

Victorian Year-Book, 1937-38.

PART I.

THE HISTORY OF VICTORIA.

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

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF LEADING EVENTS.

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

Some of the principal events in Victorian and Australian history from 3rd October, 1937, to 30th June, 1938, were as follow :—

1937—19th October	..	The Hon. John Cain succeeded Hon. T. Tunnecliffe on his resignation as leader of the State Labour Party.
19th October	..	The 33rd Parliament of Victoria opened by His Excellency the Governor (Lord Huntingfield).
19th October	..	Hon. T. Tunnecliffe elected Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.
19th October	..	After five days of continuous heavy rain over the State serious flooding occurred in many parts of the Yarra Valley and South Gippsland.
23rd October	..	The general elections for the Federal Parliament were held.
16th December	..	As a result of an illness which lasted for several weeks Colonel the Hon. Sir Murray Bouchier, Kt. C.M.G., D.S.O., V.D., Agent-General for Victoria in London, died.
25th December	..	The coastal freighter <i>Saros</i> , bound from Geelong to Sydney, ran ashore at Cape Everard and became a total wreck. No lives were lost.
28th December	..	Arising out of the outbreak of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) Sister Kenny at the invitation of the State Ministry arrived in Melbourne to discuss with the Health Authorities details of her method of treatment of patients.
1938—13th January	..	On her survey flight of the Australian coast, the Imperial Airways flying boat <i>Centaurus</i> landed at Williamstown.
20th January	..	Appointment of the Hon. A. L. Bussau (Attorney-General and Minister of Transport) as Agent-General for Victoria in London for a period of five years.

- 1938—22nd January . . . Owing to a dispute over the conditions of employment about 600 employees of a large textile mill in Melbourne began a strike. The dispute was speedily settled. During the following week, however, 700 employees of another mill, dissatisfied with their new award, ceased work. The latter strike was settled on 8th February, 1938. Further discontent with the award was shown at Geelong when, on 8th February, 600 weavers ceased work, necessitating the closing of all textile mills in that area. Operations were resumed on 17th February, 1938.
- 31st January . . . Mr. John Barnes, a former Federal Minister and one of the three Labour representatives elected to the Senate for Victoria at the 1937 Federal general elections, died aged 69 years.
- 28th February . . . The State Ministry appointed a Royal Commission to investigate industrial assurance, and to advise about "the basis of legislation" desirable in Victoria.
- 1st March . . . The Housing Commission provided for by the *Housing Act 1937* was appointed by the Governor in Council.
- 17th March . . . Death of Mr. Robert Williams, M.L.C.
- 29th March . . . His Excellency the Governor (Lord Huntingfield) sworn in as Administrator of the Commonwealth during the absence abroad of His Excellency the Governor-General (Lord Gowrie, V.C.). During this period the duties of Lord Huntingfield, as Governor of Victoria, were performed by His Excellency the Lieut.-Governor (Sir Frederick Wollaston Mann, K.C.M.G.).
- 6th April . . . On a world cruise the *Empress of Britain* (42,348 tons) berthed at Port Melbourne. This is the largest vessel to visit Melbourne, its dimensions being—Length, 733.3 feet, Beam, 97.8 feet, depth 56 feet, and draft 31 feet 4 inches (fore) and 31 feet 8 inches (aft).
- 19th April . . . The Victorian Agent-General designate (The Hon. A. L. Bussau) left for London to assume his new office. His resignation from the State Ministry necessitated a reallocation of portfolios.
- 29th April . . . Mr. William Brownbill, M.L.A., for Geelong died aged 74 years.
- 5th May . . . Mr. Keith Dogdshun elected unopposed at the by-election for the Ouyen seat of the Legislative Assembly.
- 10th May . . . Plans for the training in technical schools of 500 men, aged between 18 and 25 years, who lost their opportunity for absorption in industry during the years of the financial depression, were approved by the State Cabinet.
- 11th May . . . Details of the plans for the new Royal Melbourne Hospital to be built at Parkville were announced by the Premier (The Hon. A. A. Dunstan). Estimated to cost £800,000 and contain 500 beds, the new building will be the largest structure ever built in Victoria as a single unit.

1938—11th May	..	Mr. P. J. Kennelly returned unopposed for the vacancy in the West Melbourne Province of the Legislative Council.
7th June	..	More than 2,000 building trade operatives were rendered idle by the decision of the Master Builders' Association to suspend operations following the refusal of the plasterers and brick layers to discontinue the holding of "stop-work" meetings in their campaign for a 40-hour week. Work was resumed on 13th June.
7th June	..	The erection was commenced at the Essendon Aerodrome of a steel tower 40 feet high. This tower will house a huge revolving light beacon. Similar lights will be erected on the air route between Melbourne and Sydney.
7th June	..	Mrs. Fanny E. Brownbill elected at the by-election for Geelong seat of the Legislative Assembly, which seat was formerly held by her late husband, Mr. William Brownbill, M.L.A.
16th June	..	At the request of the Commonwealth Government, Air Chief-Marshal, Sir Edward Ellington, Inspector-General of the Royal Air Force, arrived in Melbourne to report on air defence.
24th June	..	Dissatisfied with the refusal of the State Electricity Commission to grant an increased wage, about 150 engineers employed at Yallourn, ceased work. Work was resumed on 11th August.
28th June	..	The second session of the 33rd State Parliament was opened by His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor (Sir Frederick Mann, K.C.M.G.).

GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION, AREA, AND CLIMATE.

Victoria is situated at the south-eastern extremity of the Australian continent, of which it occupies about a thirty-fourth part, and contains about 87,884 square miles, or 56,245,760 acres. The following islands, together with a number of small islands around the coast and in the bays and inlets, are included in its territory:—Phillip, French, Churchill and Elizabeth islands in Western Port Bay; Snake, Little Snake and Sunday islands at Corner Inlet; and Lady Julia Percy island off the coast near Port Fairy. The areas in acres of these islands are—Phillip, 24,320; French, 42,000; Churchill, 140; Elizabeth, 64; Snake, 11,500; Little Snake, 1,240; Sunday, 2,640; and Lady Julia Percy, 650. Victoria is bounded on the north and north-east by New South Wales, from which it is separated by the River Murray, and by a straight line running in a south-easterly direction from a place near the head-waters of that stream, called The Springs, on Forest Hill, to Cape Howe. The total length of this boundary, following the windings of the Murray River from the South Australian border along the Victorian bank to the Indi River, thence by the Indi or Murray River to Forest Hill and thence by the straight line from Forest Hill to Cape Howe, is 1,175 miles. The

length of the Murray River forming part of the boundary is 997 miles, of the Indi or Murray River, 68 miles, and of the straight line from Forest Hill to Cape Howe, 110 miles. On the west it is bounded by South Australia, the dividing line being about 280 geographical miles in length, approximating to the position of the 141st meridian of east longitude, and extending from the River Murray to the sea. On the south and south-east its shores are washed by the Southern Ocean, Bass Strait, and the Pacific Ocean. It lies approximately between the 34th and 39th parallels of south latitude and the 141st and 150th meridians of east longitude. Its greatest length from east to west is about 493 miles, its greatest breadth about 290 miles, and its extent of coast-line 980 miles, including the length around Port Phillip Bay 164 miles, Western Port 90 miles, and Corner Inlet 50 miles. Great Britain, inclusive of the Isle of Man and the Channel Islands, contains 89,041 square miles, and is therefore slightly larger than Victoria.

The southernmost point in Victoria, and in the whole of the Australian continent, is Wilson's Promontory, which lies in latitude 39 deg. 8 min. S., longitude 146 deg. 26 min. E.; the northernmost point is the place where the western boundary of the State meets the Murray, latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S., longitude 140 deg. 58 min. E.; the point furthest east is Cape Howe, situated in latitude 37 deg. 31 min. S., longitude 149 deg. 59 min. E. The westerly boundary lies upon the meridian 140 deg. 58 min. E., and extends from latitude 34 deg. 2 min. S. to latitude 38 deg. 4 min. S., a distance of 280 miles.

Climate. From its geographical position, Victoria enjoys a climate more suitable to the European constitution than any other State in Australia. During the eighty-two years ended with 1937, the maximum temperature in the shade recorded at the Melbourne Observatory and at the Weather Bureau was 111·2 deg. Fahr., on the 14th January, 1862; the minimum was 27 deg., on the 21st July, 1869; and the mean 58·5 deg. Upon the average, on only three days during the year does the thermometer rise above 100 deg. in the shade, and on only eighteen days does the temperature reach 90 deg. or over; generally, on about two nights during the year, it falls below freezing point. Sultry nights are of rare occurrence. The minimum reading approximates to 70 deg. on an average on only two nights in any one year. The maximum temperature in the sun ever recorded (i.e., since 1859) was 178·5 deg., on the 14th January, 1862. The mean atmospheric pressure noted, first at the Observatory 91 feet above sea level, and later at the Weather Bureau 115 feet above sea level, was during the eighty-two years ended with 1937, 30·013 inches; the average number of days on which rain fell each year was 140, and the average yearly rainfall was 25·35 inches. The mean relative humidity of the atmosphere is 67 per cent.; on very warm days it is often 12 per cent., and it has been as low as 2 per cent.

