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OFFICIAL

YEAR BOOK

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

No. 39.—1953.

Prepared under Instructions from
The Right Honorable the Treasurer,

BY

S. R. CARVER,
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN.



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PREFACE.

By the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Australia, the Parliament of the Commonwealth is empowered "to make laws for the peace, order, and good government of the Commonwealth, with respect to Census and Statistics." In the exercise of the power so conferred, a "Census and Statistics Act" was passed in 1905, and in the year following the "Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics" was created. The first Official Year Book was published early in 1908. The publication here presented is the thirty-ninth Official Year Book issued under the authority of the Commonwealth Government.

The synopsis on pp. viii to xxvii immediately following shows the general arrangement of the work. The special index (following the general index) provided at the end of the volume, together with certain references given in the various Chapters, will assist in tracing in previous issues special articles and other more or less important miscellaneous matter which, owing to limitations of space, have been omitted or are not printed fully in the present volume. Where, in the general index, more than one reference to a subject is given, the chief reference (or references) has been specially indicated wherever possible.

Every endeavour has been made to meet the demand occasioned by the current economic and financial conditions for new information, or information expressed in new terms, concerning many branches of statistics, while a diary of the principal financial and economic events of the years 1948 to 1951 is inserted after the last chapter.

It is not proposed to refer here to the whole of the new matter or to the new treatment of existing matter incorporated in the present volume, but attention may be drawn to the following :—

- Chapter III. General Government.—Qualifications for franchise for, and membership of, State Parliaments (pp. 73-6); Parliamentary Superannuation Funds' Finances (p. 77) (*See also* Chapter XVI.—Private Finance); Successive Holders of Portfolio in Commonwealth Ministries, 9th February, 1923 to 31st July, 1951 (pp. 79-88)—continuing a series last appearing in issue No. 21.
- Chapter V. Transport and Communication.—Traffic Accidents—additional information about Persons Killed and Injured and the type of Vehicle, Road User, etc. involved (pp. 181-2).
- Chapter VI. Education.—Universities—New Students Enrolled (p. 221); Degrees Conferred and Diplomas and Certificates Granted (p. 225); New South Wales University of Technology (pp. 228-30); Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme (p. 235); Libraries—extensive revision (pp. 241-51).
- Chapter VIII. Public Health and Related Institutions.—Animal and Plant Quarantine (pp. 287-8); Cremations (p. 300).
- Chapter IX. Welfare Services.—Commonwealth Expenditure on Social and Health Services in each State (p. 307.)
- Chapter X. The Territories of Australia.—Extensive revision, particularly to Papua and New Guinea sections.
- Chapter XI. Labour, Wages and Prices.—Wholesale Price Indexes compiled by Bureau (pp. 394-5 and 397); Basic Wage Inquiry, 1949-50—Court judgments and declarations (p. 415).
- Chapter XII. Trade.—Australian Index of Export Prices—description revised (pp. 500-4); The Australian Balance of Payments—Statistics for years 1948-49 to 1950-51 (pp. 508-13).
- Chapter XIII. Population.—"Assisted" and "Unassisted" Migration—new table showing arrivals and departures 1901-1950 (p. 559); Age Distribution, Conjugal Condition and Occupations of Permanent Arrivals and Departures (p. 564).
- Chapter XIV. Vital Statistics.—Deaths—1950 particulars according to Classification approved by International Conference for the Sixth Revision of the International List of Diseases and Causes of Death, 1948 (pp. 617, etc.).
- Chapter XVI. Private Finance.—State Lotteries and Betting (pp. 753-5); Government, Semi-Governmental and Parliamentary Pension and Superannuation Schemes (pp. 755-7).
- Chapter XVII. Public Finance.—Commonwealth Expenditure on Subsidies and Bounties (pp. 786-7).

- Chapter XVIII. Mineral Industry.—Sections dealing with Silver, Lead and Zinc redrafted. This Chapter in general had extensive revision.
- Chapter XX. Agricultural Production.—Bulk Handling of Wheat in Australia (pp. 954-8); Tractors on Rural Holdings (p. 1017).
- Chapter XXIV. Manufacturing Industry.—Growth of the Manufacturing Industry in Australia, etc., Definitions in Factory Statistics, Classification of Factories (pp. 1084-8); Principal Factory Products—quantities manufactured in Australia, 1947-48 to 1949-50 (pp. 1119-22).
- Chapter XXV. Electric Power Generation and Distribution.—Special article contributed by Division of Industrial Development, Commonwealth Ministry of National Development—dealing with origins, development, present situation and new projects of the various electrical systems throughout Australia.
- Chapter XXIX. Miscellaneous.—Australian Broadcasting Control Board (pp. 1283-4); Australian Road Safety Council (pp. 1287-8); Retail Trade—number of establishments and value of retail sales (pp. 1305-9).
- Chapter XXX. Statistical Organization and Sources of Information.—Statistical Organization in Australia (pp. 1315-7); The Third Conference of British Commonwealth Statisticians, Canberra, 1951 (p. 1320).
- Appendix.—Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Tribunal (pp. 1357-8).
Statistical Summary.—Taken back to 1861—ten-yearly series.

Throughout this issue graphical presentation has been improved by the addition of new graphs and the redrawing of the other graphs.

The material in the Year Book has been carefully checked throughout, but I shall be grateful to those who will be kind enough to point out defects or make suggestions.

Printing difficulties are still being experienced and have delayed the publication of this volume. In a publication of more than 1,400 pages, a considerable time must necessarily elapse between the handling, by both author and printer, of the earlier and later parts of the work; this is so in normal circumstances, and particularly so when, as at present, great demands are being made on the printing facilities available. The result, in a statistical publication, is an unevenness in the periods to which the statistics relate. To overcome this difficulty at least partially, much more use is now made of the Appendix to the Year Book. Wherever available, and as far as space permits, the latest particulars of many statistical series appearing in preceding Chapters are inserted in the Appendix. The insertions are restricted to figures mainly, as the inclusion of current textual matter is not generally practicable.

The Appendix to this issue contains information relating to the years 1950, 1950-51, 1951 or 1951-52, that is, one, and in some instances two, years in advance of that contained in the body of the book.

It is not inappropriate to mention here that for the most recent statistics the reader should refer to other publications issued by this Bureau, notably the *Monthly Review of Business Statistics* and the *Quarterly Summary of Australian Statistics*. There are also numerous mimeographed statements issued from time to time on a wide range of subjects. Particulars of these may be had on application. (See also pp. 1317-9 of this volume.)

Commencing with issue No. 38 a change in the title of the Year Book was made, the year now shown being the year of issue.

My thanks are tendered to the State Statisticians, who have collected and compiled the data on which a great part of the information given in the Official Year Book is based. Thanks are also tendered to the responsible officers of the various Commonwealth and State Departments, and to others who have kindly, and often at considerable trouble, supplied information.

An expression of keen appreciation is due in respect of the valuable work performed by Mr. S. H. Begley, Editor of Publications, Mr. J. M. Jones, B.A., and Mr. E. H. Harry, B.A., B.Com., Assistant Editors, and the other officers of the Publications Division, and of the services rendered by the officers in charge of the several branches of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics upon whom has devolved the duty of revising the Chapters relative to their respective branches.

