

SOCIAL CONDITION.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY.

The University of Melbourne.

The University of Melbourne was incorporated and endowed by an Act of the Governor and Legislative Council of Victoria, to which the Royal assent was given on 22nd January, 1853. The University buildings, together with those of the affiliated colleges, are situated on 106 acres of land, in the southern part of Carlton. The University consists of a Council and Senate, and is incorporated and made a body politic with perpetual succession. It has power to grant degrees, diplomas, certificates, and licences in all faculties except divinity. The Council consists of twenty members elected by the Senate for a term of five years, together with three members appointed by the Governor in Council. It elects two of its members to be Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor respectively. The Senate consists of all male persons who have graduated doctor or master in the University. It elects a Warden annually from its members. Control and management are in the hands of the Council. Council and Senate conjointly make statutes and regulations. There is no religious test for admission. By Royal letters patent of 14th March, 1859, it is declared that the degrees of the University of Melbourne shall be as fully recognised as those of any University in the United Kingdom. Scholarships, exhibitions, and prizes are provided in all the principal subjects, the cost being defrayed partly out of University funds and partly by private bequests. In the matter of endowment by private persons, the Melbourne University does not, however, compare favorably with others. The Act of 1853 provides for an endowment of £9,000 annually for maintenance and management. Additional grants have been voted annually by Parliament for maintenance, and from time to time for building purposes. Since 1853 the total amount received from the Government has been £834,245—£174,745 for building and apparatus, £542,500 endowment under "Special Appropriation Act," 16 Vic. 34, and £117,000 additional endowment by annual votes of the Legislature. By Act No. 1926 of 1904 an additional endowment of £11,000 annually is provided for a period of ten years, conditionally on the University undertaking teaching in agriculture and mining, and granting a number of free scholarships to pupils from the primary schools; also £1,000 on condition that Evening Lectures are held at the University. In addition, the Council derives income from the fees paid by students for lectures, examinations, certificates, and diplomas. These are charged as follows:—

- For the degree of Bachelor of Arts, £12 12s. per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Science, £21 per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Laws, £12 12s. for each of the 1st and 2nd years; £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery, £22 per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Civil Engineering, Bachelor of Electrical Engineering, Bachelor of Mining Engineering, Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering, £18 18s. for the 1st year; £21 for the 2nd year; £25 4s. for each of the 3rd and 4th years.

- For the degree of Bachelor of Music and Diploma in Music, £12 12s. per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine, £22 for the 1st year, £25 for each of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years, and £20 for the 5th year.
- For the Licence in Veterinary Medicine, £18 for the 1st year and £25 for each of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years.
- For the degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery, fees are paid to the Australian College of Dentistry.
- For the course for Diploma of Education, £6 6s. per annum for Students of the Education Department, and Special Fees for other Students, according to subjects taken.
- For the Diploma of Agriculture, £21 per annum.
- For the Diplomas in Mining and in Metallurgy, £18 18s. for the 1st year, £21 for the 2nd year, and £25 4s. for the 3rd year.
- For the Diploma in Architecture, £12 12s. per annum.
- For single subjects, special fees are charged, ranging from £3 3s. each annually for Art subjects to £21 for Science subjects, in which laboratory work plays a great part.
- For admission to degrees, £7 7s. is payable by bachelors (except Dentistry, £3 3s.) £10 10s. by masters, £5 5s. for any *ad eundem* degree.
- For any diploma, £3 3s. is the fee.
- For certificates of matriculation, attendance upon lectures, &c., special small fees are charged.

Examinations.

In May, 1906, the last matriculation examination was held, and the new system of junior and senior public and commercial examinations was introduced in December, 1906. Under the regulations, the rights of all candidates who had passed any subject at any previous matriculation examination were reserved. The appended table gives the results of the public examinations conducted by the University during 1908:—

PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS CONDUCTED BY THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1908.

| Examination— | Number who attempted to Pass fully. | Number who Passed fully. | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| | | Total. | Percentage. |
| Primary | 270 | 116 | 42·9 |
| Junior, Public | 1,365 | 539 | 39·4 |
| „ Commercial | 88 | 22 | 25·0 |
| Senior, Public | 175 | 102 | 58·3 |

No candidate attempted to pass fully in the Senior Commercial Examination. The percentage of passes obtained at the Junior Public Examination, viz., 39·4, was a little lower than that generally gained at previous Matriculation examinations. The following were the percentages of passes at some of the latest Matriculation Examinations:—

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| 1903—May | 48·74 |
| „ —December | 36·66 |
| 1904—May | 47·44 |
| „ —December | 39·87 |
| 1905—May | 43·00 |
| „ —December | 38·38 |

The number of degrees taken in 1908 was 169, 167 of which were direct and 2 *ad eundem*, as against a total of 748 for the preceding five years, or an average of 149 per year. The direct graduates numbered 712, and the *ad eundem* degrees 36 in the preceding five years. Of the total number of 4,277 degrees, since the establishment of the University, 380 have been conferred on women, 376 of which were direct and four *ad eundem*. These were apportioned as follows:—176 Bachelor of Arts, 84 Master of Arts, 46 Bachelor of Medicine, 2 Doctor of Medicine, 41 Bachelor of Surgery, 2 Bachelor of Laws, 1 Doctor of Science, 17 Bachelor of Science, 9 Master of Science, and 2 Bachelor of Music. The following table shows the number of degrees conferred at the University between the date of its first opening and the end of 1908—the years 1907 and 1908 being shown separately:—