The severity of the heat is not felt so much as it would be if there were a relatively high wet bulb, as the temperature by such bulb seldom exceeds 75 deg. The average number of hours of sunshine daily is 6·1; fogs occur, on an average, on only 21 days in the year.

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

PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY OF VICTORIA.

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

MOUNTAINS AND HILLS, RIVERS AND LAKES.

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

Rivers. With the exception of the Yarra, on the banks of which the metropolis is situated; the Murray; the Goulburn, which empties itself into the Murray about eight miles to the eastward of Echuca; the La Trobe and the Mitchell, with, perhaps, a few other of the Gippsland streams, the rivers of Victoria are not navigable. They, however, drain the watershed of large areas of country, and many of the streams are used as feeders to permanent reservoirs for irrigation and water supply purposes. The Murray, which forms the northern boundary of the State, is the largest river in Australia. Its total length is 1,520 miles, and for 1,065 miles it flows along the Victorian border. Several of the rivers in the north-western portion of the State have no outlet, but are gradually lost in the absorbent tertiary flat country through which they pass.

* The highest mountain on the Australian Continent is Mount Kosciusko in New South Wales, one peak of which is 7,328 feet high.

Lakes. Victoria contains numerous lakes and lagoons, either salt or fresh-water, but many of these are nothing more than swamps during dry seasons. Some of them are craters of extinct volcanoes. Lake Corangamite, the largest inland lake in Victoria, covers 90 square miles, and is quite salt, notwithstanding that it receives the flood waters of several fresh-water streams. It has no visible outlet. Lake Colac, only a few miles distant from Lake Corangamite, is a beautiful sheet of water, $10\frac{1}{2}$ square miles in extent, and quite fresh. The Gippsland lakes—Victoria, King, and Reeve—are situated close to the coast, and are separated from the sea by only a narrow belt of sand. Lake Wellington, the largest of the Gippsland lakes, lies to the westward of Lakes Victoria and King, and is united to the first-named by a narrow channel. South-east of Geelong is Lake Connewarre which is connected with the sea at Point Flinders.

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

FLORA OF VICTORIA.

An article on the "Flora of Victoria," by Mr. J. W. Audas, F.L.S., F.R.M.S. (National Herbarium, Melbourne), appears in the *Year-Book*, 1927-28, on pages 3 to 19, and addenda thereto appear in subsequent issues of the *Year-Book*.

FURTHER ADDENDA TO THE ABOVE ARTICLE.

Added to the List of Victorian Flora.

The following species were added to the list of Victorian Flora during the year 1937-38:—

Four species not previously recorded for this State have been added to the list of Victorian Flora, viz.:—

Eucalyptus Kybeanensis, M. & C. "Kybean Ash Mallee"
(Myrtaceae).

Muehlenbeckia rhyticarya, F. v M. "Wrinkled-nut Lignum".

Pomaderris ligustrina, "Privet Pomaderris" (Rhamnaceae).

Scaevola depauperata, R.Br., "Leafless Fan-flower" (Goodeniaceae)

EXOTICS.

Carex divulsa, Goode, "Grey Sedge".

Digitaria Ischaemum, Muhl., "Smooth Crab-grass".

NEW REGIONAL DISTRIBUTION.

Erechtites mixta, D.C., "Fluffy Fireweed". New for East.

Kochia microphylla, F. v M. New for North East.

THE FAUNA OF VICTORIA.

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

Special articles on the "Fauna of Victoria", the names of the contributors, and the issue of the *Year-Book* in which they appear are shown hereunder:—

- 1932-33, "Mammals of Victoria", Mr. C. W. Brazenor, National Museum.
- 1933-34, "Birds of Victoria", Mr. George Mack, National Museum.
- 1934-35, "Reptiles of Victoria", Mr. C. W. Brazenor, National Museum.
- 1935-36, "Fishes of Victoria", Mr. George Mack, National Museum.
- 1936-37, "Freshwater Crayfishes and Yabbies of Victoria", Miss Ellen Clark, National Museum.
- 1937-38, "Insects of Victoria", Part I. (Ants), Mr. J. Clark, National Museum.

INSECTS OF VICTORIA.

PART I. (ANTS.)

By J. Clark, Entomologist, National Museum of Victoria.

Ants are not as abundant in Victoria as in most other parts of Australia. We have, however, many of the most interesting groups and species, although none of the highly spectacular spring-cleaning ants, nor the fungus-growing ants of South America, is found here. Our species are mainly primitive, belonging to an ancient fauna. The bull-dog ants, confined to Australia and found everywhere in the Australian bush, are the largest of all known ants. The driver ants of Africa are represented in Australia by five species, but none occurs in Victoria.

The *Cerapachyinae* contains about one hundred species in all parts of Australia, ten species being found in this State. This group contains the hunting or robber ants; these ants are very rarely seen or found

unless especially searched for. Five species of *Phyracaces* are not uncommon. They are black or red and measure up to half an inch in length. Generally seen travelling in single file from their own nest to the nest of some other ant, they enter the attacked nest and carry off the larvae and pupae of their victims. These larvae and pupae are served as food to the *Phyracaces* larvae. Occasionally interesting battles may be witnessed during the raids, but the *Phyracaces* always secure the victory, generally working in bright sunlight. Another genus, *Eusphinctus*, contains several hypogoeic species living entirely in the ground, and rarely coming to the surface. Unlike the *Phyracaces*, they are totally blind, having no traces of eyes. The genus *Nothosphinctus* is represented by several species of somewhat similar but larger ants with the same habits.

The primitive *Ponerinae*, or stinging ants, contains most of the more interesting species such as the large bull-dog ants of the genus *Myrmecia*. The bull-dog ants are the largest ants in the world; one species measuring just on one and one-half inches long is found in Queensland. These ants, amongst the most primitive in the world, are relicts of fauna now extinct elsewhere. The workers, really sexually imperfect females, sting severely. They do not bite, as is supposed generally, the large jaws being used merely to hang on so that the sting in the tail can be driven into the victim. As the sting is plain, not barbed as is the sting of the bee, the ant can insert and withdraw her sting as often as she wishes. In most parts of the bush a handy antidote for the sting of the bull-dog ant is the root of the common bracken fern, which, when cut and applied to the wound, brings almost instant relief. Although causing great pain, the sting of the bull-dog ant cannot be regarded as dangerous. Twenty species have been found in Victoria, a few living in rotten logs, but most living in nests in the ground. Although nests containing several hundred individuals may be found, it is seldom that more than one hundred individuals inhabit one nest. All are honey feeders, existing on nectar and the exudations of plants and trees. Some of the smaller bull-dog ants, known as jumpers, can, when excited, advance on the ground by a series of short jumps or leaps, the jump rarely exceeding half an inch. One scientific journal informs us that they take a leap of one foot; that, however, is a flight of imagination.

The larger bull-dog ants frequently drop off trees and shrubs on to any one passing below. Fearless fighters, these ants will follow an intruder for a considerable distance from the nest. They are the only animals in the Australian bush which will openly attack, without provocation, any man or animal and which will not retreat from man. Their favourite pastime is upsetting picnic parties. The ants of the genus *Odontomachus* have some jumping ability, too; with these however, the jump is not forward but backward. They advance with wide open jaws which, when they close suddenly, do so with

such force as to throw the ant backward for about two inches in a sort of somersault. These ants can sting severely, but are seldom seen except in the mallee districts.

The primitive genus *Amblyopone* is confined to the Australian region. Seven species are found in this State. All are more or less hypogoeic, living underground, usually under logs or stones, but occasionally a large nest will be located in a rotten log. When the nest is exposed, these ants sham death, curling up and remaining motionless for some time. They appear to feed on termites and the larvae of other insects. The genus *Chalcoponera*, commonly known as green-head ants, contains some handsomely coloured ants, shades of blue, green and violet being the most common. All can sting severely. They live in a small nest, generally under stones, but at times with no covering over the entrance. Workers, females and males, are found in most nests. The genera *Rhytidoponera* and *Bothroponera* are poorly represented in Victoria and have not been found south of the Main Divide. Workers and males are well known and abundant where the ants occur, but up to the present neither females nor queens have been found. In both groups the workers are large and rather slow moving; they live in small nests, rarely more than one hundred individuals inhabiting each nest. Both have the unusual habit of exposing their pupae to the heat of the sun for short periods.

Euponera lutea (Mayr) is one of the most common and widely distributed ants; it is found in every part of the Commonwealth. The ant is about one-quarter of an inch long, yellow, and lives in small nests under stones or logs. It comes out to feed at night or during very dull days. The sub-family *Pseudomyrminae* is represented by a single species which, up to the present, has been found only in the Geelong district. They are slender ants, half an inch long, generally all black, and live in holes in trees. This group, as well as the following, has two nodes or separated segments, connecting the abdomen to the thorax, and usually a more or less well developed sting. The sub-family *Myrmecinae* is represented by numerous species. Most of them are small and generally live in the ground. The majority of the serious pests, and almost all the introduced house ants, belong to this group.

