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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

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BY

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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 seventeenth Official Year Book issued under the authority of the Commonwealth Government.

The synopsis on pp. VIII. to XXIII. immediately following shows the general arrangement of the work. In addition to the ordinary Chapters, each issue contains special articles dealing with some particular subject or subjects of more or less permanent interest. These cannot of course be repeated year after year, but in some instances a brief condensation is given in subsequent issues. While portion of the matter contained in Year Books Nos. 1 to 16 has been reduced to synopses or deleted in the present issue, the special index provided at the end of the volume will assist in tracing it in previous issues.

The present issue contains two specially-contributed articles, one dealing with "Co-operation in Australia," placed at the end of Chapter XIII., "Labour, Wages, and Prices," and the other relating to "Marine and Fresh-water Fisheries of Australia," which will be found at the close of Chapter XX., "Fisheries."

Amongst the new matter contained in the various Chapters, mention may be made of the table showing the strength of the permanent Civil Service in the Commonwealth and States, statement of salaries paid to members of Commonwealth and State Parliaments, and number of Consular representatives in Australia—incorporated in Chapter III., "General Government": the description of the basis of municipal rating and limits for rates in Chapter IV., "Local Government": value of Australian production and exports according to industry, and excise table, in Chapter VI., "Oversea Trade": information regarding the Commonwealth Public Service Superannuation Fund and transactions of Co-operative Societies in Chapter VIII., "Finance": statement of the activities of Employers' Associations in Chapter XIII., "Labour, Wages, etc.": the account of the origin and comparative numbers at various dates of the aboriginal population in Chapter XXIV., "Population": while the section dealing with Aircraft in Chapter VII., "Transport, etc.," has been largely re-written.

The full text of the Commonwealth Constitution Act and Amendments appears on pages 20 to 37.

Recent information or returns which have come to hand since the various Chapters were sent to press will be found in the Appendix, p. 1051.

The material contained in each issue is always carefully examined, but it would be idle to hope that all error has been avoided. The Commonwealth Statistician desires to express appreciation of the opportunity afforded him of improving the Year Book, by those who have been kind enough to point out defects or make suggestions.

My best thanks are due to the State Statisticians, to the responsible officers of the various Commonwealth and State Departments, and to others, who have kindly, and often at considerable trouble, supplied information for this issue.

In conclusion, I wish to express my keen appreciation of the valuable work performed by Mr. Stonham, the editor of the Year Book, and also of the services rendered by the officers in charge of the various branches of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, upon whom has devolved the duty of revising, or in some cases of re-writing the Chapters relative to their respective branches.

CHAS. H. WICKENS,

Commonwealth Statistician.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,
Melbourne, October 2nd, 1924.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA, 1871 TO 1923.

