

PART VII.

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

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

Payment to the University of an annual endowment of £45,000 from 1st July, 1923, was provided for in the *University Act 1923*. Under its provisions, as amended by the *University (Grant) Act 1933*, a further grant of £6,000 for research in Science and University extension was made payable annually. Other annual statutory grants are £6,500 for a School of Agriculture, £3,300 for a Veterinary School, and £2,500 for a Chair of Obstetrics. For the financial year 1942-43 the additional appropriations included in the Budget amounted to £47,400, bringing the total Government Grant to £110,700. In addition to grants from the Government, the Council derives income from fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates and diplomas. Further income is derived from endowments of various kinds.

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

Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. The investments at present held as the result of private benefactions amount to £811,536. In addition, gifts, which have been spent on buildings and equipment, amount to £154,830.

The University through a Schools Board (on which the **Public Examinations.** Education Department, the registered secondary schools the University teaching staff and the business community, are represented) conducts examinations each year for the School Intermediate and the School Leaving Certificates. The appended table gives the result of the examinations held in December, 1942, (when the entries totalled 12,300) and in February, 1943, (when they totalled 1,976):—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, DECEMBER, 1942, AND FEBRUARY, 1943.

| Examination. | Number who attempted to Pass fully. | Number who Passed fully. | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | Total | Percentage. |
| School Intermediate | 6,965 | 4,395 | 63·10 |
| School Leaving | 4,799 | 2,243 | 46·74 |
| | 11,764 | 6,638 | 56·42 |

Of the successful candidates, 2,279 satisfied the requirements of the School Intermediate examination and 727 those of the School Leaving examination by submitting a Headmaster's certificate from an approved school.

Candidates for degrees must matriculate as prescribed by the regulations before being admitted as undergraduates. **Undergraduates admitted and degrees conferred.** The number of undergraduates admitted during each of the five years, 1938-1942, was as follows:—1938, 888; 1939, 857; 1940, 979; 1941, 929; and 1942, 742. The number of degrees taken in 1942 was 484, as against an average of 514 per annum for the preceding six years. Of the total of 15,803 degrees granted since the establishment of the University 3,477 have been conferred on women.

There were 3,200 students enrolled in 1942 (1,834 being full-time, 992 part-time, and 374 external students), **Students enrolled.** taking courses as follows:—Agriculture, 54; architecture, 31; arts, 799; commerce, 326; dental science, 115; education, 78; engineering, 265; journalism, 7; law, 128; medicine, 702; postgraduate medical courses, 6; music, 171; physical education, 30; public administration, 13; science, 430; research, 27; veterinary science, 0; social studies, 34; and languages, 11. The number of women students included in these figures was 1,081.

University
finance.

A statement of receipts and expenditure for the year ended 31st December, 1942, is given below:—

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1942.

| Receipts. | | Expenditure. | |
|--|---------|--------------------------------|---------|
| | £ | | £ |
| State Government Grants— | | Salaries | 180,731 |
| General Account .. | 86,200 | Examiners' Fees | 11,320 |
| Other | 25,676 | Examination Expenses .. | 4,930 |
| Commonwealth Grants (Research, &c.) .. | 14,679 | Fellowships, Scholarships, &c. | 6,908 |
| Bequests and Donations .. | 83,193 | Apparatus | 10,958 |
| Fees— | | Books and Periodicals .. | 4,700 |
| Lecture | 59,986 | Printing and Stationery .. | 4,820 |
| Examination, &c. .. | 42,265 | Buildings and Grounds .. | 9,608 |
| Interest and Dividends .. | 40,003 | All other | 33,930 |
| Other Receipts | 17,150 | | |
| Total | 369,152 | Total | 267,905 |

Affiliated
Colleges.

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

College of
Dentistry.

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

University
Extension.

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

VICTORIAN COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

The Victorian College of Pharmacy, formerly known as the Melbourne College of Pharmacy, was established in 1880. Classes were first held at the Technological Museum and later at 6 Hanover-street, Fitzroy, the address of Mr. J. A. Kruse, one of the first lecturers. In 1884 the Old County Court Building, 360-366 Swanston-street, Melbourne, the site on which the College now stands, was acquired for the sum of £400. Extensive alterations have been made from time to time to meet the requirements of the increasing number of students and advances in the scope and extent of pharmaceutical education. The value of the building and contents is estimated to be £50,000. The land is Crown land, permanently reserved for educational purposes.

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

Apprentices in pharmacy are required to enrol for the courses in each of the four years of apprenticeship. Students apprenticed in the metropolitan area must attend classes in all years. Country students may take the first two years by correspondence but must transfer to Melbourne for the purpose of attending the lectures in the third and fourth years.

Subjects of the Pharmacy Course included in the curriculum are:—

First Year.—Pharmaceutics and Commercial and Forensic Pharmacy and Introductory Pharmaceutical Science.

Second Year.—Chemistry, Pharmacognosy, Botany, and Biology.

Third Year.—Inorganic Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Botany, Materia Medica, and Pharmaceutics.

Fourth Year.—Practical and Theoretical Pharmaceutics, Forensic Pharmacy, Quantitative Chemistry, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Materia Medica II.

In addition to the curriculum for pharmaceutical students the College provides instructions in practical pharmacy for Fourth Year Medical Students of the University of Melbourne, with which the College is affiliated.

Post-graduate studies leading to a Fellowship of the Pharmaceutical Society were established in 1928.

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

The number of students attending the College from 1940 to 1944 is shown hereunder :—

| Course. | 1940. | 1941. | 1942. | 1943. | 1944. |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Pharmacy | 202 | 231 | 223 | 243 | 272 |
| Medical | 75 | 78 | 95 | 93 | 101 |
| Post Graduate (Pharmacy) .. | 16 | 14 | 14 | 21 | 26 |
| | 293 | 323 | 332 | 357 | 399 |

Principal items of receipts and expenditure from 1939 to 1943 were :—

RECEIPTS.

| | 1939. | 1940. | 1941. | 1942. | 1943. |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Lecture Fees | 4,985 | 4,632 | 4,683 | 4,960 | 5,242 |
| Examination Fees | 348 | 308 | 258 | 201 | 287 |

PAYMENTS.

| | 1939. | 1940. | 1941. | 1942. | 1943. |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Salaries and fees to lecturers .. | 2,520 | 2,406 | 2,518 | 2,608 | 2,570 |
| Drugs and Chemicals .. | 445 | 353 | 434 | 436 | 455 |
| Administration and other Ex- penses | 3,326 | 2,762 | 2,481 | 2,497 | 2,574 |

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The
educational
system of
Victoria.

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

Under the *Education Act* 1872, education to all willing to accept it was made "free, compulsory and secular"—free, because fees were not to be charged; compulsory, in the sense that, whether the children attend or do not attend State Schools, evidence must be produced that they are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, for the reason that no teacher is allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State School building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of those parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction. In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two of which must be before, and two after, mid-day. In practice the actual hours of instruction in the smaller primary schools are from 9.15 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. with one hour for lunch, and in the larger primary schools from 9.15 a.m. to 4 p.m. with 1½ hours for lunch.

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

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

Free
subjects.

Compulsory attendance.

In accordance with the provisions of the *Education Act 1928*, parents or guardians of children of not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age are required to cause such children to attend school on every school half-day in each week unless there is a reasonable excuse within the meaning of section 25 (3) of the Act for non-attendance. Failure to comply with these provisions renders a parent or guardian liable to a fine up to two pounds (£2) for a first offence and not less than two pounds (£2) nor more than five pounds (£5) for a second or subsequent offence, or, in default, imprisonment for a term of not more than fourteen days. Attendance officers are appointed for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the compulsory attendance provisions of the *Education Act*.

Conveyance allowance.

An allowance for conveyance up to fourpence per day for each day's attendance at a State or Registered primary school may be granted to a child between the ages of six and fourteen years whose residence is more than four miles distant from the nearest existing State school and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances. Special conditions apply to children who are actually in attendance at a State school which is closed on account of low attendance.

Correspondence tuition.

In May, 1914, there was inaugurated in Victoria the system of correspondence tuition for children in remote districts. Sets of graded exercises are sent out fortnightly and subsequently returned to the Correspondence school for correction. All the subjects of the course of study are thus taught, and with most successful results. Many children have reached the standards of the School Intermediate and School Leaving Certificates without having had any teaching except that given by correspondence tuition. For some years this tuition has been extended to include crippled and invalid children as well as children in remote districts. The total number of children enrolled for correspondence tuition on 30th June, 1943, was 1,494 (Primary 874, Secondary 620).

School Committees.

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

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

Woodwork and Cookery Centres and other activities. On 30th June, 1943, there were in operation 111 woodwork centres, having an attendance of 10,990 boys ; and 71 cookery centres (apart from those at Girls' Schools) with an attendance of 3,823 girls. Physical education is taught in all schools and field sports have been organized and encouraged as a successful adjunct to education. Instruction in swimming and life-saving methods is given at schools that have the necessary facilities. For the purposes of developing thrift and a spirit of social service in children, the Department fosters such activities as School Savings Banks, Social Service Leagues, Junior Safety Councils, &c.

School Savings Banks. At 30th June, 1943, there were 2,784 School Savings Banks and 207,902 depositors with £295,710 to their credit.

Victorian State Schools' War Relief Fund. A Victorian State Schools' War Relief Committee consisting of Departmental officials and representatives of organizations connected with the Department has been appointed by the Minister and has the authority of the Patriotic Funds Council to raise money for the following objects:—

- (1) To assist in the maintenance and education of children in Victoria (and such other children as it may be found possible to assist) adversely affected by the existing national emergency.
- (2) To purchase materials to be used in the schools to make articles of value to the Red Cross and the Junior Red Cross.
- (3) To assist in the provision of comforts for members of the Australian Defence Forces on service or in hospitals.
- (4) To assist members of the Australian Defence Forces and their dependants if in need.
- (5) Such other purposes of special appeals in connexion with the war as may be considered desirable by the Committee.

The Victorian State Schools' War Relief Depot began operations on the 18th June, 1940, and continued to despatch large quantities of wool and other material to schools to be made up into articles for the Australian Comforts Fund and the Australian Red Cross Society. At 30th June, 1943, the amount of money raised was £231,366, and the total number of articles supplied was 319,064.

Free Kindergarten Union. At 30th June, 1943, there were 33 kindergartens and nursery schools affiliated with the Free Kindergarten Union of Victoria at which 2,094 children below school age were enrolled. There were also two holiday homes. The movement receives from the Education Department an annual subsidy which in 1942-43 amounted to £6,000.

School forestry and horticulture. A scheme for the establishment of school tree plantations was inaugurated in 1923 with the co-operation of the Lands and State Forests Departments. Areas in the vicinity of State schools have been reserved for the purpose. At 30th June, 1943, there were established 391 of these plantations. During the past planting season 22,676 trees were planted. The Victorian State Schools Horticultural Society, founded in 1913, renders much assistance to pupils and teachers. The Society has established a nursery from which many thousands of packets of seeds, seedlings and shrubs are distributed annually to the schools throughout the State.

Young Farmers' Clubs. These have been established to interest pupils and young people generally in the agricultural life of the community. They are controlled by local committees of experts under the leadership of the head teacher of the school concerned. The movement is controlled by the Young Farmers' Clubs Association, on which body the Education Department, the Department of Agriculture, the Railways Department, the Royal Agricultural Society, and the Rotary Club of Victoria are represented. Three full-time supervisors are employed. On the 30th June, 1943, there were 388 affiliated clubs in operation.

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

In 1942-43, 53,261 children and 1,462 teachers were examined by School Medical officers.

Work of the School Nurses. Twelve school nurses render invaluable service in visiting the homes of the children and in persuading parents to obtain treatment for the defects notified by the School Medical Officers. In 1942-43, they made 7,734 visits to 6,963 homes.

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

In 1942-43, 24,912 children received treatment by the school dentists.

Cost of Medical, Dental, and Nursing Services. The total cost of the Medical, Dental, and Nursing Services in 1942-43 was £24,168.

Teachers' College. At present Student Teachers are trained at the Melbourne Teachers' College. Those who have passed the School Leaving Examination and in Arithmetic for the School Intermediate Certificate or its equivalent may be admitted to the College, provided they have had at least one year's teaching experience and that their teaching abilities have been satisfactorily reported on by their Inspectors. In special cases Student Teachers without the School Leaving Certificate, may be admitted provided that they have suitable service and teaching ability.

State Schools, teachers, and scholars 1880 to 1942. The following table shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1880.

VICTORIA—STATE PRIMARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1880 TO 1942.

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

* Exclusive of teachers temporarily employed, the number of whom was 405 on 31st December, 1941, and 1,042 on 31st December, 1942.

VICTORIA—STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1941, AND 1942.

| Class of School. | Year. | Number of Schools. | Number of Pupils. | | |
|------------------------------|-------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | | Enrolled during the Year. | In Average Attendance. | Distinct Children (Estimated). |
| Central Schools* and Classes | 1941 | 30 | 7,906 | 6,475 | 7,658 |
| | 1942 | 29 | 8,640 | 7,147 | 8,008 |
| Higher Elementary Schools | 1941 | 48 | 4,940 | 3,983 | 4,902 |
| | 1942 | 48 | 5,179 | 4,072 | 5,119 |
| Girls' Schools | 1941 | 13 | 4,564 | 3,426 | 4,532 |
| | 1942 | 13 | 4,467 | 3,396 | 4,414 |
| Junior Technical Schools† .. | 1941 | 27 | 10,600 | 8,625 | 10,507 |
| | 1942 | 27 | 10,130 | 8,238 | 9,957 |
| District High Schools .. . | 1941 | 37 | 17,826 | 14,290 | 17,110 |
| | 1942 | 37 | 16,926 | 13,926 | 16,557 |
| Total | 1941 | 155 | 45,836 | 36,799 | 44,709 |
| | 1942 | 154 | 45,342 | 36,779 | 44,055 |

* Central Schools are not independent establishments. They are worked in conjunction with Primary Schools.

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

Ages of State school scholars. The following table shows the number of children attending State Schools (Senior Technical Schools excepted) below, at, and above the school age (from 6 to 14 years), during the years ended 31st December, 1941 and 1942:—

VICTORIA—AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS, 1941 AND 1942.

| Class of School. | Year. | Under 6 Years. | From 6 to 14 Years. | Over 14 Years. | Total. |
|---|-------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|---------|
| Primary Schools† .. . | 1941 | 16,458 | 160,024 | 7,995 | 184,477 |
| | 1942 | 8,137* | 156,203 | 7,314 | 171,654 |
| Central Schools .. . | 1941 | .. | 5,708 | 1,950 | 7,658 |
| | 1942 | .. | 6,070 | 1,938 | 8,008 |
| Higher Elementary Schools | 1941 | .. | 2,639 | 2,263 | 4,902 |
| | 1942 | .. | 2,864 | 2,255 | 5,119 |
| Girls' Schools .. . | 1941 | .. | 2,470 | 2,062 | 4,532 |
| | 1942 | .. | 2,480 | 1,934 | 4,414 |
| Junior Technical Schools .. | 1941 | .. | 4,540 | 5,967 | 10,507 |
| | 1942 | .. | 4,357 | 5,600 | 9,957 |
| District High Schools .. . | 1941 | .. | 6,544 | 10,076 | 16,620 |
| | 1942 | .. | 6,696 | 9,861 | 16,557 |
| Total | 1941 | 16,458 | 181,925 | 30,313 | 228,696 |
| | 1942 | 8,137 | 178,670 | 28,902 | 215,709 |
| Estimated number after making allowance for duplicate enrolments between the various types of schools | 1941 | 16,340 | 178,977 | 29,706 | 225,023 |
| | 1942 | 7,965 | 174,635 | 27,961 | 210,561 |

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

**Council of
Public
Education.**

The Council of Public Education is appointed under Section 83 of the *Education Act* 1928 and is mainly concerned with schools other than State schools. Its chief functions relate to the registration of teachers and schools under Part VI. of the Act, i.e., to ensure that schools are registered and properly staffed, and that only persons who are registered as teachers or have been granted temporary permission to teach are employed therein.

In such Part of the Act "school" is defined as "An assembly at appointed times of three or more persons between the ages of six years and eighteen years for the purpose of their being instructed by a teacher or teachers in all or any of the undermentioned subjects, namely:—

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

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

A person may not teach in a school unless he is registered or has obtained the express permission of the Council to be employed temporarily therein.

As at the 31st December, 1942, the number of registered schools was 513, and at the 31st December, 1943, the number was 508. The number of persons employed in these schools for the respective years was 2,754 and 2,853 while the number of individual pupils was 75,017 in 1942 and 80,327 in 1943. Particulars of registered schools for the years 1872 to 1928 were published in the *Year-Book* for 1929-30, page 203, and for successive years in subsequent issues of the *Year-Book*.

**Registered
schools,
teachers and
pupils, 1942
and 1943.**

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

VICTORIA—NUMBER AND AGES OF PUPILS IN ATTENDANCE AT REGISTERED SCHOOLS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1942 AND 1943.

| Age Groups. | Gross Enrolment. | | Net Number of Pupils (Estimated). | |
|--------------------------|------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|--------|
| | 1942. | 1943. | 1942. | 1943. |
| Under 6 years | 8,022 | 9,460 | 7,620 | 9,166 |
| From 6 to 14 years | 56,039 | 56,702 | 50,836 | 53,207 |
| Above 14 years | 17,099 | 18,349 | 16,561 | 17,954 |
| Total | 81,160 | 84,511 | 75,017 | 80,327 |

Percentage of scholars attending registered schools.

Of the total number of scholars attending schools in 1942, approximately 25 per cent. attended registered schools.

Number and ages of children in all schools.

After allowance has been made for duplicate enrolment caused by the attendance of children at both State schools and registered schools, it is estimated that the number of individual children at school during the years 1942 and 1943 was as follows :—

VICTORIA—NUMBER (ESTIMATED) OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN UNDER INSTRUCTION AT SCHOOL DURING THE YEARS ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1942 AND 1943.

| Age Groups. | 1942. | 1943. |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|
| Under 6 years | 15,485 | 22,578 |
| From 6 to 14 years | 224,898 | 223,161 |
| Above 14 years | 44,225 | 47,111 |
| Total | 284,608 | 292,850 |

STATE SECONDARY EDUCATION.

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

Higher elementary schools, There are 48 higher elementary schools. During the term ended 31st December, 1941, there was an average attendance at these schools of 3,983 pupils, of whom 1,946 were boys and 2,037 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1942, the attendance was 4,072, of whom 1,950 were boys and 2,122 were girls. In the higher elementary schools a four-years' course up to School Intermediate Certificate is provided.

Central schools and classes. In 20 central schools in the metropolitan area and nine schools with central classes in country centres a two-years' preparatory course of secondary education is provided. This course was attended by 6,475 pupils in 1941 and by 7,147 in 1942. Pupils from these schools have priority of admission to district high schools.