The genus *Pheidole* contains over fifty species throughout the Commonwealth and almost one-third of the number is found in Victoria. Most of the species are destructive pests when the nests are established near human habitations or cultivations. The workers are harvester ants, collecting the seeds of various plants for food. One (*Pheidole megacephala*) is an introduced pest, recognized as a serious household pest throughout the world. Our most serious pests belong to the genus *Monomorium*, species of which are found in most parts of the world. Several, recognized as world-wide pests, have unfortunately become established in Australia. The most common and widely distributed

species is *Monomorium pharaonis*, the well known house pest, a minute yellow ant, commonly known in Australia as the Singapore Ant. Eight species of the genus are natives of Victoria but none of these is a house pest; some destroy seeds in the gardens.

The genus *Aphaenogaster* contains a number of much larger ants measuring over one quarter of an inch long. They live in the ground, the entrance to the nest being indicated by a small cone about three inches high, with a crater-like opening in the middle. In some localities, particularly in the Mallee, these crater-like mounds are very abundant and conspicuous. The genus *Podomyrma* is composed of handsomely coloured ants, all living in trees, and usually making their nest in the tunnels of wood-boring larvae. They do a great deal of damage to the trees by enlarging the burrows and allowing the weather to enter the tree. The genus *Dacryon* is composed of ants with similar habits, and, in general appearance, are very much like *Podomyrma*. They can be recognized, however, by three spines on the first node of the gaster; *Podomyrma* has none or one at the most.

The ants in the genus *Meranoplus* are mostly harvesters. The majority are small, about one-fourth of an inch long, but some measure up to half an inch. They live in the ground and make a small crater-like entrance to the nest. Almost every nest is surrounded by a pile of discarded seed husks. The ants collect the seeds of various plants, which they husk and store in the nest. When a nest is disturbed, the ants curl up and remain motionless for some time. The genus *Orectognathus* contains some small spiny ants with long slender jaws and heart-shaped heads, having the appearance of miniature bull-ants. The species of *Strumigenys* are somewhat similar but have spongy growths instead of spines. Both groups live in small nests in the ground.

The sub-family *Dolichoderinae* contains most of our small black ants. The genus *Iridomyrmex* has a large number of species here, the common meat ant, or mound ant, being the most common and widely distributed ant in Australia. It is found everywhere, and frequently the large flat nest is very conspicuous. One nest near Melbourne measures twenty-five feet long by eighteen feet wide with the highest part, about one foot high, in the middle. Small, bare tracks lead in all directions from the nest. Various species of this genus invade houses occasionally, but seldom remain long in such places. All these ants have a disagreeable odour. An introduced species *Techynomymex albipes*, a small black ant with white legs, is becoming well established in houses in and near Melbourne. An interesting group in this family is the genus *Leptomymex*. They are large slender ants with very long legs. Although abundant in New South Wales and Queensland, only one species is found in Victoria. No females of any species of these ants has been found, although diligent search has been made for them. One peculiarity is that most

nests contain a number of repletes, or honey-pot ants. These are workers with the abdomen greatly distended with honey. The genus *Bothriomyrmex* includes some very small ants which are parasites in the nests of other ants.

The very large sub-family *Formicinae* contains the large sugar-ants so common everywhere. The ants belonging to this group have no sting. The genus *Camponotus* contains most of the large species; usually they are yellow or reddish and move about at night, rarely leaving the nest during the day. The commonest species is *Camponotus consobrinus*, a large red and black species, abundant throughout the Commonwealth. Over twenty species are known in this State. The genus *Melophorus* contains some interesting species of small ants, most of them being harvesters. They make a small nest underground, the entrance generally being surrounded by a pile of seed husks. Usually four sizes of workers are present in each nest. The ordinary worker is small and slender, and the soldier or major worker is five or six times the size, with a huge head, there are two other forms intermediate between the two. One peculiar ant in this genus is the well known "yellow honey-pot ant" of the interior.

The genus *Notoncus* contains a number of moderate size ants, all having peculiar sculpture and protuberances, and living under stones and logs. The genus *Polyrhachis* contains a very large number of ants, all with well developed spines on the body. They measure about half an inch long and are usually black, but many species are covered with bright golden or silvery hairs. In the tropics these ants live generally in carton nests formed amongst the leaves on trees, but in Victoria our species all live in the ground under stones or logs; occasionally nests may be found in holes in standing trees. The genus *Prolasius* which, until recently, was thought to be confined to New Zealand, is represented here by over twenty species. They are small, black or brown, shining ants, found in moderately large nests under logs or stones in the mountains. Their habits are somewhat similar to those of *Melophorus*. The genus *Stignacros* contains many species. All are very small, rarely more than one-eighth of an inch long. In colour they range from yellow to dark brown and usually are very shining. They are adorned with spines and have the appearance of very dwarf forms of *Polyrhachis*. The singular genus *Opisthopsis* contains many species throughout the warm dry districts of Australia; only one is found here and is confined to the Mallee districts. All are bright yellow, more or less marked with black, and have a rather narrow head with the large eyes placed right behind at the back corners of the head. They are very fast runners and can be found running about during the hottest days. Frequently their nests are found in termite mounds. The brilliant coloured ants of the genus *Calomyrmex* are found mostly in the interior; two species are found in the hot dry Mallee districts.

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT.**The
Constitution.**

An article containing full information regarding the Constitution of Victoria appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, pages 9 to 16.

Amendments were made to the Constitution by the *Constitution (Reform) Act* 1937, the proclamation of the Royal Assent to which was published in the *Victoria Government Gazette* of 30th March, 1938. This Act relates mainly to disagreements between the two Houses of Parliament.

Section 37 of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act* 1928 provided that, in the event of the Assembly being dissolved by the Governor by a proclamation declaring such dissolution to be granted in consequence of a disagreement between the two Houses, and the Assembly again passing the Bill and the Council rejecting or failing to pass it or passing it with amendments to which the Assembly would not agree, the Governor could dissolve the Council and Assembly simultaneously.

The *Constitution (Reform) Act* 1937 amends the principal Act by substituting, for Section 37, a Section (2) which provides that the Governor, instead of dissolving both Houses, may dissolve the Council only. If, after such dissolution of the Council, the Assembly again passes the Bill in the same or next succeeding session, and the Council rejects it, the Governor may convene a joint sitting of the members of the Council and of the Assembly. Any amendments in such Bill proposed at such joint sitting, if affirmed by an absolute majority of the whole number of the members of the Council and the Assembly, shall be deemed to have been carried. If the Bill with the amendments (if any) so carried is affirmed by an absolute majority of the whole number of the members of the Council and the Assembly, it shall be deemed to have been duly passed by the Council and the Assembly and shall be presented to the Governor for His Majesty's assent.

Sub-section 7 of Section 2 excludes from the operation of the foregoing provisions of such Section any Bill providing for the abolition of the Council or by which an alteration may be made in Schedule D (relating to the Governor's and Judges' salaries, &c.) to the *Constitution Act*, or amending or repealing such Section.

In addition, the qualifications of members have been widened by reducing the age of qualification from 30 to 21 years and the property qualification from fifty to twenty-five pounds. The deposit required from a candidate for election to the Council is reduced from one hundred to fifty pounds.

It is further provided that no person shall, at any election for the Council, vote for more than one province or more than once for the same province.

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA.

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

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

* Died on this date.

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—*continued.*

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

GOVERNORS OF VICTORIA—continued.

Name.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.
Lieutenant-Colonel The Right Hon. Arthur Herbert Tennyson, Baron Somers, K.C.M.G., D.S.O., M.C.*	28th June, 1926 ..	23rd June, 1931
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	26th April, 1929 ..	27th October, 1929
	3rd October, 1930 ..	21st January, 1931
Sir William Hill Irvine, K.C.M.G., LL.D., Lieutenant-Governor†	24th June, 1931 ..	14th May, 1934
Captain The Right Hon. William Charles Arcedeckne, Baron Huntingfield, K.C.M.G.‡	14th May, 1934	
Sir Frederick Wollaston Mann, K.C.M.G., Lieutenant-Governor (Acting)	20th May, 1937 ..	28th September, 1937
	29th March, 1938 ..	24th September, 1938

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

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

† Resigned on 1st January, 1936. The commission was given to Sir Frederick Wollaston Mann, Kt., on 12th May, 1936.

