

## PART 10.—SOCIAL CONDITION.

1809. The following table contains a statement of the number of clergy and the approximate number of religious services performed in connexion with each denomination during the last five years :—

## CLERGY, 1894 TO 1898.\*

Religious Denominations.	Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c.				
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Church of England .. ...	239	236	229	238	242
Presbyterians ... ..	235	237	228	228	234
Methodists ... ..	218	217	215	213	213
Bible Christians ... ..	40	38	38	38	36
Independents† ... ..	59	59	59	59	59
Baptists ... ..	50	52	56	66	71
Church of Christ ... ..	22	20	20	18	19
Evangelical Lutherans ... ..	20	19	19	19	21
Moravians ... ..	3	3	3	2	2
Welsh Calvinists ... ..	4†	1	1	1	1
Society of Friends ... ..	2	2	1	...	...
Salvation Army‡ ... ..	460	474	464	500	463
Unitarians ... ..	1	1	1	1	1
Seventh Day Adventists ... ..	5	5	5	3	3
Protestants unattached ... ..	1	1	1	1	1
Roman Catholics § ... ..	199	198	198	194	196
New Church (Swedenborgians) ... ..	3	3	2	2	2
Catholic Apostolic ... ..	34	37	26	26	4
Christian Israelites ... ..	1	1	1	1	1
Spiritualists ... ..	...	...	...	...	...
Jews ... ..	9	8	8	8	9
Others   ... ..	3	3	4	3	5
Total ... ..	1,608	1,615	1,579	1,621	1,583

\* The information in this and the next two tables was obtained from the heads of clergy of the different denominations.

† Information not having been furnished, the figures for 1893 have been used.

‡ Including staff officers, field officers, cadets, and social officers.

§ Approximate figures only; returns not having been furnished for the Diocese of Ballarat for 1894 and 1898, for the Dioceses of Ballarat and Sandhurst for 1895 and 1896, and for the Dioceses of Ballarat and Sale for 1897, the figures previously supplied for those Dioceses have been used.

|| Including the Australian Church, Victorian Free Church, Mariners' Church, and Free Christian Church, the figures for each of which in 1898 under the two heads were 1 and 104 respectively, and the Greek Orthodox Church and Our Father's Church, 1 and 52 respectively.

## SERVICES PERFORMED, 1894 TO 1898.\*

Religious Denominations.	Approximate Number of Services Performed during the year.				
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
Church of England ... ..	56,923	59,270	61,164	62,638	60,072
Presbyterians ... ..	55,228	55,504	55,444	55,372	56,851
Methodists ... ..	108,847	108,360	105,312	101,152	114,325
Bible Christians ... ..	17,308	11,680	17,661	18,102	17,958
Independents† ... ..	6,401	6,401	6,401	6,401	6,401
Baptists ... ..	9,400	10,149	10,133	10,879	10,853
Church of Christ ... ..	9,000	8,875	8,900	9,000	9,250
Evangelical Lutherans ... ..	2,878	2,726	2,790	2,950	2,769
Moravians ... ..	312	260	260	156	156
Welsh Calvinists ... ..	520	104	104	104	104
Society of Friends ... ..	344	344	208	208	208
Salvation Army ... ..	46,800	46,956	47,736	39,312	39,400
Unitarians ... ..	104	104	104	104	104
Seventh Day Adventists ... ..	440	500	416	312	312
Protestants unattached ... ..	104	104	208	208	104
Roman Catholics§ ... ..	36,053	36,017	35,765	29,044	34,046
New Church (Swedenborgians) ... ..	116	108	64	55	60
Catholic Apostolic ... ..	312	286	216	216	208
Christian Israelites ... ..	104	156	104	104	156
Spiritualists ... ..	104	104	104	104	104
Jews ... ..	1,165	1,145	874	874	874
Others   ... ..	419	366	318	318	416
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>352,882</b>	<b>349,519</b>	<b>354,286</b>	<b>337,613</b>	<b>354,731</b>

NOTE.—In 1899 the number of clergy of all denominations, including Salvation Army, was 1,580, and the number of services performed 347,601.

1810. It will be observed from the above table that in each of the principal denominations there is no appreciable alteration in the number of clergy in the five years under review, but in the case of the Catholic Apostolic Church there appears to be, according to the returns, a drop in the number from 26 in 1897 to 4 in 1898, although the number of services performed only slightly decreased. The services performed by the Presbyterians, Methodists, and Church of Christ in 1898 slightly exceed those performed in any of the four preceding years; those performed by the Church of England were fewer than in 1896 or 1897, but were more numerous than in 1894 or 1895; and those performed by the

Increase or decrease in clergy and services of different sects.

NOTE.—For references (\*), (†), (§), and (||), see previous page.

Roman Catholics, although much more numerous than in 1897, were fewer than in the other three years. The activity displayed by the Salvation Army was apparently not nearly so great in the last two as in the preceding three years, a decrease of 8,000, or 16 per cent., having taken place in the number of services in 1897 and 1898, as compared with the average of the years 1894-6. The total services performed by all denominations show but little variation in the years shown, except 1897, in which the number was 15,000 below the average of the other four years. It should be borne in mind that the services referred to are Sabbath services only.

Church  
accommo-  
dation and  
attendance.

1811. The following table shows the number of churches and other buildings used for public worship, the number of persons they can accommodate, and the number of persons usually attending Sunday services for the different denominations in the year 1898 :—

CHURCHES, ACCOMMODATION, AND ATTENDANCE, 1898.

Religious Denominations.	Churches and other Buildings used for Public Worship.	Persons for whom there is Accommodation.	Distinct Individuals Attending Sunday Services.
Church of England ... ..	1,098	127,406	70,675
Presbyterians ... ..	1,027	100,670	81,919
Methodists ... ..	1,286	150,065	135,687
Bible Christians ... ..	197	19,000	12,737
Independents* ... ..	176	20,970	13,100
Baptists ... ..	166	26,080	14,052
Church of Christ ... ..	95	12,500	6,250
Evangelical Lutherans ... ..	64	6,410	3,757
Moravians... ..	2	300	90
Welsh Calvinists ... ..	2†	500	120
Society of Friends ... ..	2	175	65
Salvation Army ... ..	292	76,600	51,500
Unitarians ... ..	1	500	150
Seventh Day Adventists † ... ..	7	466	390
Roman Catholics ‡ ... ..	584	123,000	131,169
New Church (Swedenborgians) ... ..	2	250	48
Catholic Apostolic ... ..	1	350	258
Christian Israelites... ..	1	200	150
Spiritualists † ... ..	2	2,000	800
Jews ... ..	6	2,180	552
Others § ... ..	11	3,180	2,215
Total ... ..	5,022	672,802	525,684

NOTE.—The total number of churches, &c., all sects, in 1899, was 4,893. Persons for whom accommodation, 676,518; distinct individuals attending Sabbath services, 524,049.

\* The information not having been furnished since 1893, the figures for that year have been repeated.

† The information not having been furnished, the figures for 1897 are given in the case of Seventh Day Adventists, and those for 1896 in the case of Spiritualists, Welsh Calvinists, and Mariners' Church.

‡ Approximate figures only. See footnote § to previous table.

§ Viz:—Australian Church, the figures for which under the three heads given above, were respectively 1, 1,300, 1,300; Victorian Free Church, 1,280, 140; Free Christian Church, 6, 900, 350; Mariners' Church, 1, 250, 200; Our Father's Church, 1, 250, 125, and Greek Orthodox Church 1, 200, 100.

1812. The number of Sunday Schools attached to each religious denomination, the number of teachers, and the number of scholars were returned as follow for 1898 :—

SUNDAY SCHOOLS, 1898.

Denominations.	Number of Sunday or Sabbath Schools.	Number of Teachers.	Number of Scholars.	
			On the Rolls.	Average Attendance.
Church of England ...	591	4,416	50,890	36,698
Presbyterians ...	624	3,979	41,145	35,029
Methodists ...	782	6,865	65,929	44,286
Bible Christians ...	105	809	6,538	4,584
Independents ...	72	821	6,317	5,603
Baptists ...	100	1,002	11,050	7,637
Church of Christ ...	61	467	4,785	4,100
Lutherans ...	28	64	907	752
Moravians ...	2	4	27	27
Welsh Calvinists ...	1	11	134	100
Salvation Army ...	107	420	4,211	3,100
Unitarians ...	1	1	14	9
Seventh Day Adventists (Saturday schools)	12	81	532	419
Protestants unattached ...	1	2	189	152
Roman Catholics ...	335	1,469	32,277	21,954
Swedenborgians ...	1	5	30	26
Spiritualists ...	1	12	176	158
Jews (Saturday schools)	6	15	310	244
Others ...	5	41	397	358
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>2,835</b>	<b>20,484</b>	<b>225,858</b>	<b>165,236</b>

1813. According to the ages of Sunday school children enumerated at the census of 1891,\* 58 per cent. were at school age (6 and under 13), and 13 per cent. were below, and 29 per cent. above, that age. Applying these proportions to the number of Sunday school children in average attendance in 1898, as shown in the last table, the following would be the numbers at the various ages :—

PROBABLE AGES OF SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN, 1898.

Under 6 years ...	21,481
6 to 13 " ...	95,837
13 years and upwards ...	47,918
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>165,236</b>

1814. The estimated number of children living in the colony between 6 and 13 years of age, during the year 1898, was about 195,847; the proportion of these regularly attending Sunday school in 1898 was thus about 50 per cent.

\* See Victorian Year-Book, 1890-91, Vol. II., paragraph 673.

Matricula-  
tion and  
Attendance  
at lectures.

1815. The following table will show the number who presented themselves, for the matriculation examination, the number entered for fewer subjects than the number required for a pass, the number who passed, percentage successful, number matriculated and number attending lectures. A large majority of those who pass the matriculation examination have no intention of pursuing a University career any further, and therefore do not matriculate, to do which it is necessary, in addition to passing the examination, to pay a fee of one guinea, and to go through a formal ceremony, which involves making a declaration and signing the matriculation book.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY\* MATICULATION AND ATTENDANCE AT LECTURES, 1894 TO 1898.

Year.	Number Presented for—		Students who passed the Matriculation Examination.		Number Matriculated	Number attending Lectures†
	Matriculation Examination.	Less than Required number of Subjects.	Number.	Percentage.		
1894	1,430	175	496	39·5	145	594
1895	1,334	163	466	39·8	141	695
1896	1,361	166	517	43·3	129	668
1897	1,279	157	484	43·1	152	686
1898	1,315	175	482	42·3	117	691

1816. It will be seen from the above table that the number of candidates has decreased since 1894, although the number in 1898 exceeded that in 1897; but the number who passed was highest in 1896, and showed little variation in the other years, owing to the reduction in the number of candidates having been counterbalanced by a larger percentage of passes. Of the 691 students who attended lectures in 1898, 176 attended in Arts, 60 in Laws, 40 in Engineering, 285 in Medicine, 13 in Science, 117 in Music.

Degrees.

1817. The number of degrees taken in 1898 was 154, of which 147 were direct, and 7 *ad eundem*, as against a total of 528 for the four preceding years, or an average of 132 per year. The direct graduates numbered 513, and the *ad eundem* degrees 15 in the four preceding years. Of the total number of 2,758 degrees conferred, 141 were conferred on women, 139 of which were direct, and 2 *ad eundem*; and 72 of which were the degree of Bachelor of Arts, 30 Master of Arts, 20 Bachelor of Medicine, and 12 Bachelor of Surgery. The following

\* For full particulars relating to this institution and its affiliated colleges, see issue of this work for 1893, Vol. II., pars. 701 to 711 and 732.

† Of the number attending lectures the following numbers were non-matriculated students, viz., 30 in 1894 (males 15, females 15); 142 in 1895 (males 9, females 133); 132 in 1896 (males 15, females 117); 139 in 1897 (males 17, females 122); and 152 in 1898 (males 35, females 117).

table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1898—the year 1898 and the period 1894–7 being shown separately:—

## MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY GRADUATES\*, 1855 TO 1898.

Degrees.	Prior to 1894.			1894 to 1897.			During 1898.			Total.		
	Direct.	Ad eundem.	Total.	Direct.	Ad eundem.	Total.	Direct.	Ad eundem.	Total.	Direct.	Ad eundem.	Total.
Bachelor of Arts ...	501	98	599	119	5	124	41	3	44	661	106	767
Master of Arts ...	259	136	395	66	5	71	17	...	17	342	141	483
Bachelor of Medicine	328	12	340	108	1	109	19	...	19	455	13	468
Doctor of Medicine ...	44	89	133	2	1	3	2	3	5	48	93	141
Bachelor of Surgery	255	2	257	76	...	76	23	...	23	354	2	356
Master of Surgery ...	5	...	5	1	...	1	...	...	...	6	...	6
Bachelor of Laws ...	181	8	189	56	1	57	19	...	19	256	9	265
Master of Laws ...	33	2	35	9	...	9	4	1	5	46	3	49
Doctor of Laws ...	11	19	30	2	1	3	...	...	...	13	20	33
Bachelor of Engineering	38	2	40	53	...	53	8	...	8	99	2	101
Master of Engineering	38	...	38	8	...	8	8	...	8	54	...	54
Bachelor of Science ...	8	2	10	4	1	5	5	...	5	17	3	20
Master of Science ...	1	...	1	6	...	6	1	...	1	8	...	8
Doctor of Science ..	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
Bachelor of Music ...	...	1	1	3	...	3	...	...	...	3	1	4
Doctor of Music ...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Total ...	1702	374	2076	513	15	528	147	7	154	2362	396	2758

1818. According to the returns of the census of 1891, there were, in that year, 663 male and 9 female university graduates in Victoria. Of these 248 graduated at Melbourne, 56 at Cambridge, 48 at Trinity (Dublin), 43 at Edinburgh, 31 at Glasgow, 34 at Oxford, and the remainder at other universities or colleges. Of the same number 184 were Bachelors and 164 Masters of Arts, and 103 Bachelors and 139 Doctors of Medicine, but only 32 in all had taken degrees in law.†

University  
graduates,  
1891.

1819. The following is a statement of the receipts and expenditure of the Melbourne University in the last six years, including the amounts received for and expended on buildings. A decrease year by year until 1896, will be observed in the Government Grant, which was £12,250 in 1896 and 1897, but was increased by £500 in 1898 and a further £500 in 1899. A slight decrease is also noticeable year by

University  
receipts  
and expen-  
diture.

\* The figures in this table do not always refer to distinct individuals.

† For further particulars, see issue of this work for 1893, Vol. II., paragraphs 716 to 720.

year in the receipts from college fees up to 1898, although the amount in 1897 was higher than in any other year shown:—

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE,  
1894 TO 1899.

Year.	Receipts from—				Expenditure.
	Government.	College Fees.	Other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£	£
1894 ... ..	13,750	15,783	1,231	30,764	31,077
1895 ... ..	13,000	15,620	1,275	29,895	29,800
1896 ... ..	12,250	15,358	828	28,437	29,394
1897 ... ..	12,250	15,914	874	29,038	30,136
1898 ... ..	12,750	15,171	728	28,649	29,915
1899 ... ..	13,250	15,515	840	29,605	29,912

1820. *The Education Act* 1872 (36 Victoria No. 417), providing free instruction of a secular character to all willing to accept it, but prescribing that, whether willing or not, all children of school age (6 to 13 years) must attend school unless educated up to a certain standard, came into operation on the 1st January, 1873. The following is a statement, based upon returns supplied by the Education Department, of the number of schools aided or supported by the State, and of the instructors and scholars in such schools, for 1872, 1875, and each subsequent fifth year, also for the year 1894 to 1898:—

STATE SCHOOLS, 1875 TO 1898.

Year.	Number of Schools.*	Number of Instructors.†	Number of Scholars.		
			Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	Distinct Children (estimated).‡
1872 ... ..	1,049	2,416	136,055	68,456	113,197
1875 ... ..	1,320	3,826	220,533	101,495	183,484
1880 ... ..	1,810	4,215	229,723	119,520	195,736
1885 ... ..	1,826	4,050	224,685	119,488	189,637
1890 ... ..	2,170	4,708	250,097	133,768	213,886
1894 ... ..	1,956	4,629	231,321	132,083	203,409
1895 ... ..	1,922	4,483	232,052	134,572	205,486
1896 ... ..	1,886	4,497	235,617	138,241	209,016
1897 ... ..	1,877	4,617	238,308	140,593	211,438
1898 ... ..	1,877	4,618	238,357	134,976	212,164

NOTE.—In 1899 the number of schools was 1,892, the number of instructors 4,808, and the number of scholars enrolled 239,732, the number in average attendance 143,844, and the number of distinct scholars 214,522.

\* Each night school as well as each day school (whether carried on in the same building or not) is considered as a separate school and is included as such in this column. There were only 4 night schools in 1894, and 3 in 1895, 1896, 1897 and 1898; but formerly they were much more numerous, for instance there were 216 in 1877.

† Including workmistresses, who numbered 427, 395, 385, 403 and 406 for the years 1874 to 1898 respectively.

‡ Derived from estimates formed by the Education Department, by which it appears the gross enrolment exceeded the number of distinct children by a percentage of from 13½ in 1894 with a yearly decrease to 12½ in 1898 in the case of day schools.

1821. The number of State schools, as shown by the above table, has decreased from 1,956 in 1894 to 1,877 in 1898, or by about 4 per cent., and the number of teachers by only 11; whereas the number of scholars enrolled has increased by nearly 3 per cent., the number in average attendance by over 2 per cent., and the distinct children enrolled by 4 per cent. The decrease in the number of schools was caused by adjacent schools being either closed or amalgamated in pursuance of the policy of retrenchment; but, as the figures show, in a large majority of cases the children who were attending such schools still enjoyed the benefits of education, arrangements being made for the conveyance of children living beyond comfortable walking distance from the nearest school.

Increase of scholars between 1894 and 1898.

1822. The decrease in the number of scholars in 1892 and 1893, as compared with 1891—viz., nearly 17,000 in 1893, as compared with 1891, in the gross enrolment, about 11,450 in the average attendance, and about 12,000 in the distinct children—was entirely due to the non-enrolment since the 1st August, 1892, under an Order in Council, of children between 3 and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  years of age, and to payments for conveyance being restricted to those between the ages of 5 and 13. Thus the gross enrolment of children under 6 in day schools fell off by about 14,400, and those over 13 by 2,600; whilst the number of distinct scholars under 6 fell off by about 12,000, and those over 13 by about 1,900.

Reason of falling-off in scholars in 1892 and 1893.

1823. Not only has the number of teachers decreased since 1890, but their emoluments also fell off from an average of £118 each in 1891 to £95 in 1898-9.\*

Decrease in teachers' salaries since 1891.

1824. Owing to the amalgamation and closing of schools by reason of retrenchment and travelling facilities afforded to school children, there was a net decrease of schools from 1890 to 1898 amounting to 293.

Net decrease of schools in eight years.

1825. By comparing the figures on the lowest and uppermost lines in the table following paragraph 1820 *ante*, it will be ascertained that, during the period the present Education Act has been in force,† the following increases have taken place in, and in connexion with, the schools supported by the State:—

Increase in State schools, 1872-98.