Girls' schools. There are 13 girls' schools, of which ten are in the Metropolitan Area of Melbourne, and one each in Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. During the term ended 31st December, 1942, there were 3,396 girls in attendance at these schools, compared with 3,426 during the corresponding term in 1941. A three-years' course is provided which leads to the certificate of proficiency in home arts and crafts at the age of fifteen years.

District high schools. There are 37 district high schools. In these schools, a six-years' course is provided. At the end of the fifth year pupils may obtain the School Leaving Certificate which, under certain conditions, qualifies for Matriculation; at the end of the sixth year pupils may sit for School Leaving Certificate Honours. During the term ended 31st December, 1941, there were in attendance at these schools 14,290 pupils, of whom 7,315 were boys and 6,975 were girls. During the corresponding term in 1942, the attendance was 13,926, comprising 7,365 boys and 6,561 girls.

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

SCHOLARSHIPS AND ALLOWANCES TO PUPILS.

The Minister of Public Instruction awarded scholarships at the beginning of 1943 as under:—

| Number and Kind. | Age Requirements of Candidates. | Period of Tenure. | Annual Value. |
|--|--|-------------------|--|
| 600 Junior Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools | Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1943 | 4 years | Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £16 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £26 p.a. for maintenance or up to £5 for transit |
| 300 Free Places at State secondary schools open to candidates attending State schools | Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1943 | 4 years | Free tuition at a State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites; also in certain cases up to £26 p.a. for maintenance or up to £5 p.a. for transit |
| 100 Teaching Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools | Between 14½ years and 16½ years on 1st January, 1943 | 3 years | As for Junior Scholarships |
| 50 Junior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools | Not over 12½ years on 1st January, 1943 | 3 years | Free tuition at a junior technical school or approved State secondary school and £4 p.a. for school requisites, or £16 p.a. towards tuition fees and school requisites at an approved registered secondary school; also in certain cases up to £26 p.a. for maintenance or up to £5 p.a. for transit |
| 50 Intermediate Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State and registered schools | Not over 14½ years on 1st January, 1943 | 1 year | Free tuition at a junior technical school and £10 p.a.; also in certain cases up to £26 p.a. for maintenance or £5 p.a. for transit |
| 135 Senior Technical Scholarships open to candidates attending State, technical and registered schools | No age limit | Up to 5 years | Free tuition at senior technical schools; also £30 p.a. in case of day scholars and £10 p.a. or £5 p.a. in case of evening scholars |
| 44 Senior Scholarships open to candidates attending State, registered and technical schools | Not over 18½ years on 1st January, 1943 | Up to 6 years | £40 p.a. towards expense of course at University |
| 70 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to Student Teachers and candidates attending State, registered, and technical schools | No age limit | Up to 6 years | Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at University |
| 5 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to officers (other than teachers) of the Government of Victoria | Not over 25 years on 1st January, 1943 | Up to 4 years | Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University. Leave on full pay to attend lectures and examinations |
| 15 Free Places at University of Melbourne open to teachers of Education Department | No age limit | Up to 4 years | Exemption from payment of fees for lectures and examinations in an approved course at the University |

In addition to these scholarships, there is a scheme whereby free tuition and allowances for school requisites up to £2 per annum and for maintenance up to £26 per annum or for transit up to £5 per annum may be granted to enable pupils who show special aptitude and promise and whose parents are in necessitous circumstances to attend State secondary and technical schools. Free tuition is granted to children of deceased or totally and permanently incapacitated sailors and soldiers, attending State secondary or technical schools.

School Orchestras.—Two girls' schools, East Camberwell and Preston, have a small string orchestra, and six high schools, MacRobertson, Coburg, Hampton, Northcote, Melbourne Boys, and University have a full orchestra.

School Bands.—There are ten brass bands, one each in the following schools—Coburg West, Fairfield, Northcote, Armadale, Ballarat, Collingwood Technical School, Footscray Central, East Kew, Northcote High School and University High School—and 16 drum and fife bands of which 14 are in the metropolitan area and 2 in the country.

Music Staff.—There are eleven members on the music staff. Two of these are in provincial centres—Ballarat and Bendigo—one is attached to the Teachers' College and eight work in schools in the metropolitan area.

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

Broadcast Lessons.—There is a weekly broadcast to all schools in music and a monthly broadcast to all schools in speech.

Visual Education.—In June, 1938, a Visual Education Committee consisting of a number of Head Teachers under the chairmanship of the Assistant Chief Inspector was formed for the purpose of reviewing educational films to ensure that nothing of inferior quality would be used in schools. Film reviews were to be advertised in the *Education Gazette* for the guidance of teachers. In September of 1938, a Visual Education officer was appointed to arrange and produce film-strips for departmental use. The further duty of the Committee was to advise and guide this officer in his film preparation. In September of 1939, a new appointment was made to the position of Visual Education Officer and under his supervision a centre of Visual Education was established in the Radio School of the Melbourne College. From this period to the end of June, 1943, 56 film-strips were produced by the Department and distributed to many of the 400 schools with projectors.

During the period 1942-43 the Visual Education Programme was slightly curtailed because of the fact that the Army borrowed 316 film-strip projectors from the schools.

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

The Visual Education Grant during this period, was £100; raw-stock, motion picture films, and reference books were purchased.

An extra member of staff was appointed in January, 1943.

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

The organization of physical education is under the direction of an organizer, with a staff of sixteen male and sixteen female qualified assistants. One male and one female supervisor is in charge of the schools in each of eight metropolitan districts—one male and one female in each of the provincial centres of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Horsham—one male and one female in charge of the Teachers' College, four male and three female assistants teaching swimming and life-saving. Teachers receive training in the Training College, and in Vacation Schools, Refresher Classes, and Classes of Instruction for student teachers. Rural districts are provided for by Classes of Instruction in Country Centres.

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

At the present time 136 school buses are in operation and 4,600 pupils are being conveyed to State and registered secondary schools. It is estimated that the cost of these services will be £118,200 per annum.

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

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

The number of leagues formed to the end of 1943 was 2,372. These leagues raised £2,635 to the end of June, 1943, for the hospitals and institutions mentioned above, and supplied large quantities of fruit, vegetables, groceries, jams, jellies, and other delicacies, valued at £3,545 7s. 9d., to the same institutions.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

The technical schools in the State were originally under the control of local school councils. In 1910, however, legislation was passed which provided for all schools established after that year to be under the control of the Minister of Public Instruction. The number of technical schools receiving aid from the State on 30th June, 1943, was 31, of which seventeen have been established since the passing of the *Education Act* 1910. The gross enrolment for the year 1941 comprised 10,600 junior and 30,276 senior students and, for the year 1942, 10,130 junior and 24,304 senior students.

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

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

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

Senior technical schools, such as the Melbourne Technical College (formerly Working Men's College), the Swinburne Technical College (Glenferrie), the Gordon Institute of Technology (Geelong), the Ballarat School of Mines, the Bendigo School of Mines, and the Footscray Technical School, are general purpose technical schools.

providing generally full day and evening professional courses and full-time and part-time day and evening trade and commercial courses. Specialized instruction is given at provincial centres, such as at Geelong, in wool-classing and sorting and architecture, and at Ballarat and Bendigo in chemistry and mining. The smaller country schools have full-time or part-time farm utility courses specially adapted to the needs of the local district, in addition to the junior preparatory and certain full-time and part-time senior courses associated with engineering, building, commerce, and art and applied art.

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

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

Government expenditure on each technical school during each of the five years ended 1942-43 is shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1938-39 TO 1942-43.

| School. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. | 1940-41. | 1941-42. | 1942-43. |
|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Bairnsdale | 3,479 | 3,855 | 4,292 | 4,202 | 4,735 |
| Ballarat | 17,453 | 20,160 | 16,756 | 18,279 | 18,194 |
| Bendigo | 12,609 | 13,485 | 13,218 | 14,380 | 14,708 |
| Box Hill | | | | | 37,253 |
| Box Hill (Girls) | 6,201 | 6,540 | 6,328 | 27,405 | 7,109 |
| Brighton | 15,161 | 22,005 | 17,719 | 17,871 | 17,970 |
| Brunswick | 13,768 | 18,494 | 21,001 | 20,618 | 18,229 |
| Castlemaine | 6,886 | 7,114 | 8,773 | 10,365 | 9,149 |
| Caulfield | 25,136 | 16,493 | 15,631 | 15,851 | 16,073 |
| Collingwood | 33,618 | 26,822 | 22,959 | 23,602 | 23,616 |
| Daylesford | 3,065 | 3,431 | 3,464 | 3,678 | 3,481 |
| Echuca | 5,333 | 5,409 | 5,611 | 6,191 | 6,597 |
| Essendon | 29,437 | 13,780 | 13,407 | 14,437 | 14,654 |
| Footscray | 27,712 | 27,489 | 27,197 | 37,047 | 46,797 |
| Geelong (Gordon Institute of Technology) | 23,150 | 17,684 | 20,240 | 25,112 | 22,087 |
| Maryborough | 9,492 | 9,059 | 9,952 | 9,252 | 10,055 |
| Melbourne— | | | | | |
| Emily McPherson College of Domestic Economy | 9,319 | 10,646 | 10,273 | 11,532 | 12,162 |
| Swinburne Technical College | 30,322 | 30,528 | 31,065 | 31,717 | 32,995 |
| Technical College | 76,363 | 53,430 | 52,871 | 66,968 | 67,168 |
| William Angliss Food Trades | 496 | 26,336 | 11,479 | 5,632 | 4,184 |
| Prahran | 13,820 | 17,608 | 14,667 | 15,276 | 14,557 |
| Preston | 12,017 | 14,397 | 16,439 | 13,676 | 13,546 |
| Richmond | 11,985 | 13,745 | 13,549 | 13,223 | 14,510 |
| Sale | 6,017 | 6,168 | 6,379 | 6,742 | 7,120 |
| South Melbourne | 12,216 | 13,422 | 13,073 | 13,594 | 12,931 |
| Stawell | 6,175 | 4,172 | 4,120 | 4,737 | 4,977 |
| Sunshine | 19,541 | 10,555 | 9,356 | 10,334 | 11,293 |
| Wangaratta | 5,547 | 5,540 | 6,058 | 6,120 | 7,003 |
| Warrnambool | 6,673 | 6,854 | 7,240 | 7,649 | 10,360 |
| Wonthaggi | 6,639 | 6,760 | 7,743 | 7,446 | 7,196 |
| Yallourn | 5,843 | 6,420 | 7,086 | 13,846 | 10,064 |
| Other votes for technical schools | 9,489 | 11,513 | 12,168 | 16,989 | 18,774 |
| Miscellaneous | 3,677 | 3,769 | 6,357 | 4,019 | 3,715 |
| Total | 468,639 | 459,683 | 436,471 | 497,790 | 523,262 |

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

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

Day Courses and Fees. All fees are payable in advance. The year is divided into three terms. The day courses and the scale of fees per term for the year 1944 are shown in the following table:—

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

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

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

During 1943 the College accommodated 5,833 Defence trainees from the R.A.A.F., the Army, the Navy, the Department of Aircraft Production and the Factory Board.

Details relating to the College during the years 1939 to 1943 are shown in the following table:—

MELBOURNE TECHNICAL COLLEGE, 1939 TO 1943.

| | 1939. | 1940. | 1941. | 1942. | 1943. |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Individual students enrolled .. | 9,926† | 9,450 | 9,516 | 8,386 | 9,599 |
| Males | 8,671 | 8,190 | 7,981 | 7,007 | 7,776 |
| Females | 1,255 | 1,260 | 1,535 | 1,379 | 1,823 |
| Number of classes | 396 | 396 | 398 | 399 | 399 |
| Number of Instructors | 408 | 448 | 384 | 359 | 413 |
| Salaries paid to Instructors £ | 58,744† | 53,563 | 53,779 | 52,235 | 58,952 |
| Government grant £ | 44,016 | 44,154 | 51,032 | 52,800 | 52,800 |
| Fees received during the year* £ | 38,620 | 37,421 | 39,012 | 33,743 | 42,480 |
| Average fee per student per year | 77s. 10d | 79s. 2d. | 82s. 0d. | 80s. 6d. | 88s. 6d. |

* Not including fees for correspondence courses, which amounted to £1,556 in 1939, £1,591 in 1940, £1,988 in 1941, £4,373 in 1942, and £9,344 in 1943. The subjects taught by correspondence are those included in the college curriculum.

† Includes salaries paid to those instructors employed at the Melbourne Technical College but under the control of the Education Department.

‡ Junior school conducted at West Melbourne closed to permit of erection of Food Trade* School. Staff transferred to new Essendon Technical School.

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—

Public
Library of
Victoria.

The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending (Travelling) Library. In regard to the Reference Library, the librarian reports that 3,016 volumes were purchased, 1,377 volumes presented, 281 volumes obtained under the "Libraries Act," and 41,339 newspapers added to the Library during the year 1943. At the end of that year the Reference Library contained 537,232 volumes and 86,332 pamphlets. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 230,836 volumes during 1943, an increase of 16,995 compared with 1942, the number of persons to whom the books were lent being 16,990, which was 6,010 greater than the number in 1942. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1943 was 84,899, of which 3,047 were added during the year. At the same date there were 26,916 volumes in the Travelling Libraries.

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

National Gallery. The National Gallery at the end of 1943 contained 29,373 works of art, viz., 997 oil paintings, 7,551 objects of art, statuary, &c., and 20,825 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. During 1943, the Trustees of the Felton Bequest provided the sum of £24,000 for the purchase of works of art, the total of such purchases to the end of the year amounting to £546,700. The school of painting in connexion with the institution was attended during the year by 21 students and the school of drawing by 110 students.

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

FREE LIBRARIES.

The collection of library statistics has been temporarily discontinued. Particulars for the year ended 31st December 1940—the latest available—were published in the *Year-Book* for 1940-41, page 258.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden, which was established in 1896, is situated on the south side of the River Yarra. The area of the garden proper is 102 acres, and includes lakes, lawns, groups, plantations, conservatories, &c. Adjoining the Botanic Garden are the grounds of Government House, the Shrine, the Domain, the Observatory, the Alexandra Park and Gardens, and the Queen Victoria Gardens. The whole reservation, probably the most valuable asset of its kind in the Southern Hemisphere, embraces an area of approximately 320 acres.

ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL AND ACCLIMATISATION SOCIETY.

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

PUBLIC RESERVES.

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

The particulars for each municipality comprising Greater Melbourne are shown in the following table:—

GREATER MELBOURNE—PUBLIC RESERVES, ETC., AS AT OCTOBER, 1943.

| | Total Area of Municipality. | Area of Public Reserves, &c. | | | Purchase Price of Freehold Land. |
|--|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------------------------------|
| | | Crown Land. | Freehold Land acquired. | Total Area. | |
| | Acres | Acres | Acres | Acres | £ |
| Cities— | | | | | |
| Box Hill | 5,120 | 224 | 113 | 337 | 27,390 |
| Brighton | 3,308 | 101 | 252 | 353 | 63,700 |
| Brunswick | 2,719 | .. | 77 | 77 | 20,500 |
| Camberwell | 8,352 | 8 | 518 | 526 | 104,160 |
| Caulfield | 5,600 | 273 | 83 | 356 | 26,380 |
| Chelsea | 3,040 | 8 | 21 | 29 | 6,100 |
| Coburg | 4,800 | 40 | 193 | 233 | 28,950 |
| Collingwood | 1,139 | 84 | 16 | 100 | 3,800 |
| Essendon | 4,000 | 106 | 243 | 349 | 55,120 |
| Fitzroy | 923 | 39 | 8 | 47 | 5,950 |
| Footscray | 3,982 | 132 | 53 | 185 | 9,980 |
| Hawthorn | 2,402 | 18 | 113 | 131 | 38,350 |
| Heidelberg (excluding Greens-borough Ward) | 8,800 | 367 | 251 | 618 | 44,520 |
| Kew | 3,523 | 638 | 80 | 718 | 20,410 |
| Malvern | 3,996 | 29 | 319 | 348 | 66,000 |
| Melbourne | 7,740 | 2,194 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 2,194 | 850 |
| Moorabbin | 13,360 | 99 | 56 | 155 | 17,840 |
| Mordialloc | 3,351 | 120 | 24 | 144 | 10,440 |
| Northcote | 2,850 | 43 | 70 | 113 | 20,360 |
| Oakleigh | 2,658 | 61 | 34 | 95 | 10,660 |
| Port Melbourne | 2,366 | 81 | .. | 81 | .. |
| Prahran | 2,320 | 6 | 69 | 75 | 91,060 |
| Preston | 8,800 | 25 | 270 | 295 | 71,880 |
| Richmond | 1,430 | 228 | 2 | 230 | 7,210 |
| Sandringham | 3,740 | 191 | 187 | 378 | 51,300 |
| South Melbourne | 2,303 | 522 | $\frac{1}{2}$ | 522 | 1,450 |
| St. Kilda | 2,049 | 307 | 4 | 311 | 2,810 |
| Williamstown | 2,775 | 493 | 11 | 504 | 9,360 |
| Shire— | | | | | |
| Braybrook (excluding Western Riding) | 8,480 | 90 | 50 | 140 | 2,850 |
| Total | 125,926 | 6,527 | 3,117 | 9,644 | 819,380 |

HOUSING.

The history of events leading up to the appointment of the Housing Commission, together with an epitome of the provisions of the *Housing Act 1937* and the *Slum Reclamation and Housing Act 1938*, will be found in the *Year-Book* for 1937-38, pages 224 and 225. The initial operations of the Commission are summarized in the *Year-Book* for 1938-39. Since its inception twenty-four estates, including 135 in country centres, have been developed by the Commission and 1,412 houses provided thereon.

In its normal house programme to the 30th June, 1944 the Commission had expended £1,387,407.

Net revenue from rents for the year ended 30th June, 1944, amounted to £67,553.

During the year a further 595 sub-standard houses were dealt with, repairs being effected in 380 houses. The balance of 215 houses were considered to be beyond repair and were ordered to be demolished. Because of house shortage, however, the majority of these orders will be deferred until a more appropriate time.

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

VICTORIA—RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE.

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

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

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

Under an Order made by the Hon. the Premier by virtue of a Commonwealth National Security Regulation, the managing body of any society may postpone, for a period not extending beyond two years after 11th March, 1942, the holding of any meeting or election required by its rules, and during the war may amend its rules to the extent necessary to meet circumstances arising out of the war.