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

MINISTERS PRIOR TO RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

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

MINISTRIES SINCE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

During the period 28th November, 1855, to 22nd November, 1928, the number of Ministries was 45. A statement showing the name of the Premier, the date of assumption of, the date of retirement from, and the duration of office of each of these Ministries appears in the

Year-Book for 1928-29, pages 30 and 31. Similar information in regard to the forty-sixth and subsequent Ministries is as follows:—

Number of Ministry and Name of Premier.	Date of Assumption of Office.	Date of Retirement from Office.	Duration of Office.
Forty-sixth—Sir William Murray McPherson, K.B.E.	22nd November, 1928	12th December, 1929	Days. 385
Forty-seventh—Edmond John Hogan	12th December, 1929	19th May, 1932	889
Forty-eighth—Sir Stanley Seymour Argyle, K.B.E., M.R.C.S.	19th May, 1932	2nd April, 1935	1,048

The forty-ninth and existing Ministry, in which the Hon. Albert Arthur Dunstan is Premier, assumed office on 2nd April, 1935. It comprises the following members:—

The Hon. Albert Arthur Dunstan, M.L.A.	Premier, Treasurer, and Solicitor-General.
„ „ Albert Eli Lind, M.L.A.	President of the Board of Land and Works, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, and Minister of Forests.
„ „ Francis Edward Old, M.L.A.	Minister of Water Supply and Minister in Charge of Electrical Undertakings.
„ „ Edmond John Hogan, M.L.A.	Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Mines, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
„ „ Henry Stephen Bailey, M.L.A.	Chief Secretary and Attorney-General.
„ „ Edwin Joseph Mackrell, M.L.A.	Minister of Labour.
„ „ Herbert John Thornhill Hyland, M.L.A.	Minister of Transport and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
„ „ Sir John Harris, K.B.E., M.L.C.	Minister of Public Instruction and Minister of Public Health.
„ „ George Louis Goudie, M.L.C.	Commissioner of Public Works, Minister in Charge of Immigration, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works.
„ „ George Joseph Tuckett, M.L.C.	Minister without Portfolio.
„ „ Henry Pye, M.L.C.	Minister without Portfolio.
„ „ Norman Angus Martin, M.L.A.	Minister without Portfolio.

NOTE.—The *Responsible Ministers of the Crown Act* 1936, assented to on 27th July, 1936, increased the number of responsible Ministers from eight to nine.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1938.

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

VICTORIA—THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

President : Hon. Sir F. G. Clarke, K.B.E.

Name of Province.	Name of Member.	Date of Retirement.
Ballaarat ..	Hon. A. J. Pittard	1943
Bendigo ..	Hon. Lieut.-Col. G. V. Lansell, C.M.G., V.D.	1940
	Hon. J. H. Lienhop	1943
Doutta Galla ..	Hon. P. J. Clarey	1943
East Yarra ..	Hon. C. H. A. Eager, K.C.	1940
	Hon. W. H. Edgar (Chairman of Committees)	1943
Gippsland ..	Hon. J. M. Balfour	1940
	Hon. W. MacAulay	1943
Higinbotham ..	Hon. J. A. Kennedy	1943
Melbourne ..	Hon. P. Jones*	1940
	Hon. D. L. McNamara	1943
Melbourne East ..	Hon. W. J. Beckett	1940
Melbourne North ..	Hon. E. L. Kiernan	1940
	Hon. H. H. Olney	1943
Melbourne South ..	Hon. A. Crofts	1940
Melbourne West ..	Hon. P. J. Kennelly	1940
	Hon. J. H. Disney	1943
Monash ..	Hon. Sir F. G. Clarke, K.B.E. (President) ..	1943
Nelson ..	Hon. Sir H. A. Currie, M.C.	1940
Northern ..	Hon. R. Kilpatrick	1940
	Hon. G. J. Tuckett (Minister without Portfolio)	1943
North-Eastern ..	Hon. Sir J. R. Harris, K.B.E., (Minister of Public Instruction and Minister of Public Health)	1940
	Hon. P. P. Inchbold	1943
North-Western ..	Hon. H. Pye (Minister without Portfolio) ..	1940
	Hon. G. L. Goudie (Commissioner of Public Works, Minister in Charge of Immigration, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works)	1943
Southern ..	Hon. W. Angliss	1940
	Hon. G. L. Chandler	1943
South-Eastern ..	Hon. W. Tyner	1940
	Hon. C. P. Gartside	1943

* Elected at by-election, held 10th September, 1938, caused by the resignation of the Hon. Sir A. G. Wales.

THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL—*continued.*

Name of Province.	Name of Member.	Date of Retirement.
South-Western ..	Hon. J. P. Jones	1940
	Hon. G. S. McArthur	1943
Wellington ..	Hon. G. Bolster	1940
Western ..	Hon. M. Saltau	1940
	Hon. L. R. Rodda	1943

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

**Legislative
Council, re-
division of
Electoral
Provinces.**

Under the provisions of *The Constitution Act Amendment Act 1936*, which was assented to on 29th October, 1936, the State Chief Electoral Officer, The Commonwealth Electoral Officer for the State of Victoria, and the Victorian Surveyor-General were appointed Commissioners for the purpose of reporting to Parliament on the redivision of the State of Victoria into electoral provinces for the Legislative Council.

In making any proposed redivision the Commissioners were required to provide for seven metropolitan and ten country provinces on the basis approximately of the following quotas:—

- (a) thirty-eight thousand electors for each metropolitan province; and
- (b) twenty-one thousand electors for each country province.

The Commissioners were given discretionary power to adopt a margin of allowance wherever necessary, but not to a greater extent than 15 per cent more or less of the quota. In the exercise of this power the Commissioners were required to regard, as guiding factors, the density and the sparsity respectively of population in any proposed electoral province.

The proposed redivision contained in the first report of the Commissioners was rejected by the Legislative Council. A new redivision was therefore, by direction, prepared by the Commissioners. This, subject to the alteration in the names of four of the electoral provinces, was approved by Parliament on 17th December, 1936. The names and boundaries of the new electoral provinces were, on 1st May, 1937, substituted for those previously existing, but it was provided that the redivision should not affect the seventeen members of the Legislative Council due to retire in the year 1940. Such members are entitled to sit and vote as though this Act had not been passed and they continue to be representatives of the respective seventeen old provinces until the date on which they retire by effluxion of time in the year 1940. On and after such date or upon a general dissolution the old provinces will cease to exist.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1938—*continued.*

VICTORIA—THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Speaker: Hon. T. Tunnecliffe.

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Albert Park	W. C. Haworth.
Allandale	P. L. Denigan.
Ballaarat	T. T. Hollway.
Barwon	Hon. T. K. Maltby.
Benalla	F. A. Cook.
Benambra	J. R. Paton.
Bendigo	A. E. Cook.
Boroondara	T. D. Oldham.
Brighton	Hon. I. Macfarlan, K.C.
Brunswick	J. R. Jewell.
Bulla-Dalhousie	H. O. White.
Carlton	W. Barry.
Castlemaine and Kyneton	Hon. C. Shields, M.B.
Caulfield	Colonel Hon. H. E. Cohen, C.M.G., C.B.E., D.S.O., V.D.
Clifton Hill	H. M. Cremean.
Coburg'	F. P. Keane.
Collingwood	Hon. T. Tunnecliffe (Speaker).
Dandenong	F. Field.
Dundas	Hon. W. Slater.
Essendon	J. C. Dillon.
Evelyn	W. H. Everard.
Flemington	J. J. Holland.
Footscray	J. M. Mullens.
Geelong	Mrs. F. E. Brownbill.
Gippsland East	Hon. A. E. Lind (President of the Board of Land and Works, Commissioner of Crown Lands and Survey, and Minister of Forests).
Gippsland North	*A. H. Borthwick
Gippsland South	Hon. H. J. T. Hyland (Minister of Transport and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works).
Gippsland West	M. Bennett.
Goulburn Valley	J. G. B. McDonald.
Grant	F. C. T. Holden.
Gunbower	Hon. N. A. Martin (Minister without Portfolio).
Hampden	W. R. Cumming.
Hawthorn	Hon. J. A. Gray, M.C.
Heidelberg	H. P. Zwar.
Kara Kara-Borong	F. A. Cameron.
Kew	Hon. W. S. Kent Hughes, M.V.O., M.C.

* Elected at by-election held 5th November, 1938, caused by death of Mr. J. W. McLachlan.

MEMBERS OF THE STATE PARLIAMENT, 1938—*continued.*THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—*continued.*

Name of Electoral District.	Name of Member.
Korong-Eaglehawk	Hon. A. A. Dunstan (Premier, Treasurer, and Solicitor-General).
Lowan	G. H. Lamb.
Maryborough-Daylesford	G. C. Frost.
Melbourne	T. Hayes.
Mildura	A. G. Allnutt.
Mornington	A. J. Kirton.
Northcote	Hon. J. Cain.
Nunawading	Mrs. I. L. Weber.
Oakleigh	S. H. Reid.
Ouyen	K. Dodgshun.
Polwarth	A. M. McDonald.
Port Fairy-Glenelg	E. E. Bond.
Port Melbourne	J. L. Murphy.
Prahran	J. McD. Ellis.
Richmond	E. J. Cotter.
Rodney	W. Dunstone.
St. Kilda	A. Michaelis.
Stawell and Ararat	A. McDonald.
Swan Hill	Hon. F. E. Old (Minister of Water Supply and Minister in Charge of Electrical Undertakings).
Toorak	Hon. Sir S. S. Argyle, K.B.E., M.R.C.S.
Upper Goulburn	Hon. E. J. Mackrell (Minister of Labour).
Upper Yarra	Lieut.-Colonel Hon. G. H. Knox, C.M.G., V.D.
Walhalla	W. A. Moncur.
Wangaratta-Ovens	L. V. Diffey.
Waranga	E. A. Coyle (Chairman of Committees).
Warrenheip-Grenville	Hon. E. J. Hogan (Minister of Agriculture, Minister of Mines, and a Vice-President of the Board of Land and Works).
Warrnambool	Hon. H. S. Bailey (Chief Secretary and Attorney-General).
Williamstown	Hon. J. Lemmon.
Wonthaggi	W. G. McKenzie.

