount of the unpaid purchase money may be obtained after 20 per cent. of the purchase price has been paid.

Advances may be made to enable an applicant to erect a house on his own land, to purchase land and erect a house, to purchase a newly erected house or a house in course of erection, or to enlarge or improve an existing house. The amount of advances is limited to 90 per cent. of the security and also to £1,125 in the case of a wooden house and £1,350 in the case of a brick stone or concrete house. Repayment, which is to be secured by first mortgage, is to be by quarterly or half-yearly instalments comprising interest and principal on a credit foncier plan.

Other provisions relate to the determination, of the purchase price of houses from the capital cost thereof, the prescription of interest rates, the preparation of tables of instalments in respect of purchases and repayments of advances, the maximum terms for such purchases and repayments, and the making of valuations and the appointment and control of valuers.

4997 .. 23rd December .. The *Milk and Dairy Supervision Act 1943* comprises provisions aimed at the improvement of the supply of milk to the "metropolis" and urban areas to be proclaimed as well as certain general amendments of the *Milk and Dairy Supervision Act 1928*. As in the case of the *Milk Pasteurization Act 1943* (No. 4972), "metropolis" includes the cities in the Greater Melbourne area and the Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham and may be added to by proclamation.

Act No. Date (1943).
4997 .. 23rd December—
 continued.

The Act provides for the appointment of a Milk Supply Committee, the powers and duties of which include publishing information and advice concerning means for the carriage, delivery, storage and treatment of milk for consumption in the metropolis, reporting to the Minister on desirable statutory amendments, and preparing draft regulations under the Act.

Provision is made for the establishment and maintenance of a research laboratory and for the payment of the costs and expenses connected therewith.

No dairy farm or milk depot is to supply milk directly or indirectly for consumption in the metropolis unless the owner thereof is the holder of the appropriate annual permit under the Act as well as any licence otherwise required. Such permits are to be issued by the Minister in his discretion and to contain prescribed conditions, for contravention of which the permit may be suspended by the Superintendent of Dairying for fourteen days or suspended for a longer period or cancelled by the Minister. Provision is made for the making of regulations relating to standards of sanitation and cleanliness at dairy farms and milk depots in respect of which permits must be held, to the conditions to be contained in such permits, and to the regulation and prescription of standards in respect of the treatment, storage and carriage of milk for consumption in the metropolis, and also for the inspection by authorized officers of dairy farms, dairies and milk depots and of vehicles used in the transport of such milk and of the books papers and accounts of owners of such farms dairies and depots.

The *Milk and Dairy Supervision Act 1928* is amended to empower the Governor in Council to make regulations of general application for the protection of dairy produce against contamination and deterioration; to render persons who obstruct supervisors in the exercise of their duties guilty of an offence; to empower the Minister to cancel or to direct refusal of renewal of dairy farm, dairy and factory licences on the grounds of lack of proper sanitation and hygiene in the conduct of operations thereat or the inferior standard of the dairy produce produced thereat or sold therefrom; to enlarge the powers of inspectors in respect of dairy produce which is unfit for human food or illegally removed or sold; to authorize the making of general regulations with respect to the equipment, receptacles and containers to be used at dairy farms, dairies

Act No. Date (1943).

4997 .. 23rd December—
 continued.

and factories and in the storage or sale of milk and cream, the construction of buildings thereat, the cooling and treatment of milk at dairies, the supply of water at dairy farms and the testing of milk for human consumption and to allow of the making of advances of not more than £150 by the Minister to owners or occupiers of dairy farms for the improvement of the buildings and premises thereon.

4998 .. 23rd December .. This Act applies a sum out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year ending on the thirtieth day of June, 1944, and appropriates the Supplies granted in this Session of Parliament.

(1944.)

4999 .. 29th June .. This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £3,847,492 to the service of the year 1944-45.

5000 .. 17th July .. The *Local Government (Polling Booths) Act 1944* enables the returning officer for a municipal election in a subdivided borough to appoint for any ward, if necessary, a polling place within a quarter of a mile from that ward and within an adjoining ward.

5001 .. 28th July .. The *Police Offences (Unlawful Games) Act 1944* declares baccarat, dinah-minah and skill-ball and games similar to any of these to be unlawful games.

5002 .. 28th July .. The *Hospitals and Charities Act 1944* extends the operation of the provisions relating to the resumption of land for institutions within the meaning of the Hospitals and Charities Acts so as to authorize resumptions of land for hospitals which are to be erected or established by institutions which are or are proposed to be registered or incorporated under those Acts.

5003 .. 28th July .. The *Water (Loddon) Act 1944* abolishes the Loddon United Waterworks Trust, constitutes that portion of its district which was comprised in the Mitiamo Urban District into a new waterworks district and urban district (to be called the Mitiamo Waterworks District and the Mitiamo Urban District) under the jurisdiction and control of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, divides the balance of the former Loddon United Waterworks District (together with an area excised from the Normanville Waterworks District) into three new waterworks districts under the jurisdiction and control of the Commission, and provides for the disposition of existing works and property and for the allotting to the State of the liability for part of the capital cost of works serving the new Mitiamo Waterworks District.

Act No. Date (1944).

5004 .. 31st August .. The *Justices Act 1944* comprises a number of amendments to the Justices Acts and other consequential amendments.

The Act prohibits the assignment of persons as justices of the peace after they have attained the age of 65 years but without affecting persons who become justices by virtue of holding certain other offices.

Provision is made for including in a recognizance of bail taken upon a committal for trial a provision under which the surety consents to the respital of the recognizance upon any adjournment or postponement of the trial without his further consent; and a corresponding amendment is made in the *Crimes Act 1928* allowing of the respital of such a recognizance in the absence of the surety.

The number of justices who may constitute a court of petty sessions is limited to five.

The jurisdiction of every court of petty sessions in cases of illegal detention of goods is extended so as to cover cases of goods so detained anywhere within Victoria.

A police magistrate is authorized, upon the application of a defendant convicted in any court of petty sessions, to allow time for payment or to direct the payment by instalments of any sum (including costs) adjudged to be paid by the court.

The Act simplifies the procedure with respect to oral examination of debtors by abolishing the order for oral examination and providing for the holding of that examination by the court on the return day referred to in a summons issued by any justice of the peace or by the clerk of the court which made the original order. The Act further provides for the issue of an order nisi for attachment of debt by a clerk of petty sessions as well as by a court or justice, but so that a refusal by a clerk of petty sessions to make such an order is not to preclude the applicant from applying therefor to the court. A further provision requires the service of a copy of the order nisi on the garnishee to be made not less than 72 hours before the time for his appearance before the court.

An appeal to general sessions is authorized, irrespective of the amount of any fine imposed, against any summary conviction for larceny or unlawful possession.