#### STATE SCHOOLS—INCREASE BETWEEN 1872 AND 1898.

	Number.	Percentage.
Schools ... ..	828	78·9
Instructors ... ..	2,202	91·1
Scholars on the rolls ... ..	102,302	75·2
" in average attendance	66,520	97·2
Distinct children attending (estimated)	98,967	87·4

1826. The instructors referred to consist of masters and mistresses, male and female assistant and pupil teachers, and workmistresses. The increase or decrease in 1898 as compared with 1894, and the

Teachers, 1894 to 1898.

\* See also paragraph 1849 *post*.

† During this period the number of children at the school age in the colony increased by about 27 per cent., and the total population by 57 per cent.

numbers of the different grades of teachers of both sexes, are shown in the following table :—

TEACHERS IN STATE SCHOOLS, 1894 TO 1898.

Year.	Males.				Females.				
	Masters.*	Assistants.	Pupil Teachers.†	Total.‡	Mistresses.*	Assistants.	Work-mistresses.	Pupil teachers.†	Total.§
1894 ... ..	1,051	165	354	1,778	352	510	427	1,279	2,851
1895 ... ..	1,133	157	384	1,751	452	505	395	1,289	2,732
1896 ... ..	1,133	151	403	1,760	461	525	385	1,285	2,737
1897 ... ..	1,132	156	444	1,802	458	540	403	1,337	2,815
1898 ... ..	1,201	155	432	1,788	515	558	406	1,333	2,830
Increase in 4 years ...	150	...	78	10	163	48	...	54	...
Decrease in 4 years ...	...	10	...	...	...	...	21	...	21

1827. In every one of the Australasian Colonies the State system of education is compulsory and undenominational (or secular). Public instruction is free in Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and New Zealand, but fees are charged in the other colonies, although they are partially or entirely remitted in cases where the parents are unable to pay them. The prescribed school age varies in the different colonies—in Victoria, it is from 6 to 13 years; in New South Wales and Western Australia, from 6 to 14; in Queensland, from 6 to 12; in South Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, from 7 to 13 years. Children are often allowed, however, to attend at above and below those ages. They are not enrolled under the age of  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in Victoria.

1828. The following table shows the number of State schools, teachers, and scholars in each Australasian Colony during the year

\* Including (both sexes) 49 relieving teachers in 1894, 41 in 1895 and 1896, 39 in 1897, and 33 in 1898.

† Including 235 monitors, viz., 60 males and 175 females, in 1894; 241, males, 68 females 173, in 1895; 223, males 55, females 168, in 1896; 247, males 72, females 175, in 1897; and 212, males 57, females 155, in 1898.

‡ Including 208 unclassified teachers in 1894, 77 in 1895, 73 in 1896, and 70 in 1897.

§ Including 283 unclassified in 1894, 91 in 1895, 81 in 1896, 77 in 1897, and 18 in 1898.

|| For a full account of the education systems of the various colonies, see *Victorian Year-Book* 1888-9, Vol. II., Appendix B.

1898, also the proportion of scholars in average attendance to population :—

STATE SCHOOLS, TEACHERS, AND SCHOLARS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1898.

Colony.	Number of Schools.	Number of Teachers.*	Scholars in Average Attendance.	
			Number.	Number per 100 of the Population.
Victoria ... ..	1,877	4,618	134,976	11·51
New South Wales ... ..	2,602	4,759	141,723	10·62
Queensland ... ..	833	1,887	58,296	11·83
South Australia ... ..	670	1,253	39,102	10·77
Western Australia ... ..	167	391	10,915	6·45
Total ... ..	6,149	12,908	385,012	10·90
Tasmania ... ..	292	548	12,015	6·88
New Zealand ... ..	1,624	3,664	110,256	14·21†
Grand Total ... ..	8,065	17,120	507,283	11·31

1829. It will be observed that, in proportion to population, the average attendance at State schools is largest in New Zealand; Victoria, however, stands above any of the other colonies except Queensland. The following is the order of the colonies in this respect, Tasmania and Western Australia being far below the other colonies, which, however, may be explained by the circumstance that in those two colonies the proportion of children to the population is smaller than in the other colonies :—

Order of colonies in respect to State school scholars.

ORDER OF THE COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO PROPORTION OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS TO POPULATION.

- |                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. New Zealand.     | 5. New South Wales.   |
| 2. Queensland.      | 6. Tasmania.          |
| 3. Victoria.        | 7. Western Australia. |
| 4. South Australia. |                       |

1830. By the figures in the last column of the following table it is shown that, in proportion to the total number of children enrolled in State schools, the average number attending is greater in Victoria than

School attendance in Australasian Colonies.

\* It is believed that workmistresses are included in the returns of all the colonies except New Zealand, in which colony they numbered 191.

† As Maori children are included amongst the scholars, persons of that race have been also included in the population by means of which this proportion was obtained.

in New South Wales, or Tasmania, but lower than in any of the other Australasian Colonies :—

STATE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1898.

Colony.	Number of Scholars.		Percentage of Average Attendance to Gross Enrolment.
	Enrolled during the Year.	In Average Attendance.	
1. Western Australia ... ..	14,424	10,915	75·67
2. New Zealand ... ..	172,525	110,256	63·91
3. Queensland ... ..	99,097	58,296	58·83
4. South Australia ... ..	67,613	39,102	57·83
5. Victoria ... ..	238,357	134,976	56·63
6. New South Wales ... ..	258,592	141,723	54·81
7. Tasmania ... ..	22,517	12,015	53·36

Ages of State school scholars.

1831. Of the gross number of children on the rolls of Victorian State schools in 1898, all except 638 or  $\frac{1}{4}$  per cent., were in day schools. The following is a statement of the numbers of such children at each age :—

AGES OF STATE SCHOOL SCHOLARS ENROLLED, 1898.

Ages.	Number of Children Enrolled.		
	In Day Schools.	In Night Schools.	Total.
4½ Years ... ..	2,157	...	2,157
5 " ... ..	14,370	...	14,370
6 " ... ..	23,227	...	23,227
7 " ... ..	27,303	...	27,303
8 " ... ..	28,393	...	28,393
9 " ... ..	27,182	...	27,182
10 " ... ..	26,880	...	26,880
11 " ... ..	25,983	...	25,983
12 " ... ..	23,698	...	23,698
13 " ... ..	19,204	54	19,258
14 " ... ..	11,797	180	11,977
15 " ... ..	4,917	176	5,093
16 " and upwards ... ..	2,016	228	2,244
Unspecified ... ..	592	...	592
Total ... ..	237,719	638	238,357
Total, 6 and under 13 years ...	182,666	...	182,666

Ages of distinct children in State schools.

1832. Grouping the numbers in this table so as to distinguish the scholars below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 13), and adopting the correction applied by the Education Department—already alluded to\*—to allow for children who attended more than one school

\* See footnote (#) to table following paragraph 1820 ante.

in the year, the following results, showing the probable number of distinct children who attended State schools in the year are obtained:—

AGES OF DISTINCT CHILDREN ATTENDING STATE SCHOOLS, 1898.

Ages.	Distinct Children Attending—					
	Day Schools.		Night Schools.		Total.	
	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.	Number.	Per-centage.
Under 6 years ...	14,751	6·97	...	...	14,751	6·95
6 to 13 ...	163,042	77·03	...	...	163,042	76·85
13 years and upwards ...	33,859	16·00	512	100·00	34,371	16·20
Total ...	211,652	100·00	512	100·00	212,164	100·00

1833. In the State schools, boys exceed girls. In 1898 the proportion was 93 of the latter to every 100 of the former as compared with 91½ in 1894. In 1894 there was an increase in the average attendance of both sexes as compared with 1894, but a decrease as compared with 1896 and 1897, as is shown in the following table:—

Sexes of scholars in State schools.

SEXES OF SCHOLARS IN STATE SCHOOLS, 1894 TO 1898.

Year.	Scholars in Average Attendance.		
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1894 ...	68,973	63,110	132,083
1895 ...	70,120	64,452	134,572
1896 ...	71,758	66,483	138 241
1897 ..	72,984	67,609	140,593
1898 ...	70,046	64,930	134,976
Increase in 1898 as compared with 1894 ...	1,073	1,820	2,893

NOTE.— In 1899 the number of scholars in average attendance was:—Males, 74,680; females, 69,164; total, 143,844.

1834. A sudden decrease will be noticed in the average attendance in 1898, which is ascribed by the department to the prevalence of epidemics in that year, and which was probably also in part attributable to the exceptional meteorological conditions of the same year.

Causes for reduced attendance in 1898.

1835. The 13th section of the *Education Act* 1890 prescribes that the parents of children between the ages of six and thirteen shall cause such children to attend school for at least 40 days in each quarter of a year, unless there is some valid reason to prevent them from so doing.

State school attendance.

The returns for 1898 show that, of the number set down as attending State schools, the highest proportion which completed a 40 days' attendance (76 per cent.) was in the September quarter; the next highest (70 per cent.) was in the December quarter; the next (57 per cent.) was in the June quarter. The following are the figures for the four quarters of 1898, also the quarterly average for the same period:—

STATE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IN EACH QUARTER OF 1898.

Quarter ended—	Number who Attended School.		Percentage who completed 40 days' Attendance
	Total in each Quarter.	For at least 40 days in the Quarter. *	
31st March ... ..	147,449	54,714	37·11
30th June ... ..	149,499	85,835	57·41
30th September ... ..	150,653	114,039	75·70
31st December ... ..	150,298	105,763	70·37
Average for last three quarters	149,474	90,088	60·26

Reasons for non-attendance.

1836. It should be mentioned that in all the quarters a considerable proportion of those who attended less than 40 days were exempt or excusable for various reasons. During the last quarter of the year, for example, 44,535 of the enrolled children attended less than 40 days; but 40,787 of these were provided with reasonable excuses—22,741 being exempt under the provisions of the Act, as they were living beyond the prescribed distance (from two to three miles) from a State school, or were educated up to the standard, 12,046 on account of having attended 80 days in the last half-year, and 6,000 having entered late in the quarter or left before its termination; thus the number of actual defaulters was reduced to 3,748, or to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of the number enrolled. Taking the last nine months as a whole, the defaulters who had no reasonable excuse averaged only  $2\frac{1}{3}$  per cent.

Pupils who have passed the standard.

1837. In 1898, the children who passed the examination qualifying for a certificate of exemption from further attendance at school numbered 10,589 as against 11,559 in 1897, 11,346 in 1896, 11,054 in 1895, and 10,938 in 1894. During the 26 years which have elapsed since the passing of the present Education Act, 207,764 children passed this examination; some of these, however, were above the school age.

Prosecution for non-attendance at school.

1838. In order to carry out the compulsory portion of the system, numerous prosecutions are instituted against the parents of truant children. In 1894, five-sixths; in 1895, three-fourths; and in 1896, 1897, 1898 and 1899, two-thirds of the prosecutions were instituted by Boards of Advice. The number of prosecutions was exceptionally high in 1896, but has since considerably fallen off. The following

\* 40 days in the case of a full-time school, or 24 days in the case of a half-time school.

table shows the number of prosecutions and convictions, and amount of fines inflicted during each of the five years ended with 1898 :—

PROSECUTIONS FOR NON-ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL, 1894 TO 1899.

Year.	Number of Prosecutions.	Number of Convictions.	Fines Inflicted.
1894.	2,768	2,354	£ 374
1895.	3,839	3,213	552
1896.	7,834	6,504	1,125
1897.	6,766	5,640	992
1898.	4,822	3,843	746
1899.	6,143	5,088	909

1839. Military drill is now taught, where practicable, as an ordinary free subject in all schools. In 1898 there were 66 detachments of cadets, 87 officers and 1,786 cadets in uniform. Instruction in gymnastics is also given without payment. Drill and gymnastics.

1840. Singing was in 1898 taught in 94 schools to 16,594 pupils ; and drawing in 78 schools to 13,789 pupils. Licences to teach, and certificates of competency in singing, are now granted upon examinations conducted by the department in conjunction with the Musical Society of Victoria. The small charge of 1d. per week per child is now made for instruction in each of these subjects, the fees amounting, in 1898, to £1,598 for singing, and £1,390 for drawing. Singing and drawing.

1841. The system of kindergarten instruction has been widely tried in the colony, it being included in the programme of instruction where practicable, with the happiest results in brightening the intellect of little children, in making their fingers dexterous, and quickening their interest in school life. Owing to retrenchment in 1894, the kindergarten instruction received a temporary check, but applications were subsequently invited from England, and a lady has since been appointed to instruct teachers, organize classes, and advise the department. Kindergarten instruction

1842. State school swimming clubs have been established with success in the Metropolitan district, Ballarat, Geelong and Ararat ; there being in the Metropolitan district 23 boys' and 21 girls' clubs, having a membership of 2,403 and 1,358 respectively, and in Ballarat ten boys' clubs with a membership of 859. Swimming clubs.

1843. Series of useful lessons on domestic economy appear in the monthly School Papers for the senior classes, and a cookery centre has been established at Carlton, 48 sixth class girls being selected for a course of lessons, extending over 24 weeks. This centre is under the control of a lady who was specially engaged as lecturer and organizer, and a class of twelve pupil teachers is formed who are to be trained as cookery instructors, the most competent of whom will afterwards give instruction in centres to be formed in other parts of the colony. Cookery.

Royal Com-  
mission on  
Technical  
Instruction.

1844. In June, 1899, a Royal Commission was appointed to inquire into the administration of the Mining, Agricultural, Trades, and Art Schools of the colony and to report as to the best method of carrying on the work of technical instruction in connexion with such schools; to consider and report upon the question of the affiliation of the Mining Schools with the University of Melbourne; to report as to the adoption in the State schools of a system of instruction in the elements of the sciences pertaining to mining, agricultural, dairying, and manufacturing pursuits; and generally to recommend what means should be adopted for the better provision of a systematic and graduated course of technical instruction. The Commission has been engaged for some time in obtaining evidence from officers of the Department, teachers, and outside experts.

Extra  
subjects.

1845. The number of schools in which extra subjects were taught in 1898 was 124 as against 118 in 1897, 120 in 1896, 103 in 1895, and 101 in 1894; the amount paid by pupils for instruction in such subjects was £1,834, as against £2,026 in 1897, £1,780 in 1896, £1,478 in 1895, and £1,902 in 1894. In 1898, as compared with the four previous years there was an increase in the number of pupils seeking instruction in French, German, Latin, and Algebra, as compared with the three previous years an increase as regards Euclid, and as compared with 1894 and 1895 an increase as regards Bookkeeping and Shorthand. The following is a list of the principal extra subjects, and the number of pupils instructed in each subject in 1894 to 1898:—

EXTRA SUBJECTS\* TAUGHT IN STATE SCHOOLS, 1894 TO 1898.

Subjects.	Number of Pupils.				
	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.
French ... ..	323	301	353	330	378
German ... ..	6	9	8	5	10
Latin ... ..	415	432	497	475	524
Euclid ... ..	537	450	489	473	513
Algebra ... ..	639	544	657	642	704
Mensuration ... ..	18	15	...	6	...
Bookkeeping ... ..	1,000	1,111	1,405	1,133	1,112
Physiology ... ..	34	70	...	41	...
Physics ... ..	29	86	...	28	...
Shorthand ... ..	71	139	199	215	191
Painting ... ..	40	64	36	44	22
Fancy work ... ..	...	16	83	85	76
Science ... ..	72	34	120	...	58
Geometry ... ..	23	17	41	11	29
History ... ..	34	37	12	...	...
Elocution ... ..	...	92	74	219	453
Gymnastics and Calisthenics ... ..	...	...	...	588	346
Pianoforte ... ..	...	...	5	47	57

\* In addition to the subjects in the table there were 7 pupils in advanced arithmetic in 1894, 6 in 1896, and 3 in 1898; advanced English, 4 in 1894; 6 in 1895; and 2 in 1896; modelling, 9 in 1895; lace making, 4 in 1895; physical geography, 6; English literature, 6; chemistry, 28; and trigonometry, 1 in 1894.

1846. Prior to 1891, 200 scholarships were awarded annually by the Education Department to enable the most clever and industrious pupils of State schools to continue their education at the best grammar schools; but, owing to the necessity for retrenchment, these were gradually reduced, and in 1893 were discontinued altogether. This decision having been announced, several of the leading colleges agreed to continue the system at their own expense, the examination being conducted as heretofore by the Department, and accordingly 90, 90, 127, 126, and 133 scholarships were awarded in the years 1894 to 1898 respectively to the successful competitors out of 328, 303, 427, 563, and 487 candidates who presented themselves.

State school  
scholar-  
ships.

1847. Eleven exhibitions, each of the yearly value of £40, were in 1898 awarded for competition to the holders of State school scholarships who have passed the matriculation examination, as against thirteen in 1897, eight in 1896, and twelve in 1894 and 1895. These exhibitions, which are for the purpose of enabling the abler scholars to finish their education at the University, are each tenable for four years, but in the case of candidates for a degree of law or medicine they may be continued for another year. The subjects upon which the candidates are examined are those taught in grammar schools, namely, English, history, algebra, geometry, and two languages as prescribed for the matriculation examination. For the examinations held in January, 1899, there were 43 competitors, and all of the 11 successful students had been attending grammar schools in and around Melbourne, whilst 7 of the number were female students. In October, 1899, there were 49 exhibitioners, viz., 34 attending at the University, 3 at approved grammar schools, and 12 had their exhibitions suspended for a year.

State school  
exhibitions.

1848. The regulations and practice of the Education Department relative to the supply of school books, apparatus, and other requisites are as follow:—Such books and apparatus as may be regarded as indispensable to the efficient working of the school are supplied by the Department for the teacher's use free of charge. It is expected that the children will generally supply themselves with books, slates, and other articles required to enable them to take part in the work of their class, but free grants of school requisites are made for children who are unprovided with them for use in the school. The cost of printing departmental publications was £4,103 in 1898–9, but as much as £7,587 was realized from their sale during that year. The total net expenditure on school books and requisites for the same year was £4,983, being an increase of £670 over the previous year, of £1,946 over the year 1896–7, of £3,110 over the year 1895–6, and of £3,713 over the year 1894–5; but the sum received for the sale of departmental books, &c., increased from £992 in 1894–5 to £5,570 in 1897–8, and to £7,587 in 1898–9.

School  
books and  
requisites

1849. The following is a statement of the expenditure from all sources on State education during the financial years 1894–5 to

Expenditur  
on State  
education.

1898-9. The amounts set down for extra subjects were paid by parents, all the remainder by the State:—

EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY EDUCATION, 1894-5 TO 1898-9.

Heads of Expenditure.	1894-5.	1895-6.	1896-7.	1897-8.	1898-9.
<b>GENERAL EXPENDITURE.</b>	£	£	£	£	£
Office staff * ... ..	15,007	15,257	14,846	15,270	15,710
Inspection ... ..	14,699	13,293	13,455	13,598	13,786
Teachers' salaries ... ..	339,857	323,681	323,023	322,193	328,532
„ payments on results	125,028	116,671	115,161	115,003	118,010
Drawing ... ..	660	372	372	250	...
Drill and gymnastics ... ..	11	...	...	...	...
Bonuses ... ..	14	50	32	...	...
Stores, books, and requisites	2,398	2,719	3,875	5,397	5,943
Maintenance of schools ... ..	29,290	29,231	29,690	30,189	30,208
Conveyance of children ... ..	2,974	2,093	1,906	1,910	1,978
Compulsory clause ... ..	628	643	641	662	660
Cadet Officers ... ..	411	...	...	320	340
Boards of Advice ... ..	44	6	291	19	7
Compensation, retiring allowances, gratuities, &c. ... ..	83,758	78,417	76,562	78,847	77,993
Other expenditure † ... ..	2,154	1,989	1,961	1,747	2,115
Extra subjects ‡ ... ..	1,902	1,478	1,780	5,045§	4,832§
<b>Total exclusive of buildings</b> .. ..	<b>618,835</b>	<b>585,900</b>	<b>583,595</b>	<b>587,860</b>	<b>600,114</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON BUILDINGS.</b>					
Maintenance, erection, and removal .. ..	4,843	8,220	9,202	11,190	24,210
Rent ... ..	1,808	1,713	1,695	1,911	2,186
<b>Grand Total</b> ... ..	<b>625,486</b>	<b>595,833</b>	<b>594,492</b>	<b>600,961</b>	<b>626,510</b>

NOTE. In the financial year ending 1899-1900, the total expenditure on primary education was £678,993, of which £44,684 was for maintenance, &c., erection and removal of buildings.