Heading.		Years.						
		1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1923.
Population ..	Males	928,918	1,247,059	1,736,617	2,004,836	2,382,232	2,708,727	2,930,302
	Females	771,970	1,059,677	1,504,368	1,820,077	2,191,554	2,710,346	2,819,605
	Total	1,700,888	2,306,736	3,240,985	3,824,913	4,573,786	5,509,073	5,749,807
Births ..	No.	63,625	80,004	110,187	102,945	122,193	136,188	135,222
	Rate	38.00	35.26	34.47	27.16	27.21	24.85	28.77
Deaths ..	No.	22,175	33,327	47,430	46,330	47,869	54,076	58,326
	Rate	13.24	14.69	14.84	12.22	10.66	9.91	9.89
Marriages ..	No.	11,623	17,244	23,862	27,753	39,482	46,869	44,541
	Rate	6.94	7.60	7.47	7.32	8.79	8.59	7.83
Agriculture—								
Wheat ..	Area, acs.	1,279,778	3,002,064	3,335,528	5,115,965	7,427,834	9,719,042	9,507,666
	Yld., bshl.	11,917,741	21,443,862	25,675,265	38,561,019	71,636,347	129,088,806	124,798,643
	Av. „	9.31	7.14	7.70	7.54	9.64	13.28	13.13
Oats ..	Area, acs.	225,492	194,816	246,129	461,430	616,794	733,406	..
	Yld., bshl.	4,251,630	4,795,897	5,726,256	9,789,854	9,561,833	12,147,433	..
	Av. „	18.85	24.62	23.27	21.22	15.50	16.56	..
Barley ..	Area, acs.	48,164	75,864	68,068	74,511	116,466	238,910	..
	Yld., bshl.	726,158	1,353,380	1,178,560	1,519,819	2,056,836	6,085,685	..
	Av. „	15.08	17.84	17.31	20.40	17.66	20.36	..
Maize ..	Area, acs.	142,078	165,777	284,428	294,849	340,065	305,186	..
	Yld., bshl.	4,576,635	5,726,266	9,261,922	7,034,786	8,939,855	7,840,438	..
	Av. „	32.21	34.54	32.56	23.86	26.29	25.69	..
Hay ..	Area, acs.	303,274	768,388	942,166	1,688,402	2,518,351	2,994,519	..
	Yld., tons	375,871	767,194	1,067,255	2,024,608	2,867,973	3,902,189	..
	Av. „	1.24	1.00	1.13	1.20	1.14	1.30	..
Potatoes(a) ..	Area, acs.	67,911	76,265	112,884	109,685	190,463	149,144	..
	Yld., tons	212,896	243,216	380,477	322,524	301,489	388,091	..
	Av. „	3.13	3.19	3.37	2.94	2.31	2.60	..
SugarCane(d) ..	Area, acs.	11,576	19,708	45,444	86,950	101,010	197,293	..
	Yld., tons	176,632	349,627	737,573	1,367,802	1,682,250	2,436,890	..
	Av. „	15.25	17.74	16.23	15.73	16.65	18.99	..
Vineyards ..	Area, acs.	16,253	14,570	48,882	63,677	60,602	82,414	..
	Wine, gal.	2,104,000	1,488,000	3,535,000	5,816,087	4,975,147	8,502,578	..
Total value all agricul- tural production .. £		8,941,000	15,519,000	16,480,000	23,835,000	38,774,000	81,889,700	..
Pastoral, dairying, etc.—								
Live Stock	Sheep No.	40,072,955	65,092,719	106,421,068	72,040,211	93,003,521	82,226,470	..
	Cattle „	4,277,228	8,010,991	11,112,112	8,491,428	11,828,954	14,441,309	..
	Horses „	701,530	1,088,029	1,584,737	1,620,420	2,278,226	2,438,182	..
Wool prod., lb. greasy	Pigs	586,017	703,188	845,888	931,309	1,110,721	960,385	..
	Butter production lbs.	179,000,000	332,759,000	631,687,000	543,131,661	721,298,288	641,514,435	..
Cheese ..	Cheese „	(c)	(c)	47,433,564	101,671,066	211,573,745	267,071,340	..
	Bacon and ham „	(c)	(c)	19,146,929	11,575,692	15,886,712	32,653,003	..
Total estimated value of pastoral and dairying production .. £		20,736,000	29,538,000	39,256,000	36,890,000	69,832,000	113,671,000	..
Mineral production—								
Gold ..	£	7,916,627	5,194,390	5,281,309	14,017,508	10,551,624	4,018,685	3,151,418
	Silver and lead ..	36,528	45,622	3,736,352	2,367,687	3,022,177	1,539,992	3,453,472
Copper ..	£	830,242	714,003	1,584,737	2,215,433	2,564,278	803,957	1,245,836
	Tin ..	24,020	1,145,889	560,502	448,234	1,209,973	418,418	572,041
Zinc ..	£	369	200	2,979	4,067	1,415,169	288,455	1,411,652
	Coal ..	330,759	637,865	1,914,026	2,602,770	3,929,673	11,014,831	10,549,571
Total value all mineral production .. £		9,190,330	7,820,290	12,108,759	21,922,665	23,494,324	19,977,384	22,190,926
Forestry production—								
Quantity of local tim- ber sawn or hewn	1,000 sup. ft.	(c)	(c)	(c)	452,131	604,794	590,495	..
	Manufactories							
No. of factories	Hands employed No.	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	14,455	18,023	..
	Wages paid ..	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	311,710	395,425	..
Total value of output ..	Value added in process	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	27,528,371	68,050,561	..
	of manufacture .. £	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	133,022,090	320,331,765	..
						54,017,714	129,921,500	..