DEGREES CONFERRED.

| Degrees. | Prior to 1907. | | | During 1907. | | | During 1908. | | | Total. | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|--------|--------------|-------------------|--------|---------|-------------------|--------|
| | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. | Direct. | <i>Ad eundem.</i> | Total. |
| Bachelor of Arts ... | 867 | 110 | 977 | 28 | ... | 28 | 20 | 2 | 22 | 915 | 112 | 1027 |
| Master of Arts ... | 493 | 168 | 661 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 15 | ... | 15 | 516 | 169 | 685 |
| Doctor of Letters ... | .. | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Bachelor of Medicine | 700 | 15 | 715 | 33 | ... | 33 | 45 | ... | 45 | 778 | 15 | 793 |
| Doctor of Medicine ... | 119 | 107 | 226 | 8 | ... | 8 | 5 | ... | 5 | 132 | 107 | 239 |
| Bachelor of Surgery | 609 | 4 | 613 | 39 | ... | 39 | 45 | ... | 45 | 693 | 4 | 697 |
| Master of Surgery ... | 15 | ... | 15 | ... | ... | ... | 1 | ... | 1 | 16 | ... | 16 |
| Bachelor of Laws ... | 334 | 9 | 343 | 6 | ... | 6 | 8 | ... | 8 | 348 | 9 | 357 |
| Master of Laws ... | 66 | 3 | 69 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 68 | 3 | 71 |
| Doctor of Laws ... | 15 | 20 | 35 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 15 | 21 | 36 |
| Bachelor of Engineering | 138 | 2 | 140 | 5 | ... | 5 | 5 | ... | 5 | 148 | 2 | 150 |
| Bachelor of Mining Engineering ... | 7 | ... | 7 | 2 | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | 2 | 11 | ... | 11 |
| Master of Engineering | 68 | ... | 68 | 3 | ... | 3 | 3 | ... | 3 | 74 | ... | 74 |
| Bachelor of Science . | 45 | ... | 48 | 8 | ... | 8 | 10 | ... | 10 | 63 | 3 | 66 |
| Master of Science . | 21 | 1 | 22 | 3 | ... | 3 | 1 | ... | 1 | 25 | 1 | 26 |
| Doctor of Science . | 4 | 7 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | ... | 2 | 7 | 8 | 15 |
| Bachelor of Music ... | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| Doctor of Music ... | ... | 2 | 2 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| Bachelor of Dental Surgery ... | 1 | ... | 1 | ... | ... | ... | 2 | ... | 2 | 3 | ... | 3 |
| Total .. | 3505 | 454 | 3959 | 146 | 3 | 149 | 167 | 2 | 169 | 3818 | 459 | 4277 |

Students attending lectures and undergraduates admitted.

The number of persons attending lectures has greatly increased during the past five years, the total in 1908 being 1,043, as compared with 615 in 1904, an advance of nearly 70 per cent. To some extent, this is due to the inclusion of new subjects in University teaching, principally agriculture, metallurgy, mining, and public health; but apart from these, the increase is very large. A great improvement is also shown in the admission of undergraduates, the number having increased by 50 per cent. in the years stated.

PERSONS ADMITTED AS UNDERGRADUATES, AND STUDENTS ATTENDING LECTURES, 1904 TO 1908.

| Year. | Number of Persons Matriculated and Admitted as Undergraduates. | | | Number of Students Attending Lectures. | | |
|----------|--|----------|--------|--|----------|--------|
| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| 1904 ... | 110 | 21 | 131 | 431 | 184 | 615 |
| 1905 ... | 156 | 39 | 195 | 586 | 216 | 802 |
| 1906 ... | 153 | 44 | 197 | 648 | 212 | 860 |
| 1907 ... | 186 | 41 | 227 | 749 | 231 | 980 |
| 1908 ... | 164 | 38 | 202 | 778 | 265 | 1,043 |

Of the 1,043 persons attending lectures in 1908, 228 were students in Arts, 97 in Laws, 64 in Engineering, 342 in Medicine, 50 in Science, 116 in Music, 58 in Education, 77 in Dentistry, 2 in Public Health, 1 in Metallurgy, and 8 in Agriculture.

University finance.

Lecture and examination fees comprised 48 per cent. of the total receipts of the University in 1908. The Government grant amounted to 50 per cent., and only the very small proportion of 2 per cent. came from outside sources.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE OF THE MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY, 1904 TO 1908.

| | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. |
|---------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Receipts— | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Government grant | 16,750 | 21,000 | 21,000 | 21,000 | 21,000 |
| Lecture, degree, and examination fees | 15,572 | 15,594 | 18,918 | 18,839 | 20,029 |
| Other sources ... | 528 | 461 | 558 | 622 | 824 |
| Total ... | 32,850 | 37,055 | 40,476 | 40,461 | 41,853 |
| Expenditure ... | 28,092 | 32,271 | 35,301 | 37,543 | 38,348 |

AFFILIATED COLLEGES.

The permission accorded by the "University Act of Incorporation" for the establishment of affiliated colleges has been taken advantage of by the clergy and people of the Church of England, and of the Presbyterian and Methodist Churches of Victoria. Large residential colleges have been built upon the sites reserved for this purpose, which are situated in the northern portion of the University grounds, fronting Sydney-road and College-crescent, Carlton. These colleges, which admit students without regard to their religious beliefs, maintain efficient staffs of tutors and lecturers for the teaching of the principal subjects in each of the University courses. They also provide training for the ministers of their respective denominations. The Roman Catholic body has not yet erected a college upon its site in Madeline-street. In 1906, the Australian College of Dentistry was formally affiliated with the University, which obtained certain rights of supervision and control, and in return undertook to recognise the professional teaching of the College for the purpose of the newly-instituted Degree of Bachelor of Dental Surgery.