S. R. CARVER,

Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

Item.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.	1941.	1950.	
Population and Vital—											
Population(a)	'000 Males	669	929	1,247	1,737	2,005	2,382	2,799	3,333	3,599	4,197
	'000 Females	499	772	1,060	1,504	1,820	2,192	2,712	3,220	3,545	4,119
	'000 Persons	1,168	1,701	2,307	3,241	3,825	4,574	5,511	6,553	7,144	8,316
Marriages	'000	10	12	17	24	28	39	47	39	75	76
	Rate	8.6	6.9	7.6	7.5	7.3	8.8	8.6	6.0	10.6	9.2
Births	'000	49	64	80	110	103	122	136	119	135	191
	Rate	42.3	38.0	35.3	34.5	27.2	27.2	25.0	18.2	18.9	23.3
Deaths	'000	20	22	33	47	46	48	54	57	71	78
	Rate	17.3	13.2	14.7	14.8	12.2	10.7	9.9	8.7	10.0	9.6
Agriculture—											
		(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Wheat	Area mill. acs.	0.7	1.3	3.0	3.3	5.1	7.4	9.7	14.7	12.0	11.7
	Yld. mill. bus.	10	12	21	26	39	72	129	191	167	184
	Av. Yld. bus.	14.3	9.3	7.2	7.7	7.5	9.6	13.3	12.9	13.9	15.8
	Area '000 acs.	130	225	195	246	461	617	733	1,085	1,460	1,757
Oats	Yld. mill. bus.	3.1	4.3	4.8	5.7	9.8	9.6	12.1	15.2	22.3	25.1
	Av. Yld. bus.	23.8	18.9	24.6	23.3	21.2	15.5	16.6	14.0	15.3	14.3
	Area '000 acs.	28	48	76	68	75	116	299	342	784	1,079
Barley	Yld. mill. bus.	0.5	0.7	1.4	1.2	1.5	2.1	6.1	6.3	18.0	22.9
	Av. Yld. bus.	18.1	15.1	17.8	17.3	20.4	17.7	20.4	18.4	23.0	21.2
	Area '000 acs.	62	142	166	284	295	340	305	269	301	169
Maize	Yld. mill. bus.	1.8	4.6	5.7	9.3	7.0	8.9	7.8	7.1	7.4	4.7
	Av. Yld. bus.	29.2	32.2	34.5	32.6	23.9	26.3	25.7	26.2	24.7	27.9
	Area '000 acs.	222	303	768	942	1,688	2,518	2,995	2,635	2,758	1,377
Hay	Yld. '000 tons	298	376	767	1,067	2,025	2,868	3,902	3,167	3,575	2,063
	Area '000 acs.	1.34	1.24	1.00	1.13	1.20	1.14	1.30	1.20	1.30	1.50
	Yld. '000 tons	(e) 47	(e) 68	(e) 76	113	110	130	149	145	99	127
Potatoes	Yld. '000 tons	(e) 148	(e) 213	(e) 243	380	323	301	388	397	333	412
	Area '000 acs.	23.12	23.13	23.19	3.37	2.94	2.31	2.60	2.74	3.35	3.24
	Av. Yld. tons	20	5	20	45	87	101	128	242	255	272
Sugar-cane	Yld. '000 tons	(e)	(e)	350	738	1,368	1,682	2,437	4,213	5,154	7,052
	Av. Yld. tons	(e)	(e)	17.7	16.2	15.7	16.7	19.0	17.4	20.3	25.9
	Area '000 acs.	7	16	15	49	64	61	92	113	130	137
Vineyards	Wine mill. gal.	0.4	2.0	1.4	3.4	5.3	5.0	8.5	14.2	16.0	27.2
Total net value of all Agricultural Production	£m.	(e)	(f) 9	(f) 16	(f) 17	(f) 24	(f) 39	(f) 82	50	63	196
Pastoral, Dairying, Etc.—											
Live-stock	Horses mill.	0.43	0.70	1.09	1.59	1.62	2.28	2.44	1.78	1.61	1.00
	Cattle	3.8	4.3	8.0	11.1	8.5	11.8	14.4	12.3	13.6	15.2
	Sheep	21	40	65	106	72	97	86	111	125	116
	Pigs	0.32	0.59	0.70	0.85	0.93	1.11	0.96	1.17	1.48	1.13
Wool production(g)	mill. lb.	(h) 67	h 208	h 320	h 634	h 539	h 798	723	1,007	1,167	1,093
Butter	'000 tons	(e)	(e)	(e)	(h) 19	(h) 46	(h) 95	(h) 119	175	168	164
Cheese	'000 tons	(e)	(e)	(e)	h 4.5	h 5.3	h 7.1	h 14.6	14.0	30.1	44.3
Meat Production(i)—											
Beef and Veal		(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	{ 339	350	534	652
Mutton and Lamb		(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	{ 213	307	372	274
Pork		(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	{ 11.1	22.7	58.1	35.3
Bacon and Ham		(e)	(e)	(e)	h 7.5	h 15.2	h 23.8	26.2	31.8	42.5	36.8
Total Meat		(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	608	727	1,027	1,011
Total net value of—											
Pastoral production	£m.	(e)	(f) 21	(f) 30	(f) 39	(f) 37	(f) 73	(f) 119	{ 43	85	709
Dairying	"	(e)	(f) 21	(f) 30	(f) 39	(f) 37	(f) 73	(f) 119	{ 23	34	89
Mineral Production—											
		1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.	1941.	1950.
Gold	'000 fine oz.	2,343	1,864	1,223	1,243	3,300	2,484	758	595	1,497	868
	£m.	10.0	7.9	5.2	5.3	14.0	10.6	4.0	3.6	16.0	13.5
Silver and Lead					3.7	2.2	3.0	1.5	1.4	6.3	720.3
Copper		0.5	0.8	0.7	0.4	2.2	2.6	0.8	0.6	1.5	(j) 1.2
Tin					1.1	0.6	1.2	0.4	0.2	1.0	(j) 1.1
Zinc							1.4	0.3	0.5	1.6	(j) 1.7
Coal (Black and Brown)	mill. tons	0.4	0.9	1.8	4.4	6.9	10.6	12.9	10.6	18.2	23.9
	£m.	0.2	0.3	0.6	1.9	2.6	3.9	11.0	6.2	11.1	29.3
Total value of all Mineral Production	£m.	10.6	9.2	7.8	12.1	21.8	23.3	20.0	13.2	41.7	89.5
Forestry Production—											
Quantity of local timber sawn or hewn	mill. sup. ft.	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	452	605	(b) 590	b 237	b 914	b 1,261

(a) At 31st December. (b) Year ended June following. (c) Partly estimated. (d) Productive cane. (e) Not available. (f) Gross value. (g) In terms of greasy. (h) Years ended December. (i) Bone-in weight in terms of fresh meat; cured weight, bacon and ham. (j) 1950.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA—continued.