5005 .. 31st August .. The *Coal Mines Regulation (Amendment) Act 1944* alters the general rules which apply in respect of coal mines by making it obligatory for the owner, agent or manager of every such mine to provide adequate bath and

Act No.	Date (1944).	
5005 ..	31st August— <i>continued.</i>	change house accommodation to enable the persons employed in or about the mine to change, dry their clothes and wash themselves.
5006 ..	31st August ..	This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £3,901,712 to the service of the year 1944-45.
5007 ..	4th September ..	The <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Contributions) Act 1944</i> extends for one year, that is, until the 1st October, 1945, the period during which the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works is required to make annual contributions to certain municipalities under the <i>Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works (Contributions) Act 1927</i> .
5008 ..	4th September ..	The <i>Marketing of Primary Products Act 1944</i> makes it clear that a marketing board constituted under the <i>Marketing of Primary Products Act 1935</i> , in determining the amount of any payment to a producer of any commodity which has been disposed of by the Board, may take into account any circumstances which it considers relevant.
5009 ..	4th September ..	The <i>National Security (Emergency Powers) Continuation Act 1944</i> continues the operation of the <i>National Security (Emergency Powers) Act 1939</i> for a further period of twelve months.
5010 ..	13th September ..	The <i>Outer Circle Railway (Partial Dismantling) Act 1944</i> provides for the dismantling of the Riversdale to East Kew section of the Outer Circle Railway, and for the sale, disposal or use of the materials of which the said railway is constructed and the property thereon, and, with the consent of the Governor in Council, for the sale or demise of the lands comprised therein.
5011 ..	13th September ..	The <i>Mines (Minerals) Act 1944</i> makes provision for the mining of certain minerals on lands alienated from the Crown without reservation of those minerals. This Act provides— that, for the purpose of mining minerals other than silver or petroleum on land alienated on or before 1st March, 1892, a person may petition the Minister of Mines to bring such land under the <i>Mines Act 1928</i> ; that the Minister upon such petition or of his own motion may direct a geological survey of any such land; that where such survey discloses a reasonable probability of the land containing any such mineral in payable quantities the Minister may require the owner and occupier within six months to make suitable arrangements for its mining; and

Act No. Date (1944).

5011 .. 13th September—
 continued.

that, if such arrangements are not made the land may be brought under the operation of Part III. of the *Mines Act 1928* by a declaration of the Governor in Council, upon which the minerals therein or thereon will be vested in the Crown and the provisions of the *Mines Act 1928* relating to mineral leases will apply thereto, but so that the petitioner, if any, shall have a preferential right to the grant of a mineral lease; compensation to be paid to the owner shall be on the higher scale provided in the *Mines Act 1928*, and 90 per cent. of the rents and royalties paid to the Crown under the lease shall be paid by the Crown to the owner.

5012 .. 25th September .. The *Goods (Textile Products) Act 1944* prohibits the sale or offering for sale of certain goods (namely, materials manufactured from fibre, articles of wearing apparel manufactured from such materials, blankets, rugs, tops and yarns) unless there is applied thereto a trade description printed on or woven into or attached to the goods containing particulars of the proportion by weight of the respective fibres of which the goods are composed, except where the goods contain at least 95 per cent. by weight of virgin wool, in which case they may be described as "all wool" or "pure wool". The Act also prohibits the use in trade descriptions of such expressions as "artificial wool", "imitation wool" and "synthetic wool".

5013 .. 25th September .. The *Masseurs Act 1944* empowers the Masseurs Registration Board to conduct a course of training in massage and to receive fees therefor, and for that purpose to appoint lecturers and demonstrators and, with the consent of the Governor in Council, to fix by regulation the preliminary qualifications necessary for admission to that course. The Act also prohibits the use of certain appliances for the application of light, heat and electricity by any persons other than medical practitioners and their supervised assistants, dentists and registered masseurs.

5014 .. 25th September .. The *Electoral (War Service Deaths) Act 1944* amends Section 194 of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1928* and provides that for the purpose of electing a member of the Legislative Assembly in the place of a member who has died while on war service during the present war, the vacancy shall be deemed to have occurred when the fact of the death becomes known to the Chief Secretary and the writ for the election shall be issued within one month thereafter.

Act No.	Date (1944).	
5015 ..	9th October	.. The <i>Cremorne Bridge Act 1944</i> is an Act relating to the construction of a railway bridge across the river Yarra between the railway stations at Richmond and South Yarra, and for other purposes.
5016 ..	9th October	.. The <i>Melbourne Harbor Trust Act 1944</i> increases the maximum amount which the Commissioners of the Melbourne Harbor Trust are authorized to borrow from £5,000,000 to £7,500,000.
5017 ..	9th October	.. The <i>Water Act 1944</i> comprises a number of amendments to the Water Acts. The Act alters the law with respect to payment of capitalized depreciation by a subdivider of land in any irrigation and water supply district or drainage district by empowering the Commission to charge such subdivider only that part of the capitalized depreciation of the works to be provided as will not be met by increased revenue arising from those works.

An important provision allows of the re-arrangement by the Commission of the lands in waterworks districts and irrigation and water supply districts (except in urban districts or divisions thereof) into not more than four divisions including a "fourth division" of lands upon which no rates will be payable, and for the transfer to the State of a portion of the capital liability of any such district when its revenue is reduced by reason of such re-arrangement. The Act also provides for a further limitation of water rights and irrigation charges in certain districts during the period of the war and twelve months thereafter.

The Governor in Council is empowered to transfer to the State certain arrears of interest and maintenance losses formerly debited to the several irrigation and water supply districts, waterworks districts, flood protection districts and drainage districts, and to adjust further the capital liability of each such district under the jurisdiction of the Commission by transferring to the State a portion of the liability for the works serving such district.

Provision is also made for waterworks trusts and local governing bodies to adopt or join in superannuation or endowment life assurance schemes for their officers and employees.

The Act enables two or more urban districts of waterworks districts or urban divisions of irrigation and water supply districts to be united.

The Governor in Council is authorized, upon the recommendation of the Minister, to make an Order empowering any owner of land in an irrigation and water supply district or waterworks district, who desires to obtain a supply of water from a channel of the Com-

Act No.	Date (1944).	
5017 ..	9th October— <i>continued.</i>	mission over the land of another person but who has not been able to obtain an easement for that purpose by agreement, to acquire compulsorily such an easement over a specified portion of the other person's land in the manner provided in and subject to the assessment of compensation under the <i>Lands Compensation Act 1928.</i>
5018 ..	9th October ..	This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £833,112 to the service of the year 1943-1944.
5019 ..	9th October ..	The <i>Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts Act 1944</i> authorizes the First Mildura Irrigation Trust and the Mildura Urban Water Trust to remit or excuse the payment of rates on account of poverty.
5020 ..	16th October ..	The <i>Farm Water Supplies Advances Act 1944</i> empowers the Board of Land and Works to make advances to the owners and Crown lessees of farms at interest at the rate of $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for the construction of works for the supply of water, otherwise than for irrigation purposes, to their farms, and provides for the securing of such advances and interest upon first mortgage of the freehold title or Crown lease of the farm. The Act also authorizes the raising of loan moneys not exceeding £100,000 for the purpose of making such advances.
5021 ..	30th October ..	The <i>Sewerage Districts Act 1944</i> enables the members of a Sewerage Authority to grant to the chairman thereof for his own use an annual allowance not exceeding 1 per cent. of the revenue of the Authority for the year and not exceeding in any case £25. The Act also empowers Sewerage Authorities to adopt or join in superannuation or endowment life assurance schemes for their officers and employees.
5022 ..	30th October ..	The <i>Trustee Companies Act 1944</i> confers on trustee companies certain powers formerly possessed only by the Public Trustee, namely— a power, upon publication by the Governor in Council of a notice in that behalf, to pay or deliver moneys or chattels payable or deliverable to a subject of a foreign country to the chief consular officer for that country in Victoria, a power to pay the distributive share or shares of a child or children in an intestate estate not exceeding £100 in value to the widow or other person having the care of the child or children, a power to distribute assets in a deceased's estate without regard to the claims of persons claiming to be creditors whom

Act No. Date (1944).