The
affiliated
colleges.

The Anglican Church was the first to avail itself of the right. In 1869, Bishop Perry (then Lord Bishop of Melbourne), assisted by Professor Wilson and others, undertook to raise the funds required for the college buildings. Their efforts were crowned with success, and the building of Trinity was commenced in the following year. Its progress was remarkably rapid, and in 1877 it was found necessary to increase the accommodation for students. In 1883 the Clarke buildings were erected by Sir W. J. and Mr. Joseph Clarke, and additions have been repeatedly made since that time. In 1886, Trinity College Hostel, for resident women students of the college, was established by the present Warden, and was carried on until 1890 in houses rented by him. In 1890, mainly through the munificence of the late Janet Lady Clarke, the Hostel was supplied with permanent buildings erected within the College precincts, and named "The Janet Clarke Buildings." The Hostel forms an integral part of Trinity College, and the women students of the college consequently enjoy all its educational advantages on equal terms with the men students. The Hostel, like the College itself, is open to students of all religious denominations. The college buildings consist of a chapel, dining hall, chemical and biological laboratories, lecture-rooms, libraries, and students' common-room, in addition to apartments for the Warden, tutors, and students. Fresh additions are now contemplated in consequence of the great increase in the number of students seeking admission, many of whom it is necessary to refuse each year. The Warden of the college is Dr. A. Leeper, M.A., LL.D., late of Trinity College, Dublin, and of St. John's College, Oxford, who is assisted by a staff of ten tutors and lecturers. The college annually holds, in the month of November, an examination for open scholarships and exhibitions. Prospectuses may be obtained on application to the Warden.

Trinity
College.

Ormond
College.

In 1877, the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Victoria appointed a committee to take charge of the site in its interests. Shortly afterwards it was resolved to raise subscriptions, to obtain the Crown grant for the land, and to proceed with the erection of a college. When £6,000 was subscribed for the purpose, Mr. Francis Ormond offered £10,000, provided that the Church obtained £10,000 from other sources, and in less than a year the Council was in a position to receive Mr. Ormond's subscription. The buildings were at once commenced, and the college was opened in March, 1881. It was then announced that Mr. Ormond would bear the whole expense of the structural part of the building, so that the remaining subscriptions could be entirely devoted to payments for fittings, improvements, repairs, &c. In 1883 the buildings were enlarged. In 1887 Mr. Ormond erected the Victoria wing, in honour of the late Queen's Jubilee. The buildings comprise lecture and reading-rooms, common-room, and masters', tutors', and students' quarters. They form a college of residence for students attending the University of Melbourne in Arts, Science, Law, Medicine, Engineering, Mining, and Agriculture. The college is open to members of all religious denominations. In it are delivered the lectures of the Theological Hall of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria for the training of ministers of that church. The theological course covers three years after a student has taken his B.A. degree in the University, and the lectures are given by a staff specially set apart for that purpose. Mr. Ormond's benefactions, amounting to £41,780 during his lifetime, were increased under his bequest to a sum which will ultimately amount to £100,000. The college bears the name of this generous donor. The master is Dr. J. H. MacFarland, M.A., LL.D.

Queen's
College.

The Conference of the Methodist Church in Victoria, in 1878, appointed a committee to arrange for the building of a college. A request for donations met with a generous response, the first donor being Sir William McArthur, who made a gift of £1,000. The work of erecting the college was not, however, commenced until 1887. It was formally opened in March, 1888. The strenuous efforts of the Rev. W. A. Quick, in the establishment of the college, entitle him to the honour of being practically its founder. In 1889 large additions were made to the buildings, which now comprise fully equipped lecture-rooms, laboratories, library, reading-rooms, and apartments for the master, tutors, and students. Further additions were made in 1905, and the college is now capable of accommodating about 50 students and tutors. The master is the Rev. E. H. Sugden, M.A., B.Sc.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION.

University
extension.

The system of local lectures and classes, known as University Extension, which has been in vogue in England for nearly 40 years, and has more lately been introduced into the countries of Europe and the United States, was organized in Victoria in 1891, under a board appointed by the Melbourne University. The system aims at

bringing teaching of the scope and standard of that given at the University itself within the reach of the numerous and constantly growing class of people whose position in life prevents them from attending lectures there, but who wish to devote their leisure to systematic reading and study. To these, material assistance is given by formal lectures, illustrated, where the subject requires it, by demonstrations and experiments, informal classes and discussions, checking written essays, and examinations, by men of special training. By thus systematizing the knowledge of the extension students, guiding their reading, and suggesting new methods and new directions of inquiry, the higher education is imparted to them. The lectures are not of the ordinary popular kind. Their primary object is education, they seek to instruct and stimulate rather than to entertain; at the same time, they endeavour to avoid pedantry and dullness. The lectures are delivered in courses, and thus fairly wide subjects may be treated with some approach to thoroughness. The work is carried on by local committees, both in Melbourne and suburbs, and in urban centres, acting in conjunction with the Central Board. This body supplies a list of suitable courses of lectures by competent and approved lecturers, and the local committee chooses the lecturer and subject. In 1904 there were eight centres, eight courses of lectures, and 950 students enrolled. In 1905 and 1906 respectively only five centres were active, and five courses of lectures were delivered. In 1907 and 1908, the number of active centres was only four, but the attendance was well maintained.