1850. In order to reduce the cost of education, a scheme of payment to parents for the cost of conveyance of their children to schools was introduced at the end of 1891, which permitted of 265 schools, in districts where very small or unclassified schools were from two to four miles distant from another school, being closed by the end of June, 1899, at a saving, after deducting cost of conveyance (£1,978 in 1898-9), of about £15,520 per annum. All arrangements for conveyance are left in the hands of the parents, the Department agreeing to pay at the rate of 6d. for the daily attendance of each child between the ages of 5 and 13 residing more than three miles from a school, and in the cases of closed schools, with certain conditions as to age, at the rate of 3d. for children living between two and three miles from school. Moreover, by amalgamating schools in centres of population, without impairing their efficiency, a saving of about £37,000 in both 1897-8 and 1898-9 and of over £40,000 in each of the two preceding years

\* Including non-clerical division and temporary clerical assistance.

† Including teachers' travelling expenses, viz., £2,027 in 1894-5, £1,989 in 1895-6, £1,961 in 1896-7, £1,746 in 1897-8, and £1,789 in 1898-9.

‡ This is the only item paid by parents. The amounts are for the calendar years 1894 to 1898.

§ Including £3,019 in 1897 and £2,988 in 1898 for singing and drawing, which items are not included for the three previous years.

was effected, 84 schools having, up to the 30th June, 1899, been so amalgamated. Other savings have been effected by reducing the staff of assistant teachers, and increasing that of pupil teachers; by discontinuance of payments for teaching singing, drawing, drill, and gymnastics, and also for bonuses for the instruction of pupil teachers; as well as by *pro rata* reductions, in common with other sections of the public service, in salaries.

1851. It will be observed that the total expenditure on public primary instruction in 1898-9 was £626,510, which was over £25,000 more than in 1897-8, and also much larger than in any other year since 1894-5, and of which only £4,832 was paid by parents. The amount paid by the State (£621,678) was made up of £595,282, cost of management, inspection, instruction, &c.; and the balance for maintenance of school buildings, rents of private buildings, and removal and erection of schools. The great increase in maintenance expenditure during the last two financial years was caused by the almost total cessation of maintenance and repairs during the period of retrenchment.

1852. The following table shows the amounts expended on primary public instruction under each head during the last twenty years:—

STATE EXPENDITURE ON PRIMARY EDUCATION, 1879-99.

Financial Year.	General Expenditure (exclusive of Buildings).	Expenditure on Buildings, Rents, &c.			
		From Revenue.			From Loans (Cost of Erection of Schools).
		Maintenance and Removal.	Rents.	Cost of Erection of Schools.*	
	£	£	£	£	£
1879-80	512,861	10,000	5,899	...	66,085
1880-81	521,006	14,930	4,864	...	84,831
1881-2	533,225	19,604	4,487	2,127	50,693
1882-3	525,405	20,000	3,725	...	56,651
1883-4	530,135	19,887	2,970	...	36,923
1884-5	535,347	19,900†	2,400	...	69,995
1885-6	575,799‡	19,949	2,700	...	45,438
1886-7	584,195	15,449	2,981	...	49,284
1887-8	610,520	17,995	8,408	54,265	...
1888-9	641,993	30,075	3,622	68,000	...
1889-90	687,651	30,790	4,341	93,468	...
1890-91	723,284	31,304	4,615	76,390	...
1891-2	740,554	28,597	4,065	32,508	...
1892-3	715,763	16,619	2,877	8,776	...
1893-4	640,929	6,874	2,056	...	...
1894-5	616,933	4,843	1,808	...	...
1895-6	584,422	8,220	1,713	...	...
1896-7	581,815	9,202	1,695	...	...
1897-8	582,805	11,190	1,911	...	...
1898-9	595,282	23,121	2,186	...	1,089
1899-1900	628,634	27,833	2,911	...	13,940

\* Including expenditure on erection of Training College for teachers, viz., £8,000 in 1888-9; £6,455 in 1889-90, £12,883 in 1890-91, and £5,904 in 1891-2. Including also £26,307 in 1891-2, and £8,776 in 1892-3, out of the Land Sales by Auction Fund.

† Approximate.

‡ The Public Service Act 1883 came into operation at the commencement of 1885, which partly accounts for the increased cost in and since that year.

1853. In view of the large sum the State expends upon elementary education, the amount parents are willing to pay to have extra subjects taught their children appears extremely small. If the whole sum so expended in 1898 be divided by the number of children in average attendance, the proportion per child would be about 8½d. per annum; and if it be divided by the number of distinct children enrolled, the proportion per child would be little more than 5½d.

1854. The following table shows the cost of public instruction in all the Australasian Colonies during the year ended 31st December, 1898, the amount paid by scholars being given separately from that contributed by the State. The expenditure on the construction, maintenance, and rent of school buildings is excluded; but the departmental expenses are, in all cases, included:—

COST OF PUBLIC PRIMARY EDUCATION\* IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1898.

Colony.	Amount contributed by the State.	Fees paid by Scholars, &c.	Total.*
	£	£	£
Victoria ... ..	591,722	4,822‡	596,544
New South Wales ... ..	551,755	73,093	624,868
Queensland ... ..	211,801	...	211,801
South Australia ... ..	135,041†	1,499	136,540
Western Australia ... ..	51,079	4,516	55,595
Total ... ..	1,541,418	83,930	1,625,348
Tasmania ... ..	31,822	10,210	42,032
New Zealand, ... ..	439,682†	6,313	445,995
Grand Total ... ..	2,012,922	100,453	2,113,375

1855. Exclusive of expenditure on erecting and keeping in repair or renting State school buildings, the total cost in 1898 per scholar in average attendance at State schools ranged from £5 1s. 9d. in Western Australia and £4 8s. 5d. in Victoria to £3 9s. 10d. in South Australia. Of the total cost 17s. per head was derived from school fees in Tasmania, 10s. 4d. in New South Wales, and 8s. 3d. in Western Australia; on the other hand, in Victoria, South Australia, Queensland, and New Zealand practically the whole amount was provided from public funds. In New Zealand about 8½, and in South Australia

\* Total cost, exclusive of expenditure (either for erection, maintenance, or repairs) on buildings, and rent. In the case of New Zealand, however, rent is included, as the amount could not be ascertained.

† Including amounts derived from Education reserves. In South Australia it was £6,904, and in New Zealand £38,024.

‡ For extra subjects.

Amount paid for extra subjects.

Cost of primary instruction in Australasian Colonies.

Cost of primary instruction per scholar in each colony.

about 5, per cent. of the State expenditure on education was derived from Education reserves. The following table shows the average cost per scholar, distinguishing the proportions defrayed by the State and by parents or otherwise, in each colony:—

COST OF PRIMARY INSTRUCTION PER SCHOLAR IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1898.\*

Colony.	Cost per Scholar in Average Attendance.		
	Paid by State.	Paid by Parents, &c.	Total.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1. Western Australia ...	4 13 6	0 8 3	5 1 9
2. Victoria ...	4 7 8	0 0 9†	4 8 5
3. New South Wales ...	3 17 10	0 10 4	4 8 2
4. New Zealand ...	3 19 9†	0 1 2‡	4 0 11
5. Queensland ...	3 12 8	...	3 12 8
6. Tasmania ...	2 13 0	0 17 0	3 10 0
7. South Australia ...	3 9 1†	0 0 9	3 9 10

1856. In regard to the total cost (including contributions by parents) of State primary instruction per head of population, Victoria stood in 1898 second on the list, the amount being 10s. 2d., New Zealand being highest, with New South Wales third; whilst Tasmania stood at the bottom with only 4s. 10d. The following is the order of the colonies in this respect:—

Order of colonies in respect to cost per head.

ORDER OF COLONIES IN REFERENCE TO COST OF STATE PRIMARY EDUCATION PER HEAD OF POPULATION.\* 1898.

	Amount paid per Head of Population.		Amount paid per Head of Population.
	s. d.		s. d.
1. New Zealand ...	11 6	5. South Australia ...	7 6
2. Victoria ...	10 2	6. Western Australia ...	6 7
3. New South Wales ...	9 4	7. Tasmania ...	4 10.
4. Queensland ...	8 7		

1857. In Australia, taken as a whole, the cost per scholar in average attendance was £4 4s. 5d., and the cost per head of population 9s. 2d. In Australia, with the addition of Tasmania and New Zealand, the cost per scholar was £4 3s. 4d., and the cost per head of population 9s. 5d.

Cost per scholar and per head in Australia and Australasia.

\* See footnote (\*) on preceding page.

† In South Australia about 3s. 6d., and in New Zealand about 16s., of the amounts entered in this column, were derived from Education reserves.

‡ For extra subjects only. In the figures for New Zealand amounts received by boards from local sources, and sums raised locally by School Committees, are also included.

Expenditure  
on secondary  
education.

1858. The following figures show that the amounts expended on secondary education in 1898-9 were greater by about £4,500, or 17½ per cent. than those in either of the two preceding years, and greater than those in 1894-5 and 1895-6, being mainly accounted for by the increase in the University endowment and loan expenditure on buildings :—

#### EXPENDITURE ON SECONDARY EDUCATION.

	1894-5.	1895-6.	1896-7.	1897-8.	1898-9.
	£	£	£	£	£
Exhibitions and Scholarships ...	4,056	2,429	1,457	1,430	1,445
Technical Schools and Schools of Mines	11,979	14,773	12,000	11,998	*20,930
Melbourne University Endowment ...	13,750	12,250	12,250	12,250	14,250
<b>Total</b> ...	<b>29,785</b>	<b>29,452</b>	<b>25,707</b>	<b>25,678</b>	<b>36,625</b>

State school  
buildings  
held in fee.

1859. About the middle of 1899 the Department of Education possessed 1,995 school-houses, having accommodation for 194,314 children ; also 1,360 teachers' residences.†

Classification  
of schools.

1860. The method of classifying the schools and teachers, and of assessing the salaries of the latter prior to 1893, was fully explained in a previous issue of this work.‡ The passing of retrenchment legislation in 1893, and subsequent years, has, however, altered the details considerably. The number of classes of schools has been increased to seven, and of teachers to eight. The basis of the classification of schools, as shown in the following table, has also been altered as compared with that of 1883 :—

#### CLASSIFICATION OF SCHOOLS.

	Average attendance of Scholars.
First class ...	over 800
Second class ...	500 to 800
Third class, sub-division A ...	350 to 500
„ sub-division B ...	200 to 350
Fourth class ...	75 to 200
Fifth class ...	35 to 75
Sixth class ...	20 to 35
Seventh class ...	under 20

Classification  
of teachers.

1861. Under the same legislation, while the requirements for the classification of teachers remain practically the same as those in force in 1883, the salaries allotted to each class of teachers were materially reduced, it being, however, provided that the rates of salaries and results payable to any teacher shall not be affected so long as he remains in the class in which he was classified at the passing of such legislation,

\* Including £6,680 loan expenditure on buildings.

† For particulars of the materials of which State schools are built, see issue of this work for 1889-90, Vol. II., paragraph 708.

‡ See *Victorian Year-Book*, 1889-90, Vol. II., paragraphs 709 and 710.

the reduced rates to apply to every new appointment or promotion made thereafter. The rates of salaries are as shown in the following table :—

SCALE SHOWING RATES OF ANNUAL SALARIES PAYABLE TO TEACHERS.

Class.	Subdivision.							
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Male teachers—	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Class VIII. ... ..	70							
Class VII. ... ..	75							
Class VI. ... ..	82	89						
Class V.* ... ..	96	103	110	117	124			
Class IV.* ... ..	130	137	144	151				
Class III.* ... ..	157	164	171	178	185			
Class II. ... ..	191	198	205	212	219	226	233	
Class I. ... ..	239	246	253	260	267	274	281	288
Female teachers—								
Class VIII. ... ..	56							
Class VII. ... ..	60							
Class VI. ... ..	64	69						
Class V. ... ..	74	79						
Class IV. ... ..	85	90	95	100	105			
Class III. ... ..	110	114	118	122				
Class II. ... ..	126	130	134	138				

1862. In addition to the fixed salary shown, a sum equal to one-half the amount of such salary shall be obtainable by way of results. Relieving teachers shall be paid an amount equal to one-half the amount of the fixed salary in lieu of results. The salaries of male and female pupil teachers remain unaltered, but the salaries of sewing mistresses were reduced from £30 to £25 per annum, their required attendance at school being, however, lessened at the same time.

1863. The following is a statement of the number of male and female teachers of each class at the end of 1898, and their classification under *The Public Service Act 1883* :—

TEACHERS OF EACH CLASS 1898.

Classification.	Head Teachers.		Assistants.		Pupil Teachers.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
First class ... ..	39	...	...	...	246	811
Second class ... ..	30	...	...	36	35	128
Third class ... ..	65	...	37	34	35	92
Fourth class ... ..	218	...	35	62	59	147
Fifth class ... ..	582	224	69	154	...	...
Sixth class ... ..	121	119	2	158	...	...
Seventh class ... ..	133	152	...	...	...	...
Eighth class ... ..	...	...	12	114	...	...
Total ... ..	1,188†	495†	155	558	375	1,178

NOTE.—In addition to the above, there were 406 sewing-mistresses; 18 female temporary unclassified head teachers; and 57 male and 155 female monitors. The grand total was 4,618, viz., 1,788 males and 2,830 females.

\* In these classes assistants can only be promoted to the second subdivision.

† There were, in addition, 13 male and 20 female relieving teachers.

Private  
schools,  
1872 to 1898.

1864. The following table gives the number of private schools, and of the teachers and scholars connected therewith, according to the returns of 1872, 1875, 1881, 1885, 1890, and the last five years :—

PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1872 TO 1898.

Year.* (4th quarter.)	Number of Schools.	Number of Instructors.	Number of Scholars.†
1872 ... ..	888	1,841	24,781
1875 ... ..	565	1,511	27,841
1881 (Census)... ..	643	1,516	28,134†
1881 (Ordinary Returns)	645	1,553	34,062
1885 .. ..	665	1,645	34,787
1890 ... ..	791	2,037	40,181
1894 ... ..	867	2,141	38,062
1895 ... ..	938	2,315	40,193
1896 ... ..	930	2,357	42,044
1897 ... ..	929	2,390	42,899
1898‡ ... ..	945	2,440	43,926

NOTE.—In 1899, the number of private schools was 901, of teachers 2,417, and of scholars 52,318. These figures are furnished by the Education Department.

1865. The figures in the first line of the table relate to the early part of the year in which the Education Act came into operation. Since 1872 there appears to have been an increase of only 57 in the number of private schools, but an increase of 599 in the number of instructors, and of 19,145 in the number of scholars. Dating from 1875, the number of schools, instructors, and scholars show a constant increase.

1866. For the last twenty-three years a column has been placed in the schedule used for collecting the returns of private schools for the purpose of ascertaining to what religious denomination, if any, each school was attached. This column was, on each occasion, filled, in a considerable number of instances, with the name of some denomination; but it is believed that this entry was frequently meant to indicate merely the religion of the principal teacher or proprietor of the school, and perhaps the principles on which the establishment was conducted, not that it was recognised as connected with his church or was subordinate to the clergy thereof. The exceptions to this are believed to be most of the schools returned as Roman Catholic, Lutheran, and Jewish, and a few as of the Church of England, but scarcely any

\* The figures for the last six years in the table represent the numbers attending during the fourth quarter; which, it is believed, is practically what was returned for previous years. Formerly the year when the statistics were collected was shown; now the year to which the information most probably relates.

† The numbers for 1881 are those returned by the census sub-enumerators as actually attending school on the 4th April of that year; hence they differ from those in the other lines which relate to the numbers on the rolls.

‡ The Education Report for 1898-9 gives a return of 938 private schools, but in these there were said to be 51,419 scholars, or nearly 7,500 more than in the returns furnished to the Government Statist. With reference to the scholars, however, it is stated that the figures in the report represent the whole number which appeared on the school rolls during any portion of the year, whilst those furnished to the Government Statist represent the number enrolled during a single quarter. In 1899, however, the figures were collected by the Education Department.

Private  
schools,  
1872 and  
1898 com-  
pared.

Denomina-  
tions of  
private  
schools.

connected with other denominations. The following are the returns of the last five years ended with 1898, and for four previous years:—

RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS OF PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1876 TO 1898.

Year (4th Quarter).	Total.	Religious Denominations.								
		Church of England.	Presbyterian.	Wesleyan.	Lutheran.	Protestant (undefined).	Roman Catholic.	Jewish.	Other Sects.	Not any or not stated.
<b>SCHOOLS.</b>										
1876 ...	645	41	4	2	3	9	111	2	1	472
1881 (Census) ...	643	57	10	5	10	17	187	3	2	352
1885 ...	665	40	5	3	4	...	182	2	5	424
1890 ...	791	28	2	2	7	...	203	4	1	544
1894 ..	867	108	20	8	11	...	209	2	7	502
1895 ...	938	134	21	10	9	...	219	2	11	532
1896 ...	930	125	24	6	9	...	220	2	9	535
1897 ...	929	138	19	7	9	...	226	3	8	519
1898 ...	945	154	26	10	10	...	221	3	7	514
<b>TEACHERS.</b>										
1876 ...	1,646	159	46	12	4	27	338	10	1	1,049
1881 (Census) ...	1,516	146	50	18	9	33	544	13	4	699
1885 ...	1,645	162	35	24	4	...	527	11	9	873
1890 ...	2,037	107	27	23	8	...	677	9	1	1,185
1894 ...	2,141	306	63	33	14	...	714	6	15	990
1895 ...	2,315	350	76	40	11	...	769	3	24	1,042
1896 ...	2,357	339	70	25	12	...	786	5	21	1,099
1897 ...	2,390	378	65	28	11	...	827	6	18	1,057
1898 ...	2,440	431	79	37	13	...	835	5	16	1,024
<b>SCHOLARS.</b>										
1876 ...	28,847	1,491	612	221	68	338	13,430	270	20	12,397
1881 (Census) ...	28,134	1,582	836	248	206	449	16,430	276	39	8,068
1885 ...	34,787	1,466	799	387	129	...	20,315	133	157	11,401
1890 ...	40,181	1,442	562	358	213	...	21,623	229	10	15,744
1894 ...	38,062	2,870	782	387	326	...	22,706	137	169	10,685
1895 ...	40,193	3,450	878	512	278	...	23,077	72	285	11,641
1896 ...	42,044	3,428	962	356	323	...	23,562	64	212	13,137
1897 ...	42,899	4,091	867	458	305	...	24,066	104	168	12,840
1898 ...	43,926	4,823	1171	575	310	...	24,084	88	158	12,717

1867. By the figures relating to 1898 it may be ascertained that, in that year, 431 private schools or 45 $\frac{3}{5}$  per cent., employing 1,416 instructors or 58 per cent., and educating 31,209 children or 71 per cent., of the total numbers, claimed to be connected with some religious denomination; also that 24,084 children, or about 55 per cent. of the total number attending private schools, or nearly 80 per cent. of the number attending schools connected with some religious denomination, were being educated in schools claiming connexion with the Roman Catholic church.