Item.	1861.	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.	1941.	1950.	
Factories—											
No. of factories	'000					14.5	18.0	(a)	(a)	(a)	
Persons employed	"					312	379	337	725	969	
Wages paid	£m.	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	28	68	56	180	492	
Value of production	"					51	122	111	316	844	
Total value of output	"					133	320	282	773	2,151	
Shipping—											
Oversea Vessels, En- trances and Clearances	No. mill. tons	2,466 1.1	2,748 1.3	3,284 2.5	3,778 4.7	4,028 6.5	4,174 10.0	3,111 9.1	3,057 11.4	2,544 10.8	3,903 17.3
Commerce—											
Imports, oversea	£m. f.o.b.	18	17	26	34	38	61	94	52	174	744
Exports, oversea	"	17	22	28	36	50	79	128	108	169	982
Total oversea trade	"	35	39	54	70	88	140	222	160	343	1,726
Net Customs and Excise duties	£m.	(c)	(c)	5	7	9	14	28	29	56	165
Principal Oversea Exports(d)—											
Wool	mill. lb.(e)	60	177	329	641	529	734	946	903	938	1,184
Wheat	mill. bus.	5	9	13	20	15	26	48	32	58	633
Flour	'000 short tons	8	13	50	33	97	176	360	611	414	883
Butter	mill. lb.	1	2	1	4	35	102	127	202	130	120
Hides and Skins	£m. f.o.b.	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.9	1.3	3.2	3.1	2.3	6.0	27.2
Tallow (inedible)	"	0.15	0.91	0.64	0.57	0.68	1.94	1.44	0.83	0.84	1.32
Meats	"	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.5	2.6	4.3	5.5	6.4	14.1	30.4
Timber (undressed)	"	0.03	0.04	0.12	0.04	0.64	1.02	1.16	0.50	0.32	1.11
Gold	"	10.0	7.2	6.4	5.7	14.3	12.0	3.5	11.9	9.2	..
Silver and Lead	"	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.6	1.4	5.5	3.8	4.2	32.9
Copper	"	0.38	0.60	0.68	0.42	1.62	2.35	0.71	0.47	0.02	0.10
Coal	"	0.06	0.13	0.36	0.65	0.99	0.90	1.70	0.34	0.26	0.24
Government Railways—											
Length of line open	'000 miles	0.2	1.0	3.8	9.5	12.6	16.1	23.5	27.0	27.2	27.0
Gross Revenue	£m.	1	4	9	11	18	38	38	66	106	106
Working Expenses	"	1	2	6	7	11	30	28	51	113	113
Proportion of working expenses to gross revenue	%	73	55	55	65	65	61	78	75	77	107
Postal—											
Letters and postcards dealt with	mill.	13	24	68	157	221	453	562	f 731	922	1,228
Newspapers dealt with	"	10	13	38	85	103	142	140	f 178	f 257	..
Cheque-paying Banks(g)—											
Note circulation	£m.	3.0	2.5	4.0	4.4	3.4	3.7	h 0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2
Coin and bullion held	"	4.7	6.2	9.1	17.5	19.8	33.5	21.6	2.0	1.5	3.3
Advances	"	18	26	58	125	94	109	183	261	270	502
Deposits	"	14	22	54	98	91	143	i 289	319	387	1,277
Australian Note Issue(j)											
Savings Banks(k)—											
Total deposits	"	1	3	7	15	31	59	154	108	274	837
State Schools—											
Schools	'000	1.9	2.5	4.5	6.2	7.0	8.1	9.4	10.1	9.5	7.8
Teachers	"	2.5	4.6	9.0	12.6	14.5	17.0	26.1	33.8	32.1	36.1
Enrolment	"	106	237	432	561	638	639	819	937	887	1,027
Average Attendance	"	73	138	255	351	450	404	666	817	732	844

(a) Year ended June following. (b) Owing to variation in classification, effective comparison is impossible.
(c) Not available. (d) Australian produce except gold, which includes re-exports. Australian currency values.
(e) In terms of greasy. (f) Includes packets. (g) Figures for first four years are averages for December quarter, the remainder for the June quarter. All cheque-paying banks to 1931-32, Nine Trading Banks thereafter. (h) Decrease due to prohibition of re-issue. (i) Includes Commonwealth Savings Bank deposits. (j) End of June. (k) First four years at 31st December, thereafter at 30th June. (l) Year ended 31st December.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF CHIEF EVENTS SINCE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SETTLEMENT IN AUSTRALIA.

NOTES.—For each earlier year this table contains rarely more than two or three items; for recent years, however, in order to provide a wide cover of events, etc., it includes a much greater number. Both the nature of the Table and considerations of space render necessary a continual reduction in these items, and for more information the reader should therefore consult earlier issues.

The Government was centralized in Sydney, New South Wales, up to 1825, when Tasmania (Van Diemen's Land) was made a separate colony. In the Table the names now borne by the States serve to indicate the localities.

Year.

- 1788 N.S.W.—Arrival of "First Fleet", under Captain Arthur Phillip, at Botany Bay. Land in vicinity being found unsuitable for settlement, the expedition moved to Sydney Cove, and formal possession of the colony was taken on 26th January. Formal proclamation of colony and establishment of regular government on 7th February. Branch Settlement established at Norfolk Island. French navigator Lapérouse visited Botany Bay. First cultivation of wheat and barley. First grape vines planted.
- 1789 N.S.W.—First wheat harvest at Parramatta, near Sydney. Discovery of Hawkesbury River.
- 1790 N.S.W.—Scarcity of provisions. "Second Fleet" reached Port Jackson. Landing of the New South Wales Corps.
- 1791 N.S.W.—Arrival of "Third Fleet". Territorial seal brought by Governor King.
- 1792 N.S.W.—Visit of *Philadelphia*, first foreign trading vessel.
- 1793 N.S.W.—First free immigrants arrived in the *Bellona*. First Australian church opened at Sydney. Tas.—D'Entrecasteaux discovered the Derwent River.
- 1794 N.S.W.—Establishment of settlement at Hawkesbury River.
- 1795 N.S.W.—Erection of the first printing press at Sydney. Descendants of strayed cattle discovered at Cowpastures, Nepean River.
- 1796 N.S.W.—First Australian theatre opened at Sydney. Coal discovered by fishermen at Newcastle.
- 1797 N.S.W.—Introduction of merino sheep from Cape of Good Hope.
- 1798 Tas.—Insularity of Tasmania proved by voyage of Bass and Flinders.
- 1800 N.S.W.—Hunter River coal-mines worked. First Customs House in Australia established at Sydney. Flinders' charts published.
- 1801 N.S.W.—First colonial manufacture of blankets and linen.
- 1802 Vic.—Discovery of Port Phillip by Lieut. Murray. Q'land.—Discovery of Port Curtis and Port Bowen by Flinders. S.A.—Discovery of Spencer's and St. Vincent Gulfs by Flinders.
- 1803 N.S.W.—First Australian wool taken to England by Capt. Macarthur. Issue of "The Sydney Gazette", first Australian newspaper. Vic.—Attempted settlement at Port Phillip by Collins. Discovery of Yarra by Grimes. Tas.—First settlement formed at Risdon by Lieut. Bowen.
- 1804 Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Port Phillip. Tas.—Foundation of settlement at Hobart by Collins.
- 1805 N.S.W.—First extensive sheep farm established at Camden by Capt. Macarthur.
- 1806 N.S.W.—"The great flood" on the Hawkesbury. Shortage of provisions. Tas.—Settlement at Launceston.
- 1807 N.S.W.—First shipment of merchantable wool (245 lb.) to England.
- 1808 N.S.W.—Deposition of Governor Bligh.
- 1809 N.S.W.—Free school established.
- 1810 N.S.W.—Post Office officially established at Sydney.
- 1813 N.S.W.—Passage across Blue Mountains discovered by Wentworth, Lawson and Blandland. Macquarie River discovered by Evans.
- 1814 N.S.W.—Flinders suggested the name "Australia", instead of "New Holland". Creation of Civil Courts.
- 1815 N.S.W.—First steam engine in Australia erected at Sydney. Lachlan River discovered by Evans. Tas.—Arrival of first immigrant ship with free settlers. First export of wheat to Sydney.
- 1816 N.S.W.—Sydney Hospital opened.