THE STATE EDUCATION SYSTEM.

The present system of "free, compulsory, and secular" education came into operation on 1st January, 1873, the Act which introduced it having been passed in the previous year. Subsequently, this Act, with two Amending Acts passed in 1876 and 1889, was consolidated in the *Education Act* 1890, which in turn has been amended by Act No. 1777, passed in December, 1901, and Act No. 2005 passed in December, 1905. Before the inception of the present system, several different systems were tried. Prior to 1848 education was left to private enterprise; but in that year a denominational system was introduced and administered by a Board, a subsidy being granted by the State. Under that system, religious as well as secular instruction was imparted by the teachers—the former being given according to the principles of the denomination to which the school was attached, the clergy of which also exercised control over the instruction imparted. On the separation of Port Phillip district from New South Wales in 1851, a Board of National Education was established in the new Colony of Victoria "for the formation and management of schools to be conducted under Lord Stanley's National System of Education, and for administering the funds in connexion therewith." There were thus two systems of education under separate boards in operation at the same time, the duplicate system continuing in force until 1862, when it was abolished as being cumbrous and costly. The

The educational system of Victoria.

Common Schools Act 1862 transferred the powers of both boards to a single Board of Education, provided a limit to the distance between which schools might be established, and fixed a minimum of scholars a school must have in order to entitle it to State aid; it prescribed, moreover, that four hours each day must be set apart for secular instruction, and that no child be refused admission to any school on account of its religious persuasion. Although this Act caused some improvement, it was not such as to wholly abolish denominationalism, nor did it reduce the number of small schools to any appreciable extent. It continued in force, however, for ten years, when it was repealed by the Act of 1872. Under these systems, a fee ranging from 6d. to 2s. 6d. weekly was charged to all children except those whose parents were in destitute circumstances. Under the Act of 1872, education was made free to all willing to accept it; compulsory, in the sense that, whether they attend or do not attend State schools, evidence must be produced that all children are educated up to a certain standard; and secular, no teacher being allowed to give other than secular instruction in any State school building. Facilities are, however, afforded to persons other than State school teachers to give religious instruction, on one or two days each week, to the children of the parents who desire that their children shall receive such instruction.

Main details
of the
system.

In each school four hours at least are set apart during each school day for secular instruction, two hours of which are to be before, and two hours after, noon. Secular instruction, in the case of children over nine years of age, includes the teaching of some recognised lesson-books on the laws of health and lessons from some recognised temperance lesson-books.

Compulsory
clauses.

Parents and custodians of children not less than six nor more than fourteen years of age (up to 31st December, 1905, the statutory age was from six to thirteen years), are required to cause such children to attend a State school for not less than eight half-days in any week, in which the school is open for ten (10) half-days. Non-attendance may be excused for any of the four following reasons:—(1) If the child is receiving efficient instruction in some other manner, and is complying with the prescribed conditions as to regularity of attendance; or (2) has been prevented from attending by sickness, fear of infection, temporary or permanent infirmity, or any unavoidable cause; or (3) is twelve years of age, and has been educated up to the standard, or has been excused by a general or particular order of the Minister; or (4) that there is no State school within one, two, two and a half, or three miles in the case of children under seven, between seven and nine, between nine and eleven, and over eleven years of age respectively. In regard to the latter cause, however, in cases where schools are closed through low average attendance, or where, though there is no school, the number of children would warrant the department in establishing a school, allowances are made by the department for the conveyance of children to the nearest school. The amount of the allowance is 3d. per day for children over six and

under twelve who reside between two and a half and three miles from the nearest school, or 4d. per day for all children over six and under thirteen who reside three miles or over from the nearest school. Parents and custodians who fail to make a child attend as provided may be summoned and fined not less than 2s., nor more than 10s., for each such offence, or in default, may be imprisoned for any term not exceeding three days; and truant officers are appointed to see that the compulsory provisions are carried out.

There are at present 378 school districts, in each of which a Board of Advice is elected every three years by the ratepayers in the district, the members of such boards being seven or five according to the size or importance of the district. The main functions of a Board of Advice are:—To report on the condition of schools and premises, whether new ones are required, and as to books, furniture, gymnastic appliances or other requirements; to suspend teachers for misconduct, and report cause to the Minister; to visit schools, record the number present, and its opinion as to the general condition and the management of the schools in the district; and to endeavour to induce parents to send their children regularly to school, to compare the attendance with the roll, and report names of parents who fail to comply with the compulsory clauses.

The following are the subjects in which instruction is absolutely free:—Reading, writing, arithmetic, grammar, geography, history, drill, singing, drawing, elementary science, manual training, gymnastics, and swimming where practicable; lessons on the laws of health and on temperance previously mentioned; and needlework, and, where practicable, cookery, and domestic economy for girls. Pupils buy their own books and material. To cover the cost of the latter for paper work and cardboard modelling, 1d. per week is charged, and for woodwork 2d. per week. For instruction in other branches, fees are charged to the parents, and the teacher is entitled to such fees if the inspector is satisfied with the instruction imparted.