(a) Partly estimated 1871 and 1881.
effective comparison is impossible.(b) Owing to variation in classification and lack of information
(c) Information not available. (d) Area of productive cane.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.—AUSTRALIA, 1871 TO 1923—continued.

Heading.	Years.						
	1871.	1881.	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1923.
Shipping—							
Oversea vessels { No. 2,748 3,284 3,778 4,028 4,174 3,674 2,935							
ent. & cleared { ton. 1,312,642 2,549,364 4,726,307 6,541,991 9,984,801 9,503,018 9,172,226							
Commerce (c)—							
Imports oversea £ 17,017,000 29,067,000 37,711,000 42,434,000 66,967,488 103,066,436 140,569,853							
" per head £ 10/3/3 12/16/2 11/16/0 11/3/11 14/18/2 18/14/1 24/8/11							
Exports oversea £ 21,725,000 27,528,000 36,043,000 49,696,000 79,482,258 127,846,535 119,567,407							
" per head £ 12/19/6 12/2/8 11/5/6 13/2/2 17/13/10 23/4/1 20/15/11							
Total oversea trade £ 38,742,000 56,595,000 73,754,000 92,130,000 146,449,746 230,912,971 260,137,260							
" per head £ 23/2/9 24/18/10 23/1/6 24/6/1 32/12/0 41/18/2 45/4/10							
Customs and excise duties .. £ .. 4,809,326 7,440,869 8,656,530 13,515,005 27,565,199 35,752,044							
" per head, £ .. 2/2/5 2/6/7 2/5/8 2/19/2 5/0/1 6/4/4							
Principal Oversea Ex-ports (a)							
Wool { lbs. (greasy) 176,635,800 328,369,200 610,259,800 518,018,100 720,364,900 927,833,700 578,662,125							
" £ 9,459,629 18,173,026 19,940,029 15,237,454 26,071,193 47,977,044 56,196,774							
Wheat { centals 479,954 3,218,792 5,876,875 12,156,035 33,088,704 59,968,334 35,947,288							
" £ 193,732 1,189,762 1,938,864 2,774,643 9,641,608 28,644,155 13,979,242							
Flour { tons 12,988 49,549 33,363 96,814 175,891 359,734 511,749							
" £ 170,415 519,635 328,423 589,604 1,391,529 5,519,881 5,313,527							
Butter { lbs. 1,812,700 1,298,800 4,239,500 34,607,400 101,722,100 127,347,400 65,440,742							
" £ 45,813 39,383 206,868 1,451,168 4,637,362 7,968,078 4,874,910							
Skins and hides £ 100,123 316,878 873,695 1,250,938 3,227,236 3,136,810 6,291,834							
Tallow .. £ 914,278 644,149 571,069 677,745 1,935,836 1,441,795 850,898							
Meats .. £ 566,780 362,965 460,894 2,611,244 4,303,159 5,542,102 3,542,168							
Timber (undressed) £ 42,586 118,117 38,448 731,301 1,023,960 1,158,166 1,251,727							
Gold .. £ 7,184,833 6,445,365 5,703,532 14,315,741 12,045,766 3,483,239 2,850,807							
Silver and lead £ 37,891 57,954 1,932,278 2,250,253 3,212,584 2,583,641 4,404,075							
Copper .. £ 598,538 676,515 417,687 1,619,145 2,345,961 705,358 468,065							
Coal .. £ 134,355 361,081 645,972 986,957 900,622 1,099,899 1,460,148							
Govt. Railways—							
Lgh. of line open, mls. 970 3,832 9,541 12,579 16,078 23,296 23,881							
Capital cost £ 19,269,786 42,741,350 99,764,090 123,223,779 152,194,603 237,479,693 253,526,519							
Gross revenue £ 1,102,650 3,910,122 8,654,085 11,038,468 17,847,837 35,936,900 39,524,527							
Working expenses £ 608,332 2,141,735 5,630,182 7,133,617 10,945,727 29,969,954 29,513,440							
Per cent. of work'g ex- penses on earnings % 55.17 54.77 65.06 64.63 61.33 83.39 74.67							
Postal—							
Letters and postcards dealt with No. 24,382,000 67,640,000 157,297,000 220,853,000 453,063,000 569,343,456 594,278,573							
" per head " 14.54 29.61 49.07 58.26 100.90 104.36 105.49							
Newspapers dealt with No. 3,336,000 38,063,000 85,280,000 102,727,000 141,638,000 130,882,425 151,144,886							
" per head " 7.95 16.66 26.61 27.10 31.54 23.99 26.83							
Cheque-paying Banks—							
Note circulation £ 2,456,487 3,978,711 4,417,269 3,406,175 876,428 211,187 207,228							
Coin & bullion held £ 6,168,869 9,108,243 16,712,923 19,737,572 30,024,225 22,092,371 21,922,281							
Advances £ 26,039,573 57,782,824 129,741,583 89,167,499 116,769,133 233,214,626 255,042,530							
Deposits £ 21,856,959 53,849,455 98,345,338 90,965,530 147,103,081 273,866,737 311,321,503							
Savings Banks—							
Number of accounts open 100,713 250,070 614,741 964,553 1,600,112 3,327,456 3,598,901							
Total deposits £ 3,193,285 7,854,480 15,536,592 30,882,645 59,393,682 154,396,051 171,640,608							
Aver. per account £ 31/14/2 31/8/2 25/5/6 32/0/4 37/2/4 46/8/0 47/13/10							
" head of population £ 1/18/9 3/10/5 4/18/7 8/3/0 13/8/5 28/0/4 30/3/6							
State Schools—							
Number of schools .. 2,502 4,494 6,231 7,012 8,060 9,445 ..							
Teachers .. No. 4,641 9,028 12,564 14,500 16,971 26,120 ..							
Enrolment .. 236,710 432,320 561,153 638,478 638,850 819,042 ..							
Aver. attendance .. 137.767 255.143 350.773 450.246 463.799 666.498 ..							