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- 1817 N.S.W.—Oxley's first exploration inland. Discovery of Lakes George and Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains by Meehan and Hume. First bank in Australia—Bank of New South Wales—opened at Sydney.
- 1818 N.S.W.—Liverpool Plains, and the Peel, Hastings and Manning Rivers discovered by Oxley, and Port Essington (N.T.) by Captain King.
- 1819 N.S.W.—First Savings Bank in Australia opened at Sydney.
- 1820 Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep from Camden Park (N.S.W.) flocks.
- 1821 Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1822 N.S.W.—Formation of Agricultural Society of New South Wales.
- 1823 N.S.W.—New South Wales Judicature Act passed. Discovery of gold at Fish River by Assistant-Surveyor McBrien. Qld.—Brisbane River discovered by Oxley.
- 1824 N.S.W.—Constituted a Crown Colony. Executive Council formed. Establishment of Supreme Court at Sydney, and introduction of trial by jury. First Australian Enactment (Currency Bill) passed by the Legislative Council. Proclamation of freedom of the press. First manufacture of sugar. Vic.—Hume and Hovell, journeying overland from Sydney, arrived at Corio Bay. Qld.—Penal settlement founded at Moreton Bay (Brisbane). Fort Dundas Settlement formed at Melville Island, N. Terr.
- 1825 Tas.—Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania) proclaimed a separate colony. Qld.—Major Lockyer explored Brisbane River to its source and discovered coal.
- 1826 N.S.W.—Settlement in Illawarra District. Vic.—Settlement at Corinella, Western Port, formed by Captain Wright.
- 1827 Qld.—Darling Downs and the Condamine River discovered by Allan Cunningham. W.A.—Military settlement founded at King George's Sound by Major Lockyer. First official claim of British Sovereignty over all Australia.
- 1828 N.S.W.—Second constitution. First Census. Sturt's expedition down Darling River. Gas first used at Sydney. Richmond and Clarence Rivers discovered by Captain Rous. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Western Port. Qld.—Cunningham discovered a route from Brisbane to the Darling Downs, and explored Brisbane River.
- 1829 N.S.W.—Sturt's expedition down Murrumbidgee River. W.A.—Foundation of settlement at Swan River. Foundation of Perth.
- 1830 N.S.W.—Sturt, voyaging down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, arrived at Lake Alexandrina. Tas.—Black line organized to force aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula, but failed. Small remnant subsequently (1830 to 1835) persuaded to settle on Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Crown lands first disposed of at auction. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. SS. *Surprise*, first steamship built in Australia, launched at Sydney. First coal shipped from Australian Agricultural Company's workings at Newcastle, N.S.W. First assisted immigration to N.S.W. S.A.—Wakefield's first colonization committee. W.A.—Appointment of Executive and Legislative Councils.
- 1832 N.S.W.—State Savings Bank established.
- 1833 N.S.W.—First School of Arts established at Sydney.
- 1834 N.S.W.—First settlement at Twofold Bay. Vic.—Settlement formed at Portland Bay by Henty Brothers. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. W.A.—Severe reprisals against Murray River natives at Pinjarrah for continued attacks on settlers.
- 1835 Vic.—John Batman arrived at Port Phillip; foundation of Melbourne.
- 1836 N.S.W.—Mitchell's overland journey from Sydney to Cape Northumberland. Vic.—Proclamation of Port Phillip district as open for settlement. S.A.—Settlement founded at Adelaide under Governor Hindmarsh.
- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Vic.—First overlanders from Sydney arrived at Port Phillip.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Brisbane—first free colonists. S.A.—"Overlanding" of cattle from Sydney to Adelaide along the Murray route by Hawden and Bonney. Settlement at Port Essington, Northern Territory, formed by Captain Bremer.

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- 1839 N.S.W.—Gold found at Vale of Clwydd by Count Strzlecki. S.A.—Lake Torrens discovered by Eyre. Port Darwin discovered by Captain Stokes. W.A.—Murchison River discovered by Captain Grey.
- 1840 N.S.W.—Abolition of transportation to New South Wales. Land regulations—proceeds of sales to be applied to payments for public works and expenditure on immigration. Vic.—Determination of northern boundary. Qld.—Penal settlement broken up and Moreton Bay district thrown open. S.A.—Eyre began his overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound.
- 1841 N.S.W.—Gold found near Hartley. W.A.—Completion of Eyre's overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound. New Zealand proclaimed a separate colony.
- 1842 N.S.W.—Incorporation of Sydney. Vic.—Incorporation of Melbourne. S.A.—Discovery of copper at Kapunda.
- 1843 N.S.W.—First Representative Constitution (under Act of 1842). Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation as a distinct electoral division.
- 1844 Qld.—Leichhardt's expedition to Port Essington (N.T.). S.A.—Sturt's last expedition inland.
- 1845 N.S.W.—Mitchell's explorations on the Barcoo. Qld.—Explorations by Mitchell and Kennedy. S.A.—Discovery of the Burra copper deposits. Sturt discovered Cooper's Creek.
- 1846 N.S.W.—Initiation of meat-preserving. Qld.—Foundation of settlement at Port Curtis. S.A.—Proclamation of North Australia.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Iron-smelting commenced near Berrima. Overland mail established between Sydney and Adelaide. Qld.—Explorations by Leichhardt, Burnett and Kennedy.
- 1848 N.S.W.—National and Denominational School Boards established. Qld.—Leichhardt's last journey. Kennedy speared by the blacks at York Peninsula. Chinese brought in as shepherds.
- 1849 N.S.W.—Indignation of colonists at arrival of convict ship *Hashemy*. Exodus of population to gold-fields of California. Vic.—*Randolph* prevented from landing convicts. Qld.—Assignment of *Hashemy* convicts to squatters on Darling Downs. W.A.—Commencement of transportation to Western Australia.
- 1850 N.S.W.—Final abolition of transportation. First sod of first Australian railway turned at Sydney. Sydney University founded. Vic.—Gold discovered at Clunes. Representative government granted. S.A.—Representative government granted. W.A.—Pearl oysters found by Lieut. Helpman at Saturday Island Shoal. Tas.—Representative government granted.
- 1851 N.S.W.—Payable gold discovered by Hargraves at Lewis Ponds and Summerhill Creek. Vic.—Port Phillip created an independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold in various localities. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Arrival of the *Chusan*, first P. and O. mail steamer from England. S.A.—First steamer ascended the Murray River to the junction with the Darling. Tas.—Meeting of first elective Council protested against transportation. Payable gold discovered at The Nook, near Fingal, and at Nine Mile Springs.
- 1853 Tas.—Abolition of transportation. Vic.—Melbourne University founded.
- 1854 Vic.—Opening of first Victorian railway—Flinders-street to Port Melbourne. Riots on Ballarat gold-fields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, 3rd Dec. Telegraph first used.
- 1855 N.S.W.—Opening of railway—Sydney to Parramatta. Mint opened.
- 1856 N.S.W.—Pitcairn Islanders placed on Norfolk Island. W.A.—A. C. Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt. Responsible Governments in N.S.W., Vic., S.A. and Tas. (Act of 1855).
- 1857 N.S.W.—Select Committee on Federation. Vic.—Manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. S.A.—Passage of Torrens' Real Property Act.
- 1858 N.S.W.—Establishment of manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. Telegraphic communication between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. Qld.—Canoona gold rush.