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

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

The following table shows the number and classification of members of Victorian Friendly Societies at 30th June, 1942 and 1943:—

| Members Contributing for— | At 30th June, 1942. | | | At 30th June, 1943. | | |
|---|---------------------|----------|---------|---------------------|----------|---------|
| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Sick and Funeral benefits .. | 180,141 | 20,038 | 200,179 | 182,383 | 20,260 | 202,643 |
| Medical benefits only (including widows) .. | 14,705 | 15,131 | 29,836 | 14,817 | 16,431 | 31,248 |
| No benefits (honorary) .. | 3,036 | 2,162 | 5,198 | 2,788 | 2,008 | 4,796 |
| Grand Total .. | 197,882 | 37,331 | 235,213 | 199,988 | 38,699 | 238,687 |

In the following details the figures in parenthesis relate to the year ended 30th June, 1942.

During the five years ended June, 1943, there was a net increase of 13,601 (20,869) in the number of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits; this increase was slightly more than 7 per cent. (about 12 per cent.) of the number of such members at the beginning of the period. There was a fall of 1,712 in this class of membership during 1938-39 as the result of a marked decline in the number of admissions and of an increase in the number of departures due, probably, to the passing of the *National Health and Pensions Insurance Act 1938*.

The total funds, exclusive of those of dispensaries, increased during a period of five years ended June, 1943, by £804,662 (£813,613), or more than 13 per cent. (about 14 per cent.). The funds at the end of the period amounted to £6,968,009 (£6,792,754). The funds are well invested, the average rate of interest obtained on the sick and funeral funds during 1942-43 being 4.14 (4.28) per cent. Since 1940-41 there has been a fall of about 6s. per cent. in the rate of interest; this is due mainly to a decrease in mortgage investments and a corresponding increase in investments in Commonwealth Government loans and in debentures.

The total assets of the dispensaries at the end of 1942-43 amounted to £249,965 (£237,008).

Separate funds to provide for payments to hospitals for treatment received by members and their dependants have been established by all societies with the exception of a few small societies, dividing societies, and societies of a special nature. The benefit payments made from these funds in 1942-43 amounted to £20,465 (£20,680).

The statement which follows contains information (exclusive of that relating to dispensaries) in regard to Friendly Societies in Victoria for the five years, 1938-39 to 1942-43:—

**MEMBERSHIP, RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURE, AND FUNDS,
1938-39 TO 1942-43.**

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

| | 1938-39. | 1939-40. | 1940-41. | 1941-42. | 1942-43. |
|---|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Number of societies | 77 | 83 | 83 | 84 | 89 |
| Number of branches | 1,477 | 1,475 | 1,471 | 1,457 | 1,462 |
| Number of members contributing at end of year for sick and funeral benefits | 187,330 | 191,864 | 195,902 | 200,179 | 202,643 |
| Number of members (including widows) contributing at end of year for medical benefits only .. | 24,754 | 26,458 | 27,974 | 29,836 | 31,248 |
| Number of members who received sick pay | 45,012 | 50,138 | 54,320 | 48,288 | 48,746 |
| Weeks for which sick pay was allowed | 500,111 | 511,550 | 519,086 | 493,657 | 477,751 |
| Deaths of members contributing for sick and funeral benefits .. | 2,096 | 2,159 | 2,203 | 2,358 | 2,466 |
| Deaths of wives entitled to funeral benefits | 712 | 683 | 626 | 683 | 659 |
| Receipts— | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds | 499,013 | 505,905 | 514,337 | 508,556 | 505,021 |
| Medical and Management Funds .. | 456,659 | 456,072 | 467,942 | 474,646 | 470,286 |
| Other Funds | 187,588 | 161,853* | 198,486 | 170,100 | 202,143 |
| Less inter-fund transfers | 112,762 | 75,829 | 98,761 | 55,431 | 71,443 |
| Total Receipts | 1,030,498 | 1,048,001* | 1,082,004 | 1,097,871 | 1,106,007 |
| Expenditure— | | | | | |
| Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds | 397,885 | 383,992 | 414,075 | 364,143 | 373,537 |
| Medical and Management Funds .. | 444,861 | 446,795 | 452,877 | 460,155 | 451,745 |
| Other Funds | 158,403 | 138,970 | 146,782 | 162,812 | 176,913 |
| Less inter-fund transfers | 112,762 | 75,829 | 98,761 | 55,431 | 71,443 |
| Total Expenditure | 888,887 | 893,928 | 914,973 | 931,679 | 930,752 |
| Excess of Receipts over Expenditure | 142,111 | 154,073* | 167,031 | 166,192 | 175,255 |
| Amount of Funds— | | | | | |
| Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds | 5,115,242 | 5,237,155 | 5,337,417 | 5,481,830 | 5,613,314 |
| Medical and Management Funds .. | 240,565 | 249,842 | 264,907 | 279,398 | 297,939 |
| Other Funds | 949,651 | 972,534* | 1,024,238 | 1,031,526 | 1,056,756 |
| Total Funds | 6,305,458 | 6,459,531* | 6,626,562 | 6,792,754 | 6,968,009 |
| Disposal of Funds— | | | | | |
| Amounts invested— | | | | | |
| Sick and Funeral Funds and Endowment Funds | 5,100,290 | 5,218,481 | 5,322,740 | 5,465,491 | 5,595,424 |
| Medical and Management Funds | 230,910 | 239,761 | 257,651 | 270,868 | 287,700 |
| Other Funds | 922,162 | 950,257* | 1,003,769 | 1,008,473 | 1,033,683 |
| Amounts uninvested— | | | | | |
| All Funds | 52,096 | 51,032 | 42,402 | 47,922 | 51,202 |

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

* After the deduction of an overstatement of £856.

During the twelve months ended June, 1943, the societies lost by secession 8,364 (9,237) sick and funeral benefit members; this was equal to about 4.2 per cent. (4.7) of the membership at the beginning of that period. The corresponding rates of secession in 1938-39, 1939-40, 1940-41, and 1941-42 were 5.6, 5.5, 5.1, and 4.7 respectively. As a rule, most of the secessions were those of new members who allowed their membership to lapse before they had time to appreciate its value. The cost of management per member in the year 1942-43 was 13s. 8d., (14s. 4d.) which was 8d. (9d.) less than the cost in the year 1941-2.

The following statements show in regard to members of societies (other than dividing societies and societies of a special nature) the number of weeks' sickness in respect of which claims for sick pay were granted since 1926-27. The years 1927-28 and 1928-29 immediately preceded the financial depression. The statements show also the number of weeks' sickness per effective member, the number of deaths of members, and the number per 1,000 effective members:—

MALE BRANCHES.

| Year. | Average Number of Effective Members. | Weeks of Sickness. | | Deaths. | |
|------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------|
| | | Number. | Per Average Effective Member. | Number. | Per 1,000 Average Effective Members. |
| | | | Weeks. |  |  | Weeks. Days. |
| 1927-28 .. | 128,924 | 290,583 | 2 2 | 1,423 | 11.04 |
| 1928-29 .. | 130,733 | 315,499 | 2 2 | 1,484 | 11.35 |
| 1929-30 .. | 131,655 | 321,799 | 2 3 | 1,515 | 11.51 |
| 1930-31 .. | 129,596 | 345,687 | 2 4 | 1,331 | 10.27 |
| 1931-32 .. | 126,228 | 393,315 | 3 1 | 1,615 | 12.79 |
| 1932-33 .. | 124,970 | 395,222 | 3 1 | 1,562 | 12.50 |
| 1933-34 .. | 126,471 | 411,979 | 3 2 | 1,599 | 12.64 |
| 1934-35 .. | 130,152 | 424,341 | 3 2 | 1,732 | 13.31 |
| 1935-36 .. | 134,336 | 432,467 | 3 1 | 1,671 | 12.44 |
| 1936-37 .. | 139,413 | 434,234 | 3 1 | 1,794 | 12.87 |
| 1937-38 .. | 143,583 | 434,073 | 3 0 | 1,823 | 12.70 |
| 1938-39 .. | 146,137 | 450,925 | 3 1 | 1,910 | 13.07 |
| 1939-40 .. | 146,832 | 463,033 | 3 1 | 1,974 | 13.44 |
| 1940-41 .. | 149,733 | 467,680 | 3 1 | 2,000 | 13.36 |
| 1941-42 .. | 153,154 | 443,433 | 2 5 | 2,106 | 13.75 |
| 1942-43 .. | 155,818 | 425,761 | 2 4 | 2,215 | 14.22 |

FEMALE BRANCHES.

| Year. | Average Number of Effective Members. | Weeks of Sickness. | | Deaths. | | |
|---------|---|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------|---------|---|
| | | Number. | Per Average Effective Member. | | Number. | Per 1,000 Average Effective Members. |
| | | | Weeks | Weeks. |  |  | Days. |
| 1927-28 | 9,957 | 17,571 | 1 | 5 | 50 | 5.02 |
| 1928-29 | 10,228 | 19,510 | 1 | 5 | 47 | 4.60 |
| 1929-30 | 10,717 | 21,288 | 2 | 0 | 45 | 4.20 |
| 1930-31 | 10,897 | 22,250 | 2 | 0 | 51 | 4.68 |
| 1931-32 | 10,935 | 25,103 | 2 | 2 | 47 | 4.30 |
| 1932-33 | 11,246 | 27,248 | 2 | 3 | 40 | 3.56 |
| 1933-34 | 11,759 | 28,448 | 2 | 3 | 44 | 3.74 |
| 1934-35 | 12,318 | 30,414 | 2 | 3 | 56 | 4.55 |
| 1935-36 | 12,761 | 30,553 | 2 | 2 | 56 | 4.39 |
| 1936-37 | 13,166 | 30,441 | 2 | 2 | 64 | 4.86 |
| 1937-38 | 14,940 | 36,054 | 2 | 2 | 86 | 5.76 |
| 1938-39 | 15,165 | 37,733 | 2 | 3 | 80 | 5.28 |
| 1939-40 | 15,163 | 36,490 | 2 | 2 | 69 | 4.55 |
| 1940-41 | 15,342 | 37,293 | 2 | 3 | 84 | 5.48 |
| 1941-42 | 15,527 | 35,119 | 2 | 2 | 90 | 5.80 |
| 1942-43 | 15,717 | 34,436 | 2 | 1 | 101 | 6.43 |

NOTE.—Effective members are those entitled to claim sick and funeral benefits.

The rate of sickness per average effective male member rose steadily after 1928-29 until it became three weeks and two days in 1933-34, at which it remained during the following year. Thereafter until 1940-41, with the exception of 1937-38, in which the rate fell by one day, it remained at three weeks and one day; this is the same as in 1919. The rate in the last-mentioned year was abnormal; this was due chiefly to members who had been on active service in the 1914-18 War having deferred until their return to Victoria their claims for sick pay for incapacity arising out of sickness experienced and wounds received during previous years. It was also due in part to the influenza epidemic of that year. The rate in 1942-43 was the lowest experienced since the year 1930-31.

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

Friendly Societies' Dispensaries.

At the end of 1942-43 there were 33 United Friendly Societies' Dispensaries registered, under the Friendly Societies Acts of Victoria, as separate friendly societies. There was also one society consisting of a number of registered friendly societies' dispensaries. The chief object for which the dispensaries are established is to provide the societies with a means of supplying medicine and medical and surgical appliances to their members and to persons claiming through members. The number of members connected with the dispensaries at the end of 1942-43 was 147,846 (148,116). As the greater portion of the receipts and expenditure of the dispensaries are interwoven with those of the medical and management funds of the ordinary friendly societies, they are not given here.

The assets and liabilities of the dispensaries at the end of 1942-43 amounted to £249,965 (£237,008) and £19,112 (£27,425) respectively. The assets consisted of freehold property, £134,499 (£132,987); stock, fittings, and sundry debtors, £88,753 (£85,526); cash, £22,025 (£15,927); and securities, £4,688 (£2,568). The liabilities consisted of sundry creditors, £10,403 (£10,431); bank overdrafts, £5,779 (£12,649); and mortgages, £2,930 (£4,345).

CONDITIONS OF LABOUR IN FACTORIES AND SHOPS.**Labour legislation.**

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

Number of Factories. In 1942 there were registered 11,252 factories in which 215,456 persons were employed and, in 1943, 11,482 factories employing 227,407 persons.

Amending Factory Legislation. The *Factories and Shops Act* 1934 made important alterations in the law. The principal alterations (apart from those described under Wages Boards) are as follow :—

Work in the manufacture of boots and shoes in factories from Monday to Friday before 7.30 a.m. or after 6 p.m.; on a Saturday before 7.30 a.m. or after 2 p.m.; or on a Sunday is prohibited. To meet the exigencies of trade, power is given to the Minister of Labour to suspend, for not more than two months, the operation of this prohibition.

The carting or delivery in the Metropolitan District of bread on sale before 6 a.m. or after 6 p.m. on any day is prohibited.

The carting of goods, &c., on a Sunday, except perishable and certain other goods, unless a permit to do such carting has been obtained from the Chief Inspector of Factories, is prohibited.

A premium for employing any person under the age of 21 years in work to which a determination of any Wages Board (other than the Chemists' Board) applies is forbidden. The sum of £100 is fixed as the maximum amount of premium payable to a chemist under any apprenticeship agreement.

The conditions have been amended under which material may be issued from factories or other places for the manufacture of wearing apparel or of boots to licensed outside workers. An outworker is not permitted to employ persons other than members of his own family who are under 14 years of age or have been granted permission by the Secretary for Labour. Factory occupiers are not permitted to employ a greater number of licensed outside workers than one for every ten or fraction of ten workers employed in the factory. Occupiers of factories are required to keep a complete record of work issued to outside workers.

The occupier of every factory where more than 600 persons are employed, or where work of a hazardous nature is performed and more than 300 persons are employed, shall, if directed, provide an ambulance room properly equipped and under the charge of a qualified attendant.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1936 provides that the Chief Inspector of Factories, after due inquiry, may refuse to register or may cancel the registration of any factory or shop. If the Chief Inspector refuses to register, or if he cancels the registration of a factory or shop, the occupier thereof may appeal in respect of such refusal or cancellation

to a Court of Petty Sessions consisting of a police magistrate sitting alone. The decision of the Court is final. The provisions of earlier Acts which restricted the powers of Wages Boards have been repealed, and the 1936 Act gives the Boards authority to deal with any industrial matter other than the preferential employment of unionists. An important provision in this Act is that all legal proceedings for offences against the Factories and Shops Acts within the Metropolitan District shall be heard by the Metropolitan Industrial Court instead of by various Courts of Petty Sessions as formerly. The legislation has as its object uniformity in the manner of dealing with offenders and in the imposition of penalties.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1938 (No. 4578) which became operative on the 28th November, 1938, deals with two matters only—restriction of the hours of trading in motor spirit, motor oil, and motor accessories, and restriction of the hours of carting aerated waters, cordials, or ice cream.

Section 2 restricts the sale of motor spirit, motor oil, and motor accessories to definite hours set out in the Act, but allows the trade in case of emergency to supply petrol, &c., outside the hours fixed, on the signed statement by the traveller as to the circumstances. The traveller's statement must be written and signed in a prescribed book. Penalties are provided both for selling in contravention of the Act and for making a false statement in the emergency book.

Both within and outside the Metropolitan District, petrol, oil, and accessories may be sold until midnight on the days immediately preceding Good Friday and Anzac Day. On these two holidays, shops must be closed and no sales effected.

The *Factories and Shops (Garages) Act* 1941, as a temporary measure to meet the altered conditions brought about by the rationing of motor spirit, further restricted the hours during which motor spirit and oil may be sold.

Section 3 of the 1938 Act places further restrictions on the carting and delivery of goods. The Section amends the original provisions of Section 130 of the Principal Act and Section 18 of Act 4275 (1934) by providing that aerated waters, cordials or ice cream may not be carted on Sunday from the place of manufacture or from any depot of the manufacturer to any shop. On days other than Sundays, from the 16th April to the 31st October, the goods referred to may not be carted outside the hours fixed for carting ordinary merchandise.

The *Factories and Shops Act* 1941, No. 4874, which operated from 10th August, 1942, is the most important industrial legislation enacted during recent years. It is based on unanimous recommendations of

a Board of Inquiry set up by the Government in 1940, and makes material changes in the working of the Wages Board system. The main provisions of the measure are summarized here :—

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

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

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

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

The new Court has three main duties as follows :—

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

The constitution of the Industrial Appeals Court differs from that of the Court of Industrial Appeals in that its members are appointed permanently and not for each individual case. The President of the Court shall be a judge of county courts having experience in industrial matters and, of the two other members, one shall be a person having industrial experience appointed to represent employers and one with similar qualifications appointed to represent employees. The appointments are for a period of five years and provision is made for the appointment of deputies to act in the event of the inability of the President or members to do so.

The *Factories and Shops (Saturday Half-holiday) Act 1943* has as its object the removal of a difficulty which existed under the earlier Acts regarding the administration of the Saturday half-holiday provisions. Cases had arisen where shopkeepers in portion of an area exempted from observing Saturday as the half-holiday now

desired to observe Saturday, but shopkeepers in other portions of the area which, perhaps, consisted of a week-end or holiday resort, desired the exemption to remain. As the law stood it was possible to deal with the area exempted only as a whole, but the new Act provides that the exempting Order-in-Council may be revoked either wholly or as regards any part of the area covered thereby.

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

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

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

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

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

* These hours were fixed by Regulation under section 84.
† Regulation not applicable to central portion of City of Melbourne.