Proportion of denominational schools.

1868. The male teachers in private schools returned in 1898 were less numerous by 9 and the female teachers more so by 308, than those

Teachers in private schools.

in 1894, the result being an increase of 299. The number and sexes of the teachers returned in the year under review and the previous one are compared in the following table :—

TEACHERS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1894 AND 1898.

Year.	Males.	Females.	Total.
1894 ... ..	445	1,696	2,141
1898 ... ..	436	2,004	2,440
Increase (+) or Decrease (-) } ...	- 9	+ 308	+ 299

1869. In private schools connected with religious bodies the number of scholars intrusted to each teacher is generally larger than in purely secular institutions. The following are the proportions as derived from the returns of 1898 :—

In schools attached to religious bodies there was 1 teacher to 22 scholars.  
 „ not attached „ „ „ 12 „

1870. The authorities of the different religious bodies vary greatly in regard to the number of scholars they intrust to each instructor. Thus, whilst in the Church of England schools the average in 1898 was 11 scholars to each teacher, in the Roman Catholic schools it was as high as 29 to each. The following are the proportions of scholars to each teacher in the schools attached to the different denominations :—

In schools of the Church of England there was 1 teacher to 11 scholars.  
 „ Presbyterians ... „ „ 15 „  
 „ Wesleyans ... „ „ 16 „  
 „ Jews ... „ „ 18 „  
 „ Lutherans ... „ „ 24 „  
 „ Roman Catholics ... „ „ 29 „

1871. In State schools the mean number of scholars in average attendance committed to the charge of each teacher is 29.\* This is higher than the number so committed in the schools of any of the religious denominations except the Roman Catholics.

1872. In 1898, as compared with 1894, there was an increase of 2,688, or 15 per cent., in the number of boys, and of 3,176, or 15½ per cent., in the number of girls in private schools. The following are the numbers according to the returns of the years referred to :—

SEXES OF SCHOLARS IN PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1894 AND 1898.

Year.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
1894 ... ..	17,863	20,199	38,062
1898 ... ..	20,551	23,375	43,926
Increase ... ..	2,688	3,176	5,864

If workmistresses be excluded, this number would be increased to 32.

Scholars to each teacher in denominational and other schools.

Scholars to each teacher in schools of different denominations.

Scholars to each teacher in public and denominational schools.

Sexes of scholars in private schools.

1873. In 1898, the number of boys educated in private schools was lower than that of girls, the proportion being 88 boys to 100 girls, the proportion being about the same in each of the four preceding years. It has been already shown\* that in State schools the scholars were in the proportion of nearly 93 girls to 100 boys.

Proportion of male to female scholars.

1874. The age prescribed by law as that at which children are to attend school, unless there might be some reasonable excuse for their not doing so, is from 6 to 12 years last birthday, both inclusive. The following are the numbers in both descriptions of schools at, above, and below those ages during the year 1898 :—

Ages of scholars.

AGES OF SCHOLARS, 1898 (DISTINCT CHILDREN).

Ages.	State Schools.	Private Schools.	Combined net Enrolment.†
Under 6 years ... ..	14,751	5,703	19,787
6 to 13 years (school age)	163,042	31,653	188,359
13 years and upwards ...	34,371	10,766	43,915
Total ... ..	212,164	48,122	252,061

1875. In public schools, 77 per cent. of the scholars were at the school age, whilst 16 per cent. were above, and 7 per cent. were below it. In private schools, only 65 per cent. of the scholars were at the school age, whilst 23 per cent. were above, and 12 per cent. were below it.

Proportion of scholars at school age.

1876. The number of children of all ages stated to be receiving education in Victoria during any portion of the year 1898 was as follows :—

Scholars, 1898.

CHILDREN OF ALL AGES RECEIVING EDUCATION, 1898.

Being educated—				
In State Schools (distinct children)...	...	...	...	212,164
In private schools ... ..	...	...	...	48,122
At home (census figures, 1891) ... ..	...	...	...	12,419
Total ... ..	...	...	...	<u>272,705</u>

1877. Of these children the following were said to be at the school age (6 and under 13) :

Scholars at school age.

CHILDREN AT SCHOOL AGE RECEIVING EDUCATION, 1898.

Being educated—				
In State schools ... ..	...	...	...	163,042
In private schools ... ..	...	...	...	31,653
At home (census figures, 1891) ... ..	...	...	...	5,612
Total ... ..	...	...	...	<u>200,307</u>

\* See paragraph 1833 ante.  
 † After making necessary deductions for children who attended both State and private schools during the year.

Children at school age receiving education.

1878. According to the official estimate for 1898, the mean number of children at the school age (6 and under 13) living in Victoria in 1898 was 195,487\*; but the above figures would make it appear that 4,820 more children at that age were at some time during the year receiving education than there were in the colony. It is possible, however, that the figures of distinct children furnished by the Education Department—which are confessedly only estimates—may overstate the truth; that some of those returned as attending private may have also attended State schools during the year; which will account for the discrepancy. But, in any case, it is pretty certain that very nearly all the children in the colony at the school age were receiving education, at any rate, during part of the year.

Colleges, grammar schools, &c.

1879. Six of the schools included with the private schools are called colleges or grammar schools. Five of these at some former period received sums of money and grants of land from the Government for the erection of school buildings, but no State assistance has been given them of late years. They receive male pupils only, and are all attached to some religious denomination; and in connexion with several of them there are exhibitions, chiefly with the view of assisting the ablest scholars to complete their education at the University. The number of scholars in these schools at the end of 1898 was 887, as compared with 701 in 1897, 673 in 1896, 672 in 1895, and 718 in 1894. The following is a return, derived from statements furnished by the authorities of these institutions, for the year under review:—

#### COLLEGES AND GRAMMAR SCHOOLS, 1898.

Name of Institution.	Religious Denomination.	Amount received towards Building in former years.	Number of Masters. †	Scholars on Rolls at end of Year.
		£		
Grammar School, Melbourne	Church of England	13,784	10	160
Scotch College, Melbourne	Presbyterian Church	6,445	11	261
Wesley " "	Wesleyan Methodist	2,769	8	182
St. Patrick's " "	Roman Catholic ...	10,002	9	63
St. Francis Xavier College, Kew	" ...	...	14	110
Grammar School, Geelong	Church of England	7,000	8	111
	Total ...	40,000	60	887

Scholarships and exhibitions to colleges and grammar schools.

1880. At the Melbourne Grammar School there are two "Foundation Scholarships" giving exemption from tuition fees for boys under 14, open only to members of the school, and tenable at it for three years; there is also a "Witherby" scholarship, of the same value, and several entrance scholarships are offered by the head master for open competition. In connexion with the Scotch College, the following

\* According to the census of 1891, the number aged 6 and under 13 years was then 173,368.  
 † Regular masters only. Visiting masters are not included.

scholarships were announced to be competed for:—Scholarships of the value of 10 or 20 guineas each, tenable for one year, to students who gain a satisfactory position in the class honour lists at the matriculation examination; and several entrance scholarships of the like value are also given, tenable for two years, and open to all boys under 14 entering the college. In connexion with the Wesley College eight scholarships are offered for competition, one of £20 a year for two years, tenable at the University; one of £25, tenable for one year at the College; four of 16 guineas each for boys in the College, and two entrance scholarships, also of 16 guineas each. At the Geelong Grammar School there is an exhibition of the value of £60, tenable for two years on condition that the holder shall be a resident student of Trinity College, Melbourne, and shall have been for two years previously a pupil of the Grammar School; a scholarship of 60 guineas is annually given by the head master for the benefit of the sons of clergymen of the Church of England as resident boarders. There are also two scholarships of the value of 12 guineas for day boys under 14, tenable for four years.

1881. The returns of the census of 1891 showed 173,368 children\* at the school age (6 and under 13), of whom 87,654 were boys and 85,714 were girls. The following are the numbers of those who could read, who could also write, and who could not read:—

Education at school age, 1891.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AT THE SCHOOL AGE, 1891.

	Boys.	Girls.
Could read	82,002	80,724
Could write	76,151	75,858
Could not read	5,652	4,990

1882. The *Education Act* 1872 came into operation twenty-one months after the census of 1871 was taken, and thus the returns of that census and of the census of 1891 afford an opportunity of comparing the state of children's education before and since the passing of that Act. Such a comparison is made in the following table, the education of children being reduced to a common standard, the numbers per 10,000 being taken as such at both periods:—

Education at school age, 1871 and 1891.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AT THE SCHOOL AGE, 1871 AND 1891.\*

Educational Attainments.	Proportions per 10,000 living at the School Age (6 to 13 years).					
	Boys.		Girls.		Both.	
	1871.	1891.	1871.	1891.	1871.	1891.
Could read	8,783	9,355	8,861	9,418	8,822	9,386
Could write	6,593	8,688	6,597	8,850	6,595	8,768
Could not read	1,217	645	1,139	582	1,178	614

1883. In 1891, as compared with 1871, an increase is observed in the proportion of both sexes able to read, but a much larger one in those able to write, the increase of the former (the returns of the two

Improvement in twenty years.

\* Inclusive of the few Chinese and Aborigines who were at the school age.

periods being reduced to a common standard) being over 6 per cent., whilst that of the latter was about 33 per cent.; at the same time the decrease of those unable to read was 48 per cent.

Education of boys and girls.

1884. It will be noticed that at both periods rudimentary education was rather more common amongst girls than boys, the proportions of the former able to read and to write being greater, and the proportions unable to read being smaller, than those of the latter.

Education of children of different denominations, 1891.

1885. The degree of education of children is found to differ according to the religious denomination. In the following table (which has been based upon the returns of the last census) the numbers of, and proportionate amount of primary instruction possessed by, children between the ages of 5 and 15 belonging to each of the principal sects are shown:—

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS,\* 1891.

Religious Denominations.	Numbers between 5 and 15 years old who—			Proportions per 10,000 living between 5 and 15 years old who—		
	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.
Church of England ...	79,440	73,708	10,567	8,826	8,189	1,174
Presbyterians ...	31,867	29,507	3,676	8,965	8,302	1,035
Methodists† ...	36,905	34,532	3,909	9,042	8,461	958
Independents...	4,401	4,170	514	8,954	8,484	1,046
Baptists ...	5,554	5,159	724	8,846	8,216	1,154
Lutherans ...	2,110	1,979	421	8,336	7,819	1,664
Other Protestants ...	5,579	5,112	787	8,764	8,030	1,236
Total Protestants...	165,856	154,167	20,598	8,895	8,268	1,105
Roman Catholics ...	44,759	41,282	5,829	8,848	8,160	1,152
Jews ...	1,203	1,132	111	9,155	8,615	845
Residue ...	5,789	5,347	970	8,565	7,911	1,435
Grand Total ...	217,607	201,928	27,508	8,878	8,236	1,122

Denominations compared

1886. According to the table, the children of the Jews, in proportion to their numbers, stood higher than those of the members of any of the other denominations, so far as the ability to read and to write was concerned; then followed, in order of their ability to read, the children of the Methodists, Presbyterians, and Independents, but those of the Independents surpassed the others in their ability to write. A larger proportion of the children of Roman Catholics, with those of the Baptists, could read, than those of the Church of England, but in regard to writing, the children of the last were better instructed than those of the first named, whilst the Baptists stood before both. The children of the Lutherans were apparently less instructed, both in reading and writing, than any of the others; the next less instructed being the children of other Protestants.

\* Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.  
† Including Bible Christians.

1887. The school age prescribed by law differs in the various Australasian Colonies.\* All of the colonies, however, publish their education returns in quinquennial periods, so the period from 5 to 15 years is adopted for Victoria, as well as for the others, as an age at which the success of the respective educational systems can be conveniently judged. The following figures measure the education of the children of each colony at that age, the colonies being arranged in order :—

Education of children in Australasian Colonies.

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1891.†

Colony.	Proportions per 10,000 Children (5 to 15 years) Living who—		
	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.
1. Victoria ... ..	8,878	8,236	1,122
2. New Zealand ... ..	8,456	7,469	1,544
3. New South Wales ... ..	8,174	7,372	1,826
4. Queensland ... ..	8,116	7,237	1,884
5. South Australia ... ..	7,781	7,210	2,219
6. Western Australia ... ..	7,700	6,785	2,300
7. Tasmania ... ..	7,534	6,704	2,466

1888. It will be observed that Victoria stood easily at the head of the list, being much in advance of all the other colonies, both as regards reading and writing. In New South Wales and Queensland the proportion of illiterate children was about two-thirds higher than in Victoria, and also much higher than in New Zealand, whilst that in South Australia, Western Australia, and Tasmania was twice as high, or upwards, as in Victoria.

Colonies compared

1889. The persons above 15 years of age may be designated adults. The following are the numbers of those of either sex returned as able to read, as able also to write, and as uninstructed :—

Adult education, 1891.

EDUCATION OF ADULTS (15 YEARS AND UPWARDS), 1891.†

	Males.	Females.
Could read ... ..	381,399	338,813
Could write ... ..	375,938	329,722
Could not read ... ..	8,809	7,968

1890. In compiling their census returns of education, most of the colonies of this group excluded the Aborigines, but several of them did not separate the Chinese, or distinguish their educational attainments so as to admit of their being accurately deducted from the remainder of the population; and as the Chinese were set down as illiterate if not able to read English, which few of them could do, the view which such colonies gave of the state of adult education within their borders was not so favorable as it should have been. To

Adult education in Australasian Colonies.

\* When the census of 1891 was taken the prescribed school age was in Victoria from 6 to 13 years, in New South Wales and Western Australia from 6 to 14 years, in Queensland from 6 to 12 years, in South Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand from 7 to 13 years.

† Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.

rectify this, and to enable fair comparison to be made between the different colonies, it has been assumed in these cases that the bulk of the Chinese are included amongst the adults unable to read, and they have been deducted therefrom accordingly, so that the state of adult education in all the colonies is given, as nearly as possible, exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines. Upon the numbers so obtained the following proportions have been based:—

EDUCATION OF ADULTS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES, 1891.\*

Colony.	Proportion per 10,000 Adults (15 years and upwards) living who—		
	Could Read.	Could Write.	Could not Read.
1. New Zealand ... ..	9,785	9,581	215
2. Victoria ... ..	9,772	9,575	228
3. South Australia ... ..	9,617	9,359	383
4. New South Wales ... ..	9,512	9,216	488
5. Tasmania ... ..	9,219	8,861	781
6. Queensland ... ..	9,204	8,932	796
7. Western Australia ... ..	8,915	8,591	1,085

Colonies compared.

1891. Victoria, it will be observed, is no longer at the top of the list,† but is below New Zealand, although only slightly so; South Australia, in like manner, being above New South Wales and Queensland, and Tasmania above Queensland and Western Australia. New South Wales occupies the fourth place on the list, or one place lower than in the case of the education of children.

Working Men's College.

1892. The Working Men's College is a Technical Institution founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and it supplies, by means of evening classes, high class instruction at a low rate of fee to those who are engaged during the day. Its revenue is obtained from the students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. Annual examinations are conducted by the Education department, and certificates are issued to successful students. The following subjects are taught:—Algebra, arithmetic, applied mechanics, architectural drawing, agriculture, building construction, bootmaking, bookkeeping, carpentry, carpentry for boys, coach building, cookery, dress cutting, dressmaking, elementary mechanics, electrical engineering, English, elocution, freehand drawing, French, geology, graining and marbling, German, geometry, Latin, modelling, mechanical drawing, mineralogy, mining geology, painting (oil and water colour), practical geometry (plane and solid), perspective plumbing, plain sewing, photography, surveying, singing, sanitation, sign writing, shorthand, typewriting, telegraphy, tailor's cutting, tonic sol-fa, trigonometry, turning and fitting, violin, veterinary science, wool-sorting, wood-carving, writing, and

\* Exclusive of Chinese and Aborigines.

† See paragraphs 1887 and 1883 ante.

correspondence. The following figures indicate the comparative amount of work done at the college during the years 1894 to 1899\* :—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1894 TO 1899.

Averages per Term.	1894.	1895.	1896.	1897.	1898.	1899.
Students enrolled—	1,240	1,337	1,633	1,707	1,786	1,943
Males over 21 .. .. .	285	314	379	406	437	459
„ under 21 - Apprentices .. .. .	120	99	71	84	85	112
„ „ Others .. .. .	411	483	702	731	778	887
Females .. .. .	424	442	481	545	486	485
† Fees received .. .. .	£ 1,803	1,935	2,339	2,788	3,273	4,113
† Average fee per student .. .. .	29s. 1d.	29s. 0d.	28s. 10d.	31s. 8d.	36s. 10d.	43s. 6d.
Number of Classes .. .. .	104	111	115	117	119	128
„ Instructors .. .. .	40	43	43	44	44	46
† Salaries paid Instructors .. .. .	£ 2,107	2,442	2,601	2,917	3,268	4,157

1893. At the Gordon Technical College, Geelong, the subjects taught in 1897 numbered 15, no new subjects having been added to the list. The total enrolment for 1897 was 637, as compared with 630 in 1896, and 507 in 1894. The fees ranged from 5s. to 21s. The amount received in fees paid by students for 1897 was £246, as against £252 for 1896, and £220 for 1894; in public subscriptions, £69, as against £62 in 1896 and £28 in 1894; and the Government capitation, £250 (the same amount as in 1896, but £80 less than in 1894). On the other hand, the amount paid to Instructors for same period was £334, as against £316 in 1896, and £285 in 1894, and for general maintenance £363, as against £433 in 1896, and £310 in 1894.†

Gordon  
Technical  
College.

1894. All technical schools, including the two just described, schools of art and design, and schools of mines—are now under the direct control of the Education Department, which has devised and established a scheme for promoting and directing secondary education generally, by which schools will be recognised in certain authorized centres only, and State grants restricted to certain specified subjects which bear a distinct relation to the industrial arts and the success with which they are taught. In the schools of art and design, the subjects taught comprise practical geometry, mechanical and architectural drawing, perspective, model, and freehand drawing. The schools of mines, which have been established at the principal mining centres, provide both theoretical and practical instruction, not only in all the subjects in any way connected with mining pursuits, but also in the arts and sciences generally;‡ whilst a wide range of subjects is taught at the working men's and other colleges. In 1898, there were altogether 18 technical schools in the colony, viz., 3 working men's or technical colleges—including the two just referred to—5 schools of art, and 10 schools of mines. One of the last-named, the Ballarat School of

Technical  
schools.

\* For further information see issue of this work for 1892, Vol. II., paragraph 761.  
 † Per annum.  
 ‡ For further information as to establishment and subjects taught, see issue of this work for 1892, Vol. II., paragraphs  
 § For detailed descriptions of the principal of these institutions, see issue of this work for 1889-90. Vol. II., paragraphs 748 to 751.