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

During the period 1856 to 1927 there were 28 Parliaments. A statement showing the duration in days of each Parliament, the number of days in session, and the percentage of the latter to the former appears in the *Year-Book* for 1928-29, page 21. Similar information in regard to the twenty-ninth and subsequent Parliaments is shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—DURATION OF PARLIAMENTS AND SESSIONS,
1927 TO 1937.

Number of Parliament.	Period.	Duration of Parliament.	Days in Session.	
			Number.	Percentage to Duration.
		Days.		
Twenty-ninth	1927-29	850	542	63·8
Thirtieth	1929-32	864	596	69·0
Thirty-first	1932-35	963	471	48·9
Thirty-second	1935-37	902	506	56·1

THE AGENT-GENERAL FOR VICTORIA.

With the object of inducing a greater number of persons in the United Kingdom and in Ireland to emigrate to Victoria the *Immigration Act* 1863, No. 175, was passed by Parliament.

This Act provided, among other things, for the appointment of an Agent-General for Victoria in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

The first Agent-General was the Honorable George Frederic Vernon, C.B. He was not appointed, however, until 5th May, 1868, the appointment taking effect from 1st December of that year.

The *Immigration Statute* 1864, No. 195, consolidated the Acts relating to immigration into Victoria. The following Acts were thereby wholly repealed—Act 16 Vic. No. 4 and Act 27 Vic. No. 175 (which provided for the appointment of an Agent-General).

In 1872 special legislation dealing with the office of Agent-General was passed. Hitherto a person who had been a member of

Parliament must have ceased to be a member for a period of six months before he could be eligible for appointment to the office of Agent-General. This restriction was removed by the *Agent-General's Act* 1872, No. 441, which also limited the period of appointment to not more than three years and increased the salary of the Agent-General from £1,500 to £2,000 per annum, which amount was specifically appropriated for the purpose. As from 1st July, 1884, the salary was further increased to £2,500 per annum by the passage of the *Agent-General's Act* 1884, No. 807

In 1890 a further consolidation of the laws relating to the office of Agent-General took place. The following Acts were repealed:—

- 27 Vic. No. 195 (So much as was not already repealed);
- 36 Vic. No. 441 (So much as was not already repealed); and
- 48 Vic. No. 807 (Wholly repealed).

On his appointment as Agent-General in 1904 the Honorable J. W. Taverner was informed that it was the wish of the Government that he should devote his attention towards re-organizing the office and placing it to a greater extent upon a commercial basis, so that the development of markets for Victorian produce; the dissemination of useful knowledge regarding the State and the correction of misapprehension as to its people and its resources might be the chief objects aimed at. Mr. Taverner's subsequent work in carrying out the wishes of the Government marks, therefore, an important change in the character of the duties of the Agent-General.

The *Agent-General's Act* 1915, No. 2612, consolidated the law relating to the office and repealed the *Agent-General's Act* 1890, No. 1061. A further consolidation took place in 1928 (the *Agent-General's Act* 1928, No. 3633) when the Act of 1915 was repealed. In addition the title of the office was altered from "the Agent-General for Victoria in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland" to "the Agent-General for Victoria in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland."

With the passage of the *Agent-General's (Amendment) Act* 1936, No. 4374, the maximum period of appointment of the Agent-General was increased from three to five years and the power of the Governor in Council to suspend or remove an Agent-General from office was restricted, thus granting greater security of tenure.

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

Agent-General
for Victoria in
Great Britain.

VICTORIA—STATE ACTS PASSED FROM 19th OCTOBER, 1937,
TO 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

The following is a synopsis of each Act passed by the State Parliament from 19th October 1937, to 31st December, 1937:—

Act No. Date (1937).

- 4473 .. 25th October .. This Act applies out of the Consolidated Revenue the sum of £2,554,332 to the service of the year 1937-38.
- 4474 .. 15th November Part III. of the *Financial Emergency Act 1931* provided, *inter alia*, for the reduction of all interest rates on Mortgages and other Securities by 22½ per cent. with the qualification that the interest payable under any mortgage should not be reduced to a rate less than 5 per cent. per annum (in 1935 reduced to 4½ per cent.). In the Principal Act, the foregoing provisions operated for a period of three years only, but, by subsequent amendment, this period was annually extended and, by the *Financial Emergency (Mortgages) Continuation Act 1937*, was further extended to 30th September, 1938.
- 4475 .. 15th November The *Sewerage Districts (Temporary Reduction of Interest) Act 1931* provided for a reduction of interest payable by "owners" to Sewerage Authorities for the cost of house connexions as in the foregoing. The 1937 Act similarly extended the operation of the 1931 Act from the original three years specified in the latter Act to seven years from the commencement of such Act.
- 4476 .. 15th November The *Local Government (Temporary Reduction of Interest) Act 1937*, similarly to the two foregoing Acts, provided for the extension of the period of reduced interest payable by property owners to Municipal Councils for private street construction to seven years from the commencement of the 1931 Act.
- 4477 .. 15th November Pursuant to the authority given by an Act of the Parliament of New South Wales (the *River Murray (Diversion) Act 1933*) the *Country Roads (Murray Diversion) Act 1935* authorized the construction by the Country Roads Board of certain works for the diversion of the course of the River Murray near Howlong in New South Wales and for the indemnification of the State of New South Wales against any claim for compensation for land resumed for that purpose. The *Country Roads (Murray Diversion) Act 1937* makes technical amendments to the provision for indemnification.

Act No. Date (1937).

- 4478 .. 15th November *Caulfield Land Act 1937*.—The main purpose of this Act is to provide additional land for extension of the Caulfield Technical School by the utilization of the site of the adjoining Drill Hall. Opportunity is taken, however, to make certain technical adjustments in the area of the Caulfield Recreation Reserve and of the alignments of certain streets adjoining. Both the School and Drill Hall sites, as well as an area temporarily reserved for railway purposes, originally formed part of the Caulfield Recreation Reserve. The Reserve as fenced, however, encroached upon both Dandenong-road and Railway-avenue and, in addition, enclosed an adjoining small area of Crown lands. The Act makes provision for the realignment of Dandenong-road and Railway-avenue to conform to the actual fenced boundary of the Reserve; for the revocation of the proclamation as roads of those portions of the afore-mentioned roads fenced in with the Reserve and their formal inclusion therein; for the granting to the Commonwealth Government, on the transfer and surrender by the Commonwealth of the Drill Hall site, of a site out of the Recreation Reserve for a new Drill Hall, for the inclusion in the Recreation Reserve of the small area of Crown Lands aforementioned and for the reservations for Railway purposes and as a site for a Technical School of portions of the Recreation Reserve. Provision is also made for dealing with a strip of Dandenong-road encroached upon by private landholders.
- 4479 .. 15th November The *Superannuation (Retirement) Act 1937* extends for one year from 1st July, 1937, the operation of the *Superannuation (Retirement) Act 1932* (as amended) which enables male and female officers of the Public Service to retire at 60 and 55 years of age respectively under certain conditions.
- 4480 .. 15th November *State Electricity Commission (Electrical Approvals Board) Act 1937*.—This Act is designed to overcome a difficulty in regard to the personnel of the Electrical Approvals Board.
- 4481 .. 15th November The *Local Government (Celebrations) Act 1937* authorizes and validates expenditure by municipalities out of municipal funds in connexion with the celebration of the coronation of His Majesty King George VI. and also empowers any municipal council to expend municipal funds in the celebration of an event of historical interest to, or in the preparation and publication of historical records of, the municipality.