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

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

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

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

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

Registered shops are divided into 25 classes. During the year 1942, there was a decrease compared with 1941 of 4,109 shops. Particulars of the shops registered and number of workers therein are given below :—

VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBER OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1942 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES).

| Class of Shop. | Metropolitan. | | Provincial Cities and Country. | | Whole State. | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | Number of Shops. | Number of Workers. | Number of Shops. | Number of Workers. | Number of Shops. | Number of Workers. |
| Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry .. | 3,640 | 7,132 | 2,005 | 3,532 | 5,645 | 10,664 |
| Booksellers, Newsagents | 824 | 1,705 | 341 | 789 | 1,165 | 2,494 |
| Boot Dealers | 241 | 1,249 | 226 | 527 | 467 | 1,776 |
| Boot Repairers | 638 | 658 | 397 | 445 | 1,035 | 1,103 |
| Butchers | 1,059 | 4,252 | 857 | 2,110 | 1,916 | 6,362 |
| Chemists | 548 | 1,507 | 334 | 762 | 882 | 2,269 |
| Crockery | 30 | 227 | 13 | 33 | 43 | 260 |
| Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites | 739 | 1,621 | 933 | 1,895 | 1,722 | 3,516 |
| Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat .. | 634 | 1,388 | 153 | 328 | 787 | 1,716 |
| Drapery and Men's Clothing .. | 1,716 | 12,705 | 920 | 3,295 | 2,636 | 16,000 |
| Electrical and Radio | 212 | 797 | 152 | 276 | 364 | 1,067 |
| Fancy Goods Dealers | 228 | 1,976 | 137 | 532 | 365 | 2,508 |
| Fish | 305 | 476 | 83 | 144 | 388 | 620 |
| Florists | 313 | 494 | 71 | 119 | 384 | 613 |
| Fruit and Vegetable | 1,280 | 2,071 | 692 | 1,298 | 1,972 | 3,369 |
| Fuel and Fodder | 540 | 816 | 222 | 413 | 762 | 1,229 |
| Furniture | 323 | 1,564 | 137 | 369 | 460 | 1,933 |
| Grocers | 2,257 | 4,481 | 1,185 | 2,794 | 3,442 | 7,275 |
| Hairdressers | 1,474 | 2,688 | 748 | 1,074 | 2,222 | 3,762 |
| Hardware | 381 | 1,879 | 367 | 1,007 | 748 | 2,886 |
| Jewellery | 173 | 564 | 141 | 248 | 314 | 812 |
| Leather Goods | 108 | 231 | 150 | 176 | 258 | 407 |
| Musical Instruments | 27 | 170 | 17 | 40 | 44 | 210 |
| Tobacconists | 1,150 | 1,385 | 269 | 363 | 1,419 | 1,748 |
| Mixed Trades and Shops not classified | 1,285 | 2,875 | 1,912 | 5,784 | 3,197 | 8,659 |
| Total 1942* | 20,125 | 54,911 | 12,512 | 28,347 | 32,637 | 83,258 |

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

During the year 1943, there was a decrease compared with 1942 of 452 shops, and a decrease of 6,382 workers. Particulars of the shops registered and number of workers therein are given below :—

VICTORIA—SHOPS REGISTERED AND NUMBER OF PERSONS WORKING THEREIN, 1943 (INCLUDING SHOPKEEPERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES).

| Class of Shop. | Metropolitan. | | Provincial Cities and Country. | | Whole State. | |
|---|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| | Number of Shops. | Number of Workers. | Number of Shops. | Number of Workers. | Number of Shops. | Number of Workers. |
| Bread, Confectionery, and Pastry .. | 3,556 | 6,147 | 1,969 | 3,444 | 5,525 | 9,591 |
| Booksellers, Newsagents | 305 | 1,591 | 351 | 803 | 1,156 | 2,394 |
| Boot Dealers | 226 | 1,121 | 214 | 516 | 440 | 1,637 |
| Boot Repairers | 644 | 679 | 395 | 447 | 1,039 | 1,126 |
| Butchers | 1,099 | 2,581 | 841 | 2,092 | 1,940 | 4,673 |
| Chemists | 553 | 1,419 | 332 | 760 | 885 | 2,179 |
| Crockery | 26 | 142 | 11 | 22 | 37 | 164 |
| Cycle and Motor, and Motor Requisites | 743 | 1,609 | 978 | 1,911 | 1,721 | 3,520 |
| Dairy Produce and Cooked Meat .. | 615 | 1,458 | 146 | 344 | 761 | 1,797 |
| Drapery and Men's Clothing | 1,692 | 11,129 | 874 | 3,131 | 2,566 | 14,290 |
| Electrical and Radio | 208 | 587 | 149 | 252 | 357 | 839 |
| Fancy Goods Dealers | 229 | 1,412 | 128 | 454 | 357 | 1,866 |
| Fish | 301 | 480 | 87 | 154 | 388 | 624 |
| Florists | 321 | 563 | 75 | 120 | 396 | 683 |
| Fruit and Vegetable | 1,299 | 2,118 | 694 | 1,321 | 1,993 | 3,439 |
| Fuel and Fodder | 556 | 930 | 212 | 409 | 768 | 1,339 |
| Furniture | 323 | 1,380 | 129 | 361 | 452 | 1,741 |
| Grocers | 2,276 | 4,494 | 1,161 | 2,770 | 3,437 | 7,264 |
| Hairdressers | 1,327 | 2,677 | 678 | 1,045 | 2,005 | 3,722 |
| Hardware | 365 | 1,507 | 344 | 883 | 709 | 2,390 |
| Jewellery | 175 | 324 | 143 | 234 | 318 | 558 |
| Leather Goods | 84 | 213 | 150 | 186 | 234 | 399 |
| Musical Instruments | 28 | 214 | 17 | 36 | 45 | 250 |
| Tobacconists | 1,122 | 1,317 | 268 | 362 | 1,300 | 1,679 |
| Mixed Trades and Shops not classified | 1,328 | 2,893 | 1,938 | 5,839 | 3,266 | 8,732 |
| Total 1943* | 19,901 | 48,980 | 12,284 | 27,896 | 32,185 | 76,876 |
| Total 1942* | 20,125 | 54,911 | 12,512 | 28,347 | 32,637 | 83,258 |
| Total 1941 | 22,755 | 33,706 | 13,991 | 15,716 | 36,746 | 49,422 |
| Total 1940 | 24,534 | 34,922 | 16,074 | 17,214 | 40,608 | 52,136 |
| Total 1939 | 24,799 | 32,515 | 16,453 | 17,290 | 41,252 | 49,895 |

* See footnote to table on page 257.

**Wages
Boards.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Important alterations to the legislation controlling the Wages Board system are mentioned on an earlier page.

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

Court of Industrial Appeals. The Court of Industrial Appeals, described in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 396, has been replaced by an Industrial Appeals Court constituted under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1941. Details of the constitution and function of the Court are set out on page 254.

New Boards and Alterations of Powers. Two new Wages Boards were set up during 1942, both being appointed in pursuance of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1941. The Market Gardeners Board applies to persons engaged in the trade of market gardening (the growing of vegetables for sale) within a radius of 40 miles from the Elizabeth-street Post Office at Melbourne. This work was not previously subject to any Determination. The Nurserymen's Board applies to persons engaged in the trade of nurserymen. In this case there was previously a Board in existence which applied to the Metropolitan District and to Provincial Cities: The new Board appointed under the provisions of the 1941 Act takes the place of the old one and applies to the Provincial Cities and to the area within a radius of 40 miles from the Elizabeth-street Post Office.

Amongst alterations made in the powers of Boards were the following:—

Cement Board.—The powers of the Board were extended to cover persons extracting potash salts from the by-products of Portland cement.

Coal and Coke Board.—The powers of this Board were extended to include the burning, preparing, grinding, grading, or distributing of charcoal in a form suitable for use in power-producing or heat-producing units, and in the manufacture, repair or maintenance of gas masks or respirators. This power was at the same time taken from the Shops Board No. 12 (Fuel and Fodder) which previously exercised it so far as the Metropolitan and Provincial areas were concerned.

Commercial Travellers Board.—In order to overcome difficulties in the interpretation of the expression “wholesale orders” as it occurred in the previous Order in Council, the powers of the Board were re-cast and now read:—

To determine the lowest prices or rates which may be paid to any person or persons or classes of persons employed outside the employer's place of business in the process, trade, business, or occupation of—

(a) Soliciting orders for articles, goods, wares, merchandise, or materials—

- (i) in quantity for re-sale,
- (ii) to be used by the purchaser in the manufacture, production, preparation, or distribution of commodities for sale;

(b) Soliciting orders for articles, goods, wares, merchandise, or materials to be used by the purchaser or by the person from whom the order was solicited in his business, trade, or occupation, or (in the case of a public or semi-public body) for the purpose of its undertaking;

but not including persons subject to the determination of the Shops Board No. 16 (Hardware).

Electrical Trade Board.—The trade of manufacturing or preparing mica products was removed from the jurisdiction of the General Board and conferred on this Board.

Rubber Trade Board.—The preparation or manufacture of articles of xylonite or celluloid was brought within the scope of the Rubber Trade Board.

Hospital and Benevolent Asylum Attendants Board.—The powers of this Board were varied to include persons (other than professional employees and nurses) employed in or about convalescent homes.

Hospital Nurses Board.—This Board was given additional powers to enable it to deal with—

(a) Registered infant welfare nurses engaged in infant welfare work or in work requiring an infant welfare certificate and who are employed—

- (i) by any municipality or industrial or commercial corporation; or

(ii) in any—

infant welfare training school ;
 mothercraft training school ;
 babies' home ;
 pre-school centre (including any crèche, nursery
 school, kindergarten, or play group) ;

(b) Certificated nurses engaged in connexion with any industrial or commercial undertaking.

A new Board was set up during 1943 for the trade of manufacturing or preparing mineral earths by milling, grinding or pulverizing rocks, earths or clays other than mineral ores. This work was subject, previously, to the General Board, but a separate Board has now been appointed in accordance with the provisions of Section 6 (3) of the *Factories and Shops Act 1936*. The powers of the new Board were varied later to include the trade of pulverizing wood.

Wages Boards, when fixing weekly wages, also determine, almost invariably, the maximum number of hours for which such weekly wages shall be payable and provide overtime rates for time worked in excess of the number of hours fixed. The Commercial Travellers Board and the Entertainment Employees (Performers) Board, however, have departed from this practice.

During the year 1943 determinations were in force in respect of 186 Boards, in 167 of which a uniform set of hours for all employees was prescribed. In 17 determinations, however, varying sets of hours according to the class of work or to the sex of the worker were fixed by the Boards. The particulars are summarized in the following table :—

VICTORIA—WAGES BOARDS—DETERMINATIONS OF HOURS.

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

On 31st December, 1942, there were 191 Wages Boards existent or authorized, affecting about 270,000 employees and at 31st December, 1943, 192 Boards with 275,000 employees.

THE BASIC WAGE.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Basic weekly rates of wage and the date on which they became payable are shown hereunder for the years 1929-1943 :—

MELBOURNE—BASIC WEEKLY WAGE.

| Year— | Basic Weekly Wage Payable in Melbourne on— | | | |
|---------|--|-----------|----------------|---------------|
| | 1st February. | 1st May. | 1st August. | 1st November. |
| | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 1929 .. | 4 6 0 | 4 9 6 | 4 10 0 | 4 10 0 |
| 1930 .. | 4 10 0 | 4 6 0 | 4 5 6 | 4 3 0 |
| 1931 .. | 3 10 2* | 3 8 5 | 3 5 8 | 3 3 5 |
| 1932 .. | 3 3 5 | 3 3 11 | 3 3 0 | 3 1 8 |
| 1933 .. | 3 0 4 | 3 3 4† | 3 2 5 | 3 2 10 |
| 1934 .. | 3 3 4 | .. | .. | .. |
| | 1st March. | 1st June. | 1st September. | 1st December. |
| | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 1934 .. | .. | 3 4 0‡ | 3 4 0 | 3 4 0 |
| 1935 .. | 3 6 0 | 3 6 0 | 3 6 0 | 3 6 0 |
| 1936 .. | 3 6 0 | 3 6 0 | 3 6 0 | 3 9 0 |
| 1937 .. | 3 9 0 | 3 9 0 | 3 13 0§ | 3 17 0 |
| 1938 .. | 3 17 0 | 3 17 0 | 3 18 0 | 3 19 0 |
| 1939 .. | 3 19 0 | 4 1 0 | 4 1 0 | 4 0 0 |
| | 1st February. | 1st May. | 1st August. | 1st November. |
| | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
| 1940 .. | 4 1 0 | 4 2 0 | 4 4 0 | 4 4 0 |
| 941 .. | 4 6 0 | 4 7 0 | 4 7 0 | 4 8 0 |
| 1942 .. | 4 9 0 | 4 12 0 | 4 14 0 | 4 17 0 |
| 1943 .. | 4 18 0 | 4 18 0 | 4 19 0 | 4 18 0 |

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

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

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

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

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

RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS.

Retail Price
Index-
Numbers—
“C” Series.

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

MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICE INDEX-NUMBERS, “C”
SERIES, “ALL ITEMS,” 1914–1943.

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

APPRENTICESHIP COMMISSION.

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

The proclaimed apprenticeship trades, and the number of probationers and apprentices employed under the Act on 30th June in each of the years 1940 to 1944 are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—PROCLAIMED APPRENTICESHIP TRADES
1940 TO 1944.

| Trade. | Number of Probationers and Apprentices Employed under Act on 30th June— | | | | |
|--|---|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| | 1940. | 1941. | 1942. | 1943. | 1944. |
| Plumbing and Gasfitting .. | 431 | 483 | 565 | 646 | 668 |
| Carpentry and Joinery .. | 315 | 360 | 429 | 492 | 599 |
| Painting, Decorating, and Signwriting | 117 | 119 | 111 | 117 | 134 |
| Plastering | 37 | 43 | 39 | 34 | 35 |
| Printing | 699 | 691 | 819 | 987 | 1,035 |
| Electrical | 582 | 665 | 741 | 910 | 988 |
| Motor Mechanics | 383 | 440 | 459 | 460 | 521 |
| Bootmaking | 571 | 577 | 589 | 601 | 620 |
| Moulding | 252 | 296 | 286 | 289 | 285 |
| Engineering | 1,614 | 2,209 | 2,774 | 3,279 | 3,395 |
| Fibrous Plastering | 104 | 128 | 145 | 142 | 133 |
| Boilermaking and/or Steel Construction | 100 | 167 | 221 | 242 | 226 |
| Sheet Metal | 64 | 100 | 132 | 156 | 171 |
| Bread Making and Baking .. | 59 | 89 | 98 | 136 | 142 |
| Pastrycooking | 30 | 43 | 47 | 61 | 68 |
| Butchering and/or Small Goods Making | 52 | 122 | 212 | 270 | 316 |
| Cooking | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 |
| Hairdressing | .. | .. | 55 | 232 | 444 |
| Total | 5,412 | 6,534 | 7,723 | 9,057 | 9,785* |

* These figures include 2,487 apprentices who have enlisted for the duration of the war in the A.I.F., R.A.N.R., R.A.A.F., or A.M.F., whose indentures have been suspended but who are still under the jurisdiction of the Commission.

Since the inception of the Commission, 4,813 apprentices have completed their term of apprenticeship.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR EXCHANGE.

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

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

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

The revenue raised by unemployment relief taxation from the date of the commencement of the operation of the tax in 1930-31 to 30th June, 1943, amounted to £21,218,713, of which £224,171 was refunded to taxpayers. The net revenue from taxation (£20,994,542), was supplemented during 1942-43 by an additional contribution from Revenue of £640,000 making the total from State Revenue £21,634,542. The yearly net collections of tax during the five years 1939-1943 were as follow :—1938-39, £1,874,270 ; 1939-40, £1,994,258 ; 1940-41, £1,580,702 ; 1941-42, £1,280,248 ; and 1942-43, £534,593.

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

In addition to the revenue from the above-mentioned taxation, moneys for relief have been raised by way of loan from interest on advances, &c., and from contributions and grants made by the Commonwealth Parliament. Loans for relief purposes were first raised during the year 1932-33. The loan expenditure during the eleven years 1932-33 to 1942-43 was £13,060,305. The total cost of relief during the fourteen years, 1929-30 to 1942-43, was £35,180,522, of which £19,197,207 was raised by taxation, £13,060,305 by loans, and £640,000 by an additional contribution from State Revenue in 1942-43. Commonwealth loan contributions and grants amounted to £1,931,752, and £351,258 was provided by interest on advances, &c. At 30th June, 1943, the balance to the credit of the Unemployment Relief Fund was £1,797,335. Details of the disbursements from 1st July, 1929, to 30th June, 1943, are given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—EXPENDITURE ON UNEMPLOYMENT RELIEF, 1929-30 TO 1942-43.

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Victorian Year-Book, 1942-43.

| Allocation of Expenditure. | Total Expended to 30th June, 1942, from— | | | Expended during 1942-43 from— | | | Total Expended to 30th June, 1943, from— | | |
|---|--|--|------------|-------------------------------|--|---------|--|--|------------|
| | Unemployment Relief Fund. | Loans, Commonwealth Loan Contributions and Grants. | Total. | Unemployment Relief Fund. | Loans, Commonwealth Loan Contributions and Grants. | Total. | Unemployment Relief Fund. | Loans, Commonwealth Loan Contributions and Grants. | Total. |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Sustenance and Sustenance Work .. | 12,748,463 | 140,900 | 12,889,363 | 23,576 | .. | 23,576 | 12,772,039 | 140,900 | 12,912,939 |
| Municipalities | 705,851 | 327,290 | 1,033,141 | .. | 493 | 493 | 705,851 | 327,783 | 1,033,634 |
| Departmental, &c.— | | | | | | | | | |
| Public Works and Mines .. | 853,570 | 1,818,582 | 2,672,152 | 2,409 | 78 | 2,487 | 855,979 | 1,818,660 | 2,674,639 |
| Railways | 15,011 | 2,560,836 | 2,575,847 | .. | .. | .. | 15,011 | 2,560,836 | 2,575,847 |
| Lands | 136,605 | 320,595 | 507,200 | Cr. 23 | 250 | 227 | 136,582 | 320,845 | 507,427 |
| Treasurer | 305,835 | 1,761,912 | 2,067,747 | Cr. 41 | .. | Cr. 41 | 305,794 | 1,761,912 | 2,067,706 |
| Country Roads Board | 223,042 | 1,513,234 | 1,736,276 | .. | 20 | 20 | 223,042 | 1,513,254 | 1,736,296 |
| Forests and Foresters' Quarters .. | 200,195 | 1,711,295 | 1,911,490 | 72 | .. | 72 | 200,267 | 1,711,295 | 1,911,562 |
| State Rivers and Water Supply Commission | 319,470 | 3,003,154 | 3,322,624 | .. | 472 | 472 | 319,470 | 3,003,626 | 3,323,096 |
| Closer Settlement Commission | .. | 91,477 | 91,477 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 91,477 | 91,477 |
| State Electricity Commission | .. | 138,500 | 138,500 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 138,500 | 138,500 |
| Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works | .. | 605,250 | 605,250 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 605,250 | 605,250 |
| Sewerage Authorities | 250 | 294,476 | 294,726 | .. | 5,819 | 5,819 | 250 | 300,295 | 300,545 |
| Waterworks Trusts | 1,504 | 176,310 | 177,814 | .. | 8,300 | 8,300 | 1,504 | 184,610 | 186,114 |
| Miscellaneous* | 407,884 | 487,707 | 895,591 | 27,400 | 25,107 | 52,507 | 435,284 | 512,814 | 948,098 |
| Expenditure on Relief .. | 15,967,680 | 14,951,518 | 30,919,198 | 53,383 | 40,539 | 93,932 | 16,021,073 | 14,992,057 | 31,013,130 |
| Administration | 863,020 | .. | 863,020 | 982 | .. | 982 | 864,002 | .. | 864,002 |
| Interest and Sinking Fund on Loans | 2,807,680 | .. | 2,807,680 | 495,710 | .. | 495,710 | 3,303,390 | .. | 3,303,390 |
| Refund of Taxes | 213,068 | .. | 213,068 | 11,102 | .. | 11,102 | 224,170 | .. | 224,170 |
| Total Expenditure .. | 19,851,448 | 14,951,518 | 34,802,966 | 501,187 | 40,530 | 601,726 | 20,412,635 | 14,992,057 | 35,404,692 |

* Including (a) Commonwealth and State joint relief to Local Authorities (municipalities, sewerage, and water authorities) for debt service charges.
(b) Commonwealth and State Youth Employment Grant.