Mines, has been affiliated to the Melbourne University since April, 1887, the privileges conferred by the affiliation, however, being restricted to matriculated students. The schools, as a whole, possess 90 lecturers, and had, during the fourth term of 1898, an enrolment of 2,969 pupils; whilst the fees per quarter range, in the different schools, from 2s. to £8 15s. The Government grants to all the institutions in 1898-9 amounted to £12,225; and of the total amount the Working Men's College (Melbourne) received £3,000; the Ballarat School of Mines, £2,500; the Bendigo School of Mines, £1,400; and the Ballarat East and West Schools of Art, £1,050. The principles by which the Education Department is guided in its administration of technical instruction were briefly summarized in the issue of this work for 1892.\*

Melbourne  
Public  
Library.

1895. The buildings of the Melbourne Public Library have cost from first to last £185,204. These funds were provided by Government, as also were further moneys, amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £669,740, of which £15,662 was received by the trustees during the year under review. The private contributions, consisting of books, pamphlets, maps, newspapers, &c., have amounted in all to 1,035,548, of which 594,414 were presented to the institution, and the remainder were deposited under the Copyright Statute. The estimated value of these contributions is £38,769. At the end of 1898 the library contained 163,965 volumes, and 348,303 pamphlets and parts. It is open to the public, without payment, on week days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year by 592,600 persons. The librarian reports that 2,645 volumes, 30,848 pamphlets and parts, 710 maps and plans, and 39,747 newspapers were added to the Reference Library in 1898, and 78 volumes to the Lending Library. By means of the catalogue, and the system of cards, readers are enabled without delay to ascertain the resources of the library on any given subject. The library consists of three distinct sections, viz.:—The Public Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. During the year 1898 97,756 volumes, extending over the whole range of English literature, were given out by the Lending Branch, and the number of persons to whom the books were lent was 5,541. Of these volumes 52 per cent. related to fiction, 20 per cent. to history, 11 per cent. to general literature, 9 per cent. to religion, philosophy, natural science and art, 5 per cent. to arts and trades, and 3 per cent. to social science.

National  
Gallery.

1896. The National Gallery, at the end of 1898, contained 17,238 works of art, viz., 436 oil paintings, 3,455 objects of statuary, &c., and 13,347 drawings, engravings, and photographs. It is opened at 10 a.m. and closed at 5 p.m. daily, Sundays and certain holidays excepted, also on Saturday evening from 8 to 10 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with this institution was attended in the year by 12 male and 12 female students, and the school of design by 29 male and 108 female students. The students are encouraged to paint original works, by which means it is hoped the foundation may be laid of a school of art of purely Australian subjects.

\* Vol. II., paragraph 763.

1897. The Industrial and Technological Museum joins the National Gallery, and was opened on the 7th September, 1870. At the end of 1898 it contained 54,172 specimens, of which only 388 were added during that year. It is opened at 10 a.m. and closed at 5 p.m. daily, Sundays and certain holidays excepted.

Industrial  
Museum

1898. The collections of the National Museum are kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University. They consist of stuffed animals and birds, insects, specimens of minerals, and other objects of interest which are entered in the catalogue, labelled, and classified. The cost of the edifice was about £8,500. It is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Christmas Day and Good Friday, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., and in 1898 was visited by 95,698 persons, which is higher than any number since 1893. During the same year, besides presentations of value and interest made to the institution, purchases were made to the extent of £366. The payments for salaries and wages amounted to £1,831. The Director renews his strong representations as to the inadequacy of the buildings under his care (for the completion of which the sum of £7,500 has been allocated).

National  
Museum.

1899. The Trustees of the Exhibition Building report that the receipts in 1898-9 amounted to £3,791, consisting of rent £2,071, Aquarium admissions £1,553, and sundries £167; and the expenditure to £4,986, viz., Aquarium £1,335, buildings and grounds—maintenance £2,092 and improvements £198, general charges, including salaries, printing, &c., £1,170, and charges in connexion with letting the building £191.

Aquarium  
and  
Museum in  
Exhibition  
Building.

1900. There is a free library attached to the Patent Office, Melbourne. This contains about 7,250 volumes, consisting of the patent records of Great Britain, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, New Zealand, Canada, the United States, France, Italy, Germany, &c., and other works relating to Science, Patents and Trade Marks. About 400 models of patented inventions may also be seen on application to the officer in charge. The approximate value of the books is £4,500, and of the models £300. The library is open to the public on each week-day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

Patent Office  
Library.

1901. The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has eighteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under rules of court for the admission of barristers and attorneys. The number of volumes at the end of 1898 was 23,040. The expenditure from the commencement has amounted to £41,741, of which £1,242 was spent in 1898.

Supreme  
Court  
Library.

1902. There are free libraries, athenæums, or scientific, literary, or mechanics' institutes, in most of the suburban and country towns of the colony. Some of these institutions receive books on loan from the Melbourne Public Library. Three hundred and sixty-six furnished returns for 1898 to the Government Statist. Their statements show that the cost of erection of the buildings was £421,911; that their

Free  
libraries,  
&c.

total receipts in 1898 amounted to £29,142, of which only £3,156 was contributed by the Government, and £25,986 by private individuals, municipal councils, and from other sources ; that the number of volumes in all the institutions amounted to 542,613 ; and that during the year about 2,211,746 visits were paid to 330 of them which furnished returns. If visitors attended the others in the same proportion, the total number of visits during 1898 must have amounted to about 2,453,027.

Public  
reserves in  
Greater  
Melbourne.

1903. Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purpose being 5,226 acres in 1899 as against 5,336 in 1894. Of these reserves 1,647½ acres are in Melbourne City, 634 in Kew, 482 in South Melbourne, 456 in Williamstown, 204 in Richmond, 82 in Port Melbourne, 166 in Brighton, 250 in St. Kilda, 13 in Prahran, 38½ in Footscray, 41 in Fitzroy, 39 in Collingwood, 65½ in Essendon, 14½ in Northcote, 15 in Hawthorn, 9½ in North Melbourne, 307 in Flemington and Kensington, and 766 in extra-urban municipalities. The following list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, has been supplied by the Lands Department :—

PUBLIC RESERVES IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS,\* 1894 AND 1899.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	1894. Area.	1899. Area.
		Acres.	Acres.
Melbourne City	Royal Park	444	425
"	Yarra "	155	155
"	Prince's "	97	97
"	Fawkner "	102	102
"	Flinders "	24	17
"	Park (Model Farm)	81	81
"	Botanic Garden and Domain	235	178
"	Zoological "	55	55
"	Carlton "	63	63
"	Fitzroy "	64	64
"	Spring "	21	21
"	Flagstaff Garden	18	18
"	Argyle Square	3¼	3¼
"	Curtain "	3½	3½
"	Darling "	2	2
"	Lincoln "	3¼	3¼
"	Macarthur "	1	1
"	Murchison "	1	1
"	University "	3½	3½
"	University Grounds	106	106
"	Friendly Societies' Grounds	33	25
"	Industrial Schools and Board of Health Depôt	47	47
"	Melbourne Cricket Ground	9½	9½
"	East Melbourne "	7†	7
"	Scotch College "	7	7

\* A description of the most important of these reserves, as well as of the Botanic and other public gardens in several of the country towns, was published in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1883-4, following paragraph 1315.

† Vested in Victorian Railways Commissioner, but still used for cricket.

PUBLIC RESERVES IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS,\* 1894 AND 1899—  
continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	1894. Area.	1899. Area.
		Acres.	Acres.
Melbourne City ...	Richmond Cricket Ground ...	6	6
" ...	Carlton " ...	5	5
" ...	Parliament Reserve ...	10	10
" ...	Ornamental Plantations ...	1½	5
" ...	General Cemetery ...	101	101
" ...	Old Cemetery ...	8½	8½
" ...	Military Parade Ground ...	5	5
" ...	Recreation (Brown's Hill) ...	7½	7½
North Melbourne Town ...	Recreation ...	9½	9½
Fitzroy City ...	Edinburgh Park ...	34	34
" ...	Recreation ...	7	7
Collingwood City ...	Mayor's Park ...	6	6
" ...	Recreation ...	7	7
" ...	Darling Gardens ...	16	16
" ...	Victoria Park ...	10	10
Richmond City ...	Richmond Park ...	150	156
" ...	Horticultural Gardens ...	33	33
" ...	Barkly Square ...	7	7
" ...	Municipal Reserve ...	7	7¾
Northcote Town ...	Jika Park ..	14½	14½
South Melbourne City ...	Albert Park (part of) ...	464	464
" " ...	St. Vincent Gardens ...	7⅞	7⅞
" " ...	Ornamental Plantations ...	2¼	2¼
" " ...	Cricket and Recreation (Ware- housemen's)	8	8
Port Melbourne Town ...	Cricket Ground ...	7¼	7¼
" " ...	Park and Garden... ..	56	58
" " ...	Ornamental Plantations ...	17	17
Prahran City ...	Recreation ...	23	...
" ...	Toorak Park ...	...	7
" ...	Victoria Gardens ...	...	4
" ...	Gardens (Grattan-street) ...	...	2
St. Kilda City ...	St. Kilda Gardens ...	16	16
" ...	Albert Park (part of) ...	106	106
" ...	Recreation ...	54	54
" ...	" ...	4¾	4¾
" ...	" ...	11	11
" ...	" ...	15¾	15¾
" ...	" Dandenong Road ...	22½	22½
" ...	Cemetery ...	20	20
Brighton Town ...	Elsternwick Park ...	85	85
" ...	Recreation (Elsternwick) ...	14½	14½
" ...	Beach Park ...	67	67
Essendon Town ...	Recreation ...	10½	10½
" ...	" ...	5¼	5¼
" ...	Agricultural Society's Yards ...	30	30
" ...	Ornamental Plantations ...	8¼	8¼
" ...	Water Reserve ...	11½	11½
Flemington and Ken- sington Borough ...	Race-course ...	301	301
" ...	Recreation ...	5¾	5¾
Hawthorn City ...	" ...	15	15
Kew Borough ...	Studley Park ...	203	203

\* For footnote (\*) see previous page.

PUBLIC RESERVES IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS,\* 1894 AND 1899—  
continued.

Municipality.	Name of Reserve.	1894. Area.	1899. Area.
		Acres.	Acres.
Kew Borough ...	Lunatic Asylum ... ..	384	384
" ...	Cemetery ... ..	31	31
" ...	Recreation ... ..	16	16
Footscray City ...	Public Gardens and Recreation ...	26	10½
" ...	" ... ..	2¼	2¼
" ...	Cricket Ground, &c. ..	5	5¾
" ...	Recreation (Yarraville) ...	5	5
" ...	" (Footscray West) ...	15	15
Williamstown Town ...	Par ... ..	36	36
" ...	" ... ..	20	20
" ...	Recreation ... ..	...	9¾
" ...	Beach Park ... ..	20	20
" ...	Cemetery ... ..	15	15
" ...	Rifle Range ... ..	332	332
" ...	Cricket Ground ... ..	6¾	6¾
" ...	Public Garden ... ..	3½	3½
" ...	Recreation (Newport) ...	13	13
	Yarra Bend Asylum ... ..	350	350
	Malvern Park and Garden ...	5	5
	" " ... ..	8	8
Outside urban muni- cipalities	" " ... ..	16	...
	Caulfield Park ... ..	62	62
	" Race-course ... ..	144	144
	Camberwell Gardens ... ..	7	7
	Williamstown Race-course ...	190	190
	Total ... ..	5,336	5,226

Areas  
excised  
from Public  
Reserves.

1904. Of the 110 acres excised from public reserves since 1894 57 acres from the Botanical Gardens and Domain, and 8 acres from the Friendly Societies Gardens were devoted to the Yarra improvement works, and 6 acres from the Flinders Park to railway works.

Botanic  
Gardens.

1905. The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, at a distance of about a mile and a half from the heart of the city. The area of the garden proper is 83 acres, and is as large as that of the Botanic Gardens of Sydney, Adelaide, and Brisbane combined. The Melbourne Garden, together with the Domain and Government House grounds adjoining it, covers about 200 acres. This garden, although nominally in existence for some 52 years, was virtually created in 1857 by the late Baron Sir Ferdinand von Mueller, formerly Government Botanist of Victoria, who was for sixteen years its director, but retired from that post in 1873. It was early extremely rich in rare plants, these being in very many instances at the time new to the colony. The garden under the present director, Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle, F.L.S., still maintains its beauty. An interesting description of it from his pen appears in the *Victorian Year-Book*, 1888-9.†

\* For footnote (\*) see page 1104.

† Vol. II., paragraph 891.

1906. The gardens of the Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of the Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, and distant nearly two miles from the Post Office, and can be reached by the tramcars starting every few minutes, or by rail. 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. An interesting account of the operations of this Society, contributed for this work by the director of the gardens, Mr. A. A. C. Le Souef, was published in the edition of this work for 1889-90.\*

Zoological and Acclimatisation Gardens.

1907. The following is a list of the principal Charitable Institutions in Victoria,† and a statement of the accommodation which, according to the returns of the year ended 30th June, 1898, was available for indoor patients :—

Accommodation of charities.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.‡—AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1897-8.§

Description of Institution.	Number of Institutions.	Dormitories.		Number of Beds for Inmates.	Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed.
		Number.	Capacity in Cubic feet.		
General Hospitals    ...	44	376	3,515,493	2,744	1,281
Women's Hospital ...	1	23	142,714	81	1,762
Children's Hospital ...	1	11	59,176	63	939
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	1	8	54,680	60	911
Hospitals for the Insane ...	6	1,159	2,668,679	3,933	678
Idiot Asylum ¶ ...	1	18	91,500	203	451
Benevolent Asylums ** ...	6	178	1,530,244	2,356	650
Blind Asylum ...	1	5	91,318	112	815
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ...	1	4	75,872	74	1,025
Orphan Asylums ...	7	55	546,068	985	554
Infant Asylum ...	1	10	38,821	58	670
Female Refuges ...	8	110	307,092	496	619
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	5	30	81,675	137	596
Total ...	83	1,987	9,203,332	11,302	814

NOTE. Besides the hospitals above referred to, there were two Convalescent Homes, with accommodation for 64 inmates, and Sanatoriums for Consumptives, at Echuca and Macedon, with accommodation for 28 inmates. There were also Industrial and Reformatory schools. Particulars of some of these institutions will be found in subsequent paragraphs.

1908. According to regulations issued by the Central Board of Health in Melbourne, not less than 1,200 cubic feet in the wards of a hospital, or other institution of a like nature, should be allowed for each individual. It will be observed by the figures in the last column of the foregoing table that this amount of space for inmates is not attained in the case of any of the institutions except the General Hospitals and the Women's Hospital. It may be remarked that one

Cubic space in wards.

\* Vol. II., paragraph 764.  
 † For particulars relating to the Report of the last Royal Commission on Charities, see issue of this work for 1890-91, Vol. II., paragraph 766.  
 ‡ Only two of the kinds treated of are Government institutions, viz., the Hospitals for the Insane and the Idiot Asylum.  
 § A list of the General Hospitals is given in the table following paragraph 1225 ante.  
 ¶ The Idiot Asylum is under the same control as the Hospitals for the Insane.  
 ¶ For the year ended 31st December, 1898, in the case of Hospitals for the Insane and Idiot Asylum; and for year ended 30th June, 1898, in all other cases.  
 \*\* Including the Immigrants' Home, which is really a benevolent asylum.

important authority considers so large an amount of space unnecessary. The late Dr. Paley, in his Report on the Hospitals for the Insane for 1878,\* mentioned 500 feet for each patient in ordinary wards, and 1,000 feet in hospital wards, as a sufficient allowance; but, on the other hand, Dr. McCrea, the late Chief Medical Officer, in a paper contributed by him to a "Précis of Information concerning the Colony of Victoria," prepared some years since for the Intelligence Department of the Imperial War Office, gave it as his opinion that, whilst 600 feet of cubic space is sufficient for each person in a well-ventilated sleeping-room, as much as from 1,500 to 2,000 cubic feet ought to be allowed in hospital wards.

1909. The following table shows the total and average number of inmates in the same institutions together with Industrial and Reformatory Schools during the year ended 30th June, 1898, also the number of deaths and the proportion of deaths to inmates:—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—INMATES AND DEATHS, 1897-8.†

Description of Institution.	Number of Inmates.		Number of Deaths.	Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates.
	Total during the Year.	Daily Average.		
				Per cent.
General Hospitals ... ..	22,026	2,140	2,328	10·57
Women's Hospital ‡ ... ..	1,689	78	23	1·36
Children's Hospital ... ..	850	77	81	9·53
Eye and Ear Hospital ... ..	611	45	2	·33
Hospitals for the Insane ... ..	4,974	4,152	335	6·74
Idiot Asylum ... ..	254	215	31	12·20
Benevolent Asylums ... ..	3,436	2,292	428	12·46
Blind Asylum ... ..	99	94	3	3·03
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ... ..	75	64	4	5·33
Orphan Asylums ... ..	1,540	1,229	7	·46
Industrial and Reformatory Schools§	5,264	4,380	77	1·46
Infant Asylum    ... ..	92	51	11	11·9
Female Refuges ‡ ... ..	807	448	7	·87
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	491	116	2	·41
Total ... ..	42,208	15,381	3,339	7·91

1910. With reference to the overcrowding of some of the institutions, a comparison of the last two tables will show that the daily average of inmates in the year under review was greater than the number of beds in the Children's Hospital, the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Orphan Asylums.

1911. Nearly all the institutions give returns of the birthplaces of their inmates. These are summarized in the following table, and the

\* Parliamentary Paper No. 36, Session 1879.

† or year ended 31st December, 1898 in the case of Hospitals for Insane Idiot Asylum, and Industrial and Reformatory Schools; for year ended 30th June, 1898 in all other cases.

‡ Exclusive of infants.

§ Including those boarded out and sent to service as well as the inmates of the institutions.

Exclusive of mothers, of whom 37 were admitted during the year, and 18 remained at its end.

Inmates and deaths in charities.

Inmates in excess of beds.

Birthplaces of inmates.

totals are compared with the estimated numbers of the same birthplaces in the mean population :—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.\*—BIRTHPLACES OF INMATES, 1897-8.†

Description of Institution.	Australasian Colonies.	England and Wales.	Scotland.	Ireland.	China.	Residue.	Total.
General Hospitals ...	12,841	3,854	1,053	2,651	365	1,262	22,026
Women's Hospital ...	1,458	123	30	50	...	28	1,689
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	343	119	25	99	5	20	611
Hospitals for the Insane } Idiot Asylum ...	1,731	909	379	1,153	80	976	5,228
Benevolent Asylums ...	387	1,359	429	919	72	270	3,436
Blind Asylum ...	89	6	...	2	...	2	99
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	70	4	1	...	...	...	75
Orphan Asylums ...	1,477	19	3	11	...	30	1,540
Total ...	18,396	6,393	1,920	4,885	522	2,588	34,704
Proportions per 1,000 of } mean population‡	19·24	62·97	60·37	90·21	58·03	129·50	29·59

1912. The same institutions which furnish returns of the birthplaces furnish also returns of the religions of their inmates, and the result is given in the following table. The figures in the lower line express the proportions to the estimated living population of each denomination :—

Religions of inmates.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.\*—RELIGIONS OF INMATES, 1897-8.†

Description of Institution.	Protestants.	Roman Catholics.	Jews.	Buddhists, Confucians, &c.	Residue.	Total.
General Hospitals ...	15,091	6,244	54	346	291	22,026
Women's Hospital ...	1,187	492	10	...	...	1,689
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	429	171	9	...	2	611
Hospitals for the Insane } Idiot Asylum ...	3,014	1,669	41	68	436	5,228
Benevolent Asylums ...	2,222	1,101	7	51	55	3,436
Blind Asylum ...	79	20	...	...	...	99
Deaf and Dumb Asylum	69	6	...	...	...	75
Orphan Asylums ...	812	728	...	...	...	1,540
Total ...	22,903	10,431	121	465	784	34,704
Proportions per 1,000 of } mean population‡	26·29	40·42	18·10	68·79	23·33	29·59

1913. The ages of the inmates of most of the institutions are given as follow ; also the proportion of the numbers at each age period to the

Ages of inmates of charities.