Act No	Date (1937).	
4482	.. 15th November	The <i>Federal Aid Roads and Works Act</i> 1937 approves on the part of Victoria an agreement entered into between the Commonwealth and Victoria, which agreement was previously executed, on the part of the Commonwealth, by a similarly entitled Commonwealth Act. The agreement provides that, for a period of ten years commencing 1st July, 1937, the Commonwealth will make available to the State an agreed upon proportion of the Customs duty levied on imported petroleum and of the excise duty on locally refined petroleum for the purpose of construction, re-construction, maintenance or repair of roads or other works connected with transport.
4483	.. 15th November	<i>Administration and Probate (Testator's Family Maintenance) Act</i> 1937. This Act amends Part V. of the <i>Administration and Probate Act</i> 1928 by providing that, if any person dies leaving a will and without making therein adequate provision for the proper maintenance and support of the testator's widow, widower or children, the Court may, in its discretion, on application by or on behalf of the said widow, widower or children, order that such provision as the Court thinks fit shall be made out of the estate of the testator for such widow, widower or children. No such application may be heard by the Court unless the application is made within six months after the date of the grant of probate of the will or of letters of administration with the will annexed (as the case may be). The time for making an application may be extended by the Court or Judge.
4484	.. 15th November	The <i>Newmarket Sheep Sales (Amendment) Act</i> 1937 revives the <i>Newmarket Sheep Sales (Continuation) Act</i> 1936 which provided for twice-weekly sheep sales at Newmarket. In addition, provision is made for sheep to be sold on any Friday appointed by the Minister for the purpose of meeting special circumstances but not more than four Fridays shall be so appointed in any year.
4485	.. 22nd November	The <i>Statute Law Revision Act</i> 1937 makes amendments to various Acts in which typographical and other errors and minor mistakes and omissions have been discovered.
4486	.. 22nd November	<i>Administration and Probate (Caveats) Act</i> 1937. This Act allows the issue, by the Registrar of Probates, of probate or administration where a caveat against the grant of probate has been lodged but has subsequently expired or been withdrawn. It was formerly held that, notwithstanding such expiration or withdrawal, where a caveat had been once lodged, probate or administration could not issue as of course

Act No.	Date (1937).	
4487 ..	22nd November	The <i>Superannuation (Investment of Fund) Act 1937</i> widens the field of investment of the Superannuation Board by empowering the Board to invest in any security, with the exception of mortgages, authorized by the Trustee Act, as well as the securities of the Metropolitan and of the Country Fire Brigades Boards, the Grain Elevators Board, the State Electricity Commission and sewerage authorities.
4488 ..	29th November	The <i>Stock Medicines Act 1937</i> provides for the registrations of stock medicines. Every wholesale dealer who is primarily responsible for placing any stock medicine on the market in Victoria is required to apply for the registration of his product to the Director of Agriculture who, in turn, is required to submit the application to the Stock Medicines Board constituted under the Act for its report and recommendation thereon.
4489 ..	29th November	The <i>Income Tax (Rates) Act 1937</i> declares the rates of Income Tax for the year ending 30th June 1938.
4490 ..	29th November	The <i>Land Tax Act 1937</i> declares the rate of Land Tax for the year ended 31st December, 1938.
4491 ..	29th November	The <i>Administration and Probate Duties Act 1937</i> provides for the continuance until 31st December, 1938, of the additional duties payable under Part III. of the <i>Finance Act 1930</i> .
4492 ..	29th November	The <i>Financial Emergency (Company Mortgages) Act 1937</i> provides that payment by any company of interest on any mortgage which, but for the operation of the Financial Emergency Acts, would have been payable, be deemed within the powers of the company and absolves the directors thereof from any personal liability in respect of such payment.
4493 ..	29th November	The <i>Unemployment Relief Tax (Rates) Act 1937</i> declares the rates of Unemployment Relief Tax for the year ended 30th June, 1938.
4494 ..	29th November	<i>Audit Act 1937</i> . This Act ensures that the accounts of the Treasury will be closed on the 30th June of each year. Previously, payments for services rendered in the financial year closed 30th June could be made up to 31st July.
4495 ..	29th November	The <i>Victorian Loan Act 1937</i> authorizes the raising of additional loan moneys to the extent of £450,000 for the purpose of irrigation and water supply works, for drainage and flood protection works in country districts and for works under the River Murray Waters Acts.

Act No.	Date (1937).	
4496 ..	29th November	<i>Financial Emergency (Grants and Funds) Act 1937.</i> This Act extends for one year from 30th June, 1937, the provision of the Financial Emergency Acts whereby certain annual grants, &c., were reduced and payment of the municipal endowment suspended. The original reductions included University grants which are not covered by the extension and are thereby restored to the amounts specified in the University Acts. Provision is also made for the reduction from ten to four per cent. of the sinking fund for loans raised to cover revenue deficits.
4497 ..	29th November	<i>Maintenance (Widowed Mothers) Act 1937.</i> This Act amends Part III. of the <i>Maintenance Act 1928</i> and provides for the payment to a widowed mother (including step-mother) who is without sufficient means of support of a weekly sum, being not less than six nor more than ten shillings, towards her own maintenance.
4498 ..	29th November	The <i>Country Roads (Borrowing) Act 1937</i> makes provision for additional borrowing power for main roads under the Country Roads Acts.
4499 ..	29th November	The <i>Public Account Advances Act 1937</i> authorizes the temporary application out of the Public Account of an amount not exceeding £300,000 for certain railway maintenance and renewal works, such amount to be repaid at the rate of £50,000 per annum from Consolidated Revenue.
4500 ..	29th November	The <i>Country Roads Board Fund Act 1937</i> provides for the continuance, for another year, of the payment into the Consolidated Revenue of receipts from motor drivers' licence-fees and of the suspension of the grant of £50,000 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the Country Roads Board Fund.
4501 ..	29th November	The <i>Goods Act 1937</i> amends the Principal Act by substituting a new part for Part V. thereof. The Act is designed to prevent the sale to the public of goods which are not true to label or which are not of the quality and purity which the consumer is entitled to expect from the representations which are made to him.
4502 ..	29th November	<i>Air Navigation Act 1937.</i> This Act confirms a resolution adopted at a Conference of representatives of the Governments of the Commonwealth and of the States that there should be uniform rules throughout the Commonwealth applying to air navigation and aircraft. This objective is attained in the Act by providing that the Commonwealth air navigation regulations from time to time in force are to apply to air navigation within Victoria as if such regulations were incorporated in Victorian legislation.

Act No.	Date (1937).	
4503	.. 6th December	The <i>Water Supply Loans Application Act 1937</i> sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money available under Loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment Fund for irrigation, water supply and flood protection works in country districts and for works under the River Murray Waters Acts.
4504	.. 6th December	<i>Medical Act 1937</i> . This Act is designed to prevent a medical practitioner rendering to a patient an inclusive account for the services of himself and other practitioners.
4505	.. 6th December	The <i>State Electricity Commission (Extension of Undertaking) Act 1937</i> approves a scheme for the extension of the State electricity generating system by the establishment of hydro-electric works at Kiewa and by the provision of additional generating plant at Newport.
4506	.. 6th December	The <i>Mines Act 1937</i> makes a number of amendments to the <i>Mines Act 1928</i> designed, <i>inter alia</i> , to protect the public where cyanide plants are being operated; to enable prospectors to mine to a depth not exceeding 100 feet on land subject to application for mining lease and to provide that no application for forfeiture of lease shall be made until a period of 14 days has elapsed from the time of the alleged breach of the labor covenant.
4507	.. 6th December	The <i>Unemployment Relief Loan and Application Act 1937</i> increases from £8,200,000 to £9,450,000 the amount which may be raised by way of loan for the relief of unemployment.
4508	.. 6th December	The <i>Port Melbourne (Aircraft Agreement) Land Act 1937</i> is an Act which ratifies an agreement, dated 10th May, 1937, with the Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation Proprietary Limited whereby such company, in consideration of being allowed to acquire certain Crown lands as a site for an aircraft factory and of the State providing an aircraft testing field and landing ground, undertakes to pay certain moneys for such site and within two years from date of agreement to construct, erect and establish thereon an aircraft factory of a total value with plant and equipment and other works of £250,000.

Act No. Date (1937).

- 4509 .. 13th December The *Stamps Act* 1937 is an Act relating to Stamp duties on transfers of marketable securities and of rights in respect of shares and on directions as to the issue or allotment of certain shares and on conveyances or transfers on sale of real property and land transfers. The Stamp Duty imposed is six pence for every £10 or fractional part of £10 of the amount or value of the consideration for the transfer. Exemptions include shares in any company engaged solely or principally in the search or mining for gold or solely in the search or mining for petroleum; stock, debentures, Treasury bonds or Treasury bills of the Governments of the United Kingdom, the Commonwealth or the States; Victorian Savings Bank Deposit Stock debentures or Crédit Foncier Debenture Stock. Provision is also made for a reduction of 20 per cent. in the rate of stamp duty chargeable, pursuant to the provisions of the *Stamps Act* 1928, on sales of real property.
- 4510 .. 13th December The *Stock and Share Brokers Act* 1937 makes provision with respect to the keeping of certain books and accounts by members of Stock Exchanges and the examination and audit thereof. Its primary purpose is to ensure, as far as possible, that money and securities which are entrusted to sharebrokers by the public will be properly and honestly dealt with.
- 4511 .. 13th December The *Public Service (Transfer of Officers) Act* 1937 provides for the transfer to the Public Service of officers of the Forests Commission and of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission.
- 4512 .. 13th December The *State Electricity Commission (Financial) Act* 1937 is an Act empowering the State Electricity Commission to enter into arrangements to enable holders of securities under the *State Electricity Commission (Borrowing) Act* 1932 to convert their holdings; to authorize the Commission to raise moneys for its purposes by the issue of debentures and inscribed stock, to authorize the raising of moneys by the State for such purposes and to sanction the issue and application thereof. Its main purpose is to provide the means of financing the works referred to in the descriptive notes against Act 4505 aforementioned