Population of Australia reached 1,000,000.

- Year.
- 1859 Qld.—Proclamation of Queensland as separate colony. Tas.—First submarine cable, via Circular Head and King Island to Cape Otway.
- 1860 Vic.—Burke and Wills left Melbourne and crossed to Gulf of Carpentaria. S.A.—Copper discoveries at Wallaroo and Moonta. McDouall Stuart reached centre of continent and named "Central Mount Stuart".
- 1861 N.S.W.—Anti-Chinese riots at Lambing Flat and Burrangong gold-fields. Opening of first tramway in Sydney. Regulation of Chinese immigration. Vic.—Burke and Wills perished at Cooper's Creek, near Innamincka, S.A.
- 1862 N.S.W.—Abolition of State aid to religion. Real Property (Torrens) Act passed. S.A.—Stuart crossed the Continent from south to north. W.A.—First export of pearl-shell.
- 1863 Vic.—Intercolonial Conference at Melbourne. S.A.—Northern Territory taken over. W.A.—Initiation of settlement in the north-west district. Henry Maxwell Lefroy discovered and traversed area now comprised in the Coolgardie-Kalgoorlie gold-field.
- 1864 Qld.—First sugar made from Queensland cane.
- 1865 N.S.W.—Destruction by fire of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney.
- 1866 N.S.W.—Passage of Public Schools Act of (Sir) Henry Parkes. S.A.—Introduction of camels for exploration, etc.
- 1867 Vic.—Imposition of protective tariff. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Gympie.
- 1868 W.A.—Arrival of the *Hongomont*, last convict ship.
- 1869 Vic.—Record gold nugget "Welcome Stranger" 2,284 oz. found near Dunolly. W.A.—First telegraph line opened from Perth to Fremantle.
- 1870 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Exhibition opened at Sydney. Imperial troops withdrawn. Vic.—Intercolonial Congress at Melbourne. S.A.—Commencement of transcontinental telegraph.
- 1871 N.S.W.—Permanent military force raised. W.A.—Forrest's explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Bischoff.
- 1872 Vic.—Mint opened. S.A.—Cable from Java to Port Darwin. Completion of transcontinental telegraph line.
- 1873 N.S.W.—Intercolonial Conference at Sydney. First volunteer encampment. Inauguration of mail service with San Francisco.
- 1874 N.S.W.—Triennial Parliaments Act passed. Intercolonial Conference. S.A.—University of Adelaide founded. W.A.—John and Alexander Forrest arrived at Overland Telegraph from Murchison.
- 1875 Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island.
- 1876 N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney to Wellington. W.A.—Giles crossed colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aborigines.
- 1877 W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia. Population of Australia reached 2,000,000.
- 1878 Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration. Introduction of telephone into Australia.
- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Kallara Station, near Bourke. First steam tramway. W.A.—A. Forrest's explorations in the Kimberley district, and discovery of the Fitzroy pastoral country.
- 1880 N.S.W.—Public Instruction Act passed. Vic.—First Australian Telephone Exchange opened in Melbourne. Federal Conference at Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration. First Australia-wide censuses on same date taken.
- 1882 W.A.—Nugget of gold found between Roebourne and Cossack.
- 1883 N.S.W.—Discovery of silver at Broken Hill. Completion of railway between New South Wales and Victoria. Qld.—Annexation of New Guinea—repudiated by Imperial authorities. Federal Conference held at Sydney. Federal Council created.
- 1884 Federation Bill passed in Victoria and rejected in New South Wales. British protectorate declared over New Guinea.

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- 1885 N.S.W.—Military contingent sent to the Sudan. Opening of the Broken Hill Proprietary Silver Mines. W.A.—Gold found by prospectors on the Margaret and Ord Rivers in the Kimberley district. Tas.—Silver-lead discovered at Mount Zeehan.
- 1886 Tas.—Discovery of gold and copper at Mount Lyell.
First session of Federal Council met at Hobart on 26th January.
- 1887 W.A.—Gold discovered at Southern Cross.
First “Colonial” Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Restrictive legislation against Chinese, imposing poll-tax of £100.
Qld.—Railway communication opened between Sydney and Brisbane.
Conference of Australian Ministers at Sydney to consider question of Chinese immigration. First meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science held in Sydney.
- 1889 Qld.—Railway communication established between Brisbane and Adelaide.
W.A.—Framing of new Constitution. Tas.—University of Tasmania founded.
Population of Australia reached 3,000,000.
- 1890 W.A.—Responsible Government granted.
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference.
- 1891 N.S.W.—Arrival of Australian Auxiliary Squadron. Cessation of assisted immigration. W.A.—Discovery of gold on the Murchison.
First Federal Convention in Sydney, draft bill framed and adopted.
- 1892 W.A.—Discovery of gold at Coolgardie.
- 1893 Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1894 S.A.—Women’s suffrage granted—first State to do so.
- 1895 N.S.W.—Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes introduced.
Conference of Premiers on Federation at Hobart.
- 1896 N.S.W.—People’s Federal Convention at Bathurst. Vic.—Wages Board system established by Act of Parliament.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.
- 1898 Draft Federal Constitution Bill submitted to electors in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. Requisite statutory number of votes not obtained in New South Wales.
- 1899 First contingent of Australian troops sent to South Africa. Conference of Premiers in Melbourne to consider amendments to Federal Constitution Bill. Referendum—Bill accepted by New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania. First Labour Government (Queensland).
- 1900 N.S.W.—Old-age pensions instituted.
Contingents of naval troops sent to China. Commonwealth Constitution Act received Royal Assent, 9th July. Proclamation of Commonwealth signed, 17th September. Mr. (afterwards Sir) Edmund Barton formed first Federal Ministry.
- 1901 Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney. First Federal Parliament opened at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York. Interstate free-trade established.
- 1902 Completion of Pacific Cable (all-British). First Federal Tariff.
- 1903 Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie Water Supply Scheme completed. Inauguration of the Federal High Court.
- 1904 Commonwealth Conciliation and Arbitration Act.
- 1905 Population of Australia reached 4,000,000. Re-introduction of assisted immigration in New South Wales.
- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliff, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Papua taken over by Commonwealth. Excise Tariff Act imposed duties on agricultural machinery except when manufactured “under conditions as to the remuneration of labour which are declared to be fair and reasonable”
- 1907 First telephone trunk line service between Capital Cities, i.e., Sydney and Melbourne. Imperial Conference in London. Declaration of first basic wage in “Harvester Judgment”.
- 1908 Canberra chosen as site of Australian Capital.