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

War time conditions and the consequent absorption of the able-bodied into essential work or the Services has caused a virtual disappearance of unemployment. At June, 1944, the number receiving sustenance totalled 154 and of these 56 were purely benevolent cases receiving the minimum rate. Of the balance approximately 60 per cent. were over 60 years of age, 75 per cent. over 55 years, and 90 per cent. over 50 years, and these, on account of age, infirmity or other disability, could not find suitable employment. For all practical purposes therefore, they were regarded as definitely unemployable, although not eligible to receive either the Invalid or Old Age Pension.

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

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

Information relating to receipts, expenditure, accommodation and inmates of charitable and reformatory organizations in Victoria during 1941-42 and 1942-43 is contained in the following tables. The numbers, in respect of indoor and out-door patients, refer to the "cases" treated and not to persons. It is considered probable that some persons obtained relief or became inmates at more than one establishment, but there is no information upon which an estimate of the number of these duplications can be based.

The collection of statistics from certain hospitals and charitable institutions ceased in 1940-41. Necessary information relating to such organizations is now obtained from the annual report of the Charities Board of Victoria. Statistical information is furnished separately, however, by institutions directly controlled by Governmental or semi-Governmental authorities such as the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital and by Sanatoria (Greenvale, Gresswell, Heatherton). Statistics relating to Mental hospitals, Gaols, and the Children's Welfare Department are supplied directly by the Departments concerned.

A summary of the particulars in respect of charitable and reformatory institutions is given in the following table:—

VICTORIA—CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1941-42.

| Name of Institution, &c. | Number of Institutions. | Daily Average In-door Patients or Inmates. | Number of Cases of Out-door Relief. | Receipts. | | | Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year.) |
|---|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|
| | | | | From Government. (exc. Loans.) | From Other Sources. | Total. | |
| HOSPITALS. | | | | | | | |
| | | | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Special† | 8 | 1,416 | 97,942 | 161,920 | 316,749 | 478,669 | 323,979 |
| General Hospitals— | | | | | | | |
| Metropolitan | 6 | 1,191 | 136,017 | 248,312 | 660,697 | 909,009 | 655,296 |
| Country | 50 | 1,764 | 24,491 | 221,258 | 358,399 | 579,657 | 570,047 |
| Auxiliary Hospitals | 2 | 294 | 4,773 | 22,902 | 28,832 | 51,734 | 38,698 |
| Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital | 1 | 418 | .. | 46,509 | 49,604 | 96,113 | 94,841 |
| Foundling Hospitals | 5 | 441 | .. | 8,391 | 18,130 | 26,521 | 25,312 |
| Convalescent Homes | 2 | 37 | .. | 600 | 2,825 | 3,425 | 3,345 |
| Sanatoria | 3 | 352 | .. | 34,950 | 14,736 | 49,736 | 44,433 |
| Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses | 12 | 6,389 | .. | 463,548 | 62,951 | 526,499 | 526,499 |
| Total | 89 | 12,302 | 263,223 | 1,208,390 | 1,512,973 | 2,721,363 | 2,282,450 |
| ASYLUMS AND ORPHANAGES. | | | | | | | |
| Benevolent Homes | 7 | 2,058 | 434 | 59,407 | 129,270 | 188,677 | 196,193 |
| Orphanages and Children's Homes | 39 | 2,785 | .. | 55,551 | 154,078 | 209,620 | 147,128 |
| Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions | 2 | 125 | .. | 3,300 | 59,409 | 62,709 | 40,787 |
| Total | 48 | 4,968 | 434 | 118,258 | 342,757 | 461,015 | 384,108 |
| REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS. | | | | | | | |
| Rescue Homes and Female Refuges | 11 | 812 | .. | 24,354 | 77,946 | 102,300 | 81,550 |
| Inebriates' Institutions | 2 | 41 | .. | 1,172 | 3,086 | 4,258 | 4,173 |
| Children's Welfare Department | .. | .. | .. | 256,309 | 16,462 | 272,771 | 272,771 |
| Goals and Penal Establishments | 8 | 1,129 | .. | 142,068 | .. | 142,068 | 142,068 |
| Total | 21 | 1,982 | .. | 423,903 | 97,494 | 521,397 | 500,562 |
| MISCELLANEOUS INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES. | | | | | | | |
| Benevolent Societies | 127* | .. | 8,835 | 8,382 | 50,471 | 58,853 | 51,389 |
| Other Societies | 422* | .. | 38,402 | 29,126 | 301,836 | 330,962 | 314,848 |
| Total | 549 | .. | 47,237 | 37,508 | 352,307 | 389,815 | 365,737 |
| Grand Total | 707 | 19,252 | 310,894 | 1,788,059 | 2,305,531 | 4,093,590 | 3,532,857 |

* Inclusive of branches.

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

VICTORIA—CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—INMATES, RECEIPTS, AND EXPENDITURE, 1942-43.

| Name of Institution, &c. | Number of Institutions. | Daily Average In-door Patients or Inmates. | Number of Cases of Out-door Relief. | Receipts. | | | Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year). |
|--|-------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|---|
| | | | | From Government. (exc. Loans.) | From Other Sources. | Total. | |
| HOSPITALS. | | | | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Specialt | 8 | 1,296 | 96,483 | 264,875 | 267,923 | 532,798 | 395,168 |
| General Hospitals— | | | | | | | |
| Metropolitan | 6 | 1,184 | 126,208 | 323,386 | 470,214 | 793,600 | 632,472 |
| Country | 50 | 1,731 | 25,125 | 226,035 | 316,975 | 543,010 | 663,558 |
| Auxiliary Hospitals .. | 2 | 298 | 4,507 | 23,187 | 39,874 | 63,061 | 43,518 |
| Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital | 1 | 417 | .. | 48,445 | 53,208 | 101,653 | 100,641 |
| Foundling Hospitals .. | 5 | 429 | .. | 15,108 | 16,289 | 31,397 | 28,924 |
| Convalescent Homes .. | 2 | 36 | .. | 711 | 2,874 | 3,585 | 3,816 |
| Sanatoria | 3 | 342 | .. | 28,396 | 20,258 | 48,654 | 48,654 |
| Mental Hospitals and Receiving Houses .. | 12 | 6,319 | .. | 487,915 | 98,558 | 586,473 | 586,473 |
| Total | 89 | 12,052 | 252,323 | 1,418,058 | 1,286,173 | 2,704,231 | 2,503,224 |
| ASYLUMS AND ORPHANAGES. | | | | | | | |
| Benevolent Homes .. | 9 | 2,126 | .. | 47,826 | 93,971 | 141,797 | 153,283 |
| Orphanages | 27 | 2,688 | .. | 86,048 | 95,091 | 181,139 | 157,549 |
| Deaf, Dumb, and Blind Institutions | 2 | 129 | .. | 3,300 | 66,295 | 69,595 | 44,574 |
| Total | 38 | 4,943 | .. | 137,174 | 255,357 | 392,531 | 355,406 |
| REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS. | | | | | | | |
| Rescue Homes and Female Refuges .. | 10 | 805 | .. | 9,822 | 57,937 | 67,759 | 66,085 |
| Inebriates' Institutions .. | 2 | 38 | .. | 901 | 2,946 | 3,847 | 3,847 |
| Children's Welfare Department | .. | .. | .. | 203,922 | 19,310 | 223,232 | 223,232 |
| Gaols and Penal Establishments | 8 | 1,191 | .. | 151,258 | .. | 151,258 | 151,258 |
| Total | 20 | 2,034 | .. | 365,903 | 80,193 | 446,096 | 444,422 |
| MISCELLANEOUS INSTITUTIONS AND SOCIETIES. | | | | | | | |
| Benevolent Societies .. | 119* | .. | 4,253 | 6,990 | 27,743 | 34,733 | 28,486 |
| Other Societies | 467* | .. | 42,193 | 31,617 | 445,515 | 477,132 | 433,034 |
| Total | 586 | .. | 46,445 | 38,607 | 473,258 | 511,865 | 461,520 |
| Grand Total | 733 | 19,029 | 298,768 | 1,959,742 | 2,094,981 | 4,054,723 | 3,764,572 |

* Inclusive of branches. † See note on previous page.

Income of
Charitable
Institutions.

The receipts of hospitals, charitable, and reformatory institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) in the State under various headings for the year 1941-42 are shown hereunder:—

VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1941-42.

| Receipts. | Public Hospitals. | Foundling Hospitals. | Benevolent Homes. | Orphanages (Children's Homes). | Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institutions. | Rescue Homes and Female Refuges. | Other Institutions.* | Total. |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Government Aid .. | 700,901 | 5,007 | 59,407 | 31,446 | 3,300 | 22,874 | 794,087 | 1,617,022 |
| Child Endowment .. | .. | 3,384 | .. | 24,105 | .. | 1,480 | .. | 28,969 |
| Municipal Grants and Contributions .. | 82,469 | 193 | 922 | 902 | 513 | 95 | 41,327 | 126,421 |
| Private Contributions | 116,777 | 2,708 | 5,160 | 70,251 | 11,652 | 3,710 | 79,310 | 289,568 |
| Proceeds of Entertainments .. | 41,737 | 857 | 1,258 | 3,723 | 10,248 | 386 | .. | 58,209 |
| Legacies, Bequests and Donations .. | 518,501 | 7,829 | 55,172 | 33,659 | 15,414 | 7,844 | 310 | 638,729 |
| Hospital Sunday and Church Donations | 31,417 | 389 | 3,024 | 1,522 | 508 | 519 | 239 | 37,618 |
| Contributions of Indoor Patients .. | 307,509 | 2,408 | 49,070 | 15,910 | 1,221 | 5,273 | 85,452 | 466,843 |
| Out-patients' Fees .. | 88,585 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 88,585 |
| Proceeds of Inmates' Labour .. | .. | .. | .. | 19,017 | 14,245 | 53,416 | .. | 86,678 |
| Interest or Rent .. | 34,589 | 2,587 | 7,874 | 3,528 | 2,488 | 494 | 82 | 51,642 |
| Loan Receipts .. | 71,750 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,000 | .. | 76,750 |
| Other Sources .. | 120,947 | 1,159 | 6,790 | 5,566 | 3,120 | 1,209 | 245,697 | 384,488 |
| Total .. | 2,115,182 | 26,521 | 188,677 | 209,629 | 62,709 | 102,300 | 1,246,504 | 3,951,522 |

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

Charitable
Institutions—
receipts and
expenditure.

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) during each year of the period of four years ended on 30th June, 1942, is given in the table on page 274. For the year 1941-42, Government aid was equivalent to 41·66 per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments to 3·20 per cent.; contributions of inmates and out-patients to 14·05 per cent.; private contributions to 7·33 per cent.; legacies, bequests, and donations to 16·16 per cent.; and receipts from all other sources to 17·60 per cent.

Income of
Charitable
Institutions.

The receipts of hospitals, charitable, and reformatory institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) in the State under various headings for the year 1942-43 are shown hereunder :—

VICTORIA—SOURCES OF INCOME OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1942—43.

| Receipts. | Public Hospitals. | Founding Hospitals. | Benevolent Homes. | Orphanages (Children's Homes). | Deaf and Dumb and Blind Institutions. | Rescue Homes and Female Refugees. | Other Institutions.* | Total. |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Government Aid .. | 885,928 | 10,230 | 47,826 | 50,105 | 3,300 | 7,908 | 757,440 | 1,762,737 |
| Child Endowment .. | .. | 4,878 | .. | 35,943 | .. | 1,914 | 3,012 | 45,747 |
| Municipal Grants and Contributions .. | 87,835 | 240 | 850 | 641 | 524 | 132 | 44,156 | 134,378 |
| Private Contributions | 138,834 | 5,170 | 5,872 | 22,937 | 14,440 | 2,683 | 27,583 | 217,519 |
| Proceeds of Entertainments | 71,598 | 869 | 1,725 | 2,721 | 12,147 | 303 | 30 | 89,393 |
| Legacies, Bequests and Donations .. | 251,601 | 1,741 | 2,892 | 16,027 | 11,590 | 2,055 | 575 | 286,481 |
| Hospital Sunday and Church Donations .. | 46,505 | 906 | 4,523 | 2,514 | 695 | 763 | 1,095 | 57,001 |
| Contributions of Indoor Patients .. | 292,205 | 3,390 | 68,443 | 21,401 | 2,129 | 7,668 | 121,474 | 516,710 |
| Out-patients' Fees .. | 104,918 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1,902 | 106,820 |
| Proceeds of Inmates' Labour .. | .. | .. | .. | 19,163 | 13,970 | 43,794 | .. | 76,927 |
| Interest or Rent .. | 43,724 | 3,246 | 5,722 | 6,138 | 3,673 | 350 | 170 | 63,023 |
| Loan Receipts .. | 60,834 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 60,834 |
| Other Sources .. | 50,140 | 727 | 3,944 | 3,549 | 7,127 | 189 | 420,219 | 485,895 |
| Total | 2,034,122 | 31,397 | 141,797 | 181,139 | 69,595 | 67,759 | 1,377,656 | 3,903,465 |

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

Charitable
Institutions—
receipts and
expenditure.

Information relating to the receipts and expenditure of charitable institutions (excluding gaols and penal establishments) during each year of the period of five years ended on 30th June, 1943, is given in the following table. For the year 1942-43, Government aid was equivalent to 46·33 per cent. of the total receipts; municipal grants and payments to 3·44 per cent.; contributions to inmates and out-patients to 15·97 per cent.; private contributions to 5·58 per cent.; legacies, bequests, and donations to 7·34 per cent.; and receipts from all other sources to 21·34 per cent.

VICTORIA—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, 1938-39 TO 1942-43.

| Heading. | Year ended 30th June. | | | | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | 1939. | 1940. | 1941. | 1942. | 1943. |
| <i>Receipts.</i> | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Government Aid | 1,426,802 | 1,768,941 | 1,640,219 | 1,617,022 | 1,762,737 |
| Child Endowment* | .. | .. | .. | 28,969 | 45,747 |
| Municipal Grants and Contributions | 121,172 | 122,227 | 99,525 | 126,421 | 134,378 |
| Patients' and Inmates' Contributions | 410,130 | 446,133 | 514,821 | 555,428 | 623,530 |
| Private Contributions | 457,522 | 223,005 | 247,156 | 289,568 | 217,519 |
| Legacies, Bequests, and Donations | 234,800 | 306,072 | 607,683 | 638,729 | 286,481 |
| Lord Mayor's Fund, Hospital Sunday, and Church Donations .. | 24,151 | 22,264 | 29,089 | 37,618 | 57,001 |
| Interest or Rent | 64,377 | 64,318 | 65,063 | 51,642 | 63,023 |
| Loan Receipts | 145,649 | 345,997 | 95,749 | 76,750 | 60,834 |
| Other Sources | 457,137 | 515,704 | 441,058 | 529,375 | 652,215 |
| Total Receipts | 3,341,740 | 3,814,661 | 3,740,363 | 3,951,522 | 3,903,465 |
| <i>Expenditure.</i> | | | | | |
| Ordinary | 2,896,702 | 2,825,051 | 2,820,304 | 2,710,644 | 3,245,671 |
| Extraordinary | 69,885 | 62,096 | 56,896 | 74,926 | 81,757 |
| Building | 417,230 | 589,778 | 702,814 | 605,219 | 285,886 |
| Total Expenditure .. | 3,383,817 | 3,476,925 | 3,580,014 | 3,390,789 | 3,613,314 |

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

Charitable Institutions—Accommodation and Inmates. The next table shows the normal bed provision and the actual number of inmates maintained in the named institutions during the years ended 30th June, 1942 and 1943 :—

VICTORIA—CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS, ACCOMMODATION, AND INMATES, 1941-42 AND 1942-43.

| Institution. | During 1941-42. | | | During 1942-43. | | |
|---|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | Number of Beds. | Number of Inmates. | | Number of Beds. | Number of Inmates. | |
| | | Total during Year. | Daily Average. | | Total during Year. | Daily Average. |
| Austin Hospital | 429 | 1,436 | 433.5 | 425 | 1,191 | 385.5 |
| Children's Hospital | 357 | 6,042 | 346.7 | 440 | 5,529 | 293.2 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children .. | 191 | 3,794 | 137.7 | 136 | 4,044 | 156.9 |
| Talbot Colony for Epileptics .. | 138 | 120 | 98.0 | 138 | 130 | 96.9 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 120 | 2,788 | 86.4 | 126 | 3,008 | 76.1 |
| Women's Hospital | 314 | 8,734 | 252.0 | 314 | 8,443 | 232.5 |
| Caritas Christi Hospice | 60 | 329 | 61.8 | 60 | 327 | 54.4 |
| Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital | 720 | 5,299 | 418.0 | 720 | 5,566 | 417.0 |
| General Hospitals— | | | | | | |
| Metropolitan | 1,243 | 23,034 | 1,190.7 | 1,284 | 22,488 | 1,184.3 |
| Country | 2,992 | 34,268 | 1,764.5 | 2,992 | 34,731 | 1,731.0 |
| Auxiliary Hospitals | 320 | 6,823 | 294.0 | 320 | 6,803 | 297.8 |
| Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows* | 260 | 434 | 230.7 | 260 | 461 | 222.0 |
| Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home* | 100 | 156 | 44.5 | 100 | 112 | 46.0 |
| Bethany Home, Geelong* | 40 | 74 | 34.1 | 40 | 63 | 28.7 |
| St. Gabriel's Babies' Home .. | 36 | 102 | 32.4 | 35 | 95 | 33.6 |
| Presbyterian Babies' Home .. | 53 | 105 | 47.0 | 53 | 107 | 57.0 |
| Convalescent Homes | 68 | 805 | 37.4 | 68 | 769 | 36.2 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium | 100 | 273 | 95.9 | 108 | 251 | 84.5 |
| Heatherton Sanatorium | 124 | 319 | 119.5 | 124 | 288 | 120.4 |
| Gresswell Sanatorium | 156 | 399 | 136.3 | 192 | 358 | 137.4 |
| Mental Hospitals | 6,651 | 8,770 | 6,389.0 | 6,671 | 8,646 | 6,319.0 |
| Benevolent Homes | 2,327 | 4,004 | 2,057.7 | 2,706 | 4,107 | 2,125.8 |
| Orphanages | 3,188 | 4,360 | 2,785.1 | 3,088 | 4,683 | 2,687.4 |
| Deaf and Dumb and Blind Asylums | 149 | 180 | 124.9 | 143 | 156 | 129.3 |
| Rescue Homes and Female Refuges | 1,050 | 2,226 | 811.8 | 933 | 2,276 | 805.3 |
| Inebriates' Institutions | 63 | 98 | 41.0 | 53 | 91 | 37.7 |

* These institutions have accommodation for adults also, but the figures relate to children only.