5022 .. 30th October—*continued.*

the company has notified of its refusal to recognize their claims either in whole or in part and who have not instituted proceedings to enforce their claims within three months after receipt of such notice,

a power, subject to the insertion of certain advertisements, to distribute assets in a deceased's estate without regard to the possible claims of persons who are known to the company to be entitled to legacies or shares if they have survived the testator or intestate but who have not claimed within three years of the grant of probate or administration, and

a power to use a short form of notice by advertisement of intention to distribute assets in a deceased's estate.

5023 .. 30th October .. The *Mildura Irrigation and Water Trusts (Superannuation) Act 1944* empowers the First Mildura Irrigation Trust and the Mildura Urban Water Trust to adopt or join superannuation or endowment schemes for their officers and employees.

5024 .. 1st November .. This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £4,007,512 to the service of the year 1944-1945.

5025 .. 6th November .. The *Cemeteries Act 1944* empowers the trustees of any cemetery to expend the moneys in their hands in the exercise of their powers and the discharge of their duties generally under the *Cemeteries Act 1928* and, with the consent of the Governor in Council, in contributing to the cost of construction of private roads adjoining or abutting on the cemetery.

The Act also prohibits the burial of a body in a public cemetery except upon production of a permit signed by an officer of the trustees, and provides that no such permit shall be signed except upon production of an appropriate certificate or notice given under the *Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Acts* by a registrar of births and deaths, a coroner or a medical practitioner or of a statutory declaration by the undertaker or other person conducting the burial to the effect that such a certificate or notice is not then available owing to special circumstances.

The cremation provisions of the *Cemeteries Act 1928* are made applicable to certain metropolitan cemeteries with the Governor in Council's consent, and a coroner's certificate under the *Registration of Births Deaths and Marriages Act 1928* is made sufficient authority for a cremation in lieu of the medical practitioners' certificates formerly required.

Act No.	Date (1944).	
5026 ..	6th November .. <i>continued.</i>	The <i>Border Railways Act 1944</i> empowers the Governor in Council by Order to vest in The Victorian Railways Commissioners in fee simple any line of railway, including the land acquired for the purposes of such line, constructed pursuant to the <i>Border Railways Act 1922</i> .
5027 ..	6th November ..	The <i>Local Government (Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham) Act 1944</i> enables the Governor in Council to declare the Shire of Blackburn and Mitcham a City.
5028 ..	6th November ..	<p>The <i>Electoral Districts Act 1944</i> provides for a redivision of the State into new electoral districts for the Legislative Assembly. Provision is made for the appointment by the Governor in Council of three commissioners to prepare and submit a proposed redivision in accordance with the following limitations :—</p> <p>The total number of districts is to remain as at present, namely, 65.</p> <p>The area comprising metropolitan districts is to remain unchanged, but the number of districts therein is to be increased from 26 to 32.</p> <p>The number of urban and country districts is to be correspondingly reduced from 39 to 33 which, since the number of urban districts is to remain 3, results in a reduction of country districts from 36 to 30.</p> <p>The quota of electors for each district is to be as follows :—25,000 for each metropolitan district, 19,500 for each urban district and 13,800 for each country district, but provision is made for the adoption of a margin of allowance of not more than 10 per cent. above or below the fixed quota or, in the case only of sparsely populated country districts, of not more than 15 per cent. below the fixed quota.</p> <p>The new urban districts are to be the same as the existing urban districts but with provision for such boundary adjustments between these and adjoining country districts as are made necessary by the quota provision.</p> <p>The proposed redivision, which is to include the names as well as the boundaries of the proposed districts, is to be submitted by the commissioners to the Minister and by him to parliament. Either House may disapprove of the proposed redivision in which case the commissioners are to submit a fresh redivision. If this is not approved by both Houses, the whole procedure is to lapse and no further action is to be taken.</p>

- | Act No. | Date (1944). | |
|---------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 5028 | .. 6th November—
<i>continued.</i> | If the proposed redivision or fresh redivision is approved by both Houses, the Governor in Council is empowered to give effect thereto by proclamation of the names and boundaries of the new districts, but so that these shall become operative only for the next general election for the Assembly and all Assembly elections thereafter.
Other provisions relate to the preparation of new rolls, to the division of the new districts into subdivisions, and to the date of applications of the new districts for the purposes of the Licensing Acts, under which electoral districts for the Assembly are taken as licensing districts. |
| 5029 | .. 13th November .. | The <i>Land Act 1944</i> is an Act to assist the establishment of industries in rural districts and urban districts outside the Metropolis and authorizes the Governor in Council to grant to any person with or without consideration any Crown land in a rural or urban district outside the metropolis as a site for an industrial undertaking, and further provides that any such grants made without consideration shall, and any such grants made with consideration may, be made subject to a condition that the land comprised in the grant shall not be used for any purposes other than those of the specified industrial undertaking. |
| 5030 | .. 13th November .. | The <i>Land Tax Act 1944</i> declares the rate of Land Tax for the year ending the 31st December, 1945. |
| 5031 | .. 13th November .. | The <i>Administration and Probate Duties Act 1944</i> continues for a further period of twelve months the provisions of Part III. of the <i>Finance Act 1930</i> which temporarily imposed additional duties on the estates of deceased persons and on certain settlements. |
| 0532 | .. 13th November .. | The <i>Stock Foods (Amendment) Act 1944</i> requires the manufacturer or importer of any stock food or by-product which is claimed to contain any vitamin to include in his application for registration of such stock food or by-product a statement of the minimum quantity (in International Units per gram of stock food or by-product) of each vitamin claimed to be so contained. |
| 5033 | .. 20th November .. | The <i>Stamps (Increased Duty Continuance) Act 1944</i> continues for a further period of twelve months the increased stamp duties on bills of exchange payable on demand (cheques, &c.), receipts, conveyance or transfer on sale of real property, partitions of real property, leases, sub-leases, deeds of settlement and gift, and annual licences in relation to insurance business. |

- | Act No. | Date (1944). | |
|---------|---------------------------------|--|
| 5034 | .. 20th November—
continued. | The <i>Maribyrnong and Ashburton Lands Exchange Act 1944</i> provides that certain Crown land at Maribyrnong, which was proposed to be granted to the Housing Commission, may be granted to Austral Bronze Company Pty. Limited upon the surrender to the Crown by that company of certain other land at Ashburton and the creation by that company of a certain easement of carriage way in favour of the Crown, and also provides for the grant to the Housing Commission of the land so surrendered. |
| 5035 | .. 20th November .. | The <i>Financial Emergency (Grants and Funds) Act 1944</i> provides for the transfer to consolidated revenue, as on the 30th June, 1945, of the surplus of the Licensing Fund, and continues for the financial year 1944-45 the suspension of payment out of consolidated revenue for the endowment of municipalities and the reduction by 20 per cent. of the amounts to be paid into the Forestry Fund out of consolidated revenue. |
| 5036 | .. 27th November .. | The <i>Farmers Advances Act 1944</i> provides that where an advance is made under the <i>Farmers Advances Act 1935</i> between the 1st July, 1944, and the 30th June, 1945, for the purpose of relieving conditions due to drought, the advance shall be free of interest for three years from the making thereof and shall thereafter bear interest at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum. The Act also increases the loan raising authority for the purpose of such advances from £630,000 to £730,000. |
| 5037 | .. 27th November .. | The <i>Land Settlement (Acquisition) Amendment Act 1944</i> provides that for compensation purposes the value of any land acquired under the <i>Land Settlement (Acquisition) Act 1943</i> shall not be taken to exceed the value thereof in February, 1942, together with any enhancement in value by reason of improvements effected since that time. |
| 5038 | .. 27th November .. | The <i>Railways Act 1944</i> makes provision for the appointment of certain persons temporarily employed in the railway service to permanent offices therein. |
| 5039 | .. 4th December .. | The <i>Farmers Protection (Amendment) Act 1944</i> extends until the 1st March, 1946, the period during which a farmer may apply under the <i>Farmers Protection Act 1941</i> for a limited stay order in respect of an old debt, that is, a debt incurred before 9th September, 1940, and allows of the making of any limited stay order or of any general stay order to remain in force until any date not later than the 1st March, 1947. |

Act No. Date (1944).
5040 .. 4th December—
 continued.