In the latter half of 1902, a revised programme of free instruction was issued, the provisions of which are such as to secure a more realistic treatment than formerly of the essential subjects of school education, and a larger share of attention to the training of the hand and eye through manual instruction in various forms. The requirements from teachers of infants were also made such as to secure methods of teaching in accord with the principles enunciated by Froebel, the founder of the kindergarten system. Great activity has been displayed in the training of teachers for the new work. During the past few years hundreds of country teachers have been instructed, at the University and Training College, in such subjects as drawing, brush-work, paper-work, cardboard modelling, kindergarten, experimental science, and nature-study; while, at centres throughout the State, Saturday classes have been held in several of these subjects.

Drill,
swimming,
school gar-
dens, &c.

There were, on the 30th June, 1908, 25 Sloyd centres in operation, having accommodation for 5,140 boys; and sixteen cookery centres, having accommodation for 2,080 girls. Military drill receives a large share of attention, and the older boys of the larger schools are enrolled in corps and provided with light rifles. The teaching of swimming is organized where practicable, the children being formed into swimming clubs, which hold annual competitions at Melbourne and Geelong. The cultivation of school gardens and the study of the elements of agriculture are warmly encouraged by the Department's officers; and every facility is offered for the celebration of arbor days.

Extra
subjects.

The following are the extra subjects and the fees chargeable:—Latin, French, German, and painting, for which the fee must not exceed one shilling weekly; natural science (other than that provided in the course of free instruction) Euclid, algebra, trigonometry, fancy work, elocution, shorthand, and typewriting, fee not exceeding sixpence weekly; bookkeeping and calisthenics, fee not exceeding threepence weekly; and such other subjects as may be approved by the Director. The instruction in extra subjects must be given so as not to interfere with the ordinary free instruction.

Standard of
education.

Yearly examinations are held to determine the quality of the work done by teachers, to award merit certificates, and to grant certificates of exemption from compulsory attendance to children who present themselves. The subjects of examination for the latter certificates are:—Reading, writing, spelling, composition, and arithmetic, as prescribed for Class V.; and any child over 12 years of age who wishes exemption from further compulsory attendance may be so exempt on passing this test. Half-yearly examinations are also held for the examination of children not attending State schools who desire to prove that they are educated up to the standard.

Teachers'
remunera-
tion and
classifica-
tion.

Under the provisions of Act No. 2175 passed on 2nd March, 1909, male teachers are divided into seven and female teachers into six classes, there being no female teachers in the first class. The salaries for males, excluding junior teachers, range from £120 to £415, and those for females excluding junior teachers and sewing mistresses, from £80 to £200. The system of payments by way of results was finally abolished by Act No. 2006, which came into force on 1st January, 1906. In addition to the head and assistant teachers, there are four classes of junior teachers, with salaries ranging from £30 to £60. Sewing mistresses receive £30 yearly.

State
schools,
teachers,
and scho-
lars, 1872
to 1908.

The following statement shows the progress as regards State schools, teachers, and scholars since 1872. The figures relating to the number of schools and teachers refer to 30th June, and those relating to the number of scholars to the financial year ended 30th June, for the last seven years, and to the years ended 31st December for all previous returns:—

STATE SCHOOLS, ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1907-8.

| Year. | Number of Schools. | Number of Instructors. | Number of Scholars. | | |
|---------------|--------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | | | Enrolled during the Year. | In Average Attendance. | Distinct Children (estimated). |
| 1872 | 1,049 | 2,416 | 136,055 | 68,456 | 113,197 |
| 1880 | 1,810 | 4,215 | 229,723 | 119,520 | 195,736 |
| 1890 | 2,170 | 4,708 | 250,097 | 133,768 | 213,886 |
| 1898 | 1,877 | 4,618 | 238,357 | 134,976 | 212,164 |
| 1899 | 1,892 | 4,808 | 239,732 | 143,844 | 214,522 |
| 1900 | 1,948 | 4,977 | 243,667 | 147,020 | 218,240 |
| 1901-2 | 2,041 | 5,066 | 257,355 | 150,939 | 228,241 |
| 1902-3 | 1,988 | 5,037 | 251,655 | 150,268 | 224,178 |
| 1903-4 | 1,922 | 4,797 | 241,145 | 145,500 | 214,822 |
| 1904-5 | 1,935 | 4,689 | 234,614 | 143,362 | 210,200 |
| 1905-6 | 1,953 | 4,598 | 229,179 | 142,216 | 203,119 |
| 1906-7 | 1,974 | 4,721 | 231,759 | 147,270 | 203,782 |
| 1907-8 | 2,017 | 4,665* | 233,893 | 143,551 | 205,541 |

* In addition to these teachers, 309 were temporarily employed on 30th June, 1908.

In 1872, before attendance at school was free and compulsory, each child on the average attended 58 days out of each 100 days the school was open; now each child attends 70 days out of each 100 school days.

Children's attendance at school, 1872 and 1908.

The decrease in the number of schools and of scholars (*i.e.*, as compared with the number for the year ended 30th June, 1902) has arisen from several causes. Between 1890 and 1898, and between 1902 and 1904, many very small schools were closed or worked on the part-time system. In cases where the schools were closed, an allowance of 3d. to 4d. per day was made to enable parents to have the children of school age conveyed, where practicable, to neighbouring schools. The fluctuations in the enrolment and average attendance were due to such causes as sickness or variation in the birth rate, with consequent variation in the number of children of school age in any given year. In the year 1905-6, a considerable increase took place in the number of children enrolled at private schools which has since been maintained.