HOSPITALS AND CHARITIES ACT 1928.

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

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

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

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

Since the date of the operation of the last-named Act the sum of £2,196,667 has been paid. The total amounts available for distribution from the Hospitals and Charities Fund (including Totalizator Receipts) for 1942-43 and 1943-44 were £771,715 and £859,369 respectively. Loans and grants to institutions from Government Funds for building purposes during 1942-43 and 1943-44 amounted to £366,572 and £660,819, respectively.

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

- (a) The financial position of such institution or benevolent society and the amount likely to be contributed to it during the financial year other than that from the Fund.
- (b) The probable net receipts and expenditure for the financial year.
- (c) The actual number of persons relieved during the preceding financial year.
- (d) The average number of beds (if any) occupied during the preceding financial year and the average cost per bed.
- (e) The average length of stay of each in-patient during the preceding financial year.
- (f) The general conditions and management.
- (g) Any exceptional circumstances with regard to the geographical position.
- (h) Such other matters as are prescribed or as the Board thinks fit.

Regulations were framed in 1929 covering the provision of accommodation for intermediate and private patients in public hospitals. During the year 1943-44, 47 of the 50 hospitals outside the metropolis admitted paying patients in accordance with these Regulations. In the metropolis six hospitals are now admitting intermediate and/or private patients. The Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital was first to take advantage of the Regulations and a new wing, named the "Jessie McPherson Community Hospital," was opened in 1931. The Alfred Hospital followed in 1933, when "Hamilton Russell House" was opened, and, at St. Vincent's Hospital, one floor of a section of the building was set aside for this purpose and patients admitted in 1934. In 1939, at the Austin Hospital for Chronic Diseases, an intermediate section, "Heidelberg House," was opened. The Williamstown, Footscray and District General Hospital and the Dandenong District Hospital (opened in April, 1942,) also admit intermediate and private patients.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The principal general hospitals in the State are the Royal Melbourne, the Alfred, St. Vincent's, and Prince Henry's Hospitals. The social services rendered by each of these hospitals is briefly described in the following paragraphs.

Royal Melbourne Hospital.

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

This institution has always been the most important of the general hospitals of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain normally 378 beds. In the year 1942-43 the number of in-patients treated was 7,975, the daily average number being 389, which was 11 above the number the hospital is designed to accommodate. During the year, 41,107 persons were treated in the out-patients' and casualty departments. The aggregate number of attendances of out-patients was 193,320.

In 1942-43 the receipts of the Maintenance Account amounted to £186,070 and the expenditure to £172,669.

The hospital, which is a training school for nurses, requires a minimum nursing staff of 270. Attached to the hospital is the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine, endowed by the Trustees of the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust. The Institute has, by the result of its research work, provided valuable assistance to medical science.

Since the outbreak of the war both the hospital and the institute have also given valuable co-operation to the medical authorities of the Forces.

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

When, after re-conditioning, it is used later as a Public Hospital it will provide accommodation of 536 beds, will be able to treat up to 1,200 out-patients per day, and will include the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Research in Pathology and Medicine. Occupation of this section of the new hospital took place progressively between May, 1941, and September, 1942. As a teaching centre, it will have five teaching schools—Medical, Nursing, Dietetic, Almoner, and Massage.

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

To relieve the pressure on the general hospitals in the City of Melbourne, the Convalescent Hospital at Caulfield was established in 1925. The management is undertaken by the committee of the Royal Melbourne Hospital. In eight wards there are 200 beds. During the year 1942-43 the number of patients treated was 3,314, the daily average number being 185. The total expenditure for the year was £26,351.

**Alfred
Hospital.**

This Hospital, which was opened in May, 1871, is situated in the municipality of Melbourne. The area of land reserved for the purposes of the Hospital is 14 acres. On 22nd May, 1933, "Hamilton Russell House" was opened with a capacity of 40 beds for the reception of Private and Intermediate Patients.

As the majority of the buildings of the Hospital were some seventy years old, the Board of Management, in 1936, decided on a rebuilding scheme, the first section of which was completed early in 1940. The building, which is of basement, ground floor and eight stories, comprises X-Ray, Deep-Therapy, Pathology, and Physio-Therapy Departments, Students' Quarters, Operating Theatres, Neuro-Surgical Unit, consisting of Theatre and Wards and Gynaecological Unit, which also has its own wards. The Hospital is recognised by the Melbourne University as a Clinical School for Medical Students and is also a Training School for Nurses.

Another section of the scheme, a new Boiler Plant, was completed and put into operation early in 1943.

Details relating to the Public Section only for the year ended 30th June, 1943, are as follow :—

There were 405 beds and cots in the Institution. The total number of In-Patients was 6,793 and in the Out-Patients' and Casualty Departments 36,827 persons were treated. The number of attendances of Patients in these Departments was 166,907. The ordinary income of the Maintenance Account amounted to £148,978 and the expenditure to £146,904.

St. Vincent's Hospital. The history of the foundation and later development of this institution was published in the *Year Book* 1937-38, page 256.

The foundation stone of the new building was laid in October, 1928, and on the 8th December, 1934, the new wing of the hospital was opened. This addition increased the normal accommodation from 100 to 245 beds and provided 60 beds for Intermediate patients.

In September, 1937, two stories were added to the Nurses Home at a cost of £22,600. In the following year a new Pathology building was opened and cost £29,308.

Since the War began a First Aid Post has been established and suitable arrangements have been made to cover any emergency that may arise. Buildings were strengthened and auxiliary services were created in addition to the hospital's normal facilities.

During the year 1942-43 a Preliminary School for the training of nurses was opened. This is an addition to the normal training school for nurses that is attached to the hospital, which is also a Clinical School for the training of medical students.

During the year 1942-43, Maintenance Income for the Public Section amounted to £106,891 and the expenditure totalled £112,142.

The number of In-Patients treated in the public section was 3,871 and in the Intermediate section 1,204. Out-Patients and Casualties treated numbered 36,294.

Prince Henry's Hospital. The history and later development of this hospital is recorded in the *Year Book* 1941-42, page 246.

In the first year of its existence the hospital treated 55 In-patients and 1,193 Out-patients. During 1942-43, 3,202 In-patients were treated and 69,175 Out-patients' visits recorded. The number of persons recorded as having received the benefits of the Institution since its first opening is 1,164,614.

The total receipts during 1942-43 on account of Maintenance Fund amounted to £76,531 and the expenditure to £68,191.

SPECIAL HOSPITALS.

The principal special hospitals in the State are the Austin Hospital for Cancer and Chronic Diseases, the Children's Hospital, the Queen's Memorial Infectious Diseases Hospital, and the Women's Hospital. Details of the activities of each of these hospitals are set out hereunder.

**Austin Hospital
for Cancer and
Chronic
Diseases.**

The history of the foundation of this hospital in 1881 and of its later development was published in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 257.

From a small institution containing 66 beds it has expanded into a modern hospital and now accommodates 524 patients. Attached to the cancer division is the deep X-ray and radium departments for the treatment of the 144 patients in this section of the hospital.

The Hospital was a part-time training school for nurses for many years, but in 1938 it was advanced to the status of a full-time training school.

Opened on the 1st May, 1939, "Heidelberg House" provides an intermediate hospital service for patients able to pay moderate fees. Approached by a separate entrance, it is situated in the grounds of the Austin Hospital and is entirely detached from the public hospital. Containing four floors the building accommodates sixty-nine patients and is the first hospital building in Victoria to be air-conditioned throughout. Both general medical and surgical cases and cases of the chronic type are accepted for treatment.

During the year ended 30th June, 1943, 1,191 patients were treated in the public section and 1,594 in the intermediate.

The total expenditure for maintenance for the year 1942-43 was £88,243. The revenue for the same period was £81,874.

**Children's
Hospital.** The history of the foundation of this hospital in 1870 and of its later development was published in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 258. It now ranks amongst the largest Children's Hospitals in the British Empire, with accommodation of 440 beds.

For children's diseases the hospital is an important teaching and research centre where medical students from Melbourne University are required to devote one term.

During the year ended 30th June, 1943, the number of patients admitted to the hospital was 5,230, which, with 299 patients in the hospital at 1st July, 1942, made a total of 5,529 patients.

In addition to its in-patient activities, the hospital treated 16,601 separate children as out-patients during the year 1942-43, involving 77,238 attendances.

Maintenance income totalled £101,114 and expenditure £104,536.

Patients' figures are reduced because of the Military occupation of that portion of the Hospital, being the Convalescent Home at Hampton (74 beds).

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

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

In 1930-31, diphtheria and scarlet fever both became more prevalent and the accommodation was not equal to the demand. The Board obtained approval for the provision of extra wards, additions to the nurses' home and other services, bringing the nominal number of beds to 550, but with additional balcony accommodation.

Transport of patients to the hospital is provided by motor ambulances, the area served extending as far as Werribee, Ferntree Gully, Whittlesea, and Mornington.

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

The patients treated, during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1943, numbered 5,209, and the maximum number of occupied beds in any one day 612.

For the same period receipts amounted to £101,685, and expenditure to £100,641.

The hospital is now an approved Training School for Nurses in association with other major hospitals, and has a fully-equipped Preliminary Training School, through which all probationer nurses pass before taking up ward duty.

A dietary department was established during year 1939-1940.

**Women's
Hospital.**

The history and later development of this hospital, which was founded in 1856, is recorded in the *Year-Book* 1937-38, page 260.

A service block costing £110,000 was officially opened by Her Excellency Lady Gowrie in November, 1937. A Pathological block, the tender price of which was £42,000, was opened by Lord Huntingfield in 1939.

In 1941 a new maternity wing, costing £60,000 and accommodating 69 patients was opened by Lady Dugan.

During the year ended 30th June, 1943, the daily average number of in-patients was 232, whilst out-patients numbered 10,927 with 33,250 attendances.

Since its foundation, there have been 130,103 births in the hospital, and out-patients' attendances have numbered 753,263.

In 1942-43 the total maintenance receipts and expenditure amounted to £89,615 and £92,996 respectively.

**Other
Hospitals, &c.**

Statements showing the nature of the work performed by other hospitals, societies, &c., were published in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, pages 568 to 582, and 586.

TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA AND BUREAUX.

With the definite object of obtaining improved results in the prevention and cure of tuberculosis, a State Director of Tuberculosis was appointed in 1927. Since this appointment, a new feature in the control and cure of the disease has been the establishment of tuberculosis bureaux in the metropolis and in the provincial centres of the State. With the co-operation of the Bureaux, a larger proportion of cases in the early stages of the disease has been admitted to the Sanatoria. This has resulted in a reduction in the period of stay therein, and in the consequent utilization of the available number of beds to a greater extent for the benefit of the tuberculous members of the population.

The following table shows the accommodation of, the number of admissions to, discharges from, and deaths of males and females in sanatoria during the twelve months ended 30th June, 1943:—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS SANATORIA—
ACCOMMODATION, ETC., 1942-43.

| Sanatorium. | Accommodation. | | Admissions. | | Discharges. | | Deaths. | |
|------------------------|----------------|-----|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|---------|-----|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Greenvale .. | .. | 172 | .. | 149 | .. | 101 | .. | 46 |
| Austin .. | 90 | 50 | 136 | 61 | 94 | 52 | 54 | 18 |
| Heatherton .. | .. | 124 | .. | 172 | .. | 136 | .. | 29 |
| Royal Park— | | | | | | | | |
| Dunstan Chalet .. | 19 | .. | 16 | .. | 9 | .. | 7 | .. |
| Eleanor Shaw Chalet .. | .. | 12 | .. | 29 | .. | 16 | .. | 5 |
| Gresswell .. | 192 | .. | 206 | .. | 214 | .. | 10 | .. |
| Bendigo Chalet .. | 14 | 14 | 20 | 20 | 20 | 12 | 3 | 1 |
| Ballarat Chalet .. | 6 | 6 | 12 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 1 |
| Total .. | 231 | 378 | 390 | 438 | 343 | 321 | 78 | 100 |

Close co-operation with the Army Authorities has resulted in the prevention of known cases of lung tuberculosis being admitted to the services. The splendid pioneer work of the Army Authorities in submitting recruits to Miniature Radiography has resulted in about 1 in 200 being rejected for tuberculosis. A number of these cases naturally required treatment and has thus thrown a great strain on the existing accommodation for males. Two new wards, each of 24 beds, have been erected at Gresswell Sanatorium to partially meet these new demands.

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

Sanatorium beds available in Victoria in 1927 numbered 413 ; at June 1943, 699. Provision has been made for the erection of a new 72-bed ward at Greenvale and a similar ward at Heatherton at a later date.

In addition, country chalets (approximately 12-14 beds each), attached to Base hospitals at Mildura, Horsham, and Hamilton, are in course of erection. It is also proposed to establish chalets at Geelong, Sale, Mooroopna, Wangaratta, and Warrnambool.

The Branch Bureaux at Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, and Prahran have done useful work. Work at the Central Tuberculosis Bureau has further increased during the year. Attendances at this Bureau were 17,203 in 1939-40, 17,478 in 1940-41, 21,550 in 1941-42, and 22,434 in 1942-43. The work of the Bureaux is much appreciated by general practitioners, from whom many encouraging messages have been received. In recent years doctors in private practice have sent to the Bureaux an increasing number of patients for examination and report. During the year ended 30th June, 1943, 11,669 domiciliary visits to tuberculosis patients were made by the ten nurses attached to the various Bureaux.

The following table illustrates some of the work at the Central and Branch Tuberculosis Bureaux during the year ended 30th June, 1943 :—

VICTORIA—TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX ACTIVITIES, 1942-43.

| Type of Service. | Metropolitan— | | | | Country— | |
|---|---------------|-------|----------|-----|---------------------------------|-------|
| | Central. | | Prahran. | | Ballarat, Bendigo, and Geelong. | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| New cases applying | 2,502 | 2,551 | 148 | 214 | 272 | 285 |
| Re-attendances | 8,211 | 9,789 | 252 | 357 | 1,511 | 1,571 |
| Cases passed for entry to Sanatoria and other Institutions .. | 371 | 460 | 7 | 10 | 39 | 30 |
| Contacts— | | | | | | |
| New—Examined | 716 | 1,161 | 27 | 58 | 92 | 142 |
| Old—Re-examined | 845 | 1,273 | 15 | 35 | 384 | 522 |
| Found Tuberculosis | 36 | 79 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 6 |
| Infecting Cases | | 468 | 44 | 45 | 152 | 159 |
| Visits to Patients' Homes— | | | | | | |
| By Nurses | 3,858 | 4,421 | 194 | 262 | .. | .. |
| ,, Nurses (Bendigo-Ballarat) .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 985 | 1,145 |
| ,, Nurses (Geelong) | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 804 |
| X-Ray Screen Examinations— | | | | | | |
| Films | 3,499 | 3,728 | 209 | 292 | 503 | 506 |
| Screens | 1,498 | 1,600 | .. | .. | 3 | 6 |
| Pneumothorax Refills | 447 | 487 | .. | 5 | 99 | 157 |

The number of attendances of patients at the Central and Branch Bureaux during the period of twelve months ended on 30th June in each of the sixteen years, 1927 to 1943, was as follows:—

VICTORIA—ATTENDANCES OF PATIENTS AT
TUBERCULOSIS BUREAUX, 1927 TO 1943.

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

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE.

The subjoined table sets forth the numbers under the care of the Department for the years 1942 and 1943.

VICTORIA—PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE, 31ST DECEMBER,
1942 AND 1943.

| Location. | On 31st December— | | Increase (+). Decrease (-). |
|---|-------------------|-------|--------------------------------|
| | 1942. | 1943. | |
| In State Hospitals | 6,344 | 6,250 | — 94 |
| On Trial Leave from State Hospitals .. | 660 | 693 | + 33 |
| Boarded Out | 252 | 309 | + 57 |
| In licensed Private Mental Homes | 45 | 43 | — 2 |
| On Trial Leave from licensed Private Mental Homes | 14 | 16 | + 2 |
| Total Number of Certified Insane .. | 7,315 | 7,311 | — 4 |
| In Receiving Institutions | 113 | 105 | — 8 |
| Total | 7,428 | 7,416 | — 12 |
| Voluntary Boarders | 217 | 236 | + 19 |
| Cases of Mental Disorder in Returned Soldiers (not included in other statistics) .. | 96 | 99 | + 3 |

There was a decrease in the year 1943, compared with 1942 in the number of certified patients in State Mental Hospitals. The number of certified insane in the State at the end of 1943, proportionately to the population, was 1 in 273. At 31st December, 1943, there were 230 military mental cases known to the Department and 236 voluntary boarders in various institutions.

The number of admissions to Mental Hospitals for each of the years 1939 to 1943 was as follows:—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—ADMISSIONS, 1939 TO 1943.

| Year. | First Admissions. | | | Re-admissions. | | | Total Admissions. |
|---------|-------------------|---------|--------|----------------|---------|--------|-------------------|
| | Male. | Female. | Total. | Male. | Female. | Total. | |
| 1939 .. | 407 | 431 | 838 | 79 | 89 | 168 | 1,006 |
| 1940 .. | 409 | 393 | 802 | 37 | 59 | 96 | 898 |
| 1941 .. | 346 | 431 | 777 | 41 | 73 | 114 | 891 |
| 1942 .. | 393 | 383 | 776 | 32 | 34 | 66 | 842 |
| 1943 .. | 367 | 427 | 794 | 31 | 42 | 73 | 867 |

The number of discharges from, and the deaths in, Mental Hospitals of the Department for each of the years 1939 to 1943 are given below:—

VICTORIA—MENTAL HOSPITALS—DISCHARGES AND DEATHS, 1939 TO 1943.

| Year. | Discharges. | | | Deaths. | | | Total of Discharges and Deaths. |
|---------|-------------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|---------------------------------|
| | Male. | Female. | Total. | Male. | Female. | Total. | |
| 1939 .. | 232 | 302 | 534 | 256 | 246 | 502 | 1,036 |
| 1940 .. | 216 | 244 | 460 | 191 | 182 | 373 | 833 |
| 1941 .. | 174 | 195 | 389 | 216 | 218 | 434 | 823 |
| 1942 .. | 180 | 207 | 387 | 263 | 262 | 525 | 912 |
| 1943 .. | 156 | 158 | 314 | 266 | 288 | 554 | 868 |

CHILDREN'S WELFARE DEPARTMENT.