The *Country Fire Authority Act 1944* provides for the constitution of a Country Fire Authority, consisting of ten members appointed by the Governor in Council, to supersede the Country Fire Brigades Board under the Fire Brigades Acts and the Bush Fire Brigades Committee under the Bush Fire Brigades Acts.

Provision is made for the division of the country area of Victoria (that is, the whole of Victoria exclusive of the metropolitan fire district, State forests and National Parks) into fire control regions, for the division of such regions into urban and rural fire districts, for the appointment of a Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer and, if necessary, Assistant Chief Officers of urban brigades, a Chief Officer and Deputy Chief Officer of rural brigades, a Regional Officer in respect of each region and a Secretary and other administrative officers and employés.

On a day to be appointed, the Country Fire Brigades Board and the Bush Fire Brigades Committee are to be abolished, and their property, debts, rights and liabilities transferred to the Authority, the control of the prevention and suppression of fire in the country area of Victoria is to be vested in the Authority, and the Bush Fire Brigades Acts and the provisions of the Fire Brigades Acts relating to country fire districts are to be repealed.

Provision is made for the transfer of permanent and part-time Country Fire Brigades officers and employés to corresponding positions relating to urban brigades under the new Authority, and for the transformation of existing country fire brigades into urban fire brigades and of existing bush fire brigades into rural brigades.

The Authority is empowered to acquire necessary property for its purposes and to take measures for the formation, registration, amalgamation and training of brigades. Except so far as permanent or part-time officers of brigades may be appointed by the Authority, the officers of voluntary brigades are to be elected by the members of those brigades. No fire brigade is to operate in the country area of Victoria unless registered by the Authority.

The Act contains a number of provisions for the prevention of fires. During a summer period to be proclaimed, the burning of grass or scrub and of charcoal is prohibited unless an appropriate permit is obtained, and, in rural districts, the lighting of fires in the open air is regulated and the throwing down of lighted matches, tobacco, &c., and the placing of phosphorus and other explosive or combus-

Act No. Date (1944).
5040 .. 4th December—
 continued.

tible substances in dangerous places is prohibited. On days when a warning of fire danger is broadcast, the lighting of fires in the open air and the use of gas producers are absolutely prohibited. The owner or occupier of land may be directed to remove from such land at his own expense any grass or scrub which is likely to constitute a fire danger or to clear fire breaks thereon for the protection of neighbouring properties, and provision is made for such removal or clearing by municipalities or members of brigades in the event of default by such owner or occupier. The duties of municipalities and public authorities in respect of the abatement of fire hazards on lands and roads under their control are defined.

The ordinary annual expenditure of the Authority is to be contributed equally by the Crown, the municipalities in the country area of Victoria and the fire insurance companies doing business therein, but provision is made for the grant of further funds for special purposes out of moneys to be provided by Parliament.

An immunity against action for damages is given to the Chief Officer and other officers of the Authority and of brigades in the exercise of their powers and the performance of their duties without negligence or wilful default, and officers issuing permits or directions for burning off purposes are similarly protected if they act in good faith.

Other provisions relate to the mode of appointment, term of office and removal of the members of the Authority, the powers and duties of officers and members of brigades in the extinguishing of fires, the extension of those powers to forest officers in respect of fires in State forests and National Parks, the borrowing of money by the Authority by the issue of debentures, the fixing of charges for attendance at fires of uninsured property, the continuance of the former Country Fire Brigades Association and Bush Fire Brigades Association as Urban and Rural Fire Brigades Associations, the control of the collection of contributions and subscriptions for brigades, the prohibition of the damaging of fire apparatus and the obstructing of brigades, the powers and duties of members of the police force at fires, the making of regulations for the purposes of the Act, and the consequential repeal and amendment of other Statutes.

5041 .. 4th December .. The *Country Roads Board Fund Act 1944* continues for a further period of twelve months the provisions of the *Country Roads Board Fund Act 1932* (No. 2). That Act provided

Act No.	Date (1944).	
5041 ..	4th December— <i>continued.</i>	temporarily that fees for licences to drive motor cars should be credited to consolidated revenue instead of to the Country Roads Board Fund, and also suspended temporarily the annual payment of £50,000 from consolidated revenue into that fund.
5042 ..	4th December ..	The <i>Railway Loan and Application Act 1944</i> authorizes the raising of £755,550 by loan for railway purposes and sanctions the issue and application of the moneys so raised and of other moneys available for those purposes.
5043 ..	4th December ..	The <i>Town and Country Planning Act 1944</i> provides for the planning of the development of town and country areas with respect to streets and roads, buildings, areas for residential, shopping, factory and other purposes, sewerage, drainage, lighting and water supply, and other services and amenities.

Provision is made for the appointment by the Governor in Council of a Town and Country Planning Board of three members to advise generally upon such planning and, when required by the Minister, to prepare a planning scheme for any specified area.

The Act provides that the council of any municipality or the councils of several municipalities jointly may prepare a planning scheme or a joint planning scheme for any area within its municipal district or their municipal districts, and that the Minister may require any such council or councils to prepare such a scheme or joint scheme and that, in default of such preparation, the Minister may require the Board to prepare the required scheme.

Before a scheme is submitted for approval to the Governor in Council, it is to be advertised and made available for inspection, and an opportunity is to be given to persons affected to place their objections before the responsible authority preparing the scheme (that is, the council or a committee of the councils concerned or the Board). After adoption by the responsible authority, the scheme is to be submitted to the Minister and, except where the Board itself has prepared the scheme, a report thereon is to be obtained from the Board.

A planning scheme is to become operative only upon its approval by the Governor in Council, and the publication of that approval in the *Government Gazette*. Every scheme is to be laid before Parliament and may be revoked by resolution of either House. A scheme may also be revoked by a subsequent scheme approved under the Act, and in certain special circumstances by the Governor in Council. A planning scheme may provide

Act No. Date (1944).
 5043 .. 4th December—
 continued.

for the suspension of other by-laws or regulations in the area to which it relates, and may include the levying of a betterment rate.

The duty of the enforcement of a planning scheme is to rest with the municipality or each of the municipalities in whose district or districts the area affected by the scheme lies.

Housing and reclamation schemes and schemes relating to the acquisition of land for the opening of roads under the *Local Government Act 1928* are to be submitted to the Board for report before approval by the Governor in Council.

Other provisions relate to the mode of appointment, term of office and remuneration of members of the Board, the appointment of officers of the Board, the powers of the Board in relation to inquiries held by it, the preparation of planning schemes by the Board by agreement with the council or councils concerned, the making of interim development orders prohibiting certain works during the preparation of schemes, the application of the provisions of the *Lands Compensation Act 1928* to the acquisition of lands under planning schemes and of certain provisions of the *Local Government Act 1928* to the payment of compensation to persons injured or affected by any such scheme, to the borrowing of moneys by municipalities for the purpose of executing such schemes, to the making of the necessary regulations and to the repeal of the zoning provisions of the *Slum Reclamation and Housing Act 1938* which are superseded by the new planning procedure.