\* Particulars relating to the Children's Hospital, Infant Asylum, Industrial and Reformatory Schools, and Female Refuges and Salvation Army Rescue Homes are not given in this table

† Year ended 31st December, 1897 in case of Hospitals for the Insane and Idiot Asylum ; year ended 30th June, 1898, in all other cases.

‡ For numbers of each birthplace, on which the proportions are based, see paragraphs 110 and 115 ante.

numbers at the same age in the population. It will be noticed that, with the exception of persons between the ages of 15 to 25, an unusually large proportion of whom were in charitable institutions, the proportion gradually increases with age to  $4\frac{1}{4}$  per cent. at the age of 45 to 55, to  $5\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. at the age of 55 to 65, and to over 10 per cent. at all ages over 65 :—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.\*—AGES OF INMATES, 1897-8.†

Description of Institution.	Ages.									Total.	
	Under 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 55.	55 to 65.	65 and upwards.		Unknown
General Hospitals ..	535	1,302	1,488	4,593	3,845	2,801	2,032	2,242	3,162	26	22,026
Women's Hospital ...	..	..	..	745	667	247	22	8	..	..	1,689
Eye and Ear Hospital ..	..	85	64	92	72	51	65	80	102	..	611
Hospitals for the Insane ..	..	13	22	291	1,011	992	874	795	580	396	4,974
Idiot Asylum ..	..	46	53	112	28	2	1	..	..	12	254
Benevolent Asylums ..	104	8	3	88	84	118	246	570	2,212	3	3,436
Blind Asylum ..	..	9	23	28	20	16	2	1	..	..	99
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ..	..	19	38	18	..	..	..	..	..	..	75
Orphan Asylums ..	65	666	772	33	..	2	1	..	1	..	1,540
Female Refuges ..	..	..	4	352	152	107	109	59	..	4	807
Salvation Army Rescue Homes	..	..	7	186	103	88	52	40	6	9	491
Tota ..	704	2,148	2,474	6,538	5,982	4,424	3,404	3,795	6,063	470	36,002
Proportions per 1,000 of mean population }	5.1	14.7	19.1	34.3	28.7	28.6	42.7	54.6	107.8	..	30.7

Receipts and expenditure.

1914. The total receipts of all the institutions in 1897-8 amounted to £367,933, of which £223,702, or about three-fifths, was contributed by Government; and the expenditure amounted to £375,135. Of the Government contribution, £132,910 was expended on the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Industrial and Reformatory Schools, which are Government institutions; and the balance (£90,792) was distributed as grants in aid to the other institutions. A statement of the receipts and expenditure for the year of the Charitable Institutions is given in the following table :—

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1897-8.†

Description of Institution.	Receipts.			Expenditure.
	From Government	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£
General Hospitals ...	53,748	56,901	110,649	114,720
Women's Hospital ...	2,200	3,264	5,464	6,989
Children's Hospital ...	200	4,797	4,997	6,194
Eye and Ear Hospital ...	670	3,772	4,442	2,730
Hospitals for the Insane Idiot Asylum ...	79,860	29,529	109,389	109,389

\* Particulars relating to the Children's Hospital, Industrial and Reformatory Schools and Infant Asylum are not given in this table.

† Year ended 31st December, 1898, in the case of Hospitals for the Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Industrial and Reformatory Schools; year ended 30th June in all other cases.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1897-8\*  
—continued.

Description of Institution.	Receipts.			Expenditure.
	From Government.	From other Sources.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£
Benevolent Asylums ... ..	22,125	14,720	36,845	36,916
Blind Asylum ... ..	2,061	2,441	4,502	4,251
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ... ..	800	2,258	3,058	3,261
Orphan Asylums ... ..	6,561	11,563	18,124	20,838
Industrial and Reformatory Schools	53,050	1,086†	54,136	54,136
Infant Asylum ... ..	172	946	1,118	1,015
Female Refuges ... ..	1,805	10,458	12,263	11,750
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	450	2,496	2,946	2,946
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>223,702</b>	<b>144,231</b>	<b>367,933</b>	<b>375,135</b>

1915. The following table gives a statement of the average number of inmates of the respective institutions during the year ended with June, 1898, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost per annum of each inmate:—

Average cost per inmate.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—AVERAGE COST OF EACH INMATE, 1897-8.\*

Description of Institution.	Daily Average Number of Inmates.	Total Cost of Maintenance. †	Average Cost of each Inmate per annum.		
			£	s.	d.
General Hospitals ... ..	2,140	101,125	47	5	1
Women's Hospital ... ..	78	6,371	81	13	7
Children's Hospital ... ..	77	4,959	64	8	0
Eye and Ear Hospital ... ..	45	2,323	51	12	8
Hospitals for the Insane ... ..	4,152	109,389	25	1	0
Idiot Asylum ... ..	215				
Benevolent Asylums ... ..	2,292	30,384	13	5	2
Blind Asylum ... ..	94	4,029	42	17	3
Deaf and Dumb Asylum ... ..	64	3,049	47	12	10
Orphan Asylums ... ..	1,229	17,463	14	4	2
Industrial and Reformatory Schools ...	4,380	53,050§	12	2	3
Infant Asylum ... ..	51	760	14	18	1
Female Refuges ... ..	448	11,408	25	9	3
Salvation Army Rescue Homes ...	116	2,241	19	6	5
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>15,381</b>	<b>346,551</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>

\* Year ended 31st December, 1898, in the case of Hospitals for Insane and Idiot Asylums, year ended 30th June in all other cases.

† Of this amount, £1,063 was received and paid into the Treasury during the year from parents and others for the maintenance of Industrial and Reformatory School children, and £23 was derived from the sale of articles produced, and other receipts. No information is furnished of the amounts received from private sources by the assisted Industrial and Reformatory Schools.

‡ The amounts in this column represent the expenditure of the institutions less interest paid, cost of buildings and extraordinary repairs, and cost of out-door relief.

§ Cost to the State only of all children, including those licensed and boarded out.

|| If, however, allowance be made for an average of fifteen mothers who accompanied their children, the cost per head would be reduced to £11 10s. 4d.

Expenditure  
per inmate.

1916. In 1897-8, the average cost per inmate was greatest in the Women's Hospital (£82), then in the Children's Hospital (£65), next in the Eye and Ear Hospital (£52), and the next in the Deaf and Dumb Asylum and General Hospitals (£47). The Blind Asylum followed with an average per inmate of £43. The institutions in which the relative cost was least were the Industrial and Reformatory Schools, £12; and the Orphan Asylums, with an average of about £14; and the Benevolent Asylums, with an average of a little over £13 per inmate. Many of the children of the Industrial and Reformatory Schools and Orphan Asylums are, however, not a tax on the institutions, being boarded out or licensed.\*

Special funds  
raised for  
charitable  
and other  
purposes.

1917. Appeals for funds for charitable and patriotic purposes, not only from this, but from all parts of the British Empire, have always been promptly and liberally responded to by the people of Victoria. During the five years ended with 1900 (but chiefly in 1900), the subscriptions received through the Mayor of Melbourne alone, as honorary treasurer for various charitable and patriotic funds of a special character, amounted to about £114,200, besides £32,400 through other channels, making a grand total of £146,600. The wave of patriotism aroused by the opening in London of an Empire's Patriotic Fund for the wives and children of the soldiers in South Africa was heartily and loyally responded to, the splendid sum of nearly £59,000 having been collected and forwarded to London. Lord Roberts' call for men accustomed to the rough open-air life of the Australian bush aroused great enthusiasm in the State. Offers from men willing to enlist poured in greatly in excess of the number required and resulted in the selection of a fine body of excellent bushmen, for whose support and equipments a sum of over £14,000 in moneys and of material to the value of £11,000 was quickly subscribed. Other funds consisted of over £9,600 contributed towards the relief of two famines in India, over £11,000 towards the relief of sufferers by bush fires in Victoria, £19,000 towards the erection of an Infectious Diseases Hospital to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, nearly £17,700 for the purpose of extinguishing the debt of the Melbourne Hospital, and £3,700 towards the Tommy Atkins Fund. The two latter sums were raised through the advocacy of the *Argus*, which, with the *Age*—the other leading Melbourne daily paper—rendered invaluable aid in promoting the

various other movements, which could not otherwise have been attended with such success. The following is a statement of the funds referred to :—

SPECIAL FUNDS COLLECTED IN MELBOURNE FOR CHARITABLE OR PUBLIC PURPOSES, 1895 TO 1900.

Brunner Colliery Accident Relief Fund	...	...	...	£1,421
India Famine Relief Fund, 1897	...	...	...	5,895
India Famine Relief Fund, 1900	...	...	...	3,722
Queen's Memorial Fund	...	...	...	19,001
Bush Fires Relief Fund	...	...	...	11,368
The Empire's Patriotic Fund...	...	...	...	58,662
Bushmen's Corps Fund—				
Money	...	...	...	£27,220*
Material, horses, &c.	...	...	...	11,000
				38,220
Melbourne Hospital Debt Extinction Fund	...	..	..	17,673
Tommy Atkins' Fund	...	...	...	3,700
				3,700
Total	...	...	...	£159,662

1918. In Melbourne and suburbs, during the month of October of each year, the last Saturday and Sunday are set apart for making collections in aid of the charitable institutions. The movement is taken up warmly by the clergy of all denominations, who on Hospital Sunday preach sermons in aid thereof and devote thereto all the offerings collected in their churches. Superintendents of Sunday schools, head masters of State schools, and the proprietors of many places of business also render important assistance in the collection of funds. In consequence of the recent depression the amount collected fell off by half as compared with the years 1889 and 1890, and by three-fifths as compared with 1888, and was lower in 1895 than in any year since 1876, but was higher in 1898 than in any year since 1893, when a similar amount was subscribed. The following are the amounts collected in each year since the movement was inaugurated :—

Hospital  
Saturday  
and Sunday

HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, AMOUNTS COLLECTED, 1873 TO 1898.

£			£		
1873 to 1882	...	58,465	1892	...	7,240
1883	...	7,091	1893	...	5,794
1884	...	8,253	1894	...	5,607
1885	...	9,516	1895	...	5,269
1886	...	9,222	1896	...	5,555
1887	...	10,289	1897	...	5,508
1888	...	14,416	1898	..	5,765
1889	...	11,459			
1890	...	11,248	Total	...	£190,104
1891	...	9,407			

\* Inclusive of £144 for Cameron's Scouts, and £715 for the Second Contingent.

Distribution  
of moneys  
collected.

1919. The following table shows the distribution of the amounts collected and the extent to which the respective charitable institutions have profited thereby :—

DISTRIBUTION OF HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FUND,  
1873 TO 1898.

Institution.	Amount Distributed.		
	1873 to 1897.	1898.	Total.
	£	£	£
Melbourne Hospital ... ..	57,022	1,165	58,187
Alfred Hospital ... ..	24,693	582	25,275
Benevolent Asylum ... ..	17,139	373	17,512
Women's Hospital ... ..	16,318	450	16,768
Children's Hospital ... ..	19,642	842	20,484
Eye and Ear Hospital ... ..	9,003	210	9,213
Homœopathic Hospital ... ..	8,918	326	9,244
Immigrants' Aid Society ... ..	6,433	96	6,529
Richmond Dispensary ... ..	1,190	35	1,225
Collingwood Dispensary ... ..	1,840	60	1,900
Austin Hospital for Incurables ... ..	8,195	492	8,687
Convalescent Home for Women ... ..	1,290	125	1,415
"    "    Men ... ..	825	75	900
Melbourne District Nursing Society ... ..	259	67	326
St. Vincent's Hospital ... ..	1,115	422	1,537
Sanatorium for Consumptives, Echuca and Macedon ... ..	325	100	425
Queen Victoria Hospital for Women ... ..	35	35	70
Total distributed ... ..	174,242	5,455	179,697
Total collected ... ..	184,339	5,765	190,104

Lunatics out  
on proba-  
tion, and  
boarded  
out.

1920. The Lunacy Act authorizes the removal of patients from the Asylums under approved guardianship, or for boarding them out with paid guardians. In 1898 there were in all 573 patients out on probation, and of these 134 were discharged during the year, 9 died, 63 were written off the books, 141 were returned to the Asylums, and 226, viz., 92 males and 134 females, were still on probation on the 31st December. The number boarded out during the year was 47, of whom 15 returned to the Asylums, whilst 32—11 males and 21 females—remained out at the close of the year. Of 10 boarded out for the first time, 6 had to be brought back to the Asylum.\*

Employment  
of lunatics  
in asylums.

1921. The average number of patients employed during the year in the workshops was 583, viz., 112 males and 471 females, the former being engaged chiefly as shoemakers, tailors, painters, carpenters, and in mat and mattress making; the latter being nearly all engaged in sewing, fancy work, or mattress making. At the same time 1,071 male and 901 female patients were occupied with miscellaneous occupations, 179 males being on the farm, 112 in the garden, 49 in the kitchen, 477 in the wards and airing court, and 71 on roads and ornamental

\* For particulars relating to the Inebriate Asylums—closed in 1892—see issue of this work for 1893. Vol. II., paragraph 822; also previous issues.

grounds; 276 females were in the laundry, 583 in the wards and airing grounds, and 24 as servants at private quarters. Active employment is especially encouraged amongst the inmates; the greater part of the male and female clothing used in the institutions is made by them under the supervision of skilled attendants.

1922. In his Report for 1898, the Inspector of Lunatic Asylums, Dr. McCreery, states that in that year the registered insane as compared with the entire population bore the proportion of 1 to 268, or rather more than in the previous year, when it was 1 to 271. Victoria, in this respect, stands in a worse position than England and the other Australasian colonies, the proportion being less in the three least populated colonies, as is shown in the following table. It should be noted, however, that little more than one-half of the inmates of asylums in Victoria were of Australasian birth\*.

Lunatics in  
Australia  
and England  
compared.

LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES AND ENGLAND ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1898.

Name of Colony or Country.	Number of Lunatics per 100,000 of the Population.
Western Australia ... ..	142
Tasmania ... ..	222
South Australia ... ..	260
New South Wales ... ..	302
Queensland ... ..	317
England and Wales ... ..	324
New Zealand ... ..	333
Victoria ... ..	374

1923. Since the opening of the first Asylum in 1848, up to the end of 1898, 27,740 persons have been admitted, viz., 16,118 males and 11,622 females. The proportion who recovered was  $28\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. of males and  $33\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. of females, whilst 4 and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. respectively were relieved, 21 per cent. of both sexes were not improved, 32 and 21 per cent. died, and  $14\frac{1}{4}$  and 18 per cent. still remain under the care of the institution. Of those discharged recovered in 1898, as many as 60 per cent. had been in the Asylum for less than 12 months, 15 per cent. from 1 to 2 years, and 16 per cent. from 2 to 5 years; whilst of those who died 35 per cent. had not been resident 12 months, 27 per cent. had been resident between 1 and 5 years, 17 per cent. between 5 and 10 years, 9 per cent. between 10 and 15 years, 7 per cent. between 15 and 20 years, 2 per cent. between 20 and 25 years, and about  $3\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. were in longer than 25 years. Of those who died during the year the ages of one-twelfth were unknown, and of the balance one-third were between the ages of 60 and 90 years.

Percentage of recoveries and deaths, and duration of residence in asylums.

\* See table following paragraph 1912 ante.

Recoveries  
of lunatics,  
Australia  
and  
England

1924. The proportion of recoveries of patients in the Victorian Lunatic Asylums (Hospitals for the Insane) was, although higher in 1898 than in 1897, much below the average, the proportion having been 3,207\* per 10,000 admitted as against 2,796 in 1897, and an average of 3,482 during the five years ended with 1896; of 4,275 during the five years ended with 1891; and of 4,942 during the five years ended with 1886. The proportion of recoveries is lower than in any of the other Australian Colonies, or than in England, as is shown by the following figures:—

#### RECOVERIES OF LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS IN AUSTRALIAN COLONIES 1898, AND ENGLAND, 1891.

	Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.		Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions.
1. Western Australia ...	... 5,000	5. South Australia	... 3,925
2. New South Wales ...	... 4,410	6. Tasmania ...	... 3,253
3. Queensland ...	... 4,213	7. Victoria ...	... 3,207
4. England and Wales	... 4,104		

Recoveries  
of male  
and female  
lunatics.

1925. In the year just referred to, the proportion of recoveries of female patients was greater than that of males in New South Wales, England and Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and Tasmania; but in Western Australia the reverse was the case, and in South Australia the proportion was about the same for both sexes.

Deaths of  
lunatics,  
Australasia  
and  
England.

1926. In proportion to the numbers resident, the mortality in the Victorian asylums during 1898 was 884 per 10,000, as compared with 793 in 1897, 907 in 1896, 827 in 1895, and 831 in 1894, and 756 for the past seventeen years. The proportion was higher than that in the asylums of the other countries named, except England and Wales, as is thus shown:—

#### MORTALITY OF LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS IN AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES AND ENGLAND, 1898.

Country.	Deaths per 10,000 Patients Resident.
1. England and Wales (1890) ... ..	1,003
2. Victoria ... ..	884
3. South Australia ... ..	840
4. Queensland ... ..	707
5. New South Wales ... ..	629
6. Western Australia ... ..	578
7. New Zealand ... ..	522

Causes of  
insanity.

1927. The following are stated to have been the probable or predisposing causes of insanity in the male and female patients

\* Males 3,155, females 3,270, per 10,000 admissions of respective sexes.

admitted into the Lunatic Asylums of Victoria in the seven years ended with 1893, in the four years ended 1897, and in 1898 :—

CAUSES OF INSANITY OF LUNATIC ASYLUM PATIENTS, 1887 TO 1898.