- | Act No. | Date (1937). | |
|---------|---------------|---|
| 4513 .. | 13th December | The <i>Water Act</i> 1937 is designed to give effect to some of the more important of the recommendations of a Royal Commission which was appointed to inquire into the operations of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Amongst other things it provides for the adjustment of accounts of land holders in respect of rates and charges owing at 30th June, 1936; for writing off amounts of rates and charges deemed irrecoverable; for the adjustment of the capital allotted to the various districts to an amount upon which full payments can be met by means of rates and charges and for the balance of capital expenditure not charged to districts to be transferred to the State account. |
| 4514 .. | 20th December | The <i>Public Account Advances (Amendment) Act</i> 1937 is mainly a machinery measure designed to improve the book-keeping system of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission by increasing the amount which may be charged to the Public Account Advances Account for the purchase of fuel, stores, materials and plant from £50,000 to £100,000. |
| 4515 .. | 20th December | The <i>St. Vincent's Hospital Land Act</i> 1937 authorizes the Governor in Council to grant in fee simple, to the Mother Rectress and two other named members of the religious Order of the Sisters of Charity, certain land acquired by the State, on behalf of and at the cost of such Order, as an extension of the site of St. Vincent's Hospital. |
| 4516 .. | 20th December | The <i>Stamps (Increased Duty Continuance) Act</i> 1937 continues for a further period of one year the operations of certain provisions of the Stamps Acts relating to the imposition of increased stamp duties on certain instruments. |
| 4517 .. | 20th December | <i>Superannuation Act</i> 1937. The main object of this Act is to preserve the stability of the Superannuation Fund established under the Superannuation Acts by (a) increasing the rates of contributions; (b) altering slightly the apportionment as between Consolidated Revenue and the Fund of the cost of existing pensions and (c) providing a check on contributors taking additional units of superannuation except under the conditions prescribed by the Act. |
| 4518 .. | 20th December | The <i>Triholm and Strezlecki Railway (Dismantling) Act</i> 1937 provides for the dismantling of the Triholm-Strezlecki section of the Koo-wee-rup-McDonald's Track railway and for the sale or disposal of the land and materials comprised in such section of railway. |

- | Act No | Date (1937). | |
|--------|------------------|--|
| 4519 | .. 20th December | <i>Fire Brigades Act 1937.</i> The object of this Act is five-fold—(1) to enable the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board to borrow £100,000 to erect stations and purchase fire engines; (2) to enable both the Metropolitan and the Country Fire Brigades Boards to establish funds for the purchase, construction, renewal or replacement of land, buildings, machinery or plant; (3) to extend the tenure of members of each Board from two to three years; (4) to remedy the position in respect of the superannuation fund of the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board and to extend the power to make regulations regarding the superannuation fund of either Board; and (5) to empower the State Savings Bank to invest in debentures issued by either Board. |
| 4520 | .. 20th December | The <i>Railways Act 1937</i> authorizes the Board of Land and Works or the Railways Commissioners, at any time before the 30th June, 1939, without giving the public notice as required by the Railways Acts, to appoint to permanent office in the railways service temporarily employed (a) returned soldiers engaged on work regarded as permanent and (b) non-retained soldiers whose performance of duties makes their appointment to permanent office desirable for the proper conduct of the business of the Railway Department. No such permanent appointment shall be made unless or until the head of the branch in which such person was or is employed certifies that such person is thoroughly efficient and recommends him for permanent employment. |
| 4521 | .. 20th December | The <i>Closer Settlement Act 1937</i> (a) extends the life of the Closer Settlement Commission; (b) prescribes the proportion of outstanding liability which shall be paid by any lessee in respect of the financial year 1937-38; and (c) provides that all moneys which became due and owing to the Commission by any lessee during the period from 1st July, 1932, to 30th June, 1937, and which have not been paid shall remain due and owing and be payable with interest at 4½ per cent. per annum from 1st March, 1938, until the date on which they are repaid. |
| 4522 | .. 20th December | The <i>Darling to Glen Waverley Railway Construction Act 1937</i> makes provision with respect to the reduction of the liability of the Darling to Glen Waverley Railway Construction Trust; to terminate the levying by the Trust of betterment and railway construction rates; to provide for the payment of certain sums to the Trust by certain Municipal Councils and for the appointment of Receivers to wind up the affairs of the Trust. |

- | Act No. | Date (1937). | |
|---------|------------------|--|
| 4523 | .. 20th December | The <i>Dairy Produce Act</i> 1937 provides that a licence under the Milk and Dairy Supervision Acts may, on the report of the Dairy Produce Board, be issued to a factory subject to a condition that cheese only shall be manufactured thereat. |
| 4524 | .. 20th December | The <i>Workers' Compensation Act</i> 1937 makes provision for the appointment of a Workers' Compensation Board of three members, of whom one shall be a Judge of County Courts, and a person nominated jointly by the insurers and the Victorian Employers Federation and one a person nominated by the Melbourne Trades Hall Council. The Board is empowered and required, amongst other things, to act as a tribunal with exclusive jurisdiction to inquire into and determine all matters and questions arising out of claims under the Workers' Compensation Acts. |
| 4525 | .. 24th December | The <i>State Forests Loan Application Act</i> 1937 sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money not exceeding £50,000 available under Loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment Fund for State Forests for the several purposes mentioned in the schedule to the Act. |
| 4526 | .. 24th December | The <i>Railway Loan Application Act</i> 1937 sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money not exceeding £575,000 available for railways under Loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment Fund for Works and purposes specified in the schedule to the Act. |
| 4527 | .. 24th December | The <i>Public Works Loan Application Act</i> 1937 sanctions the issue and application of certain sums of money not exceeding £13,810 available under Loan Acts or in the State Loans Repayment Fund for the erection and equipment of a School of Dairy Technology at the State Research Farm, Werribee. |
| 4528 | .. 24th December | The <i>Landlord and Tenant (Rent Reduction) Act</i> 1937 continues for a period of eight months from the 24th December, 1937, the operation of certain provisions of Part I. of the 1931 Act of the same title. |
| 4529 | .. 24th December | The <i>Landlord and Tenant (Rent Reduction) Amendment Act</i> 1937 provides that payment by any company of any rent at a rate higher than that to which the same was reduced by the Landlord and Tenant (Rent Reduction) Acts shall be deemed within the powers of the company and absolves the directors thereof from any personal liability in respect of such payment. |

Act No. Date (1937).

- 4530 .. 24th December The *Health (Housing) Act 1937* is designed to strengthen the provisions of the Principal Act relating to the condemnation of houses deemed unfit for human habitation. It provides for the making of regulations by the Governor in Council generally to prescribe standards of sanitation and hygiene for dwelling houses and, where it is certified that any dwelling does not comply with such standards, empowers either the Commission of Public Health or the Council of the Municipality in which the dwelling is situated to declare such dwelling or specified part thereof unfit for human habitation.
- 4531 .. 24th December The *Housing Act 1937* makes provision with respect to the constitution of a Housing Commission of four members and the powers and duties thereof and to the raising of funds by the State and the application of such funds. The Act provides that, for the purposes of the Act, the Governor in Council may increase the amount of Victorian Government Stock by an amount not exceeding £500,000 or may issue debentures for the whole or any portion of such sum.
- 4532 .. 24th December This Act applies a sum not exceeding £7,838,785 out of the Consolidated Revenue to the service of the year ending 30th June, 1938, and provides for the appropriation of all sums amounting to £16,079,601 granted out of the Consolidated Revenue by such Act and the other Acts mentioned in the first schedule to such Act.

Date (1938).

- 4533 .. 30th March* .. The *Constitution (Reform) Act 1937* makes provision with respect to the relations between the two Houses of Parliament (see page 12 Constitution and Government).

* Reserved 24th December, 1937. Proclamation of the Royal Assent published in the *Victorian Government Gazette*, 30th March, 1938.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS.

The triennial elections for the Legislative Council, held on 12th June, 1937, were the first elections under the redivision of the electoral provinces approved by Parliament on 17th December, 1936. A statement relating to the redivision appears on page 18 of this volume. Eleven of the seventeen

provinces were contested. The following table shows the number of electors on the rolls for each province and also the number and proportion who voted in each province where an election was held.

VICTORIA—NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES
POLLED AT THE TRIENNIAL ELECTIONS FOR THE
LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ON 12TH JUNE, 1937.

Province.	Number of Electors on Rolls.	Number of Electors who Voted.	Informal Votes.	Number who Voted by Post.	Proportion of Electors who Voted.
					%
Ballaarat	20,654	16,396	330	693	79·50
Bendigo	21,874	18,111	167	1,264	82·80
Doutta Galla*	38,049	..	..	..	..
East Yarra*	33,114	..	..	..	..
Gippsland	18,294	13,955	103	382	76·28
Higinbotham	31,324	25,846	527	666	82·51
Melbourne*	39,014	..	..	..	..
Melbourne North	35,569	30,317	390	745	85·23
Melbourne West	33,121	26,148	439	463	78·95
Monash*	36,825	..	..	..	..
Northern	18,514	14,325	112	201	77·37
North-Eastern*	16,796	..	..	..	..
North-Western*	18,702	..	..	..	..
Southern	22,631	16,660	258	2,379	73·62
South-Eastern	22,285	15,776	317	1,408	70·79
South-Western	22,606	16,595	239	777	73·41
Western	18,322	14,796	173	315	80·76
Total number of electors ..	447,694	..	..	..	..
Less uncontested provinces (6)	182,500	..	..	..	..
Total contested provinces ..	265,194	208,925	3,055	9,293	78·78

* Uncontested.