(a) Australian produce, except gold, which includes re-exports. Preliminary figures for 1923. (b) Decrease due to prohibition of re-issue. (c) Figures for Commerce for years 1921 and 1923 relate to year ended 30th June following.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

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

NOTE.—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" at Botany Bay. Land in vicinity being found unsuitable for settlement, the expedition moved to Sydney Cove (now Port Jackson). Formal possession of Port Jackson taken by Captain Phillip on 26th January. Formal proclamation of colony 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. Outbreak of small-pox amongst aborigines.
- 1790 N.S.W.—"Second Fleet" reached Port Jackson. Landing of the New South Wales Corps. Severe suffering through lack of provisions. First circumnavigation of Australia by Lieut. Ball.
- 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.—First export of coal. First Custom 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. S.A.—Discovery of Spencer's and St. Vincent Gulfs by Flinders. Q'land.—Discovery of Port Curtis and Port Bowen 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 colonization of Port Phillip by Collins. Discovery of Yarra by Grimes. Tas.—First settlement formed at Risdon by Lieut. Bowen.
- 1804 N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Castle Hill. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Port Phillip. Tas.—Foundation of settlement at Hobart by Collins, and at Yorktown by Colonel Paterson.
- 1805 N.S.W.—First extensive sheep farm established at Camden by Capt. Macarthur. Portion of convicts from Norfolk Island transferred to Tasmania.
- 1806 N.S.W.—Shortage of provisions. Floods. Tas.—Settlement at Launceston.
- 1807 N.S.W.—Final shipment of convicts from Norfolk Island. First shipment of merchantable wool (245 lbs.) to England.
- 1808 N.S.W.—Deposition of Governor Bligh.
- 1810 N.S.W.—First post-office established at Sydney. First race meeting in Australia at Hyde Park, Sydney. Tas.—First Tasmanian newspaper printed.
- 1813 N.S.W.—Passage across Blue Mountains discovered by Wentworth, Lawson, and Blaxland. Macquarie River discovered by Evans.
- 1814 N.S.W.—Australia, previously known as "New Holland," received present name on recommendation of Flinders. Creation of Civil Courts.