Probable Causes.	Number of Admissions.					
	Males.			Females.		
	Total 1887-93.	1894 to 1897.	1898.	Total 1887-93	1894 to 1897.	1898.
<b>MORAL.</b>						
Domestic trouble (including loss of relatives and friends) ... ..	47	21	2	114	42	18
Adverse circumstances (including business anxieties and pecuniary difficulties) ...	118	64	13	29	18	4
Mental excitement and worry (not included under the above two heads), and overwork	84	73	26	73	62	23
Religious excitement ... ..	52	27	10	65	38	11
Love affairs (including seduction) ... ..	11	4	1	36	11	2
Fright and nervous shock ... ..	10	12	2	41	39	10
Paresis ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	...
<b>PHYSICAL.</b>						
Intemperance in drink ... ..	372	113	35	120	36	18
"    sexual ... ..	14	5	2	6	1	1
Venereal disease ... ..	11	10	...	7	1	...
Self-abuse ... ..	135	69	13	5	1	1
Sunstroke ... ..	100	50	8	22	9	4
Accident or injury (including surgical operations) ... ..	81	65	21	19	21	4
Phthisis ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...
Pregnancy ... ..	...	...	...	9	20	1
Parturition and the puerperal state... ..	...	...	...	121	52	6
Puberty ... ..	5	5	4	17	7	1
Lactation ... ..	...	...	...	21	11	...
Uterine and ovarian disorders ... ..	...	...	...	36	6	3
Typhoid fever ... ..	1	1	...	...	...	2
Change of life ... ..	...	...	...	41	16	3
Fevers ... ..	27	6	...	21	6	...
Privation and starvation ... ..	24	15	5	26	3	...
Old age ... ..	139	74	16	94	30	9
Epilepsy... ..	8	42	11	6	18	1
Convulsions ... ..	...	...	...	1	...	...
Influenza ... ..	8	12	3	5	9	3
Other bodily diseases or disorders ... ..	154	63	11	91	49	16
Previous attacks ... ..	288	71	17	205	56	4
Hereditary influences ascertained (direct and collateral) ... ..	70	34	5	94	25	7
Brain disease ... ..	7	1	...	...	...	...
Congenital defect ascertained ... ..	58	29	10	57	7	9
Habitual use of opium ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other ascertained causes ... ..	34	92	15	51	87	16
Unknown ... ..	921	576	166	606	489	147
Not Insane ... ..	1	...	...	1	...	...
Over-exertion ... ..	9	2	...	8	1	...
Not stated ... ..	...	61	...	...	44	...
<b>Total</b> ... ..	<b>2,792</b>	<b>1597</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>2,049</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>324</b>

Institute for  
Blind.

1928. The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind occupies a site on the St. Kilda-road, Melbourne, which was valued by the Royal Commission on Charitable Institutions which presented its report in December, 1891, at £13,325. The Commission gave it as their opinion that the purposes of the institution would be better served if it were removed into the country. The following information respecting this institution for the year ended 30th June, 1898, has been furnished by the superintendent and secretary:—

The institution is strictly undenominational in its character, and its objects are to give a suitable scholastic and religious education to the young blind of the colony, and to teach them trades or professions by means of which, on completion of their term of training, they may earn an independent livelihood. It is further intended, as far as the exigencies of trade will permit, to give employment in its industrial department to blind work-people who may be unable to get work elsewhere. This, however, is restricted to the demand for the goods made. The institute is not in any sense a benevolent asylum for the indigent blind, who can not only be maintained cheaper, but can be better cared for in the ordinary institutions for the care of the destitute. The scholastic education is similar to that in the State schools, varied only in the apparatus and means employed; and examinations are held annually by the Education department, the percentage gained at the last being 95·3 as against 96 the former year. Music is an important part of the education of the blind, and those who display exceptional talent are trained for the musical profession, and the skill of the pupils is utilised as means of raising revenue for the institution by means of concerts and band performances in various parts of the colony. In the industrial branch pupils are trained in the trades of brush, basket, mat, and matting making, the period of training varying from two to five years; and employment is then given to non-resident ex-pupils, who are paid wages at piecework rates ruling in the various trades. Some less proficient workers have their wages supplemented by a bonus. Although this department has almost quadrupled its operations during the last seven years, and although the board is most anxious to receive suitable blind people, it has been compelled, owing to being unable to procure sufficient work for the employés, and to the lack of workshop accommodation, to refuse the majority of applications for some time past. There is now no debt on the institution. The sales in the manufacturing department amounted to £3,408, being £205 less than the previous year. The total number of pupils and workers on the books is 94, classified as follows:—Resident pupils, 59; outside pupil, 1; journeymen and other non-resident workers, 34.

Deaf and  
Dumb  
Institution.

1929. The Deaf and Dumb Institution also occupies a site on the St. Kilda-road, which was valued by the late Commission on Charities in December, 1891, at £22,000, and that commission considers that it might be advantageously removed to the country, where the deaf mutes might and should be taught garden and farm work. The following information has been supplied by the superintendent for the year 1897-8:—

At the commencement of the year there were 66 pupils on the roll. During the year 9 new pupils have been admitted and 19 have been discharged, thus leaving the number of pupils on the 30th June, 1898, 56 (27 boys and 29 girls). Since the year 1862, when the institution was fairly launched, there have been received into it over 370 children, 315 of whom have been discharged and most of whom are maintaining themselves in respectability. The work of the school has been carried on with success, and increased attention has been devoted to oral training, viz., articulation and lip-reading, but the teaching of arithmetic, language, writing and general knowledge is in no way neglected, the proficiency being well up to the standard of former years. A bootmaking class was started in 1897 and is successful, eleven of the lads being under instruction and making satisfactory progress, all the pupils' boots having been made and repaired in the workshops, and work

for private customers done in addition. The total receipts for the year were £3,033, the sum allotted out of the charitable vote being £800, or only half the amount received in former years, but the private subscriptions and donations are the highest ever received in any single year. Bequests amounting to £62 10s. were received and added to the Endowment Account, the total to the credit of which fund is now £10,365, most of which is invested in Government Stock, the interest only, being used for maintenance purposes.

1930. The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital was established with the object of treating a class of diseases which not only are the cause of extreme suffering, but also, where unchecked, produce much helplessness and poverty, arising from deafness and blindness, thus entailing a heavy burden on the community. It places within the reach of all persons, without distinction of creed or country, every attainable means for the relief or cure of diseases of the eye and ear. It received 559 in-patients during the year ended 30th June, 1898, making, with 52 in the institution at the commencement of that year, a total of 611 treated. The patients discharged numbered 549, of whom 500 were stated to be cured or relieved, and 44 to be incurable. The number of out-patients during the year was 6,745.

Eye and Ear  
Hospital.

1931. The Melbourne Free Hospital for Sick Children had 84 in-door patients at the beginning of the financial year. During the year ended 30th June, 1898, 766 patients were admitted; and 699 were discharged, 81 died, and 70 remained at its close.

Children's  
Hospital.

1932. The objects of the Victorian Infant Asylum are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and must undertake to contribute something towards its support. During the year ended 30th June, 1898, the number of infants admitted was 38, besides which 54 were under the care of the institution at the commencement of the year. The number who died during the year was 11, and 27 were discharged or adopted; thus the number remaining under the control of the institution at the end of the year was 54, of whom 16 were boarded out. Besides the infants, there were 50 mothers under the care of the institution during the year, of whom 32 were discharged, and 18 remained at the close of the year. The receipts during the year amounted to £1,118, of which £172 was from Government, and £946 from private sources; and the expenditure was £1,015.

Victorian  
Infant  
Asylum.

1933. The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of "The Victorian Humane Society." Its objects are as follow:—(1) To bestow rewards on all who promptly risk their own 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 dead, and to distinguish by rewards all who, through skill and perseverance, are, under Providence, successful. (4) To collect information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes. The following

Humane  
Society.

information respecting the operations of this society has been supplied by its secretary, Mr. William Hamilton :—

Since its establishment, the society has dealt with 1,759 cases, and made 1,274 awards. During the year ended 30th June, 1898, 105 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 21 certificates, 14 bronze medals, 14 silver medals, and 1 gold medal were granted. The receipts during the year amounted to £812, and the expenditure to £504. The institution has placed and maintains 390 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs throughout all the Australasian Colonies and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1898, 26 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 7 for similar acts in New South Wales, 3 in Queensland, 11 in New Zealand, 1 in South Australia, and 2 in Western Australia. The society has 193 honorary correspondents, residing as follow, viz.:—49 in Victoria, 32 in New South Wales, 32 in New Zealand, 25 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 6 in Western Australia. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and to the awards made by the society appearing to give complete satisfaction throughout the colonies, there is no urgency for forming local branches of the society in the other colonies.

1934. An Australian Health Society was established in Melbourne in 1875. It consists of about 300 members, and is managed by a president, two vice-presidents, a treasurer, two secretaries (one being a lady), and fifteen members of council. Its objects are—(1) To create and educate public opinion with regard to sanitary matters in general, by the aid of the platform, the press, and other suitable means ; (2) to induce and assist people, by personal influence, example, and encouragement, to live in accordance with the recognised laws whereby health is maintained and disease is prevented ; (3) to seek removal of all noxious influences deleterious to public health, and to influence and facilitate legislation in that direction. To effect these objects, the society issues (*gratis*) pamphlets, tracts, and wall sheets, bearing upon the preservation of health ; maintains a lending library of specially selected works for the use of members ; and arranges for the delivery of public lectures annually. During the year 1897-8, courses of health lectures were given in Melbourne, Prahran, and Hawthorn. In pursuance of the plan of testing the work done in the inculcation of health and temperance lessons in the State Schools, an examination was arranged to be held, with the concurrence of the Minister of Public Instruction, in the Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, and Geelong schools. Two hundred and eighty pupils presented themselves for examination, and of this number 105, or nearly 38 per cent. passed, and received the Health Society's certificate. No pecuniary aid is received from the Government, the work of the society being carried on by subscriptions ranging from 5s. per annum upwards.

1935. A Charity Organization Society has been established in Melbourne, its objects being—(1) Promotion of co-operation in charitable work ; (2) adequate inquiry into all applications for assistance, so that the stream of charity may be directed to the deserving ; (3) distribution of immediate relief *in kind* pending arrangements with existing charities ; (4) compilation of records of all cases for facility of reference ; (5) administration of a loan fund ; (6) maintenance of a wood-yard or other labour test, so that the means of earning food and shelter shall be opened to all applicants able to work ; (8) discouragement of indiscriminate alms-giving, imposture and professional mendicity ; (9) encouragement of charitable work in localities where

no suitable societies are in existence. The society is managed by an executive committee elected by a council empowered to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. This council consists of a representative of each of the charities, and of twenty members elected at an annual meeting of subscribers of the society. The income of the year ended 30th June, 1898, including balance from last year, was £1,826, the expenditure £1,629, and the balance carried forward was £164. The new cases investigated by the society during the year numbered 626, the result of the inquiry being that 363 were set down as satisfactory, 231 as unsatisfactory, and 32 as doubtful. The society claims to have prevented a large amount of imposture, to have relieved subscribers of the annoying feeling that their benevolence was being wasted on unworthy objects, and to have stimulated and directed the flow of charity. Especially good work has been done in cases where employment has been found for those who, without the society's aid, might have degenerated into permanent burdens on public or private charity, and in the large number of cases in which relatives of indigent persons have been induced to recognise natural claims in a community where no legal obligation is entailed by relationship other than that of husband to wife and of parent to infant. The wood-yard is a very practical part of the society's work, It affords a test of the sincerity of men who ask help on the ground that they cannot get work ; and it gives temporary work to those who really need it.

1936. Since 1872 a society has been in existence in Melbourne for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessities, and those who desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior, or to leave the colony. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The number of individuals relieved in 1897-8 was 719. The receipts in the same year amounted to £1,252, including grant from Government, the Penal Department, and private sources ; and the expenditure to £1,272.

Victorian  
Discharged  
Prisoners'  
Aid  
Society.

1937. There were in 1898 four Industrial and 10 Reformatory Schools in the colony, three of the former wholly, and the others partly, maintained by the State ; whilst one of the former is a Servants' Training School. The Government Industrial Schools are merely Receiving Depôts, it being the long-established policy of the Department to send the children, as soon as possible after they are committed, to foster homes or to private farm reformatories partly supported by the State ; and as many of the inmates of reformatories as possible are placed with friends or licensed out. The wards of the Department at the end of 1898 numbered 4,588.\* Of these 392 only are reformatory children, 204 of whom were in reformatory schools, 128 were maintaining themselves at service, and 60 were placed with

Industrial  
and Re-  
formatory  
Schools.

\* In addition to these, 22 who are free from legal control are still being maintained by the State, as they are incapacitated.

relatives, &c., without cost. Of the 4,196 neglected children 2791 were boarded out at foster-homes, 611 of whom were boarded out to their own mothers; 671 were at service maintaining themselves; 613 were with relations, &c., without cost; whilst 121 were in hospitals and other public institutions. As to the circumstances leading up to committal of such a large number of children to the Department in 1898 an examination of the parentage from particulars supplied with the order of committal will be of some value. Of 1,081 children sent to the care of the department in 1898, it appears that only in 413 cases, or 38 per cent. of the cases, was the fault attributable to the parents, the father being in fault in 246 cases, the mother in 84 cases, and both parents in 83 cases. Of the 668 cases in which the parents were not at fault, in 401 the father was dead, and the mother poor but of good character, and in 67 both parents were alive, but poor and of good character.

1938. Children, however young, are boarded out from the Receiving Depôts after a detention of only a few days, the welfare of the boarded-out children being cared for by honorary committees, who send in reports to the Department. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of the boarded-out children is five shillings per week for each child; besides, children from either Industrial or Reformatory Schools may be placed with friends on probation without wages, or at service. The number of children boarded out at the end of 1898 was 2,791, as against 2,379 in 1897, 2,089 in 1896, 1,997 in 1895, and 1,905 in 1894; the number placed with friends on probation was 673 in 1898, as against 658 in 1897, 654 in 1896, 551 in 1895, and 603 in 1894; and the number at service or apprenticed, 1,311 children at the end of 1898, as against 1,416 in 1897, 1,517 in 1896, 1,591 in 1895, and 1,577 in 1894.

1939. The Government expenditure for the maintenance of neglected and offending children amounted in 1898 to £54,136, as against which £1,063 was received for maintenance from parents, and £23\* was derived from the sale of farm produce, &c., or £1,086 in all, which leaves £53,050 as the net amount expended by Government. The average number of children under supervision during the year was 4,380, who were being maintained, either in the Government or assisted schools or at foster homes, at an average annual net cost per head to the State of £12 2s. 3d. Of the total number referred to, 81 were being maintained in Government schools, at a net annual cost to the State of £29 5s. 4d.† per head, and 279 in private schools at £22 12s. 8d. per head; whilst 2,591 were boarded out at an average cost of £14 19s. per head, and 1,357 were at service, licensed out at a cost of £2 0s. 6d. per head.

1940. Of the 807 females who were inmates of Refuges during the year ended 30th June, 1898, 145 were at the Temporary Home at Collingwood; 399 were at the Magdalen Asylum, Abbotsford; 72 at the Carlton Refuge; 19 at the Ballarat Home; 17 at the Bendigo Rescue Home; 17 at the Geelong Refuge; 73 at the South Yarra Home; and 65 at the Elizabeth Fry Retreat. Moreover, 61 children were allowed to accompany their mothers to the Carlton Refuge, 39

\* No allowance is made for the value of labour performed by inmates, viz., £195.

† In Government schools, the gross average cost per head was £29 16s. 4d.

Children  
boarded  
out, &c.

Cost of  
mainten-  
ance of  
industrial  
and re-  
formatory  
children.

Refuges for  
fallen  
women.

to the Temporary Home for Friendless and Fallen Women, Collingwood, 12 to the Ballarat Home, and 9 to the Geelong Refuge; but of the total number 9 died during the year. Eight women from the Magdalen Asylum, 10 from the South Yarra Home, and 2 from the Elizabeth Fry Retreat were discharged for misconduct; and 6 in the Magdalen Asylum, and one in the Elizabeth Fry Retreat, died. Besides these numbers, 156 from all the institutions were placed in service or restored to friends; 49 left voluntarily; 91 were sent to other institutions; 2 from the Carlton Refuge, 1 from the Temporary Home, and 1 from the Bendigo Home, were married; and 32 were otherwise discharged. At the end of the year the number remaining in the institutions was 448, of whom 327 were in the Magdalen Asylum. The objects of these institutions are—(1) To provide a refuge for women who have fallen into vice, and who are desirous to return to the paths of virtue; (2) To reclaim such women from evil courses, and fit them to become useful members of society; (3) To assist in procuring situations for such women, or in otherwise providing for them on leaving the institution. The late Commission on Charities, in their final report, presented in December, 1891, drew attention to the waste of energy and funds, by the existence of sister institutions of this class, as various refuges might readily be worked together with economy and efficiency. The Commission also considered that the site of the Carlton Refuge, valued at £10,400, was too prominent and valuable for such a purpose, and that the inmates ought to be removed to the country, where there would be no necessity to place them within prison-like walls, and where an institution might be conducted on home principles, which would tend more to the reformation of the inmates than the present system.

1941. In addition to the hospitals referred to in previous paragraphs, there were two Convalescent Homes, with accommodation for 64 inmates. The number of inmates at the beginning of the year 1898 was 34; 1,038 were admitted, and 1,033 were discharged, during the year; and 39 remained at its close. The receipts in 1897–8 amounted to £1,028, of which £300 was from Government; and the expenditure to £1,180, of which £1,105 was for maintenance, and £24 for buildings and repairs.

1942. Three free dispensaries furnished returns for 1898. One of these was a homœopathic institution. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1898, numbered 3,906. The visits to or by these persons numbered 15,245. The total receipts amounted to £714, of which £255 was from Government and £459 from private sources. The total expenditure was £765.

1943. Sixty-nine benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1898. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of two of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of any of the others, with the exception of the Central Methodist Mission. The persons relieved during the year numbered about 24,603; the receipts amounted to £19,244, of which £7,145 was from Government and £12,099 from private sources; and the expenditure to £17,838.

Night  
Shelters.

1944. At Dr. Singleton's Night Shelters, Collingwood, 16,994 cases were accommodated during the year 1897-8, viz., 8,260 of men, and 8,517 of women. The expenses were £66, which were defrayed out of the "General Charity Fund," but there were also numerous contributions in the shape of food.

Society for  
the Protec-  
tion of  
Animals.

1945. The Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals has been established for about 26 years, its object being to prevent cruelty to animals by enforcing the existing laws, by procuring such further legislation as may be found expedient, and by exciting and sustaining an intelligent public opinion regarding man's duty to the lower animals. In the year ended 30th June, 1898, the cases dealt with by the society numbered 694, of which 483 were for cruelty to horses. There were 157 prosecutions, which resulted in 142 persons being fined, and 14 dismissals. The receipts during the year amounted to £629, and the expenditure to £436.

Pauperism  
in England  
and Wales.

1946. There is no poor law in Victoria, as pauperism has not existed here in the same sense as in the countries of the old world. The official returns of paupers in England and Wales are stated to be those showing the number of persons (exclusive of vagrants) in receipt of relief in unions and parishes under Boards of Guardians. The total amount of poor rates, together with receipts in aid, in 1897-8 was £24,560,696; and the amount expended was £24,396,416, of which £10,828,276 was in "relief of the poor," and the balance for "other purposes." The total expenditure is equivalent to 15s. 4d. per head of population, or of £30 4s. to each pauper in receipt of relief. Of the total number of paupers at end of 1898, a little over a fourth were in-door, and the remainder out-door paupers; whilst one-eighth of the whole were able-bodied adults. By the following figures it would appear that, although the proportion of paupers to the population is still large in England and Wales, it has materially diminished of late years:—

PAUPERISM IN ENGLAND AND WALES, 1857 TO 1898.

Year.	Estimated Population.	Paupers in Receipt of Relief at end of each Year.	
		Total Number.	Number per 1,000 of the Population.
1857	19,256,516	936,815	48·6
1862	20,371,013	1,105,234	54·3
1867	21,677,525	980,421	45·2
1872	23,096,495	838,636	36·3
1877	24,699,539	742,703	30·0
1882	26,413,861	799,167	30·3
1887	28,247,151	825,509	29·2
1892	29,403,346	776,458	26·4
1897	31,397,078	823,350	26·2
1898	31,742,588	807,730	25·5

NOTE. - In January, 1899, the number of poor of all classes (including vagrants) in Scotland was 101,510, or 24 to every 1,000 of the population, as against 95,196 in January, 1893, or 23 per 1,000 of the population; and in Ireland (inclusive of inmates of blind and deaf and dumb asylums, and extern hospitals), 102,760, or nearly 24 to every 1,000 of the population, as against 104,031 in January, 1893, or 23 per 1,000 of the population.