5044 .. 11th December .. The *Agricultural Colleges Act 1944* repeals the *Agricultural Colleges Act 1928*, abolishes the Council of Agricultural Education, and provides that the trustees appointed under the said Act shall go out of office.

The lands vested in those trustees are divested from them and become Crown lands. The lands comprised in the Dookie and Longerenong Agricultural College Reservations are to be deemed permanently reserved as sites for State Agricultural Colleges. The balance of the divested lands are to be unalienated lands of the Crown, capable of being dealt with under the Land Acts, except that existing leases and other interests in those lands granted by the trustees are preserved.

The personal property of the trustees, other than money, is vested in the Minister of Agriculture. The moneys of the trustees are vested in the Treasurer of Victoria except

Act No. Date (1944).
 5044 .. 11th December—
 continued.

where they are the subject of a particular trust, in which case they are to be kept in the Treasury and the terms of the trust executed by the Minister of Agriculture. The Agricultural College Fund is to be paid into the consolidated revenue upon the order of the Treasurer of Victoria. The amount owing by the Council to the National Bank of Australasia Limited is to be repaid by the Treasurer and the liability for the amount owing by the Council to the Treasurer in respect of Tobin Yallock College Reserve is extinguished.

The Agricultural Colleges at Longerenong and Dookie are to be carried on as State Agricultural Colleges under the control of the Minister of Agriculture, and provision is made with respect to bringing the persons employed therein into the public service.

The Act provides for the constitution of a committee of six members, of whom one shall be representative of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Melbourne and two representative of the Chamber of Agriculture of Victoria, for the purpose of advising the Minister with respect to courses of instruction at the Colleges, and provision is made for the payment out of the consolidated revenue of an annual amount not exceeding £50,000 to meet the costs and expenses incurred.

Other provisions relate to the granting of scholarships and the preservation of the rights of existing scholarship holders, to the consequential amendment of several other Acts and to the making of regulations with respect to the conduct of the affairs of the Colleges.

5045 .. 11th December .. The *Heatherton Sanatorium Act 1944* abolishes the Heatherton Sanatorium Board, repeals the *Heatherton Sanatorium Act 1916*, vests in the Crown the property of the Board and the land on which the sanatorium is situated, and places the sanatorium under the control and management of the Department of Health.

5046 .. 11th December .. The *Health (Infectious Diseases Hospitals) Act 1944* amends the *Health Act 1928* so that the State undertakes the whole cost of the provision (including the erection, equipment and furnishing) of infectious diseases hospitals, but continues to share with municipalities the cost of the maintenance of such hospitals and the treatment of patients therein. The State, however, is authorized to undertake the whole cost of the provision and maintenance of hospitals for the accommodation and treatment of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

- | Act No. | Date (1944). | |
|---------|------------------|---|
| 5047 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>Surplus Revenue Act 1944</i> provides for the application of the amount of £620,000, being the surplus revenue of the financial year 1943-44, for certain specific public works and for the payment of a specified amount into the <i>Drought Relief Fund 1944</i> . |
| 5048 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>Water Supply Loans Application Act 1944</i> sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money available under Loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment Fund for irrigation works water supply works drainage and flood protection works in country districts and for works under the River Murray Water Acts, and for other purposes. |
| 5049 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>State Forests Loan and Application Act 1944</i> authorizes the raising of an amount not exceeding £600,000 by the State and sanctions the issue and application of the moneys so raised or of moneys in the State Loans Repayment Fund for State forest purposes specified in the Schedule to the Act. |
| 5050 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>Public Works Loan and Application Act 1944</i> authorizes the raising by the State for public works of an amount not exceeding £1,001,000 and sanctions the issue and application of the moneys so raised or of moneys in the State Loans Repayment Fund for the purposes specified in the Schedule to the Act. |
| 5051 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>Commonwealth and States Financial Agreement Act 1944</i> authorizes and approves a financial agreement made between the Commonwealth and the States pursuant to section 105A of the Commonwealth Constitution. The agreement is an amending agreement but contains as a Schedule thereto the original financial agreement of 1927 as amended up to date by various subsequent agreements.
The chief amendments to the original agreement made by the amending agreement authorized and ratified by this Act relate to sinking fund contributions in respect of deficits financed by Treasury bills, sinking fund contributions and rates of exchange in respect of overseas loans and the allocation among the Commonwealth and the several States of the total amount of money which may be borrowed in any year to meet the requirements of governments in Australia. |
| 5052 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>Constitution Act Amendment Act 1944</i> makes provision for an allowance to be paid to such Ministers of the Crown as are not receiving salaries as such. The Act also repeals a |

- | Act No. | Date (1944). | |
|---------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 5052 .. | 11th December—
<i>continued.</i> | provision penalizing members of Parliament who accept offices of profit under the Crown within six months after they cease to be members, and increases the reimbursement of expenses for members of the Legislative Council from £200 to £350 per annum and of members of the Legislative Assembly from £500 to £650 per annum. |
| 5053 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>Public Library National Gallery and Museums Act 1944</i> dissolves the body politic and corporate known as "The Trustees of the Public Library Museums and National Gallery of Victoria" and replaces that body with four bodies of trustees who are authorized severally to control the Public Library of Victoria, the National Gallery of Victoria, the National Museums of Victoria, and the land and buildings on or in which the Library, Gallery and Museums are now established. Each body of trustees is empowered to make regulations with respect to its affairs and the property placed under its control. The Act makes provision for the allocation of securities, deposits and moneys among the several bodies of trustees created by the Act and also contains a special provision relating to the taking effect of certain wills under which bequests or trusts were made in favour of the body of trustees dissolved by the Act. |
| 5054 .. | 11th December .. | The <i>Drought Relief Act 1944</i> authorizes the raising by the State of a sum not exceeding £450,000 for drought relief.
Provision is made for the establishment in the Treasury of an account to be called the Drought Relief Fund 1944. Into the fund are to be paid the proceeds of moneys authorized to be borrowed by the State as aforesaid, the sum of £100,000 authorized to be paid into the fund by the <i>Surplus Revenue Act 1944</i> and amounts granted by the Commonwealth to the State under the <i>Commonwealth State Grants (Drought Relief) Act 1944</i> .
The fund is to be applied in the payment of grants to cereal farmers for the purpose of the alleviation of hardship suffered in consequence of drought in Victoria during the year 1944. No grant, however, may be made to a farmer unless he satisfies the Board of Land and Works that he intends to carry on his normal farming operations during the year 1945. |
| 5055 .. | 18th December .. | The <i>Co-operative Housing Societies Act 1944</i> provides for the formation, registration and management of co-operative housing societies. |

Act No. Date (1944).
5055 .. 18th December—
 continued.

A co-operative housing society as defined in the Act is a society which is formed to enable its members to erect homes, in which all shares are of the same class and rank equally, and which is intended to terminate when its objects are attained. No such society may carry on business unless registered under the Act. A society may be formed under the Act by not less than forty eligible persons at a meeting at which the proposed rules are adopted and applications for membership made. A society may be registered by the registrar with the approval of the Treasurer if its rules are in accordance with the Act and the regulations and the registrar is satisfied that it has a reasonable prospect of successful operation.

Every society is to be a body corporate and the liability of the members is limited to the nominal amount of the share capital for which they subscribe. Share capital is to be paid by instalments as specified in the society's rules, and the amount which a member may be advanced by the society is determined by the nominal value of the shares held by him.

Societies are authorized with the approval of the registrar to borrow money charged upon the undertaking, assets and rights of the society. A loan to a society, if guaranteed by the Treasurer, is made a proper investment for funds held by any bank, friendly society or other approved body unless specially prohibited by any trust.