- Year.
- 1909 Imperial Defence Conference in London. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Australian military defence. Queensland University founded.
- 1910 Penny Postage. Arrival of *Yarra* and *Parramatta*, first vessels built for the Royal Australian Navy. Australian Notes Act passed and first Commonwealth notes issued. Admiral Sir R. Henderson visited Australia to advise on naval defence.
- 1911 First Federal Census. Transfer of Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory to Commonwealth. Introduction of compulsory military training. University of Western Australia founded.
- 1912 Opening of Commonwealth Bank. First payments of Maternity Bonus. First sod turned at Port Augusta of Trans-Australian Railway.
- 1913 Australian Capital named Canberra and foundation stone laid. Appointment of Interstate Commission.
- 1914 Visit of General Sir Ian Hamilton to report on military defence scheme. Double dissolution of Federal Parliament. Transfer of Norfolk Island to Commonwealth.
- European War declared 4th August. Australian Navy transferred to British Navy. Australian offer to equip and furnish 20,000 troops accepted. German possessions in South-West Pacific seized by Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. German cruiser *Emden* destroyed by H.M.A.S. *Sydney* at Cocos Islands, 9th November. First contingent landed in Egypt. Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (A.N.Z.A.C.) formed under Sir William Birdwood.
- 1915 Opening of Broken Hill Proprietary's Ironworks at Newcastle, N.S.W.
Australian and New Zealand troops landed at Gallipoli, 25th April. Evacuation, 18th-20th December. Australian warships with Grand Fleet.
- 1916 Purchase of steamships by the Commonwealth.
Australian and New Zealand mounted troops organized in mounted divisions and camel corps, operating thereafter in Egypt, Palestine and Syria. Other troops transferred to France. First proposal for compulsory military service overseas defeated by referendum.
- 1917 National Ministry formed under Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes. Transcontinental (Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta) Railway completed.
Australian Flying Corps operating with R.F.C. in Palestine and France. Second proposal for compulsory military service overseas defeated by referendum.
- 1918 Population of Australia reached 5,000,000. Australia House (Strand, London) opened by the King.
Five Australian divisions in France formed into army corps, 1st January. Armistice with Germany, 11th November. Repatriation Commission created.
- 1919 Peace Conference. Return of Australian troops. Flight England to Australia by Capt. (Sir) Ross Smith and Lieut. (Sir) Keith Smith. Peace Treaty signed at Versailles, 28th June.
- 1920 Visit to Australia of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Imperial Statistical Conference in London.
- 1921 Mandate given to Australia over Territory of New Guinea. First direct wireless press message, England to Australia. Second Federal Census.
- 1922 First lock on River Murray opened at Blanchetown, South Australia. Queensland Legislative Council abolished.
- 1923 First sod turned on the site of Federal Parliament House at Canberra.
- 1924 Directorate of Commonwealth Bank appointed. Australian Loan Council formed.
- 1925 Population of Australia reached 6,000,000. Solar Observatory established at Canberra.
- 1926 Council for Scientific and Industrial Research established. Imperial Conference. Dominion Status defined.
- 1927 Transfer of Seat of Commonwealth Government from Melbourne to Canberra. Beam wireless established.
- 1928 Financial agreement of Commonwealth and States: State Debts referendum carried.
- 1929 Commonwealth Bank empowered to mobilize gold reserve. Abolition of peacetime compulsory military training in favour of voluntary system.

- Year.**
- 1930 Effects of world-wide severe economic depression felt throughout Australia. Brisbane-Grafton (N.S.W.) railway, first step towards uniform gauge railway communication between capitals of mainland States, opened. First Australian—Rt. Hon. Sir Isaac Alfred Isaacs, G.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the High Court—appointed Governor-General of Australia.
- 1931 Depression continues. Initiation of Premiers' Conference plan to meet the financial situation. Commonwealth Bank Act amended to provide for temporary lower reserve against notes. England departed from gold standard. Commonwealth Bank assumed control of exchange rate and lowered it to 125 (previously 130).
- 1932 Sydney Harbour Bridge opened. Australian Broadcasting Commission established. Legislation passed enabling note reserve to be held in sterling securities. Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa.
- 1933 World Economic Conference in London. Secession Referendum carried (Western Australia.) Antarctica and Ashmore and Cartier Islands taken over by the Commonwealth. Third Federal Census.
- 1934 Inauguration of England-Australia Air Mail Service.
- 1935 Empire Statistical Conference at Ottawa.
- 1936 Joint Commonwealth and State Marketing Schemes invalidated by decision of the Privy Council in the James case. Tasmania linked with mainland by submarine telephone cable.
- 1937 Imperial Conference in London. Report of the Royal Commission on Monetary and Banking Systems in Australia.
- 1938 New Defence Programme involving expenditure of £63,000,000 over three years. New Trade Treaty with Japan.
- 1939 Population of Australia reached 7,000,000.
War declared on Germany, 3rd September. Royal Australian Navy placed at disposal of Great Britain. Advance party of Australians embarked for Middle East, 15th December.
- 1940 Exchange of Ministers between Australia and United States of America marked Australia's entry into field of direct diplomatic representation with countries other than the United Kingdom.
First Australian convoy (6th Australian Division) sailed for Middle East. Cruiser *Sydney* crippled Italian cruiser *Bartolomeo Colleoni*.
- 1941 Establishment of Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme. United States Congress passed Lend-Lease Bill.
Arrival of units of Eighth Australian Division in Malaya. Australian destroyers in "Tobruk Ferry Run". *Sydney* lost after fight with *Steiermark*. R.A.A.F. in defence of Britain, in Middle East and at Singapore. Australian forces engaged in Middle East, Greece, Crete and Syria. Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Australia declared war on Japan, 9th December.
1942. Federal uniform taxation adopted. Commonwealth widows' pensions introduced. Rationing of commodities.
Japanese landed at Rabaul. Fall of Singapore. Darwin bombed. United States armed forces landed in Australia. Head-quarters of South-west Pacific Command set up by General Douglas MacArthur in Melbourne. Coral Sea Battle. Japanese midget submarines in Sydney Harbour. Australian cruisers in attack on Solomon Islands. Australians withdrew from Kokoda. Japanese forced to withdraw from Milne Bay. Owen Stanley Ranges offensive. Ninth Australian Division at El Alamein (North Africa). Kokoda recaptured. Further Australian successes in New Guinea.
- 1943 Price Stabilization Scheme. Mortgage Bank Department of Commonwealth Bank opened. National Works Council formed.
Australian forces combined with American forces to recapture many places in New Guinea. Commencement of long series of amphibious operations in which R.A.N. ships took part. R.A.A.F. from 1943 till end of war operated on all fronts.
- 1944 Pay-as-you-earn taxation operated from 1st July. Referendum refused Commonwealth Government increased powers in post-war period.