1947. In May, 1899, a board was appointed to investigate and report as to the best means of affording immediate relief to unemployed persons, and further to inquire into and report upon the causes of and remedies for want of employment. The board held 56 meetings, and a progress report was issued on 14th June, 1899, recommending, with a view of providing immediate relief, the hastening on of authorized public works, the starting of other public works of minor importance, and urging that appeals be made to public boards, municipalities, and private citizens, to increase the employment of labour wherever feasible, which appeals, it appears from the board's final report, were duly made and liberally responded to, and a fund of £416 was raised for the purpose of relieving distress in various ways. The remedial measures recommended by the board are—(1) Increasing the efficiency of the existing demand for labour, for which object the board proposes the establishment of a labour bureau consisting of a central office, with agencies throughout the country, and of a Public Department of Labour, controlled by a Minister of Labour, to administer the Factory and cognate Acts, as well as the proposed bureau. (2) The regulation of labour by the establishment of Boards of Conciliation and Industrial Courts of Appeal, as in New Zealand. (3) Increasing the demand for labour by (a) agricultural organization and education, in connexion with which the following recommendations are made, viz. :—Extension of agricultural societies, and more direct co-operation with the Department of Agriculture; the extension of the system of experimental plots under the instruction of travelling experts; the establishment of co-operative societies and village banks; agricultural education to be given in all primary schools in agricultural districts, and the establishment of school gardens, and awarding prizes for such purpose; the further development in co-operation with agricultural societies of special schools and colleges for the teaching of agriculture, especially dairying; and the further development of the chemical laboratory for the analysis of soils and manures, and discovery of remedies for diseases of plants and animals, &c. (b) Settlement of unemployed persons on the land; in which connexion it is recommended that not less than 100,000 acres of fertile and heavily timbered land, which already is, or can cheaply be, provided with railway communication, be set apart for village settlements; that an experienced manager be appointed over each settlement, under whose superintendence the settlers would be employed in the erection of temporary abodes, in clearing, fencing, &c., for which they should receive wages; and that on the land being fully prepared, it be divided into suitable areas, and each settler receive, as a loan, stock, implements, &c., not exceeding £100 in value, and be allotted an area on perpetual lease at a rental equal to interest at the market rate upon the capital unimproved value; such rental being subject to a revision at the end of twenty years, and thereafter at the end of every five years, based on the re-valuation of the land. The settler shall repay in addition the cost of preparing the land together with the cost of stock, &c., advanced, with interest, by instalments on the "crédit foncier" plan. In regard to persons who are discharged from the settlements on account of inadaptability, or are recognised as unfit for the hard work involved, the establishment of

irrigation settlements is proposed, the principles being the same in most respects as above set out; and for those unable to succeed as independent settlers, the establishment is proposed of a voluntary labour colony for married people, and one for single men, gradually developing into State farms; and of a compulsory labour colony for persons physically capable of some work, whom it has been the practice to send to gaol for vagrancy, and for persons dismissed from the voluntary labour colonies. It is further recommended that the entire system of land settlements and labour colonies be placed under the superintendence of a board to be presided over by the Minister of Lands.

Treatment of  
Habitual  
Drunkards  
Board of  
Inquiry.

1948. In October, 1898, a Board was appointed to inquire into and report respecting the question of the treatment of habitual drunkards. Evidence was given and suggestions offered by 25 witnesses, and the Report was submitted in August, 1899; in which the following recommendations are made:—That an Inebriates Retreat be established on French Island; that the *Inebriates Act* 1890 be brought into operation with amendments providing that licences be granted to persons desirous of undertaking the treatment of habitual drunkards; that inebriates may be committed to a retreat or licensed institution for twelve months or longer if necessary; that inebriates be placed under interdict, as in Nova Scotia (*i.e.*, on petition by a relative, friend, or creditor of an habitual drunkard to a judge setting forth that by reason of such drunkenness such person squanders or mismanages his property, or places his family in trouble, or transacts his business prejudicially to the interests of his family, friends, or creditors, or that he runs danger of ruining his health or shortening his life by the use of intoxicating liquors, whereupon the judge may pronounce the interdiction of such person and appoint a guardian to manage his affairs and control his person (as in the case of a guardian for an insane person or lunatic); that persons who habitually use drugs to excess may be dealt with as inebriates; and that patients be allowed out on probation, and on their release be allowed a monetary allowance in proportion to the value of their labour; that criminal habitual drunkards be sent to a country prison and be kept distinct from other persons; that section 40 of the *Police Offences Act* 1890 be amended, so that any habitual drunkard thrice convicted of drunkenness within the preceding twelve months may be liable to imprisonment, and that the term of imprisonment be not limited to twelve months; that the *Licensing Act* 1890 be amended so as to make the law more stringent as to supplying drunken persons or children with liquor, and to enable the police to enter hotels at any time without an order; that wine shops be placed on the same footing as hotels and be subject to the same supervision; that the number of hotels and wine shops be reduced; that the number of officers engaged in the inspection of liquor, and in the supervision of hotels, be increased, in order to protect the interests of the public and to enforce the law; that the Licensing Court be given more discretionary power in the matter of refusing licences to clubs; that a hospital ward be set apart for inebriates and other persons found insensible in a public place; and that perfect isolation, steady work, and strict Government supervision be the conditions of all national institutions for the cure of habitual drunkenness.

1949. The *Factories and Shops Act* 1896 (No. 1445) is an important piece of social legislation, and is to be read in conjunction with the *Factories and Shops Act* 1890. A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread is made or baked for sale. The expression handicraft includes any work done in a laundry or dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories; and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to see that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. A record is to be kept in every factory of the names, work, and wages of all employés, and the ages of those under 16. The employment of very young people is debarred, and a strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment for other young persons; and there are special provisions to guard against accidents, for the inspection of boilers, and against the employment of uncertificated persons to control them. All shops, except chemists, news agents, eating houses, &c., must close at seven p.m. on week days and at ten p.m. on Saturdays; but municipal councils are empowered to make by-laws permitting all shops of a particular class to remain open later, or providing that such shops be closed for one afternoon in each week, on petition by a majority of the shopkeepers of the same class; but the Act provides that all shop assistants shall have a half-holiday in each week. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, in order to try to prevent or lessen unfair competition. The most important innovation, however, which is provided in the Act of 1896, is in regard to the formation of Boards to fix the rates of wages and piecework in various trades, for which purpose it is provided that, to determine the lowest prices or rates to be paid in the clothing, furniture, or breadmaking trades, the Governor in Council may appoint special Boards consisting of from four to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employés), who are to nominate some outside person as chairman; or if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor in Council shall appoint the chairman. The Board so appointed shall agree upon the rates or prices to be charged, and shall also determine the number of apprentices or improvers under 18 years of age who may be employed, and the lowest price or rate of pay; but no one shall receive less than 2s. 6d. per week in any case. The Act continues in force until 1st January, 1900, and thence until the end of the next ensuing session of Parliament.\* The Chief Inspector of Factories reports† that determinations, made by five Boards elected under the Act, were in full operation during 1898, and furnishes figures showing the increase in average earnings consequent thereon. For instance, the average weekly wage for all employés (including boys) in the breadmaking trade was £1 12s. 5d. in 1896, £1 17s. 3d. in 1897, during part of which year the determination

Factory  
legislation.Wages  
Boards.Effect—  
Rise in  
earnings.

\* By Act 1654 passed in February, 1900, the Act was extended, with some amendments, until February, 1902, and until the end of the next ensuing session of Parliament.

† Parliamentary paper No. 27. Session 1899.

was in force, and £2 0s. 6d. in 1898 when the determination was in full force. Likewise the average wage of males employed on men's and boys' clothing increased from £1 15s. 3d. in 1896 to £1 19s. 6d. in 1898, and that of females from 15s. 5d. to 18s. 3d.; the average wage in the boot-trade from £1 3s. 3d. to £1 7s. 7d.; the average for shirts, collars, and cuffs from 14s. 5d. to 15s. 3d.; and in the furniture trade from £1 9s. 7d. to £1 16s.

Old-age  
pensions.

1950. In March, 1897, a Royal Commission was appointed to make inquiry and report as to the desirability of provision being made by or under the control of the State for the maintenance of the aged poor, and as to the best method of securing such a desirable object. Mr. J. W. Kirton, M.L.A., was appointed Chairman of the Commission, which concluded its labours and presented its report in May, 1898. The chief causes of the distress proposed to be remedied were held to be (1) Industrial conditions, such as intermittent employment, insufficient remuneration, sweating, &c. (2) Moral infirmity, such as intemperance and improvidence. (3) Physical infirmity, such as sickness, and premature and senile decay. The first was deemed to be the most prolific cause. From estimates furnished by the Government Statist, the number of persons in the colony over the age of 60 years was 83,424, and the number over 65 was 49,912; and of the former it was estimated that about 10,000 were in poor circumstances. A universal pension of 10s. per week to all persons over 60 years of age would thus absorb £2,169,024, and to persons over 65 years, £1,297,712 annually. The Commission would divide the poor into two classes, viz.: the deserving and the less-deserving. The former comprises those who have exercised care and prudence in their affairs, and whose conduct has been good; those who have shown a spirit of self-help by becoming members of friendly societies, or who have attempted to provide an annuity for themselves, or who have been depositors in a savings or other bank for a number of years; and those who have reared families in a respectable manner. The latter comprises those who have been intemperate, extravagant, indolent, improvident, lawless; and generally those who have made no reasonable effort to provide for the future. The Commission recommended that assistance should be limited to persons who have reached the age of 60 years, except in the case of those whose occupations are conducive to premature decay, who should receive special consideration; that a responsible body should be created to investigate all applications for relief; that there be two classes, viz.: the deserving class A, and the less-deserving class B, the former to receive a pension, and the latter to be cared for in an institution under State supervision. It was proposed that those in class A should receive a pension of 10s. per week, or 15s. per week for married couples living together, if altogether without incomes; but if they possessed incomes of less than the amounts named, then a sum sufficient to bring their incomes up to the amount fixed, it being provided that the recipient should have resided in the colony at least ten years immediately preceding application. It was suggested that Class B should comprise persons who have not been resident ten years, as well as those who are either mentally or physically unfitted to take care of themselves, and those who have made no effort to provide for themselves, or are unfit to be trusted with the

expenditure of money. The Commission estimated the number of recipients and the cost to be as follows:—

	Estimated number of Recipients.		Probable Annual Cost.	
Class A	...	2,800	...	£54,600*
„ B	...	2,700	...	35,100†
Total	...	5,500	...	£89,700

1951. The Commission recommended that the revenue might be obtained from one or more of the following sources:—(1) State monopoly in the manufacture of tobacco. (2) A tax on earnings. (3) A tax on the unimproved value of land. (4) A tax on house rents. It was further suggested that the *Friendly Societies Act* 1890 should be amended to provide for the abolition of sick pay after the age of 60 years; that every member joining should assure for a superannuation allowance or pension of at least 5s. per week, to commence after the age of 60; and that all moneys paid into any society for such pension benefits should be kept separate from other moneys and invested only in Government securities. Legislation somewhat on the lines recommended by the Commission has since been passed, and is to come into force from the 1st January, 1901; and £75,000 has been voted for the first six months of that year for this purpose.

Suggested taxation for old-age pensions.

1952. Friendly Societies are associations chiefly of working men, whose object is to provide, by means of small periodical payments, for medical and monetary relief during sickness, and for defraying the funeral expenses of themselves or their wives. The following is an abstract of the particulars furnished respecting the Victorian societies for 1878, 1888, and the last five years:—

Friendly Societies.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1878 TO 1898.

	1878.	1888.	1894.	1895.
Number of Societies	34	33	33	31
„ Branches	756	930	1,075	1,069
Average number of members	45,552	75,586	80,604	79,258
Number of members sick	8,207	11,227	15,284	16,808
Weeks for which aliment was allowed	55,289	89,602	143,285	149,800
Deaths of members	467	790	817	920
„ of registered wives	291	383	348	381
Income of sick and funeral fund	£78,863	£149,838	£160,434	£169,331
„ incidental fund†	£83,016	£132,090	£136,705	£135,444
Total income	£161,879	£281,928	£297,139	£304,775
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund	£59,325	£96,027	£134,847	£136,699
„ incidental fund†	£80,725	£131,715	£136,888	£135,714
Total expenditure	£140,050	£227,742	£271,735	£272,410
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund	£372,598	£727,918	£1,007,978	£1,040,610
„ „ incidental fund†	£16,310	£40,329	£31,776	£31,509
Amount invested—Sick and funeral fund	...	£675,220	£949,144	£977,749
„ „ incidental fund†	...	£29,662	£29,744	£27,914
Total invested	£348,703	£704,882	£978,888	£1,005,663

\* Average of 7s. 6d. per week per head. —† Average of 5s. per week per head. —‡ This fund is applied to the payment of medical attendance and medicine, and expenses of general management.

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1878 TO 1898—*continued.*

	1896.	1897.	1898.
Number of Societies ... ..	32	31	31
„ Branches ... ..	1,074	1,081	1,088
Average number of members ... ..	80,001	82,352	86,369
Number of members sick ... ..	15,038	15,773	18,693
Weeks for which aliment was allowed ... ..	148,515	149,438	160,611
Deaths of members ... ..	891	867	931
„ of registered wives ... ..	388	396	481
Income of sick and funeral fund ... ..	£164,366	£165,240	£173,443
„ incidental fund* ... ..	£142,258	£144,310	£150,111
Total income ... ..	£306,624	£309,550	£323,554
Expenditure of sick and funeral fund ... ..	£129,695	£134,303	£146,505
„ incidental fund* ... ..	£138,014	£142,648	£146,722
Total expenditure ... ..	£267,709	£276,951	£293,227
Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund ... ..	£1,075,281	£1,106,218	£1,133,156
„ „ incidental fund* ... ..	£35,753	£37,415	£40,804
Amount invested—Sick and funeral fund ... ..	£1,002,700	£1,037,717	£1,059,374
„ „ incidental fund* ... ..	£28,788	£30,115	£31,459
Total invested ... ..	£1,031,483	£1,067,832	£1,090,833

Growth of  
Friendly  
Societies.

1953. From the figures in this table it may be ascertained that, whilst during the 20 years ended with 1898 the number of members increased by nearly 90 per cent., and the total annual expenditure by 109 per cent., the total annual income of the sick and funeral fund increased by as much as 120 per cent.; also that no less a sum than £760,558 was added to the sick and funeral fund in the same period, or an increase of 204 per cent. on the amount (£372,598) standing to its credit at the end of 1878.

Sickness and  
death rates.

1954. In proportion to the number of effective members of Friendly Societies, the amount of sickness experienced in 1898 was somewhat below the average. The days per effective member for which aliment was allowed numbered 12·2 in that year, as compared with 12·8 in 1897, 13·1 in 1896, 13·4 in 1895, and 12·7 in 1894, but the average was only 9·5 during the eleven years ended with 1893. The death rate in 1898 was fairly up to the average, the deaths per 1,000 members having numbered 10·82 in 1898, as compared with 10·57 in 1897, 11·14 in 1896, 11·61 in 1895, 10·13 in 1894, and 10·69 on an average during the 21 years ended with 1898.

Valuations  
of Friendly  
Societies.

1955. Friendly Societies are regulated under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1890 (54 Vict. No. 1094), as amended by the Act of 1891 (55 Vict. No. 1232), and by Act of 1895 (59 Vict. No. 1418), which, amongst other provisions, prescribes that each society shall furnish returns annually to the Government Actuary for Friendly Societies, and once in every five years shall cause its assets and liabilities to be valued to the satisfaction of that officer. The fees for valuation have purposely

\* This fund is applied to the payment of medical attendance and medicine, and expenses of general management.

been fixed low, and average no more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers if they desire it, as a matter of fact they very rarely do so, and all the valuations are now made by the departmental actuary.\*

1956. The returns of the Census of 1891, the census day being accepted as a normal one in point of the illness prevailing, show that in this colony men between 20 and 30 years are liable to be laid up by reason of sickness or accident for something less than 3, and men between 30 and 40 for about  $3\frac{3}{4}$  working days in the year; whereas men between 40 and 50 would probably be laid up for  $5\frac{1}{4}$  working days in the year, men between 50 and 60 for  $9\frac{1}{4}$  such days, men between 60 and 70 for  $17\frac{1}{4}$  such days, and men of 70 and upwards for  $42\frac{3}{4}$  such days.

Liability to  
disablement  
annually.

1957. The average number of working days for which members of Friendly Societies received sick pay in 1891 was 10.45. Assuming the census day to have been a normal one in point of the prevalence of illness, the average number of such days during which men of 20 years and upwards might expect to be laid up in twelve months would be 7.05. The period of sickness for which payment was claimed by members of Friendly Societies was thus considerably higher than that experienced by the male portion of the general population living at the period of life named, although the average age of members of Friendly Societies was almost identical with that of the men living at that period; whence it follows that members of Friendly Societies were disabled for a longer time than might have been expected from the results of the census. The result, however, is the reverse of that experienced in 1881, when the census gave 9.3 working days as the period of disablement which might be expected during the year for men of 20 and upwards, or a day and a half more than the time for which sick pay was claimed by members of Friendly Societies in that year.

Sickness  
higher in  
Friendly  
Societies  
than  
outside.

1958. It is probable that sick pay is in many cases allowed by Friendly Societies to paralyzed persons, as well as to those suffering from ordinary illness, but even if such persons (returned separately at the census) be added to the sick and injured, the number of working days' disablement experienced according to the census by men aged 20 and upwards (7.58) would be found to be much less than the average number of days' sick pay disbursed by Friendly Societies in 1891.

Paralysis  
included  
with  
sickness.

1959. In all the Australasian Colonies the number of members of Friendly Societies is about 280,000, and they possess funds to the value of nearly  $3\frac{1}{2}$  millions sterling, or nearly £12 per head. The following is a statement of the number of societies, branches, and members, also the total amount of funds to the credit of such societies,

Friendly  
Societies in  
Australasia

\* For full particulars relating to the valuation and operation of Friendly Societies in Victoria, see Annual Reports of the Actuary for Friendly Societies, published by the Government Printer, Melbourne.

in the several colonies, at the latest date for which particulars have been supplied:—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES IN THE AUSTRALASIAN COLONIES.

Colony.	Year.	Number of separate Societies.	Number of Branches.	Number of Members.	Amount of Funds.	Capital per Member.
					£	£ s. d.
Victoria ...	1898	31	1,088	88,726	1,220,276	13 15 1
New South Wales ...	1897	44	817	69,124	596,463	8 12 7
Queensland ...	1898	19	328	27,135	201,830	7 8 10
South Australia ...	1895	15	487	42,703	475,654	11 2 9
Western Australia ...	1898	15	68	4,543	35,409	7 15 11
Tasmania ...	1898	18	130	11,871	95,202	8 0 5
New Zealand ...	1898	35*	410	35,501	678,746	19 2 5
Total ...	...	177	3,328	279,603	3,303,580	11 16 4

\* Not including lodges separately registered.