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

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

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

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

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

The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Children's Welfare Department at the end of each of the five years, 1939-1943.

| Year. | Boarded Out in Foster Homes. | On Probation with Friends or Relatives. | With Employers on Service Conditions. | At Royal Park Depot. | In Other Institutions. | Total. |
|---------|------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|--------|
| 1939 .. | 1,848 | 1,208 | 351 | 275 | 1,770 | 5,452 |
| 1940 .. | 1,668 | 1,397 | 249 | 251 | 1,780 | 5,345 |
| 1941 .. | 1,424 | 1,314 | 251 | 228 | 1,715 | 4,932 |
| 1942 .. | 1,149 | 1,084 | 258 | 251 | 1,957 | 4,699 |
| 1943 .. | 971 | 1,193 | 279 | 237 | 1,701 | 4,381 |

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

Wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools.

or in other employment. The following table shows the number and location of wards of the Department for Reformatory Schools at the end of each of the five years 1939-43:—

| Year | At Royal Park Reformatory School. | In Other Reformatory Schools. | On Probation with Friends or Relatives. | With Employers on Service Conditions. | Total. |
|---------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|--------|
| 1939 .. | 3 | 66 | 73 | 15 | 157 |
| 1940 .. | 1 | 54 | 47 | 9 | 111 |
| 1941 .. | 3 | 43 | 32 | 3 | 81 |
| 1942 .. | .. | 70 | 10 | 3 | 83 |
| 1943 .. | 3 | 93 | 11 | 6 | 113 |

Part I., Division 8, of the *Children's Welfare Act* 1928 provides for the approval by the Governor in Council of private persons and institutions prepared to maintain gratuitously children who may be deemed by any Court or Children's Court to be "neglected" under section 18 of the Act (section 61). Authority is given to any Court or Children's Court to commit such children to private persons and institutions so approved (section 63). Power is also given to a father or mother being the guardian of any child to transfer guardianship to private persons or institutions so approved (section 67). The number of children so held at 31st December, 1942 and 1943, was:—

| | 1942. | 1943. |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Court committals | 72 | 36 |
| Transfer of guardianship | 27 | 66 |
| Total | 99 | 102 |

Part II. of the *Children's Welfare Act* (Infant Life Protection) provides that no person shall, for payment or reward, retain or receive into her care or charge in any home any infant under the age of five years for the purpose of nursing or maintaining such infant apart from its parents for more than three consecutive days, or for the purpose of adopting such infant, unless such person and such home is registered by the Department (section 95). Exemptions from the operation of this section in the case of a relative or for other special reasons may be granted by the Minister (section 107). Payments are to be made through the Secretary and in no other way (section 103). If payments fall into arrears for four weeks the child *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Children's Welfare Department (section 103). The following is a statement of the operations of this part for the years ended 31st December, 1942 and 1943.

| | 1942. | 1943. |
|---|-------|-------|
| Children already placed at 1st January .. | 219 | 240 |
| Children placed during year | 328 | 285 |
| | 547 | 525 |
| Discharged from operations of Part II. during year— | | |
| Custody resumed by parents .. | 230 | 210 |
| Made wards through arrears .. | 42 | 43 |
| Deaths | 4 | 7 |
| Attained five years of age | 31 | 30 |
| | 307 | 290 |
| Under supervision at 31st December .. | 240 | 235 |
| | 547 | 525 |

Part III. of the *Maintenance Act* 1928 enables a mother whose child is without sufficient means of support, and who is unable to provide or to obtain by any available legal proceedings sufficient means of support for such child, to apply in the prescribed form to the Secretary of the Children's Welfare Department for assistance for or towards the maintenance thereof. "Child" means any person (whether born in lawful wedlock or not) under the maximum age provided under the Education Acts at which attendance at school ceases to be compulsory.

The following statement shows the number of children in respect of whom assistance under the Maintenance Act was being afforded at the 31st December, in the years 1940 to 1943, and the total amount of such assistance paid in each year, together with the average payments per child per week:—

| Year. | Number of Children Assisted. | Total Amount of Assistance Payments. | Average Payment per Child per Week. |
|------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| | | £ | s. d. |
| 1940 | 6,933 | 164,152 | 8 4 |
| 1941 | 5,680 | 144,872 | 8 8 |
| 1942 | 4,313 | 130,144 | 8 10 |
| 1943 | 3,545 | 93,792 | 9 3 |

As a result of a report by the Select Committee of the Legislative Assembly, appointed by Parliament to inquire into and report on the establishment in Victoria of a scheme to provide for the payment of Widows' Pensions, the *Maintenance (Widowed Mothers) Act* 1937 came into operation on the 4th March, 1938.

This Act, which is administered by the Children's Welfare Department under the direction of the Minister, provides for the granting of a pension to any widow mother who is receiving or is eligible to receive assistance from the Children's Welfare Department in respect of her child.

Application is made to the Secretary on the prescribed form, and the Minister, after due investigation has been made similar to that in the case of an application for assistance in respect of a child, either grants or refuses the application.

The Act fixes the rate of pension at not less than 6s. per week, and not more than 10s. per week. Amending Act No. 4862 increases the maximum sum payable to not more than 15s. per week.

The following statement shows the operations of this Act since its inception :—

| Year. | Applications Approved. | Applications in Force at 31st December. | Total Amount of Allowances Paid. | Average Weekly Allowance. |
|---------|------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | | £ | s. d. |
| 1938 .. | 930 | 918 | 13,121 | 8 10 |
| 1939 .. | 238 | 965 | 21,381 | 9 0 |
| 1940 .. | 129 | 934 | 23,183 | 9 1 |
| 1941 .. | 178 | 827 | 21,171 | 9 2 |
| 1942 .. | 54 | 727 | 12,467 | 12 11 |
| 1943 .. | .. | 1 | 64 | 15 0 |

NOTE.—The Maintenance (Widowed Mothers) Act 1937 has been practically superseded by the Commonwealth Widows Pensions Act, No. 19 of 1942, which came into operation on 5th June, 1942, see page 302.

Financial Statement
Children's
Welfare
Department.

The following statement shows the financial operations of the Department for the years ended 31st December, 1942 and 1943.

| | At 31st December, 1942. | At 31st December, 1943. |
|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| EXPENDITURE. | | |
| | £ | £ |
| Children's Welfare Department— | | |
| Boarded-out children | 71,870 | 71,646 |
| Royal Park Depot | 12,138 | 11,677 |
| Abbotsford Industrial School | 1,413 | .. |
| Fairhaven | 226 | 313 |
| Department for Reformatory Schools | 1,960 | 2,757 |
| Maintenance Act— | | |
| Children | 130,144 | 93,728 |
| Widows | 12,467 | 64 |
| General Maintenance Items— | | |
| (Medical attention, School requisites, &c.) | 6,913 | 4,884 |
| Administration | 35,640 | 38,163 |
| Gross Expenditure | 272,771 | 223,232 |
| RECEIPTS. | | |
| Collection from parents | 15,989† | 21,574‡ |
| Other receipts | 473 | 748 |
| | 16,462 | 22,322 |
| Net Expenditure | 256,309 | 200,910 |

† Includes £769 Child Endowment.

‡ Includes £3,012 Child Endowment.

The following statement shows the Net Expenditure of the Department during the ten years 1934-1943:—

| Year. | Net Expenditure. | Year. | Net Expenditure. |
|------------|------------------|------------|------------------|
| | £ | | £ |
| 1934 | 251,587 | 1939 | 310,048 |
| 1935 | 251,614 | 1940 | 302,424 |
| 1936 | 262,792 | 1941 | 279,476 |
| 1937 | 272,788 | 1942 | 256,309 |
| 1938 | 297,011 | 1943 | 200,910 |

INFANT WELFARE AND BUSH NURSING.

Infant Welfare. With the object of reducing the wastage of child life due to preventable causes, infant welfare centres have been established throughout Victoria since 1917. They are maintained by various municipalities, which are aided by a Government subsidy on a £1 for £1 basis up to £112 10s. per annum, providing the minimum salary paid to the nurse is £208 per annum for full-time and proportionately for each nurse employed part-time. If the salary is lower than this rate only half the nurse's salary is subsidized. On 30th June, 1943, there were 130 municipalities maintaining 244 centres. Of these municipalities, 29 in the metropolitan area were supporting 90 centres, and 101 in the country were supporting 154 centres. During the year ended 30th June, 1943, the number of individual children who were given attention at centres was 67,061, compared with 65,327 in 1942. Their attendances numbered 658,000 in 1943 and 654,798 in 1942, and the nurses made 74,950 and 75,279 visits in 1943 and 1942 respectively. Also at the end of June, 1943, there were four Mobile Infant Welfare Services operated by car or caravan. The number of nurses actually employed in infant welfare centre work was 137, but, including Infant Welfare nurses in the Public Health Department and those attached to voluntary organizations and training schools, there were 161.

The following statement gives particulars of infant welfare centres for the year 1917-18 (the first year in operation) and for the five years 1938-39 to 1942-43:—

VICTORIA—INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

| | 1917-18. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. | 1940-41. | 1941-42. | 1942-43. |
|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Number of Centres .. | 3 | 207 | 221 | 227 | 233 | 244 |
| Nurses in Centres .. | 1 | 114 | 118 | 123 | 123 | 130 |
| Home Visits .. | 1,407 | 73,490 | 75,271 | 76,980 | 75,279 | 74,950 |
| Total Individual Children .. | 913 | 51,316 | 56,809 | 60,906 | 66,187 | 67,061 |
| Total Attendances .. | 4,116 | 520,819 | 560,321 | 597,982 | 654,798 | 658,000 |

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

| | |
|---|---|
| Presbyterian Babies' Home .. | } Training Infant Welfare and Mothercraft Nurses |
| Victorian Baby Health Centres | |
| Association Training School | |
| Tweddle Baby Hospital .. | |
| Foundling Hospital, Broadmeadows | } Training Mothercraft Nurses |
| Methodist Babies' Home .. | |
| Bethany Babies' Home .. | |
| St. Gabriel's Church of England Babies' Home | |
| Foundling Hospital, Upper Beaconsfield | |

There were 847 Infant Welfare nurses registered with the Nurses' Board in Victoria at 30th June, 1943, and 890 Mothercraft nurses eligible to obtain the Public Health Department certificate of competency.

There are eleven creches or day nurseries supported by voluntary effort and money derived from Trust funds. The children are admitted as a rule from the age of six weeks to six years. The original charge of 3d. to 4d. per day, varying with different creches, remains the same for soldiers' children, but, in cases where the father and mother are earning good wages, a higher charge is made. The daily payment includes provision for three meals and a bath. The total attendances for the year ended 30th June, 1943, were 76,631.

There are bush nursing centres distributed throughout the State in the rural areas. At 30th June, 1943, the centres numbered 80, inclusive of 65 bush nursing hospitals. The bush nurses numbered 200 on permanent staff and 21 on relieving staff, the majority of whom held infant welfare as well as general and midwifery certificates.

**Bush
Nursing.**

Details of receipts and expenditure of the bush nursing centres for the year ended 30th June, 1943, are shown below:—

VICTORIA—BUSH NURSING CENTRES, 1942-43.

| Receipts. | | Expenditure. | |
|---|----------------|---|---------------|
| | £ | | £ |
| Grants— | | Salaries— | |
| Government | 535 | Nurses, paid to Central Council | 29,918 |
| Municipalities | 1,350 | Other | 17,865 |
| Central Council | 389 | Provisions, Fuel and Lighting, Surgery and Medicine | 22,239 |
| Donations | 11,687 | Repairs and Maintenance | 4,990 |
| Proceeds from Entertainments | 3,303 | Printing, Stationery | 1,706 |
| Nursing Fees | 65,859 | Insurance, Rent, and Bank Charges | 4,117 |
| Members' Fees | 18,330 | Other Maintenance Costs | 3,562 |
| Interest and Rent | 270 | Loans and Interest Repayments | 5,171 |
| Proceeds from Sale of Medicine | 677 | Land and New Buildings | 2,663 |
| Loans— | | New Equipment | 2,356 |
| From Central Council | .. | | |
| From other Sources | .. | Total Expenditure | 94,587 |
| Miscellaneous | 1,297 | | |
| Total Receipts | 103,697 | Bank Overdraft at 1st July, 1942 | 11,002 |
| Cash in hand or in Bank at 1st July, 1942 | 10,635 | Cash in hand or in Bank, 30th June, 1943 | 18,480 |
| Bank Overdraft at 30th June, 1943 | 9,599 | | |

Loans outstanding at 30th June, 1943, amounted to £41,248.

NOTE.—The above statement excludes Central Council receipts (£2,800) and expenditure (£1,510).

BUSH FIRES.

The latter part of 1943 and the months of January and February, 1944, saw the outbreak of the most disastrous bush and grass fires in Victoria since the year 1939. The first serious outbreak occurred on 24th November, 1943, when fires swept through grass and timber country near Wangaratta causing loss of life and damage to property.

Sporadic outbreaks thereafter were reported from all parts of the State.

On 14th January, 1944, fires devastated thousands of acres of farm lands and forests particularly in the Western district and in the Gisborne-Woodend-Kyneton area. Live stock losses in the Western district were particularly heavy. Scrub fires at Beaumaris destroyed many homes.

Bush and grass fires in Gippsland on 14th February, 1944, caused great damage to property in the Yallourn and Morwell districts.

The "open cut" at the Yallourn Brown Coal Mine caught fire and caused partial suspension of electricity in certain areas for several days.

The Commonwealth Government granted £125,000 to assist the rehabilitation of bush fire areas and the Victorian State Government £75,000. A special Committee was appointed by the Victorian Government to deal with administration of bush fire relief.

From statements furnished by municipalities, the Victorian Bush Fire Relief Committee was able to obtain comprehensive details of losses. In a final statement dated 20th December, 1944, the Committee reported that the fires were responsible for the loss of 50 lives and material losses estimated at £2,581,527. An area of 1,921 square miles was devastated, and 927 houses and 7,458 miles of fencing were completely destroyed. Other losses include—Flax (7,200 tons); Hay (36,600 tons); Sheep (239,900).

MISCELLANEOUS FUNDS AND SOCIAL ORGANIZATIONS.

The Lord Mayor's Fund was inaugurated on 4th April, 1923, for the purpose of assisting in the maintenance of the Metropolitan Hospitals and Charities, and was incorporated by Act of Parliament on 24th December, 1930. The Hospital Saturday and Sunday Fund was formed in 1873 and remained in operation until the year 1923, when the Hospital Saturday section was merged with the Lord Mayor's Fund, the Hospital Sunday section remaining a separate fund, but being carried on in close co-operation with the Lord Mayor's Fund. Since the date of the inauguration of the latter fund subscriptions and donations amounting to £1,541,286 have been received, and the collections for the Hospital Sunday Fund have amounted to £254,964.

The total annual receipts of the two funds during the period 1933-34 to 1943-44 were as follows:—

| Year. | Lord Mayor's Fund. | Hospital Sunday Fund. | Total. |
|---------|--------------------|-----------------------|---------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| 1933-34 | 93,554 | 8,275 | 101,829 |
| 1934-35 | 78,717 | 8,633 | 87,350 |
| 1935-36 | 93,045 | 8,551 | 101,596 |
| 1936-37 | 105,714 | 8,843 | 114,557 |
| 1937-38 | 78,886 | 9,123 | 88,009 |
| 1938-39 | 72,509 | 8,986 | 81,495 |
| 1939-40 | 62,240 | 9,205 | 71,445 |
| 1940-41 | 65,413 | 12,867 | 78,280 |
| 1941-42 | 71,461 | 14,398 | 85,859 |
| 1942-43 | 97,561 | 20,320 | 117,881 |
| 1943-44 | 120,933 | 25,634 | 146,567 |

**British Empire
Bombing
Victims'
Fund.**

This Fund, for the relief of distressed civilian victims of air raids in Great Britain and elsewhere in the British Empire, was established as the result of an appeal launched by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor A. W. Coles, M.H.R.), at a public meeting on 12th September, 1940.

Contributions totalled £315,936 and were allocated to the Lord Mayor of London and to the Malta Relief Committee in Melbourne for relief purposes in London and Malta respectively.

**Lord Mayor's
(1944) Bush
Fires Relief
Fund.**

A joint appeal was made on 14th January, 1944, by the Premier of Victoria (Mr. Dunstan) and the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor T. S. Nettlefold) for the relief of sufferers in the bush fires, including provision for widows and children of persons who lost their lives in the conflagration. The amount raised by the appeal, to the 30th June, 1944, was £241,978.

The fund is being administered by the Victorian Bush Fire Relief Committee of which the Hon. G. L. Chandler, M.L.C., is Chairman.

**Blinded
Soldiers
Appeal.**

This appeal was opened by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne (Councillor T. S. Nettlefold) on 21st January, 1944, and has the following as its objective:—

- (a) The purchase of homes for each and every totally blinded man or woman of the Fighting Forces (soldiers, sailors, airmen or members of the Women's Auxiliary Units).
- (b) The maintenance of club rooms and provision of socials, concerts, and other recreational entertainments.
- (c) Assisting blinded soldiers in financial difficulties.
- (d) Aiding the widows and children of deceased blinded soldiers.
- (e) The training of children of blinded soldiers outside the scope of the Repatriation Education Scheme.

As at 30th June, 1944, contributions to the Fund, which is being administered by the Victorian Blinded Soldiers' Welfare Trust (Chairman, Sir Harry Chauvel) amounted to £78,507.

**St. John
Ambulance
Association.**

The work carried on by this Association is described in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 582. Its objects are to instruct all classes of people in the preliminary treatment of the sick and of the injured. During the year ended 30th September, 1943, 10742 students have been instructed in first aid and home nursing, of whom 6,207 received certificates. Since the formation of the Victorian Centre of the Association in 1883, 138,030 persons have been awarded certificates. The Association medallion has been awarded to 12,970 students.

Victorian Civil Ambulance Service.

This service attended to 25,597 calls, of which 5,984 were connected with accidents, during the year ended 30th June, 1943; the mileage travelled was 265,789. In 5,275 cases no fee was paid. During the year a Typhoid epidemic broke out in the Moorabbin district and as a result 425 patients were conveyed to hospital by the service. The decentralization of the service has commenced by the inauguration of Ambulance Stations at Prahran, Canterbury, and Footscray, with the intention of extending same to all suburban areas.

In addition, 23 Country Ambulance Stations have been successfully opened and operated since March, 1923, under the Country Division of the Service, and 68 stretchers and first-aid outfits have been supplied to police stations in smaller centres.

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

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

Royal Humane Society.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victoria Humane Society." Its objects are as follows :—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures; (2) to provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia; (3) to restore the apparently drowned or apparently dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful in so doing; (4) to collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes.

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

Royal Life Saving Society.

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

During the years ended 30th June, 1943 and 1944, the number of awards granted by the Victorian Head Centre was 7,831 and 7,816 respectively. The total income of the Centre for 1943-44 was £1,347 and the expenditure £1,161.