Fluctuations in the number of schools and scholars.

The following are particulars of the number and percentage of distinct children attending State schools, below, at, and above the school age (6 and under 14), during the year 1907-8:—

Ages of State school scholars.

AGES OF DISTINCT CHILDREN.

| Ages. | Distinct Children Attending— | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|---------|--------------|
| | Day Schools. | | Night Schools. | | Total. | |
| | Number. | Per-centage. | Number. | Per-centage. | Number. | Per-centage. |
| Under 6 years | 9,924 | 4·85 | ... | ... | 9,924 | 4·83 |
| 6 to 14 „ | 168,822 | 82·56 | ... | ... | 168,822 | 82·13 |
| 14 years and upwards | 25,739 | 12·59 | 1,056 | 100 | 26,795 | 13·04 |
| Total | 204,485 | 100·00 | 1,056 | 100 | 205,541 | 100·00 |

Children at school age receiving instruction.

The estimated number of children in the State at school age (6 to 14 years) on 30th June, 1908, was 207,259, and of these 200,228 were being instructed in State and private schools. The number of children not being instructed in schools was, therefore, 7,031, and if allowance be made for those being taught at home, for others who, having obtained certificates of exemption, have left school, and for those bodily or mentally afflicted, it would appear that the number of children whose education is being wholly neglected is not great.

Net enrolment in Australia and New Zealand.

In the following return will be found a comparative statement for the year 1907, showing, for the various States of the Commonwealth and for New Zealand, the mean population, the net enrolment of children in State and private schools, and the percentage of such enrolment to the population. The percentage in the Commonwealth is 18.76 (15.20 per cent. in State, and 3.56 in private schools), and in New Zealand 17.63 (15.21 per cent. in State, and 2.42 in private schools). The highest enrolment in State and private schools is in Victoria, 20.30 per cent., New South Wales coming next with 19.05 per cent.

NET ENROLMENT OF SCHOLARS IN STATE AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS IN AUSTRALIAN STATES AND NEW ZEALAND, 1907.

| State. | Mean Population. | Net Enrolment of Scholars —all Ages. | | | Percentage of Population. | | |
|-------------------|------------------|---|------------------|---------|---------------------------|------------------|--------|
| | | State Primary Schools. | Private Schools. | Total. | State Primary Schools. | Private Schools. | Total. |
| Victoria .. | 1,246,860 | 203,782 | 49,372 | 253,154 | 16.34 | 3.96 | 20.30 |
| New South Wales | 1,550,348 | 235,736 | 59,540 | 295,276 | 15.21 | 3.84 | 19.05 |
| Queensland .. | 541,204 | 87,098 | 12,897 | 99,995 | 16.09 | 2.38 | 18.47 |
| South Australia | 387,818 | 54,560 | 10,603 | 65,163 | 14.07 | 2.73 | 16.80 |
| Western Australia | 263,749 | 29,074 | 7,639 | 36,713 | 11.02 | 2.90 | 13.92 |
| Tasmania .. | 178,296 | 23,162 | 8,430 | 31,592 | 12.99 | 4.73 | 17.72 |
| Total Australia | 4,168,275 | 633,412 | 148,481 | 781,893 | 15.20 | 3.56 | 18.76 |
| New Zealand .. | 919,105 | 139,795 | 22,284 | 162,079 | 15.21 | 2.42 | 17.63 |

Primary instruction, cost per scholar.

The cost of primary instruction, including the expenditure on buildings, in the Commonwealth and in New Zealand for the year 1907, is set out below. The average cost per scholar in Australia is:

£5 9s. 10d., and in New Zealand £5 9s. 8d. The cost for 1906 was—Australia, £5 4s. 7d.; New Zealand, £5 8s. 9d.

COST OF PRIMARY INSTRUCTION IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1907.

| State. | Scholars in Average Attendance. | Expenditure— | | | | Per Head of Scholars in Average Attendance. | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------|-------------------------------|---|--|
| | | On Administration and Maintenance. | On Buildings and Rent. | Total. | Including Buildings and Rent. | | |
| | | | | | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | |
| Victoria .. | 147,270 | £ 686,106 | £ 68,415 | £ 754,521 | 5 2 6 | 4 13 2 | |
| New South Wales .. | 152,607 | 818,947 | 103,348 | 922,295 | 6 0 10 | 5 7 4 | |
| Queensland .. | 66,849 | 297,210 | 30,840 | 328,050 | 4 18 2 | 4 8 11 | |
| South Australia .. | 37,925 | 152,400 | 15,839 | 168,239 | 4 8 9 | 4 0 4 | |
| Western Australia .. | 24,950 | 158,411 | 38,106 | 196,517 | 7 17 6 | 6 7 0 | |
| Tasmania .. | 14,464 | 59,523 | 9,837 | 69,360 | 4 15 11 | 4 2 4 | |
| Total Australia | 444,065 | 2,172,597 | 266,385 | 2,438,982 | 5 9 10 | 4 17 10 | |
| New Zealand .. | 120,026 | 527,029 | 131,229 | 658,258 | 5 9 8 | 4 7 10 | |

The items taken into consideration in compiling the expenditure are:—Instruction in day and night schools in primary subjects, as defined by Acts of Parliament, cost of training, cost of administration, cost of buildings, rent, and pensions and gratuities.

The numbers of private schools, instructors in same, and individual scholars in attendance in 1872, the year before the adoption of the present secular system, for a number of subsequent years, and for the latest year available, were:—

Private Schools, 1872 to 1907-8.

PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND ATTENDANCE, 1872 TO 1907-8.

| Year. | Number of Schools. | Number of Instructors. | Number of Individual Scholars. |
|--------|--------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1872 | 888 | 1,841 | 24,781 |
| 1880 | 643 | 1,516 | 28,134 |
| 1890 | 791 | 2,037 | 40,181 |
| 1898 | 945 | 2,440 | 43,926 |
| 1899 | 901 | 2,417 | 48,854 |
| 1900 | 884 | 2,348 | 48,483 |
| 1901-2 | 872 | 2,379 | 43,182 |
| 1902-3 | 798 | 2,369 | 42,695 |
| 1903-4 | 787 | 2,360 | 42,214 |
| 1904-5 | 771 | 2,289 | 43,014 |
| 1905-6 | 757 | 2,397 | 48,732 |
| 1906-7 | 751 | 2,313 | 49,803 |
| 1907-8 | 696 | 2,188 | 50,058 |

Scholars attending State and private schools.

On comparing the number of scholars with the number attending schools, it is seen that 20 per cent. of the scholars during 1907-8 attended private schools, and the balance, 80 per cent., attended State schools.

TRAINING COLLEGE.

College for training teachers.

A State College for the training of teachers is situated in the corner of the University grounds, Carlton. It provides courses for Kindergarten or Infant schools, Primary or State schools, and Secondary schools. In connexion with the first two courses special certificates are issued, and in connexion with the third the University of Melbourne grants a special diploma. The course for the diploma is purely a University one, but the work in education, both theoretical and practical, is done by the Training College principal, assisted by the lecturers. Each of the above-named courses extends over two years. Lectures and lessons are given in education, kindergarten principles, psychology, English language and literature, British history, Latin, mathematics, science, nature-study, music, drawing, manual training, kindergarten subjects and infant school work, domestic economy, and gymnastics. Criticism lessons in connexion with all the courses are held weekly, and full opportunity is given to every student either at the practising or associated schools of gaining experience in the practical work of his profession. The majority of the students attending the Training College belong to the State schools. These have been either classified teachers or pupil teachers, and they hold studentships gained by competitive examination, which entitle them to free instruction. If they reside at the college they must pay £12 per annum towards the expense of their board and residence; if they reside at home they are entitled to an allowance of £18 per annum towards board and residence. All students receive an allowance of £12 per annum for personal expenses whether residing at home or at the college. Holders of State school exhibitions may be granted a studentship for any two years during the currency of their exhibition, but without allowance for board and residence (other than that payable to them as exhibitors). Studentships, not exceeding five in number in any one year, may be granted to persons who have passed the junior public examination of the Melbourne University, or an approved equivalent, who are at least eighteen years of age, and who have been classed as meritorious in the competitive examination above mentioned. Such students will be entitled to tuition in the course of instruction at the College free of expense, but without any allowance for board and residence. Every "State" student will be required to enter into an agreement, by himself and an approved surety, not to relinquish his course of training without the permission of the Minister, and for four years after the termination of his studentship to teach in any school to which he may

be appointed. Visiting students other than above may, on payment of a fee of £10 per annum, be admitted to the course of instruction at the Training College; or, on payment of a fee of £4 4s. per annum, to the course of instruction in education only; or, on payment of a fee of £6 6s. per annum, to the course for the Kindergarten certificate. The fees for the Diploma of Education are payable to the University. New regulations will soon be brought into force by which a larger body of the Training College students will receive most of their lectures at the University. At the present time a certain number is allowed to attend the University for the second year only. The Training College course and certificates satisfy all requirements of the Registration Board.

CONTINUATION AND AGRICULTURAL HIGH SCHOOLS.

The first Continuation School was opened in Melbourne on 22nd February, 1905. The principal object of the school is to train teachers for the primary schools. Under the old pupil teacher system the teacher had to teach during the day and study at night, but under the scheme of training now in operation aspirants for the teaching profession are expected during the two years spent at the Continuation School to complete their literary examinations and to gain an acquaintance with modern teaching methods. At the end of that time they begin their work as teachers. The qualification for entrance to the school is the possession of the merit certificate. Provision is also made for the training of winners of Government scholarships, but parents are at liberty to select an approved secondary school for the education of their boys and girls. At the Melbourne Continuation School in 1907-8, in addition to the training of 400 day pupils, some 800 teachers in the service were being instructed in evening classes or by correspondence. Continuation Schools have been opened at Ballarat and Bendigo, and Agricultural High Schools at Warnambool, Sale, Shepparton, and Wangaratta. At the former pupils are enrolled in accordance with the regulations controlling admission to the Melbourne Continuation School; at the latter, while special provision is made for agricultural students, pupils who desire to be trained for the work of junior teachers and holders of scholarships are admitted as at Continuation Schools.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND EXHIBITIONS.