Societies may not lend money to anyone other than their members, nor can any advance be made to a member except to enable him to purchase land and erect a house thereon, or to erect a house on land already owned by him. Advances are to be secured by first mortgage.

Provision is made for the prescribing by regulation of model rules for a society which may be adopted by any society. Societies are to be managed by a board of directors elected from among the members of the society and the Act provides for the control of the activities of directors, and, in certain circumstances, for their removal from office after enquiry.

The registrar and other persons employed in the registry are to be appointed by the Governor in Council and are not to be subject to the Public Service Acts, but the rights in respect of salary, status and superannuation of any public servant who may be appointed are preserved.

The Act provides for the constitution of a Co-operative Housing Advisory Committee of three members, (namely, the registrar, a

Act No. Date (1944).
5055 .. 18th December—
 continued.

Treasury officer, and a person appointed by the Governor in Council) for the purpose of making recommendations to the Treasurer with respect to regulations and model rules and the financing of societies by guarantee and indemnity.

The Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor in Council, is authorized to guarantee the repayment of any loan made by any bank, friendly society or approved body to a society, and the Act provides that the aggregate amount covered by such guarantees shall not exceed £5,000,000.

In cases of advances by societies to individual members, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Governor in Council, is also authorized to indemnify the society against any loss which may be sustained by the society by reason of making an advance exceeding 80 per cent. but not exceeding 90 per cent. of the security offered. The aggregate liability under such contracts of indemnity is not to exceed £500,000.

Other provisions relate to the names by which societies may be registered, the exemption of societies from stamp duty on bills of exchange, receipts, &c., the keeping and inspection of registers and accounts, the matters to be covered by the rules of the society, the alteration of the rules of the society by special resolution, the appointment by the Treasurer of an additional director of a society which has been guaranteed or indemnified, the prohibition of the sale of land and the erection of houses by directors for members, the valuation of properties offered as securities for advances, the liability of members and past members of societies upon a winding up, evidence of incorporation, rules registers and minutes, the imposition of penalties for offences against the Act by societies, directors and officers, and the making of the necessary regulations for the purposes of the Act.

5056 .. 18th December .. *The Local Government Act 1944* is a comprehensive amending Local Government Act which, however, also contains some substantive enactments.

The travelling expenses allowable to municipal councillors are varied, and the time within which municipal elections to fill extraordinary vacancies are to be held, and the manner in which candidates' deposits are to be applied, are altered. Published comments on candidates at municipal elections are required to have the name of the author at the foot thereof. No person is hereafter to be appointed as a building surveyor by any

Act No. Date (1944).
5056 .. 18th December—
 continued.

municipal council unless he holds a certificate of qualification issued by a Municipal Building Surveyors Board to be appointed under the Act. The by-law making powers of municipal councils, and the purposes for which municipal funds may be applied, are enlarged. War memorials and soldiers clubs connected with the present war and land used for the training of ministers of religion or for certain hospitals conducted in association with public hospitals are exempted from municipal rates. The existing provisions relating to the valuation of rateable property and appeals against valuation or rating are altered, and interest on unpaid rates is to become payable four months (instead of six months, as hitherto) after the rates become payable.

Greater power is given to municipal councils with respect to the control of subdivisions of private property, the making secure of dangerous places, the control of erosion, the prevention of fire, and the making of contracts relating to road-making materials and plant and the use of land for public purposes. The existing provisions in Part XXXIX. of the *Local Government Act 1928* dealing with scaffolding inspection are extended to cover building cranes. Provision is made with respect to notices to be given to municipal clerks by vendors of land and persons becoming occupiers of premises in the municipal districts. The Building Regulations Commission appointed under the *Local Government (Building Regulations) Act 1940* is replaced by a Building Regulations Committee the members of which are also to act as referees under the *Melbourne Building By-laws Act 1916* and under the provisions of the *Local Government Acts* relating to building by-laws. The Act also contains other minor amendments of the law relating to local government.

- 5057 .. 18th December .. The *Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works Act 1944* reconstitutes the Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works so as to increase the number of members, apart from the chairman, to 47. The number of the representatives of certain inner municipalities is decreased while, on the other hand, the number of representatives of other municipalities is increased and certain municipalities and groups of municipalities on the outskirts of the Board's territory are given representation on the Board for the first time.
- 5058 .. 18th December .. This Act applies a sum out of the consolidated revenue to the service of the year ending on the 30th June, 1945, and appropriates the supplies granted in this session of Parliament.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

The triennial elections for the Legislative Council, were held on 12th June, 1943, when four of the seventeen provinces were contested. The following table shows the number of electors on the rolls for each province and also the number and proportion who voted in each province where an election was held.

VICTORIA—NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED
AT THE TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON 12TH JUNE, 1943.

	Number of Electors on Rolls.	Number of Electors who Voted.	Informal Votes.	Number who Voted by Post.	Proportion of Electors who Voted.
*Ballaarat	19,932	..	..	..	..
*Bendigo	21,408	..	..	..	..
*Doutta Galla	39,529	..	..	..	..
*East Yarra	39,995	..	..	..	..
Gippsland	18,973	14,355	272	128	75·66
*Higinbotham	36,478	..	..	..	..
*Melbourne	31,760	..	..	..	..
Melbourne North	42,510	30,892	768	715	72·67
Melbourne West	32,143	23,755	792	166	73·90
*Monash	40,000	..	..	..	..
*Northern	18,449	..	..	..	..
*North-Eastern	16,390	..	..	..	..
*North-Western	18,342	..	..	..	..
*Southern	24,797	..	..	..	..
South-Eastern	23,958	14,566	303	409	60·80
*South-Western	22,101	..	..	..	..
*Western	18,872	..	..	..	..
Total number of electors	465,637	..	..	..	..
Less uncontested provinces	348,053	..	..	..	..
Total contested provinces	117,584	83,568	2,135	1,418	71·07

* Uncontested.

Elections,
Legislative
Assembly,
1943.

At the elections for the Legislative Assembly, held on 12th June, 1943, there were contests in 51 of the 65 constituencies. The number of electors on the rolls was 1,261,630—596,595 males and 665,035 females. In contested districts 87·00 per cent. of the electors recorded their votes, the proportion for males being 81·87 per cent. and for females 91·57 per cent. The disparity was due to the absence of a greater number of males on war service. It will be noted that this general election was held on the same day as the triennial elections for the Legislative Council.

The following table shows the number of electors, the votes polled, and the percentage of the latter to the former in the different electoral districts.

VICTORIA—NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 12TH JUNE, 1943.