Year.

- Australian advances in Northern New Guinea. Allied invasion of France. Australians landed on New Britain; took over from Americans in Bougainville, Solomon Islands, and at Aitape, New Guinea.
- 1945 Captain Cook Dock opened by Governor-General, the Duke of Gloucester. Re-establishment and Employment Act. Banking Act to regulate banking and to protect the currency and public credit. Australia ratified United Nations Charter. General demobilization commenced.
- Cessation of hostilities in Europe, 8th May. Cessation of hostilities against Japan, 15th August. Australian forces operating in New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Borneo.
- 1946 Cessation of man-power controls. Commonwealth Government accepted responsibility for supply and maintenance of BCOF in Japan. Inauguration of Commonwealth Employment Service. United Kingdom and Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd. (Joint Organization) commenced operations. Act to establish National University at Canberra. Coal Industry Act. Commonwealth and State agreement on housing. Commonwealth Trans-Australia Airlines began operations. Constitution Alteration Referendum granted powers in regard to social services to Commonwealth. Double taxation relief agreement between Australia and Britain. Approval for establishment of guided missile range in Central Australia. Reciprocal air transport agreement between Australia and United States of America. Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act. Expiry of National Security Act.
- 1947 End of demobilization. Post-war defence programme to extend over five years approved. Census of Australia—first since 1933. Full High Court declared invalid section of Banking Act 1945 prohibiting banks from conducting business for State authorities. Legislation to nationalize trading banks enacted (*see* 1948). Australian National Antarctic Research Expedition to establish scientific research station at Heard Island. First "displaced persons" reached Australia.
- 1948 Forty-hour week effective throughout Australia. Membership of Commonwealth Parliament increased. Constitution Alteration (Rents and Prices) proposal defeated. High Court declared invalid certain vital sections of Banking Act 1947. Professor Marcus L. Oliphant, F.R.S., accepted appointment as Director of Post-Graduate Research School of Physical Sciences at Australian National University. Tuberculosis Act. Opening session of Economic Commission for Asia and Far East at Lapstone (N.S.W.). First display of new Australian-made car, the "Holden". International Trade Organization Act (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and Havana Charter for International Trade Organization).
- 1949 Nationality and Citizenship Act operative. Broadcasting Control Board came into operation. New Guinea placed under international trusteeship and administrative union of Papua and New Guinea established. Certain Australian aborigines for first time granted franchise at Federal elections. Agreement reached on arrangements for increasing meat exports from Australia to United Kingdom (subsequent legislation to assist in facilitating movement of livestock in Australia). Melbourne selected as site for 1956 Olympic Games. Provision in Tasmania for compulsory X-ray examination and treatment of all persons suffering from tuberculosis. Establishment of New South Wales University of Technology. Ratification completed by all Governments concerned of Murray River Agreement for enlarging of Hume Weir. Border River scheme commenced on Dumaresq River. Dispute over claims for 35-hour week, 30s. a week wage increase, and long-service leave rendered all Australian black coal mines idle from 27th June until 15th August, causing restrictions in dependent services and unemployment. Australia ratified International Wheat Agreement. Conciliation and Arbitration Act amended to prevent irregularities in elections for offices in organizations registered under Act. Establishment of Australian Whaling Commission. Liquid fuel importers required by law to hold stocks of fuel for defence needs. Following report on Finance Ministers Conference in

Year.

- 1949—
contd. London, Federal Cabinet sub-committee approved 25 per cent. reduction in Australia's imports from dollar areas. Coal Industry Tribunal granted long-service leave to miners throughout Australia—not to be commenced before June, 1954. Devaluation of sterling against American dollar, and commensurate devaluation of Australian pound to two dollars twenty-four cents. Establishment of Immigration Planning Council to assist in assimilation of migrants into industry and the community. Commencement of Snowy Mountains Hydro-electric Power Scheme. Agreement on rail standardization, replacing original agreement of 1946, ratified by Commonwealth and South Australian Governments. Australia's population reached 8,000,000. Balance of Australia's lend-lease debt to United States liquidated by Fullbright Agreement.
- 1950 Projected commencement announced of uranium production in South Australia. Conference of British Commonwealth Foreign Ministers at Colombo discussed Japanese peace treaty problems. Australian Citizenship Convention to assist in assimilation of migrants opened at Canberra. Petrol rationing abolished for second time since end of war. Melbourne to be declared an international airport. International Labour Office Conference in Sydney on subject of pneumoconiosis. Opening of Nineteenth Commonwealth Parliament. Loan of £625,000 to Burma by Commonwealth Government. Senate and House of Representatives failed to agree on Commonwealth Bank Bill. Severe flooding for twenty-five years in south-east corner of New South Wales. Commonwealth Crimes Act proclaimed to combat rolling strikes on Brisbane water-front. Motion to have New England District made a separate State and to hold referendum rejected in New South Wales Legislative Assembly. Sir Owen Dixon, Justice of High Court, chosen as United Nations mediator for Kashmir dispute. Appointment of first Australian ambassador to United States of Indonesia. Report released of Victorian Royal Commission on origins, aims, objects, funds and activities of Communist Party. Tenders accepted in Victoria for supply of 293 prefabricated school units capable of accommodating 23,000 children. British Consultative Committee meeting in Sydney on ways of assisting development of south and south-east Asia in co-operation with other interested governments. Appointment of first Australian Minister to Philippines. British Government approval of plan to recruit British migrants, including tradesmen, to serve in Australian Regular Army, and afterwards settle in Australia. Australian Dakota Transport Squadron to assist United Kingdom forces in Malaya; later decided to send squadron of heavy bombers also. Sir Thomas Blamey first Australian to be elevated to rank of Field-Marshal. Arrival of Field-Marshal Sir William Slim, Chief of Imperial General Staff, for defence talks. First Minister for Israel in Australia arrived. Abolition of butter rationing. Constitution (Avoidance of Double Dissolution Deadlocks) Bill referred by Senate to a Select Committee. Communist Party Dissolution Bill formally laid aside after failure of Senate and House of Representatives to agree. Disastrous floods on north coast of New South Wales. Crash of airliner *Amana* near Perth, with loss of 28 lives, worst disaster in Australian civil aviation. Following attacks by forces of North Korea on forces of Republic of Korea and failure of Security Council's call for immediate cessation of hostilities, the Council called on members to furnish assistance to Republic of Korea. Australian naval and air forces in vicinity of Korea placed at disposal of United Nations, and decision to withdraw Australian troops with BCOF in Japan countermanded. Scheme of reserve prices for wool to replace existing Joint Organization system enacted (see below). Abolition of tea rationing ended retail rationing in Australia. Queensland Government to proceed with plans to build Burdekin Dam and Tully Falls hydro-electric scheme. Arrival of first ambassador for United States of Indonesia. Prime Minister left on visit to London, Washington, Ottawa, Vancouver and New Zealand for discussions on defence, migration and financial matters; negotiated \$100,000,000 loan for Australia with International Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Commencement

Year.