The objects of this society are given in the *Year-Book* for 1916-17, page 589. During the year ended 30th June, 1943, 2,572 (2,295) cases were dealt with, of which 850 (921) were connected with cruelty to horses, and 1,077 (711) to dogs. There were 21 (14) prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in 20 (12) of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year ended 30th June, 1944, amounted to £4,488, and the expenditure to £2,578.

(The figures in parenthesis relate to the year 1943-44.)

Other Funds and Social Organisations. Details of certain other funds and organizations will be found on pages 284-286 of the 1939-40 *Year-Book*.

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

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

EXPENDITURE BY THE STATE OF VICTORIA ON SOCIAL SERVICES.

| Social Service. | 1938-39. | 1939-40. | 1940-41. | 1941-42. | 1942-43. |
|--|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Law, Order and Public Safety .. | 1,315,866 | 1,385,282 | 1,446,572 | 1,651,231 | 1,967,127 |
| Regulation of Trade and Industry .. | 103,018 | 106,656 | 115,010 | 133,692 | 150,061 |
| Education .. | 3,278,618 | 3,370,147 | 3,335,965 | 3,369,433 | 3,454,911 |
| Promotion of Public Health and Recreation .. | 1,305,180 | 1,503,945 | 1,671,266 | 1,773,144 | 1,821,356 |
| Social Amelioration (excluding Unemployment Relief) .. | 541,331 | 661,848 | 647,236 | 371,518 | 297,135 |
| Unemployment Relief* .. | 3,374,133 | 3,451,372 | 1,829,760 | 897,467 | 576,618 |
| Total | 9,918,146 | 10,479,250 | 9,045,809 | 8,196,485 | 8,267,208 |

* Includes expenditure from the Winter Relief Fund, viz.:—1938-39, £5,191; 1939-40, £160; 1940-41, nil; 1941-42, nil; 1942-43 nil; but excludes Commonwealth Grants as follows:—1938-39, £91,542; 1939-40, £38,135; 1940-41, £28,274; 1941-42, £30,095; 1942-43, £27,400.

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

CHILD ENDOWMENT.

The *Child Endowment Act* 1941-1942, (Commonwealth Act No. 8 of 1941) which was assented to on 7th April, 1941, and amended by Act No. 5 of 1942, is an Act to provide for the payment of endowments, in respect of certain children, at the rate of five shillings per week for each child until he reaches the age of sixteen years.

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

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

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

An endowment shall not be granted unless—

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

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

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

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

Upon the grant of an endowment it shall be paid—

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

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

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

On the estimate that there were in Australia about 1,000,000 children dependent in excess of one child in each family, the cost of the scheme at its inception was computed at £13,000,000 of which £9,000,000 would be raised by pay-roll tax. (The actual receipts during 1943-44 from pay-roll tax amounted to £10,902,585 and the expenditure in respect of Endowment, £12,256,976.)

Provision for the tax on pay-rolls is made by the *Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act 1941* (No. 2 of 1941), as amended by the *Pay-roll Tax Assessment Act 1942* (No. 48 of 1942), and by the *Pay-roll Tax Act 1941* (No. 3 of 1941). The latter Act imposes a tax of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per centum "on all wages paid or payable by any employer in respect of any period of time occurring after the 30th day of June, 1941," and provides that the tax "shall be paid by the employer who pays or is liable to pay the wages." The general administration of the former Act is placed in the hands of a Commissioner of Taxation, who is required to furnish annually a report to Parliament on the working of the Act.

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

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

The following table shows the number of claims current in Victoria at the various dates:—

| Rate per Endowment Period. | Claims Current at 30th June, 1942. | Claims Current at 30th June, 1943. | Claims Current at 30th June, 1944. |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| £1 (Two child family) | 70,014 | 70,728 | 74,055 |
| £2 (Three child family) | 31,085 | 31,579 | 32,209 |
| £3 (Four child family) | 13,309 | 12,985 | 12,730 |
| £4 (Five child family) | 5,665 | 5,585 | 5,444 |
| £5 (Six child family) | 2,553 | 2,436 | 2,285 |
| £6 (Seven child family) | 1,107 | 947 | 951 |
| £7 (Eight child family) | 448 | 456 | 453 |
| £8 (Nine child family) | 195 | 184 | 173 |
| £9 (Ten child family) | 72 | 65 | 56 |
| £10 (Eleven child family) | 8 | 14 | 22 |
| £11 (Twelve child family) | 6 | 5 | 2 |
| £12 (Thirteen child family) | 1 | 2 | .. |
| £13 (Fourteen child family) | .. | .. | 1 |
| Total | 124,463 | 124,986 | 128,381 |
| Average number of endowable children per claim | 1.765 | 1.748 | 1.721 |
| Average four-weekly rate | £ s. d. 1 15 3.6 | £ s. d. 1 14 11.6 | £ s. d. 1 14 4.9 |

The number of endowments in force in Victoria at 30th June, 1944, was 128,381, representing 220,884 endowable children. (At 30th June, 1943, 124,986 representing 218,551 endowable children). In addition endowment was being paid for 5,128 children maintained in institutions (4,875 at 30th June, 1943).

COMMONWEALTH EXPENDITURE IN VICTORIA ON CERTAIN SOCIAL SERVICES AND REPATRIATION.

INVALID AND OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Federal Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act. These pensions are payable by the Commonwealth Government under an Act passed in 1908 and amending Acts. The commencing age for old-age pensioners is 65 years in the case of men and 60 years in the case of women.

The maximum rate of pension payable at 30th June, 1944 (figures for 1942-43 in parenthesis), was £70 4s. (£68 18s.) per annum, or 27s. (26s. 6d.) per week. Payment is subject to a "means" test.

Pensioners, 1934-35 to 1943-44. The number of old-age and invalid pensioners in Victoria on 30th June, 1944, was as follows:—Old age pensioners—men, 23,979 (25,599); women, 45,177 (46,503); total, 69,156 (72,102). Invalid pensioners—men, 5,836 (5,368); women, 6,610 (6,570); total, 12,466 (11,938).

The number of old-age and invalid pensioners at the end of each financial year and the amount expended each year during the ten years ended 30th June, 1944, are shown in the following statement :—

VICTORIA—OLD-AGE AND INVALID PENSIONERS,
1934-35 TO 1943-44.

| Financial Year. | Number of Pensioners at end of Period. | | | Actual Amount Paid In Pensions.* |
|-----------------|--|----------|--------|----------------------------------|
| | Old-Age. | Invalid. | Total. | |
| | | | | £ |
| 1934-35 | 58,059 | 17,253 | 75,312 | 3,213,895 |
| 1935-36 | 60,548 | 17,741 | 78,289 | 3,463,701 |
| 1936-37 | 62,755 | 18,282 | 81,037 | 3,750,068 |
| 1937-38 | 65,203 | 18,817 | 84,020 | 4,218,918 |
| 1938-39 | 67,896 | 19,471 | 87,367 | 4,307,432 |
| 1939-40 | 76,081 | 12,739 | 88,820 | 4,413,702 |
| 1940-41 | 76,371 | 12,447 | 88,818 | 4,588,266 |
| 1941-42 | 75,240 | 12,550 | 87,790 | 5,037,118 |
| 1942-43 | 72,102 | 11,938 | 84,040 | 5,715,268 |
| 1943-44 | 69,156 | 12,446 | 81,602 | 5,787,445 |

* Includes payment of pensions to eligible inmates of institutions. On 30th June, 1944, there were 1,509 such pensions in force. The weekly rate of pension paid was 4s. from 8th October, 1925; 5s. 6d. from 4th October, 1928; 5s. from 23rd July, 1931; 3s. 9d. from 13th October, 1932; 5s. from 26th October, 1933; 5s. 6d. from 24th September, 1936; 6s. from 9th September, 1937; 6s. 6d. from 26th December, 1940; 6s. 9d. from 3rd April, 1941; 7s. 9d. from 11th December, 1941; 8s. from 2nd April, 1942; 8s. 6d. from 9th July, 1942; 8s. 9d. from 1st October, 1942; 9s. from 7th January, 1943; 9s. 3d. from 1st April, 1943; and 9s. 6d. from 19th August, 1943.

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

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

Allowances to Wives of Invalid Pensioners.

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

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

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

| | |
|---|-----|
| Class A—allowance for wife and child .. | 725 |
| Class B—allowance for wife only .. | 712 |
| Class C—allowance for child only .. | 105 |

1,542

Funeral Benefits for Invalid and Old Age Pensioners.

By the same Act provision was made for the payment of a funeral benefit not exceeding the actual cost of the funeral or £10 whichever is the less, in respect of every invalid or old-age pensioner who dies on or after 1st July, 1943. The benefit is payable to the person who has paid, or is liable to pay the cost of the funeral, or to the person who has actually borne the cost of the funeral. The benefit must be claimed within six months after the death of the pensioner.

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

The number of funeral benefits paid during the twelve months ended June, 1944, was 3,414, the total cost being £32,588.

MATERNITY ALLOWANCES.

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

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

- (a) the income limit of £247 per annum where there is no previous surviving issue under fourteen years of age, the additional allowance of £13 per annum in respect of each previous surviving child being retained up to a maximum of £338 per annum ;

- (b) the allowance is £7 10s. in cases where there are three or more previous surviving children under fourteen years of age, £5 where there are two previous children, and £4 10s. for the first child.

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

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

By a further amendment which came into force on 5th April, 1944, an additional payment of £5 was provided in the case of twins and £10 in the case of triplets.

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

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

VICTORIA—MATERNITY ALLOWANCES GRANTED.

| Year. | Number. Granted During Year. | Amount Paid in Allowances During Year. | Total Claims Granted Since Passing of Act. | Total Amount Paid in Allowances Since Passing of Act. |
|---------------|------------------------------------|--|---|---|
| | | £ | | £ |
| 1939-40 | 19,660 | 105,310 | 833,944 | 4,089,555 |
| 1940-41 | 19,150 | 102,175 | 853,094 | 4,191,730 |
| 1941-42 | 16,120 | 86,392 | 869,214 | 4,278,122 |
| 1942-43 | 11,874 | 63,635 | 881,088 | 4,341,757 |
| 1943-44 | 38,653 | 590,648 | 919,741 | 4,932,405 |

WIDOWS' PENSIONS.

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

The Act provides for three classes of widows:—

- (a) Widows of any age who are maintaining at least one child under the age of sixteen years—maximum allowance £83 4s.* per annum, subject to "means" test. In addition to excluding personal property, including the house in which she resides and the furniture, the widow is allowed the ownership of £1,000 without disqualifying from pension.

- (b) Widows over fifty years of age without dependent children—maximum allowance £70 4s.* per annum subject to same “means” test as applied to old-age and invalid pensions.
- (c) Widows under fifty years of age without dependent children who find themselves in indigent circumstances upon the death of their husbands may be paid an allowance at the rate of twenty-seven* shillings a week for a period not longer than 26 weeks after the death of the widow’s husband or *de facto* husband.

* The allowances during 1942–43 for (a), (b), and (c) respectively were £81 18s., £68 18s., and £1 6s. 6d.

“Widow” includes—

- (a) a “dependent female,” that is a woman who, for not less than three years immediately prior to the death of the man in respect of whom she was a dependent female was wholly or mainly maintained by him and, although not legally married to him, lived with him as his wife on a permanent and bona fide domestic basis,
- (b) a deserted wife,
- (c) a divorcee who has not re-married and,
- (d) a woman whose husband is an inmate of a hospital for the insane.

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

VICTORIA—WIDOWS’ PENSIONS.

| | Number in Force at 30th June. | |
|---|-------------------------------|-----------|
| | 1943. | 1944. |
| Class “A” (widow maintaining a child) .. | 3,574 | 3,684 |
| Class “B” (widow not maintaining a child) .. | 7,130 | 8,271 |
| Class “C” (widow in indigent circumstances not maintaining a child) | 6 | 12 |
| Total | 10,710 | 11,967 |
| Amount paid in pensions | £ 602,957 | £ 787,034 |
| Total amount paid since passing of Act .. | .. | 1,389,991 |

REPATRIATION.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- (a) Sixty years of age or more, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war, but eligibility on this ground limits payment of service pension to the ex-soldier; his wife or children are not eligible. A former nurse is eligible for consideration provided she embarked for service abroad and has reached the age of 55 years.

- (b) Permanently unemployable, provided the applicant served in a theatre of war. Under this class pensions may be paid to the ex-soldier, his wife and his children—up to four in number.
- (c) Pulmonary tuberculosis, whether the applicant served in a theatre of war or not. Under this class pensions are also payable to the wife and children—up to four in number.

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

Of the rates specified hereunder, those in parenthesis relate to the year ended 30th June, 1943.

The maximum rate of service pension for a member coincides with the maximum rate of invalid or old-age pension determined from time to time under the *Invalid and Old-age Pensions Act*. The rate at 30th June, 1944, was 54s. (53s.) per fortnight. The rate for the wife of a member is 44s. per fortnight, and the rates for children under sixteen years of age are, one child, 10s. per fortnight; two children, 15s. per fortnight; three children, 20s. per fortnight; four or more children, 25s. per fortnight.

The actual rate payable in any case is determined after taking into consideration all other income and property received or owned by the pensioner in question, and no service pension can be paid in any case where such other income and property has an assessable value of a certain amount, variable according to the cost of living. At 30th June, 1944, the amount was £102 14s. (£101 8s.) per annum in the case of a single man, and £205 8s. (£202 16s.) in the case of a member and his wife.

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

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

Current
Work of
Department.

The following statistics for the years 1942-43 and 1943-44 show in some degree the type and extent of activity in the State of Victoria:—

| | At 30th June, 1943. | At 30th June, 1944. |
|---|------------------------|------------------------|
| War Pensions—Number in force— | | |
| Members of the Forces | 25,921 | 27,552 |
| Dependants of deceased members of the Forces .. | 9,251 | 10,114 |
| Dependants of incapacitated members of the Forces | 36,583 | 35,802 |
| Expenditure for year (paid in pensions) .. | £2,497,300 | £3,022,522 |
| Service Pensions—Number in force— | | |
| Members of the Forces | 2,105 | 2,071 |
| Dependants of deceased member pensioners .. | 351 | 375 |
| Dependants of member pensioners | 853 | 818 |
| Expenditure for year (paid in service pensions) .. | £163,115 | £163,377 |
| Medical Treatment— | | |
| Number of In-patients in Repatriation Institutions— | | |
| General Hospitals | 464 | 422 |
| Sanatoria | 93 | 83 |
| Anzac Hostels | 13 | 13 |
| Mental Hospitals | 188 | 195 |
| (Some few patients are being treated in own homes) | | |
| | During 1942-43. | During 1943-44. |
| Attendances of Out-patients (excluding treatments by Local Medical Officers, of whom there are 163* in rural areas) | 55,854 | 57,414 |
| Expenditure on treatment, &c.— | | |
| Maintenance of Repatriation Institutions .. | £154,473 | £154,379 |
| Maintenance of patients in other than Repatriation Institutions (including Country Hospitals) | £22,876 | £25,344 |
| Sustenance during medical treatment .. | £15,337 | £22,633 |
| Conducting Repatriation Artificial Limb Factory .. | £15,645 | £18,605 |
| Other expenditure, including fees to Consultants, &c. | £30,706 | £23,033 |
| Soldiers' Children Education Scheme— | | |
| Number of children at school and in training .. | 973 | 918 |
| Expenditure for year | £22,133 | £24,489 |

* 162 in 1943-44.

CREMATION.

Cremation in Victoria is governed by the *Cemeteries Act* 1928 and the rules and regulations of cemetery trustees as approved by the Governor in Council.

The Cremation Society of Victoria was established in 1892, but it was not until 1905 that a Crematorium of very simple type was erected at the Springvale Necropolis. From its opening in 1905 to its closing in 1926 there were only 176 cremations.

When the New Melbourne General Cemetery at Fawkner was designed in 1906, provision was made for the erection of a modern crematorium. However, owing to lack of funds, it was not until 1926 that the managers were in a position to consider the erection of a suitable building. Plans were then adopted for a building incorporating the most up-to-date requirements at a cost of £7,000. The building was designed on a most comprehensive scale to permit of future expansion. Additions to the original structure were found necessary within seven years of its opening. The crematorium now consists of two chapels with three reducing chambers and other auxiliary rooms. In 1934, as an everlasting memorial to the cremated, a Garden of Remembrance was constructed. The Garden is surrounded by a columbarium wall with niches for the preservation of caskets containing ashes.

The experience at Fawkner Crematorium was in marked contrast to that at Springvale. As mentioned above, during the 21 years 1905-1926, there were only 176 disposals by cremation at Springvale, whereas, at Fawkner, during the nine years 1927-1935, there were 2,293 cremations.

The changing habits of the people in respect of the disposal of the dead, as shown by the experience above, induced the Trustees at Springvale to erect a building more suitable for this class of funeral. This building was opened in 1936, all the latest ideas being incorporated and machinery installed to provide a modern building to meet public requirements. Within six years it was found necessary to extend the building by adding extra rooms and equipment. In addition, facilities for the disposal of ashes at memorials were made available in ideal surroundings, including a Court of Remembrance, Rose Gardens and niches.

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

CREMATION IN VICTORIA.

| Year. | Cremations at Fawkner. | Cremations at Springvale. | Total Cremations. | Total Deaths. | Percentage of Cremations to Deaths. |
|------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1927 | 32 | .. | 32 | 16,773 | .19 |
| 1928 | 84 | .. | 84 | 17,708 | .47 |
| 1929 | 151 | .. | 151 | 16,717 | .90 |
| 1930 | 162 | .. | 162 | 15,959 | 1.02 |
| 1931 | 201 | .. | 201 | 17,033 | 1.18 |
| 1932 | 199 | .. | 199 | 16,805 | 1.18 |
| 1933 | 369 | .. | 369 | 17,456 | 2.11 |
| 1934 | 499 | .. | 499 | 18,648 | 2.68 |
| 1935 | 596 | .. | 596 | 18,456 | 3.23 |
| 1936 | 358 | 400 | 758 | 18,778 | 4.04 |
| 1937 | 387 | 596 | 983 | 18,613 | 5.28 |
| 1938 | 415 | 752 | 1,167 | 18,955 | 6.16 |
| 1939 | 436 | 873 | 1,309 | 20,169 | 6.49 |
| 1940 | 571 | 1,053 | 1,624 | 20,293 | 8.00 |
| 1941 | 662 | 1,164 | 1,826 | 20,523 | 8.90 |
| 1942 | 753 | 1,246 | 1,999 | 21,973 | 9.09 |
| 1943 | 850 | 1,348 | 2,198 | 21,327 | 10.31 |
| 1944 | 892 | 1,502 | 2,394 | 20,502 | 11.68 |