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.			Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
							Percentage of Number on the Roll.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.
Albert Park	12,721	16,160	28,881	10,108	14,279	24,387	79·46	88·36	84·44
Allandale	5,016	4,470	9,486	4,149	4,313	8,462	82·72	96·49	89·21
Ballaarat	7,834	10,493	18,327	6,776	9,670	16,446	86·49	92·16	89·74
Barwon	6,554	7,274	13,828	5,414	6,807	12,221	82·61	93·58	88·38
Benalla	5,542	5,330	10,872	4,600	4,891	9,491	83·00	91·76	87·30
Benambra	5,158	4,348	9,506	4,030	4,023	8,053	78·13	92·53	84·71
Bendigo	8,225	10,282	18,507	..	..	..	..	..	..
Boroondara	16,909	22,352	39,261	13,792	20,336	34,128	81·57	90·98	86·93
Brighton	16,052	19,941	35,993	13,017	18,804	31,821	81·09	94·30	88·41
Brunswick	14,233	15,431	29,664	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bulla and Dalhousie ..	5,268	4,983	10,251	4,440	4,612	9,052	84·28	92·55	88·30
Carlton	10,897	11,826	22,723	8,613	10,519	19,132	79·04	88·95	84·20
Castlemaine and Kyneton	4,888	5,844	10,732	4,386	5,347	9,733	89·73	91·50	90·69
Caulfield	13,992	18,481	32,473	11,273	17,186	28,459	80·57	92·99	87·64
Clifton Hill	11,635	13,918	25,553	9,777	12,587	22,364	84·03	90·44	87·52
Coburg	16,126	16,780	32,906	13,056	15,751	28,807	80·96	93·87	87·54
Collingwood	11,672	12,824	24,496	9,579	11,324	20,903	82·07	88·30	85·33
Dandenong	18,753	20,945	39,698	15,454	18,929	34,383	82·41	90·37	86·61
Dundas	6,198	6,187	12,385	..	..	..	..	..	..
Essendon	14,438	16,456	30,894	12,333	15,218	27,551	85·42	92·48	89·18
Evelyn	6,355	6,904	13,259	5,390	5,924	11,314	84·82	85·81	85·33
Flemington	12,216	13,709	25,925	..	..	..	..	..	..
Footscray	17,000	17,165	34,165	14,621	16,162	30,783	86·00	94·16	90·10
Geelong	9,485	10,910	20,395	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gippsland East	4,126	3,317	7,443	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gippsland North	5,566	5,614	11,180	4,598	5,211	9,809	82·61	92·82	87·74
Gippsland South	7,026	5,992	13,018	5,788	5,585	11,373	82·38	93·21	87·36
Gippsland West	6,456	5,605	12,061	5,321	5,175	10,496	82·42	92·33	87·02
Goulburn Valley	6,550	6,162	12,712	..	..	..	..	..	..
Grant	6,262	5,446	11,708	4,916	4,980	9,896	78·51	91·44	84·52
Gunbower	5,525	4,914	10,439	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hampden	5,304	5,431	10,735	4,350	4,937	9,287	82·01	90·90	86·51
Hawthorn	12,373	16,127	28,500	9,847	15,376	25,223	79·58	95·34	88·50
Heidelberg	17,525	19,848	37,373	14,954	18,488	33,442	85·33	93·15	89·48
Kara Kara and Borung ..	4,824	4,796	9,620	3,976	4,551	8,527	82·42	94·89	88·64
Kew	14,363	20,226	34,589	..	..	..	..	..	..
Korong and Eaglehawk ..	5,134	4,990	10,124	4,222	4,661	8,883	82·24	93·41	87·74
Lowan	5,871	6,081	11,952	..	..	..	..	..	..
Maryborough and Daylesford	5,177	5,517	10,694	4,395	5,343	9,738	84·89	96·85	91·06
Melbourne	11,762	11,950	23,712	7,759	10,191	17,950	65·97	85·28	75·70
Mildura	6,834	6,353	13,187	5,219	5,684	10,903	76·37	89·47	82·68
Mornington	7,932	7,593	15,525	..	..	..	..	..	..
Northcote	12,480	14,143	26,623	..	..	..	..	..	..
Nunawading	13,589	16,568	30,157	10,807	15,734	26,541	79·53	94·97	88·01
Oakleigh	17,723	21,356	39,079	14,668	19,629	34,297	82·76	91·91	87·76
Ouyen	4,852	4,036	8,888	3,956	3,813	7,769	81·53	94·47	87·41
Polwarth	6,043	5,840	11,883	5,022	5,412	10,434	83·10	92·67	87·81

VICTORIA—NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 12TH JUNE, 1943—*continued.*

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Port Fairy and Glenelg	6,230	5,715	11,945	5,101	5,359	10,460	81·88	93·77	87·57
Port Melbourne ..	11,117	11,551	22,668	9,061	10,795	19,856	81·51	93·46	87·59
Prahran ..	13,010	19,937	32,947	10,870	16,570	27,440	83·55	83·11	83·29
Richmond ..	12,306	13,856	26,162	9,900	12,464	22,364	80·77	89·95	85·48
Rodney ..	5,961	5,717	11,678	4,847	5,332	10,179	81·31	93·27	87·16
St. Kilda ..	14,266	19,351	33,617	11,562	17,491	29,053	81·05	90·39	86·42
Stawell and Ararat ..	5,486	5,688	11,174	4,679	5,299	9,978	85·29	93·16	89·30
Swan Hill ..	5,032	3,883	8,915	3,868	3,672	7,540	76·87	94·57	84·58
Toorak ..	11,688	18,544	30,232	8,885	16,636	25,521	76·02	89·71	84·42
Upper Goulburn ..	5,253	4,734	9,987	..	..	..	..	..	..
Upper Yarra ..	8,891	9,799	18,690	7,321	8,864	16,185	82·34	90·46	86·60
Walhalla ..	7,318	6,025	13,343	6,377	5,355	11,732	87·14	88·88	87·93
Wangaratta and Ovens	5,783	5,544	11,327	4,754	5,095	9,849	82·21	91·90	86·95
Waranga ..	4,480	4,122	8,602	3,762	3,728	7,490	83·97	90·44	87·07
Warrenheip and Grenville ..	4,952	5,169	10,121	4,220	4,872	9,092	85·22	94·25	89·83
Warrnambool ..	6,279	6,330	12,609	5,123	6,005	11,128	81·59	94·87	88·25
Williamstown ..	12,944	13,553	26,497	11,224	12,530	23,754	86·71	92·45	89·65
Wonthaggi ..	5,135	4,599	9,734	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	596,595	665,035	1,261,630	..	..	..	..	..	..
Less 14 uncontested districts ..	117,592	128,288	245,880	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	479,003	536,747	1,015,750	392,160	491,519	883,679	81·87	91·57	87·00

The preferential system of voting was provided for by Statute in 1911 for Legislative Assembly elections, in 1921 for Legislative Council triennial elections, and in 1936 for Legislative Council general elections, directly following upon a dissolution of the Council in consequence of disagreements between the two Houses. An illustration of this system of voting is given in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 19.

In 26 of the 51 contested districts in the Legislative Assembly election of 12th June, 1943, there were more than two candidates. In nine of these the successful candidate had an absolute majority of the total first preferences recorded, and consequently a second count was unnecessary. In five of the other seventeen contests the candidate who occupied the highest position on the first count was displaced after the second and subsequent preferences were distributed.

VICTORIA—PARLIAMENTARY BY-ELECTIONS.

By-elections held in Victoria since 23rd Oct., 1943, were as follows :—

Legislative Assembly—

- 10th June, 1944 .. Mr. R. K. Brose elected for Rodney.
- 4th November, 1944 .. Mr. W. J. Mibus elected for Lowan.
- 25th November, 1944 .. Mr. L. L. Webster elected for Bulla and Dalhousie.
- 26th May, 1945 .. Mr. L. W. Galvin elected for Bendigo.
- 7th July, 1945 .. Mr. J. L. Cremean elected for Clifton Hill.
- 18th August, 1945 .. Mr. W. Quirk elected for Prahran.