Year.

- 1815 N.S.W.—Town of Bathurst founded by Governor Macquarie. 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.—Botanic Garden formed at Sydney.
- 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 opened at Sydney.
- 1818 N.S.W.—Cessation of free immigration. Liverpool Plains, and the Peel, Hastings, and Manning Rivers discovered by Oxley, and Port Essington. by Captain King.
- 1819 N.S.W.—First Australian Savings Bank opened at Sydney.
- 1820 Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep.
- 1821 Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1823 N.S.W.—First Australian Constitution. Discovery of gold at Fish River by Assistant-Surveyor McBrien. Qld.—Brisbane River discovered by Oxley.
- 1824 N.S.W.—Erection into 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 Parliament at Sydney. 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.—Separation of Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania).
- 1826 N.S.W.—Settlement in Illawarra District. Vic.—Settlement at Corinella, Western Port, formed by Captain Wright. W.A.—Military Settlement founded at King George's Sound, Albany, by Major Lockyer.
- 1827 N.S.W.—Colony became self-supporting. Feverish speculation in land and stock. Qld.—Darling Downs and the Condamine River discovered by Allan Cunningham.
- 1828 N.S.W.—Second constitution. First Census. Sturt's expedition down Darling River. Cotton first grown in Sydney Botanical Gardens. 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 to its source.
- 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.—Insurrection of convicts at Bathurst. Sturt, voyaging down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, arrived at Lake Alexandrina. Tas.—Trouble with natives. Black line organized to force aborigines into Tasmania's Peninsula, but failed. Between 1830 and 1835, however, George Robinson, by friendly suasion, succeeded in gathering the small remnant of aborigines (203) into settlement on Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Crown lands first disposed of by public competition. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. Arrival at Sydney of first steamer, *Sophia Jane*, from England. S.S. *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.—Savings Bank of N.S.W. 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 Bros. Qld.—Leichhardt reached Gulf of Carpentaria. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. W.A.—Severe reprisals against natives at Pinjarrah.
- 1835 N.S.W.—Establishment of depot at Fort Bourke on the Darling River, by Mitchell. Vic.—John Batman arrived at Port Phillip; made treaty with the natives for 600,000 acres of land; claim afterwards disallowed by Imperial Government. John Pascoe Fawkner founded Melbourne.
- 1836 N.S.W.—Mitchell's overland journey from Sydney to Cape Northumberland, Vic., "Squatting" formally recognised. Vic.—Proclamation of Port Phillip district as open for settlement. S.A.—Settlement founded at Adelaide under Governor Hindmarsh.

Year.

- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Vic.—Melbourne planned and named by Governor Bourke. First Victorian post-office established in Melbourne. First overlanders from Sydney arrived at Port Phillip. S.A.—Adelaide planned by Captain Light.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Drought and failure of crops. Frenzied speculation. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Brisbane. 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.
- 1839 N.S.W.—Gold found at Vale of Clwydd by Count Strzelecki. 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 payment for public works and expenditure on immigration. Monetary crisis. 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 by Rev. W. B. Clarke. Separation of New Zealand. W.A.—Completion of Eyre’s overland journey from Adelaide to King George’s Sound. Tas.—Renewal of transportation.
- 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. First manufacture of tweed. Financial crisis. Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation.
- 1844 S.A.—Sturt’s last expedition inland. Qld.—Leichhardt’s expedition from Condamine River to Port Essington.
- 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. W.A.—Foundation of New Norcia Mission.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Iron smelting commenced near Berrima. Overland mail established between Sydney and Adelaide. Vic.—Melbourne created a City. Qld.—Explorations by Leichhardt, Burnett, and Kennedy.
- 1848 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 goldfields of California. Vic.—*Randolph* prevented from landing convicts. Qld.—Assignment of convicts per *Hashemy* 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. Vic.—Gold discovered at Clunes by Hon. W. Campbell. 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 Creeks. Telegraph first used. Vic.—Separation of Port Phillip—erected into independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold in various localities. “Black Thursday,” 6th Feb., a day of intense heat, when several persons died and a vast amount of damage to property was occasioned by fires. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Destruction of Gundagai by flood—77 lives lost. Arrival of the *Chusan*, first P. and O. mail steamer from England. S.A.—First steamer ascends the Murray River to the junction with the Darling. Tas.—Meeting of first elective Council protests against transportation. Payable gold discovered at The Nook, near Fingal, and at Nine Mile Springs.
- 1853 Tas.—Abolition of transportation.
- 1854 N.S.W.—Russian war-scare and volunteer movement. Vic.—Opening of first Victorian railway—Flinders-street to Port Melbourne. Riots on Ballarat goldfields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, 3rd Dec.