1950—
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of new scheme of tuberculosis allowances. Initial force of 1,000 ground troops to be recruited for service in Korea. Validity of Commonwealth wool levy scheme challenged in High Court, but hearing subsequently postponed pending result of referendum of woolgrowers (*see* 1951). Inauguration of modified free medicine scheme, covering 135 expensive drugs, including sulphur drugs, penicillin, insulin and vitamin B. Announcement of King and Queen's intention to carry out their postponed (1949) visit to Australia and New Zealand in 1952, possibly accompanied by the Princess Margaret (*see* 1951). All volunteers in Australian Regular Army and Citizen Military Forces to be liable for service anywhere in the world. Australian ground troops joined British Commonwealth Brigade in Korean conflict. Orders placed by Commonwealth and States for importation of 10,440 prefabricated houses. Opening of drive for recruits to Australian permanent, reserve and part-time forces. Introduction of Commonwealth Bank Bill 1950 (No. 2) in House of Representatives (referred to Select Committee 14th March, 1951). Adult franchise for Victorian Legislative Council replaced existing franchise dependent on property qualifications. Commonwealth Court of Conciliation and Arbitration ruling of increase of £1 in male basic wage, and increase in female basic wage from 54 to 75 per cent. of male rate. Railway dispute caused cessation of railway services in Victoria from 16th October to 8th December, and in South Australia from 23rd October to 19th November. Communist Party Dissolution Bill 1950 (No. 2) assented to. Validity of Act challenged in High Court (declared invalid on 9th March, 1951). "Food for Britain" Fund closed after five years of existence, after despatch of 12,000 tons of food. Agreement to bring 25,000 Dutch migrants to Australia in 1951 and larger numbers in future years. National Service Bill to establish a system of national training for defence forces of Australia introduced in House of Representatives—provides for compulsory registration and call-up at 18 years of age of all male British and certain non-British subjects resident in Australia (Act assented to 17th March, 1951). Volunteers in Australian Citizen Military Forces to be liable for overseas service only in the event of a major war. Scheme for pre-emption of 100,000,000 lb. of wool for military reserve for United States of America declared impracticable at present. National Security Resources Board appointed to advise Government on best use of Australia's resources in interests of national security. Act to provide Commonwealth assistance to States to enable them to supply free milk to school children. Defence (Transitional Provisions) Act extending for one year a number of national security regulations and orders. Commonwealth Government to contribute £31,250,000 to Colombo Plan for Co-operative Economic Development in South and South-east Asia and £3,500,000 for technical assistance programme. Five-year migration agreement with Italy under which not more than 15,000 Italians will enter Australia in initial period of operation. Conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers in London.

1951 Opening of Jubilee celebrations to mark the fiftieth year of Australian federation. Violent eruption of Mt. Lamington in Papua, in which 35 Europeans and about 2,900 Papuans perished. Meeting of Governors of central banks of Australia, Ceylon, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa and the United Kingdom to discuss general banking problems and the international economic situation. British Government's confirmation of transfer of Heard Island and the Macdonald Islands (Southern Indian Ocean) to Australia as from 26th December, 1947. Arrival in Canberra of President's Truman's special Envoy, Mr. John Foster Dulles, for talks on a Japanese peace treaty. Death of Professor L. F. Giblin, D.S.O., M.C., noted Australian economist. Governor-General granted double dissolution of nineteenth Parliament on the grounds that the Senate had "failed to pass" the Commonwealth Bank Bill. (*See* 1950). Survey flight to Chile by Captain P. G. Taylor. Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia, Sir John Latham, retired from active duty. Return of Menzies-Fadden Government after general election following

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double dissolution (*see above*). Death of Very Reverend John Flynn, "Flynn of the Inland", who was largely responsible for "Flying Doctor" services and the accompanying system of radio communication. First wool from Hallstrom Live-stock Experimental Station, New Guinea, auctioned at Sydney wool sales. Death of Field-Marshal Sir Thomas Blamey (*see 1950*). The Governor-General opened the twentieth Parliament with special Jubilee ceremonies. Death of the Leader of the Federal Opposition, and former Prime Minister and Treasurer, the Rt. Hon. J. B. Chifley. Official cessation of hostilities with Germany. Large upward adjustments in federal basic wage (13s. in six capital cities average). Defence Preparations Act to adjust the nation's economy to meet the threat of war. Final liquidation of the stock of the United Kingdom—Dominion Wool Disposals Ltd. (Joint Organization). Conference of representatives of the Commonwealth and State Governments, employers and trade unions, and other sections of the community, called by the Prime Minister to discuss means of combating inflation. First youths to receive call-up notices under National Service Act 1951 commenced training. Royal Commission to inquire into hotel control, operation of Liquor Act, and distribution of liquor in New South Wales. The Governor of the Commonwealth Bank, the heads of commercial banks and the Secretary to the Treasury in conference called by the Prime Minister to discuss bank credit policy. General financial and investment policy considered at conference between the Government and representatives of insurance companies. Loan Council approved a rise in the long-term bond rate from 3½ per cent. to 3¾ per cent. to apply to Thirteenth Security Loan. Woolgrowers at a referendum rejected the proposal for a reserve price plan for wool (*see 1950*). Prices at new season's (August) wool auctions in Sydney 25 per cent. below those of June. Security Treaty signed in Washington by the United States of America, Australia and New Zealand for action in the event of an armed attack in the Pacific. Arrival at Port Kembla of first shipment of iron ore from Yampi Sound, Western Australia. Japanese Peace Treaty signed at San Francisco by 49 nations, including Australia. Constitution Alteration (Powers to deal with Communists and Communism) referendum resulted in a decision against the proposed Act. Extensive bushfires during October in Queensland, Northern Territory and northern New South Wales. Australia to provide an additional infantry battalion for United Nations forces in Korea. The Prime Minister announced that Australia would spend about £700,000,000 on defence during the next three years. Announcement of intended visit in 1952 of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to Australia and New Zealand in place of the King and Queen.* Further large upward adjustments (*see above*) in federal basic wage—11s. for six capital cities average. The Governor-General, the Right Honorable W. J. McKell, K.C., created Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George. Third Conference of Government Statisticians of the British Commonwealth, held in Canberra. Opening of new Legislative Council of Papua and New Guinea, which included, for the first time in the history of Australian Legislature, representatives of the native peoples. New mace presented to the House of Representatives by a delegation from the House of Commons, to commemorate the Jubilee of the Australian Commonwealth. Serious bushfires in Blue Mountains, New South Wales. Act to re-establish Commonwealth Joint Parliamentary Committee of Public Accounts.

* This visit was cancelled following the death, on 6th February, 1952, of His Majesty King George VI.