PARTICULARS OF BY-ELECTIONS.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Rodney Electoral District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of electors on roll at date of election ..	6,056	5,764	11,820
Number of electors who voted ..	4,738	5,198	9,936
Number who voted (percentage of number on roll)	78·24	90·18	84·06
Lowan Electoral District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of electors on roll at date of election ..	5,918	6,193	12,111
Number of electors who voted ..	4,599	5,485	10,084
Number who voted (percentage of number on roll)	77·71	88·57	83·26
Bulla and Dalhousie Electoral District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of electors on roll at date of election ..	5,201	4,996	10,197
Number of electors who voted ..	4,207	4,428	8,635
Number who voted (percentage of number on roll)	80·89	88·63	84·68
Bendigo Electoral District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of electors on roll at date of election ..	8,118	10,364	18,482
Number of electors who voted ..	6,416	9,414	15,830
Number who voted (percentage of number on roll)	79·04	90·83	85·65
Clifton Hill Electoral District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of electors on roll at date of election ..	11,566	14,252	25,818
Number of electors who voted ..	8,239	10,968	19,207
Number who voted (percentage of number on roll)	71·23	76·96	74·39
Prahran Electoral District.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of electors on roll at date of election ..	13,325	19,117	32,442
Number of electors who voted ..	9,399	14,814	24,213
Number who voted (percentage of number on roll)	70·54	77·49	74·63

Proportion of voters at elections.

The first general election for the Legislative Assembly was held in the year 1856. The proportion of electors of contested districts who voted at each of the general elections held since that year is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF VOTERS AT GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1856-1943.

Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who Voted.	Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who Voted.	Year of General Election.	Proportion of Electors of Contested Districts who Voted.
	Per cent.		Per cent.		Per cent.
1856	*	1886	64·70	1917	54·21
1859	*	1889	66·58	1920	63·70
1861	*	1892	65·12	1921	57·26
1864	*	1894	70·99	1924	59·24
1866	55·10	1897	70·33	1927	91·76†
1868	61·59	1900	63·47	1929	93·72
1871	65·02	1902	65·47	1932	94·20
1874	61·00	1904	66·72	1935	94·39
1877	62·29	1907	61·26	1937	93·96
1880 (Feb.)	66·56	1908	53·64	1940	93·41
1880 (July)	65·85	1911	63·61	1943	87·00‡
1883	64·96	1914	53·92		

* Not available.

† The increase in the percentage of voters is accounted for by voting having been made compulsory by Act No. 3488, passed on 23rd December, 1926.

‡ The decrease is due to the absence of many electors on war service.

NUMBERS OF ELECTORS IN VICTORIA.
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL, ON 30TH JUNE, 1944.

Electoral Province.	Number of Electors on Rolls.								
	Ratepayers' Roll.			General Rolls.			Total.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Ballaarat	13,768	6,061	19,829	68	35	103	13,836	6,096	19,932
Bendigo	14,359	6,872	21,231	100	77	177	14,459	6,949	21,408
Doutta Galla ..	28,326	11,075	39,401	63	65	128	28,389	11,140	39,529
East Yarra	28,171	11,503	39,674	129	192	321	28,300	11,695	39,995
Gippsland	15,805	5,209	20,514	707	31	738	16,012	5,240	21,252
Higinbotham ..	25,241	11,153	36,394	45	39	84	25,286	11,192	36,478
Melbourne	22,112	9,533	31,645	39	76	115	22,151	9,609	31,760
Melbourne North ..	31,856	8,138	39,994	1,028	1,488	2,516	32,884	9,626	42,510
Melbourne West ..	26,892	11,182	38,074	76	185	261	26,968	11,367	38,335
Monash	29,423	16,516	45,939	69	65	134	29,492	16,581	46,073
Northern	13,666	4,588	18,254	83	112	195	13,749	4,700	18,449
North-Eastern ..	12,047	4,224	16,271	52	67	119	12,099	4,291	16,390
North-Western ..	13,374	4,605	17,979	233	130	363	13,607	4,735	18,342
Southern	16,827	7,922	24,749	29	19	48	16,856	7,941	24,797
South-Eastern ..	16,588	7,328	23,916	27	15	42	16,615	7,343	23,958
South-Western ..	16,214	5,779	21,993	61	47	108	16,275	5,826	22,101
Western	14,678	5,503	20,181	173	149	322	14,851	5,652	20,503
Grand Total ..	338,847	137,191	476,038	2,982	2,799	5,774	341,829	139,983	481,812

NUMBER OF ELECTORS IN VICTORIA, LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, ON 30TH JUNE, 1944.

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on the Joint Rolls.	Electoral District.	Number of Electors on the Joint Rolls.
Albert Park	29,133	Heidelberg	38,065
Allandale	9,504	Kara Kara and Borung ..	9,659
Ballaarat	18,531	Kew	34,736
Barwon	14,048	Korong and Eaglehawk ..	10,033
Benalla	11,223	Lowan	12,009
Benambra	9,624	Maryborough and Dayles-	
Bendigo	18,735	ford	10,624
Boroondara	39,827	Melbourne	21,702
Brighton	36,630	Mildura	13,506
Burrowswick	29,706	Mornington	15,026
Bulla and Dalhousie ..	10,159	Northcote	26,898
Carlton	22,352	Nunawading	30,441
Castlemaine and Kyneton	10,475	Oakleigh	39,390
Caulfield	32,704	Ouyen	8,803
Clifton Hill	25,759	Poiwarth	12,136
Coburg	33,273	Port Fairy and Glenelg	12,066
Collingwood	23,905	Port Melbourne	22,984
Dandenong	40,275	Prahran	32,614
Dundas	12,373	Richmond	26,578
Essendon	31,043	Rodney	11,968
Evelyn	13,432	Stawell and Ararat	11,241
Elelington	25,731	St. Kilda	33,976
Footscray	34,384	Swan Hill	8,921
Geelong	20,452	Toorak	30,167
Gippsland East	7,456	Upper Goulburn	9,806
„ North	11,301	„ Yarra	19,010
„ South	13,136	Walhalla	13,328
„ West	12,163	Wangaratta and Ovens ..	11,424
Goulburn Valley	13,054	Waranga	8,615
Grant	11,780	Warrenheip and Grenville	9,951
Gunbower	10,503	Warrnambool	12,707
Hampden	10,877	Williamstown	26,950
Hawthorn	29,070	Wonthaggi	9,791
		Total	1,268,743

THE AGENT-GENERAL FOR VICTORIA.

An article on the "Agent-General for Victoria" was published in the Year-Book for 1937-38, pages 21 and 22.

Agent-General
for Victoria
in
Great Britain.

The Agent-General for Victoria in Great Britain is
the Hon. N. A. Martin, Victoria House, Melbourne Place,
Strand, London, W.C.2.

REFERENDUM, 1944.

On the 19th August, 1944 a Commonwealth Referendum was taken to amend the Constitution. Voting was as follows:—

CONSTITUTION ALTERATION (POST-WAR RECONSTRUCTION AND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS) 1944.

State.	Votes In Favour of Proposed Law.	Votes Not In Favour of Proposed Law.	Percentage of Votes Recorded In Favour.		Percentage of Votes Recorded Not In Favour.		Informal Votes.
			(a)	(b)	(a)	(b)	
			To Formal Votes.	To Electors Enrolled.	To Formal Votes.	To Electors Enrolled.	
New South Wales	759,211	911,680	45·44	43·18	54·56	51·85	23,228
Victoria.. ..	597,348	614,437	49·31	47·20	50·69	48·51	15,236
Queensland ..	216,262	375,862	36·52	34·12	63·48	59·29	7,444
South Australia ..	196,294	191,317	50·64	48·69	49·36	47·46	4,832
West Australia ..	140,399	128,303	52·25	50·37	47·75	46·03	3,637
Tasmania ..	53,386	83,769	38·92	37·24	61·08	58·43	2,256
Totals ..	1,963,400	2,305,418	45·99	43·79	54·01	51·41	56,633