- Year.
- 1855 N.S.W.—Opening of railway—Sydney to Parramatta. Introduction of Responsible Government. Mint opened. Vic.—Proclamation of Constitution. Qld.—Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt. Tas.—Responsible Government introduced.
- 1856 N.S.W.—First elective Parliament. Pitcairn Islanders placed on Norfolk Island. S.A.—Responsible Government introduced. W.A.—A. C. Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt.
- 1857 N.S.W.—Heavy floods. Wreck of the *Dunbar* (119 lives lost), and *Catherine Adamson* (21 lives lost), at Sydney Heads. Select Committee on Federation. Vic.—Manhood suffrage established. 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.
- 1859 Qld.—Proclamation of Queensland as separate colony. Tas.—First submarine cable, via Circular Head and King Island, to Cape Otway.
- 1860 N.S.W.—Disastrous floods on the Shoalhaven and at Araluen. Vic.—Burke and Wills left Melbourne on their journey across Continent. S.A.—Copper discoveries at Wallaroo and Moonta.
- 1861 N.S.W.—Anti-Chinese riots at Lambing Flat and Burrangong goldfields. 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.—Raid by bushrangers on the Lachlan gold escort (£14,000 taken), Abolition of State aid to religion. Real Property Act. S.A.—Stuart crossed the Continent from south to north. W.A.—Severe floods—damage to property, £30,000. 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.
- 1864 N.S.W.—Frequent outrages by bushrangers. Qld.—First railway begun and opened. First sugar made from Queensland cane. Tas.—First successful shipment of English salmon ova.
- 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. Qld.—Financial crisis. S.A.—Introduction of camels for exploration, etc.
- 1867 Vic.—Imposition of protective tariff. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Gympie.
- 1868 N.S.W.—Attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh at Clontarf, near Sydney. W.A.—Arrival of the *Hougomont*, last convict ship. Tas.—First sod of first railway (Launceston and Western) turned by Duke of Edinburgh.
- 1869 N.S.W.—Establishment of Eskbank Iron Company. 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 trans-continental telegraph.
- 1871 N.S.W.—Permanent military force raised. Vic.—Increase of protective duties. W.A.—Passage of Elementary Education Act. Forrest's explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Bischoff. Launceston-Western railway opened for traffic.
- 1872 N.S.W.—International Exhibition at Sydney. Vic.—Mint opened. S.A.—Cable from Java to Port Darwin. Completion of transcontinental telegraph line. W.A.—Cyclonic storms—destruction of town of Roebourne.
- 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. W.A.—John and Alexander Forrest arrived at Overland Telegraph from Murchison.
- 1875 Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island. S.A.—Wreck of the *Gothenburg*—Judge Wearing and other well-known Adelaide citizens drowned.
- 1876 N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney (La Perouse) to Wellington (Wakapuaka). W.A.—Violent gale at Exmouth Gulf, number of pearling vessels wrecked, 69 lives lost. Giles crosses colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aborigines.
- 1877 W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia.
- 1878 N.S.W.—Seamen's strike. Vic.—"Black Wednesday"—wholesale dismissal of civil servants. Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration.

Year.

- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Killara. International Exhibition at Garden Palace, Sydney. 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.—Opening of first Victorian International Exhibition at Melbourne.
Federal Conference, at Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration. W.A.—Cyclone near Roebourne wrecked number of pearling vessels. On the Ashburton, 1,000 sheep destroyed by cyclone.
Visit to Australia of T.R.H. Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales.
- 1882 N.S.W.—Garden Palace destroyed by fire. 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.
- 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 N.S.W.—Wreck of the *Ly-ee-Moon*, *Coringamite*, and *Helen Nicol*. Tas.—Discovery of gold and copper at Mount Lyell.
First session of Federal Council met at Hobart on the 26th January.
- 1887 N.S.W.—Disaster at Bulli coal mine (81 lives lost). Peat's Ferry (Hawkesbury River) railway accident. S.A.—International Exhibition at Adelaide. W.A.—Cyclone destroyed nearly the whole pearling fleet off the Ninety-Mile Beach—200 lives lost. Gold discovered at Southern Cross.
Australasian Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Centennial celebrations. Restrictive legislation against Chinese, imposing poll-tax of £100. Vic.—Second Victorian International Exhibition held at Melbourne. 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.—Direct railway communication established between Brisbane and Adelaide. W.A.—Framing of new Constitution.
- 1890 N.S.W.—Strike at Broken Hill. Maritime and shearers' strikes. Payment of members of Parliament. Qld.—Wreck of the *Quetta*—146 lives lost. Floods and hurricanes. W.A.—Responsible Government granted.
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference.
- 1891 N.S.W.—Election to Legislative Assembly of 35 Labour members. Arrival of Australian Auxiliary Squadron. Cessation of assisted immigration. W.A.—Discovery of gold on the Murchison.
Federal Convention in Sydney: draft bill framed and adopted.
- 1892 N.S.W.—Broken Hill miners' strike. Run on Government Savings Bank. W.A.—Discovery of gold by Messrs. Bayley and Ford at Coolgardie.
- 1893 N.S.W.—Departure by the *Royal Tar* of colonists for "New Australia." Electoral Act—"One man one vote." Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1894 N.S.W.—Shearers' strike. S.A.—Adult Suffrage Bill.
- 1895 N.S.W.—Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes introduced.
Conference of Premiers at Hobart *re* Federation.
- 1896 N.S.W.—People's Federal Convention at Bathurst.
- 1897 S.A.—Earthquake and hurricane in Northern Territory. Town of Palmerston destroyed.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney, and Melbourne.
- 1898 N.S.W.—First surplus of wheat for export.
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.

Year.

- 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.
- 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 Vic.—Old-age Pensions instituted.
Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney. First Federal Parliament opened at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York. Interstate free-trade established.
- 1902 N.S.W.—Disastrous explosion at Mount Kembla Colliery—95 lives lost. W.A.—Opening of pumping station at Northam in connexion with Goldfields water supply. Completion of Pacific Cable (all-British)
First Federal Tariff.
- 1903 Vic.—Railway Strike (Enginemen). W.A.—Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie Water Supply Scheme completed.
Inauguration of the Federal High Court.
- 1905 N.S.W.—Re-introduction of assisted immigration.
- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliff, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Papua taken over by Commonwealth.
- 1907 N.S.W.—Telephone, Sydney to Melbourne, opened.
Imperial Conference in London.
- 1908 Vic.—Railway accident at Braybrook Junction (Sunshine)—44 killed, 412 injured; compensation paid, £126,000.
Yass-Canberra chosen as site of Federal Capital. Interstate Premiers' Conference at Melbourne.
- 1909 N.S.W.—Miners' strikes at Broken Hill and Newcastle. S.A.—*Clan Ranald* foundered in St. Vincent's Gulf—40 drowned. W.A.—Cyclone at Broome.
Imperial Defence Conference in London—Commonwealth ordered two destroyers and one first-class cruiser for fleet unit. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Commonwealth military defence. Loss of the *Waratah* with 300 passengers and crew.
- 1910 Vic.—Railway accident at Richmond—9 killed, over 400 injured; compensation paid, £129,000. W.A.—Cyclone at Broome—several pearling vessels wrecked, three whites and many coloured fishermen drowned.
Referendum on financial relations between the Commonwealth and the States. Penny postage. Arrival of the *Yarra* and *Parramatta*, first vessels of 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 Northern Territory to Commonwealth. Introduction of compulsory military training. Launch of Commonwealth destroyer *Warrego* at Sydney. Establishment of penny postage to all parts of British Empire.
- 1912 Opening of Commonwealth Bank. First payments of Maternity Bonus. First sod turned at Port Augusta of Trans-Australian Railway (Port Augusta to Kalgoorlie). Gift of £1,000,000 to charities by Mrs. Walter Hall, Sydney, N.S.W.
- 1913 Arrival of battle cruiser *Australia*, and cruisers *Melbourne* and *Sydney*. Federal 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. Visit of British Association for the Advancement of Science.
European War. Australian Navy transferred to Imperial Navy. Captured vessels added to Australian fleet. Submarine *AE1* lost at sea whilst on service in the vicinity of New Britain. German Pacific possessions seized by Australian expeditionary force (military and naval). Australian troops offered to, and accepted by Imperial Government. German Cruiser *Emden* destroyed at North Cocos Island by H.M.A.S. *Sydney*.