**Elections,
Legislative
Assembly,
1937.**

At the elections for the Legislative Assembly, held on 2nd October, 1937, there were contests in 45 of the 65 constituencies. The number of electors on the rolls was 1,136,596—550,618 males and 585,978 females. In contested districts 93·96 per cent. of the electors recorded their votes, the proportion for males being 94·22 per cent. and for females 93·72 per cent.

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

VICTORIA—NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 2ND OCTOBER, 1937.

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Albert Park ..	10,241	13,846	24,087	10,063	12,632	22,695	98·26	91·23	94·22
Allandale ..	5,373	4,872	10,245	5,174	4,671	9,845	96·21	95·88	96·09
Ballaarat ..	8,103	9,981	18,084	7,581	9,646	17,227	93·56	96·64	95·26
Barwon ..	6,178	6,634	12,812	5,914	6,236	12,150	95·73	94·00	94·83
Benalla ..	6,065	5,343	11,408	5,788	5,053	10,841	95·43	94·57	95·03
Benambra ..	4,872	4,082	8,954	4,588	3,874	8,462	94·17	94·90	94·51
Boroondara ..	8,685	9,927	18,612			No contest			
Brighton ..	13,331	17,996	31,327			No contest			
Brunswick ..	13,010	15,958	28,968	12,156	14,713	26,869	93·44	92·20	92·75
Brunswick ..	12,655	13,799	26,454	12,017	12,936	24,883	94·96	93·24	94·06
Bulla and Daihousie ..	5,299	4,737	10,096	4,971	4,481	9,452	93·81	93·41	93·61
Carlton ..	9,852	11,987	21,839			No contest			
Castlemaine .. and									
Kyneton ..	5,568	5,572	11,140	5,184	5,330	10,514	93·10	95·36	94·38
Caulfield ..	12,329	15,505	27,834			No contest			
Clifton Hill ..	11,716	12,613	24,329	10,659	11,961	22,620	90·98	94·83	92·98
Coburg ..	13,080	14,324	27,404	12,614	13,485	26,099	96·44	94·14	95·24
Collingwood ..	11,121	12,205	23,326	10,498	11,095	21,593	94·40	90·91	92·57
Dandenong ..	14,872	15,644	30,516	14,180	14,621	28,801	95·35	93·46	94·38
Dundas ..	6,294	5,892	12,186			No contest			
Essendon ..	11,541	13,301	24,842	11,282	12,731	24,013	97·76	95·71	96·66
Evelyn ..	6,055	5,617	11,672	5,599	5,310	10,909	92·47	94·53	93·46
Flemington ..	11,211	11,173	22,384	10,701	10,800	21,501	95·45	96·66	96·06
Footscray ..	13,482	13,093	26,575	12,796	12,755	25,551	94·91	97·42	96·11
Geelong ..	9,058	10,110	19,168			No contest			
Gippsland East ..	4,574	3,466	8,040			No contest			
Gippsland North ..	5,712	5,473	11,185	5,385	5,146	10,531	94·28	94·03	94·15
Gippsland South ..	6,376	5,128	11,504			No contest			
Gippsland West ..	6,248	5,219	11,467			No contest			
Goulburn Valley ..	6,523	5,903	12,426			No contest			
Grant ..	5,713	4,769	10,482			No contest			
Gunbower ..	6,328	5,139	11,467			No contest			
Hampton ..	5,734	5,431	11,165	5,462	5,139	10,601	95·26	94·62	94·95
Hawthorn ..	11,128	14,642	25,770	10,211	13,523	23,734	91·76	92·36	92·10
Heidelberg ..	14,625	15,078	29,703	13,647	14,615	28,262	93·31	96·93	95·15
Kara Kara and Borung ..	5,756	5,301	11,057	5,400	5,005	10,405	93·82	94·42	94·10
Kew ..	11,954	15,609	27,563	10,688	14,632	25,370	89·41	94·06	92·04
Korong and Eaglehawk ..	4,124	5,498	11,622	5,842	5,047	10,889	95·40	91·80	93·69
Lowan ..	6,253	5,920	12,173	5,909	5,582	11,491	94·50	94·29	94·40
Maryborough .. and									
Daylesford ..	5,746	5,641	11,387			No contest			
Melbourne ..	10,315	9,865	20,180	8,750	9,096	17,846	84·83	92·20	88·43
Mildura ..	7,239	5,913	13,152	6,749	5,449	12,198	93·23	92·15	92·75

VICTORIA.—NUMBER OF ELECTORS AND VOTES POLLED FOR THE
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON 2ND
OCTOBER, 1937—*continued.*

Electoral District.	Number of Electors on Rolls at Date of General Election.			Electors who Voted.					
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Percentage of Number on the Roll.		
							Males.	Females.	Total.
Mornington	6,922	6,529	13,451	6,509	5,911	12,420	94·03	90·53	92·34
Northcote	11,688	12,915	24,603	11,309	12,011	23,320	96·76	93·00	94·79
Nunawading	11,237	13,270	24,507	10,694	12,358	23,052	95·17	93·13	94·06
Oakleigh	14,889	17,425	32,314	14,191	16,158	30,349	95·31	92·73	93·92
Ouyon	5,898	4,613	10,511			No contest			
Polwarth	6,217	5,549	11,766	5,863	5,343	11,206	94·31	96·29	95·24
Port Fairy and Glenelg	6,274	5,720	11,994	6,012	5,360	11,372	95·82	93·71	94·81
Port Melbourne	10,528	10,878	21,406	9,860	10,211	20,071	93·66	93·87	93·76
Prahran	9,504	15,976	25,570	9,090	15,011	24,101	94·75	93·06	94·25
Richmond	12,046	13,083	25,129	11,137	12,151	23,288	92·45	92·88	92·67
Rodney	6,237	5,790	12,027			No contest			
St. Kilda	12,124	16,875	28,999	11,610	15,208	26,818	95·76	90·12	92·48
Stawell and Ararat	6,117	5,821	11,938			No contest			
Swan Hill	5,482	3,925	9,407	4,974	3,780	8,754	90·73	96·31	93·06
Toorak	9,528	15,341	24,869	8,936	13,851	22,787	93·79	90·29	91·63
Upper Goulburn	5,292	4,469	9,761			No contest			
Upper Yarra	7,924	7,315	15,239			No contest			
Walhalla	6,880	5,076	11,956	5,938	4,812	10,750	93·07	94·80	93·84
Wangaratta and Ovens	5,945	5,263	11,208			No contest			
Waranga	5,116	4,377	9,493			No contest			
Warrenheip and Grenville	5,554	5,083	10,637	5,221	4,939	10,160	94·00	97·17	95·52
Warrnambool	6,304	6,007	12,311	6,110	5,695	11,805	96·91	94·81	95·89
Williamstown	11,581	11,785	23,366	11,165	11,262	22,427	96·41	95·58	95·99
Wonthaggi	5,402	4,629	10,031	5,080	4,318	9,398	94·04	93·28	93·69
Total	550,618	585,978	1,136,596	..	..	..	..	..	..
Less twenty uncontested districts	143,586	144,330	287,916	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total	407,032	441,648	848,680	383,507	413,923	797,430	94·22	93·72	93·96

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

In 10 of the 45 contested districts in the Legislative Assembly election of 2nd October, 1937, there were more than two candidates.

In two of these the successful candidate had an absolute majority of the total first preferences recorded, and consequently a second count was unnecessary. In two of the other eight contests the candidate who occupied the highest position on the first count was displaced after the second and subsequent preferences were distributed.

Absent Voting. The legislation providing for absent voting was assented to on the 10th November, 1927, and was applied generally for the first time at the general election for the Legislative Assembly in November, 1929. Legislation of a similar nature was enacted on 10th December, 1935, in respect of elections for the Legislative Council with the limitation that such voting may be permitted only within the province for which the elector is enrolled.

Compulsory Voting. Provision for compulsory voting for Legislative Assembly elections was embodied in Act No. 3488, assented to on 23rd December, 1926. The *Legislative Council Elections Act* 1935, No. 4350, to which assent was given on 10th December, 1935, imposed compulsion to vote on electors enrolled in respect of Legislative Council elections.

VICTORIA—PARLIAMENTARY BY-ELECTIONS.

By-elections, 1937-38. By-elections held in Victoria during 1937-38 were as follow :—

Legislative Council.

28th May, 1938 .. Mr. P. J. Kennelly returned unopposed for West Melbourne Province.

Legislative Assembly.

21st May, 1938 .. Mr. Keith Dodgshun returned unopposed for Ouyen electoral district.

4th June, 1938 .. Mrs. Fanny E. Brownbill elected for Geelong electoral district.

Particulars in regard to the by-election for Geelong electoral district held 4th June, 1938, are as follow :—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Number of electors on roll at date of election ..	9,137	10,078	19,215
Number of electors who voted	8,847	9,383	18,230
Electors who voted (percentage of number on roll)	96·83	93·10	94·81

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

VICTORIA—PROPORTION OF VOTERS AT GENERAL ELECTIONS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1856-1937.

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

* Not available.

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