Year.

- 1915 Opening of Broken Hill Proprietary's Ironworks at Newcastle, N.S.W. Navy Department created. Australian troops landed at Dardanelles on 25th April. Loss of Submarine AE2 in operations at the Dardanelles. Census taken of Wealth and Income, and of males in Australia between ages of 17 and 60. Australian troops withdrawn from Gallipoli on 19th December.
- 1916 Record wheat harvest (180,000,000 bushels). Australian troops transferred to France. Visit of Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, P.C., K.C., Prime Minister, to Canada, Great Britain, and South Africa, and to troops in England and France. Acquisition of steamships by the Commonwealth. First Military Service Referendum.
- 1917 National Ministry formed. General strike. Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta railway completed. Second Military Service Referendum.
- 1918 Population of Australia reaches 5,000,000. Australian troops in France formed into an Army Corps, commanded by Lieut.-Gen. Sir John Monash. Cessation of hostilities and surrender of Germany. Repatriation Department created. Australia House (Strand, London) opened by the King. Deaths of Sir G. H. Reid and of Lord Forrest of Bunbury.
- 1918-1919 Visit to America and Europe of Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, P.C., K.C., Prime Minister, representative at Peace Conference.
- 1919 Epidemic of influenza. Seamen's strike. Strike of Broken Hill miners. Aerial flight England to Australia by Capt. Sir Ross Smith and Lieut. Sir Keith Smith. Death of Hon. Alfred Deakin. Visit to Australia of General Sir W. Birdwood. Visit of Admiral Lord Jellicoe.
- 1920 Visit to Australia of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Aerial flight England to Australia by Lieuts. Parer and McIntosh. Deaths of Rt. Hon. Sir Edmund Barton and of Rt. Hon. Sir Samuel Griffith.
- 1921 Visit to Imperial Conference of Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes, P.C., K.C., Prime Minister. Second Commonwealth Census. Germany's Indemnity fixed (Australia's share approximately £63,000,000). Visit of Senator Pearce (Minister for Defence) to Disarmament Conference at Washington. Colliery disaster at Mt. Mulligan, Queensland—76 lives lost. Mandate given to Australia over Territory of New Guinea. First direct wireless press message, England to Australia.
- 1922 Economic Conference at Sydney. First lock on River Murray opened at Blanchetown, South Australia.
- 1923 Rt. Hon. S. M. Bruce, P.C., M.C., Prime Minister. Premiers' Conference, Melbourne. First sod, site of Federal Parliament House at Canberra, turned. Pan-Pacific Science Congress, Melbourne. Visit of Rt. Hon. S. M. Bruce, P.C., M.C., Prime Minister, to Imperial Conference, London, and afterwards to European and Gallipoli battlefields (September, 1923, to March, 1924). Police dispute in Melbourne, with accompanying riots.