Any person may collect, raise, or give a sum of money towards founding a scholarship or exhibition in connexion with any particular State school; and money or land, or both, may be bequeathed for that purpose. By an amended regulation of 13th December, 1904, the Minister of Public Instruction may annually award eighty scholarships, each tenable for three years at a Continuation School or an approved secondary school. Of these, forty are open to State school pupils, for the purpose of facilitating their higher

education in the general work of the University or the science work of the Technical schools; and forty to pupils of State or other schools, to enable them to proceed to a diploma or degree in mining or agriculture at the University. Scholarship holders must obtain at the end of each year a satisfactory report of conduct and progress. In addition to these, forty teaching scholarships are allotted annually, each tenable for two years, and allowing tuition, free of charge, at a Continuation School. Under specified conditions, cost of transit (not exceeding £5 per annum) may be allowed to a student who resides with his parents or guardians more than five miles from the school. Where it is impracticable for the student to reside with his parents or guardians, the Minister may make an allowance of £26 for board and residence, instead of the transit allowance. Scholars while attending approved secondary schools and colleges are granted an allowance of £8 per annum toward the expenses of their tuition. Holders of scholarships will be admitted free of cost as pupils in continuation schools, and receive instruction in such subjects as the Minister determines. The Minister may cancel any scholarship where the conditions are not observed, or where the scholar is guilty of disorderly or immoral conduct. Examinations were held in December last. Those candidates returned as meritorious are permitted to make such arrangements as they please with the teachers of secondary schools, and with satisfactory progress reports and examinations, they will, in due course, be eligible to attend examinations for exhibitions. The holders of scholarships whose age does not exceed seventeen years and six months who have attended regularly at an approved secondary school or college for the preceding two years, from the authorities of which good reports have been obtained, and who have passed the junior public examination at the University, are eligible to compete for forty exhibitions annually awarded by the Department. The exhibitions are allotted on competitive examination conducted by the University authorities in four of the subjects prescribed for the Senior Public examination of the Melbourne University. Twenty of the exhibitions are of the annual value of £40, tenable for three years at technical schools, or for four years at the Melbourne University. The other twenty exhibitions entitle their holders to free tuition at the Melbourne University in the subjects prescribed for a degree or a diploma in Mining or in Agriculture. Such exhibitioners may also receive an allowance of £26 per annum, provided that the net income of their parents or guardians does not exceed £250 per annum.

CENSUS RETURNS.

The following statement, taken from the returns of the census of 1901, shows the number and percentage of persons (excluding

Education of
the people, of
census
1901.

Chinese and aborigines) in the State at different ages who could read and write, who could read only, or who were unable to read:—

EDUCATION OF THE PEOPLE, 1901.

| Ages. | Numbers in 1901. | | | | Number in every 100 at each age in 1901. | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-----------|--|--------------------|-----------------|
| | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. | Total. | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. |
| Under 6 years .. | 4,811 | 5,237 | 146,796 | 156,844 | 3·07 | 3·34 | 93·59 |
| 6 to 13 .. | 175,797 | 8,046 | 11,251 | 195,094 | 90·12 | 4·12 | 5·76 |
| 13 „ 15 .. | 50,547 | 65 | 220 | 50,832 | 99·44 | ·13 | ·43 |
| 15 „ 25 .. | 222,076 | 239 | 1,245 | 223,560 | 99·34 | ·10 | ·56 |
| 25 „ 35 .. | 187,879 | 288 | 1,512 | 189,679 | 99·05 | ·15 | ·80 |
| 35 „ 45 .. | 155,206 | 650 | 1,994 | 157,850 | 98·32 | ·41 | 1·27 |
| 45 „ 55 .. | 76,480 | 1,120 | 2,350 | 79,950 | 95·66 | 1·40 | 2·94 |
| 55 „ 65 .. | 52,808 | 1,986 | 2,994 | 57,788 | 91·38 | 3·44 | 5·18 |
| 65 years and upwards | 54,809 | 3,776 | 4,865 | 63,450 | 86·38 | 5·95 | 7·67 |
| Unspecified adults .. | 1,647 | 27 | 45 | 1,719 | 95·81 | 1·57 | 2·62 |
| All ages .. | 982,060 | 21,434 | 173,272 | 1,176,766 | 83·46 | 1·82 | 14·72 |
| 15 years and upwards | 750,905 | 8,086 | 15,005 | 773,996 | 97·02 | 1·04 | 1·94 |
| 21 „ „ „ | 613,018 | 7,936 | 14,335 | 635,289 | 96·49 | 1·25 | 2·26 |

The number of children from 6 to 13 years of age includes those children whose ages were not specified, the total figures exclude those whose educational attainments were not returned, and in the ages 15 years and upwards, and 21 years and upwards, are included the adults whose ages were unspecified. Education, 1891 and 1901.

The numbers of persons in every 10,000 of the population who could both read and write, and of those who were unable to read, at the last two enumerations, were as follows:—

| | In 1891. | In 1901. |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|
| At all ages | 8,318 | 8,528 could read |
| „ | 8,029 | 8,346 could write |
| „ | 1,682 | 1,472 could not read |
| Between 6 and 13 (school age*).. | 9,389 | 9,424 could read |
| „ | 8,769 | 9,012 could write |
| „ | 611 | 576 could not read |
| At 15 and upwards | 9,771 | 9,806 could read |
| „ | 9,573 | 9,702 could write |
| „ | 229 | 194 could not read |
| At 21 and upwards | 9,728 | 9,774 could read |
| „ | 9,491 | 9,649 could write |
| „ | 272 | 226 could not read |

* The school age is now 6 to 14 years of age.

A marked improvement is noticeable at all ages, and in regard to children at school age the proportion entirely illiterate was only 576 per 10,000.

Education
of boys and
girls, 1891
and 1901.

A comparison of the census records of 1891 and 1901 for children of school age,* *i.e.*, between 6 and 13 years of age, shows that the educational attainments of both boys and girls had materially improved during the intervening period, as there were proportionately more children of each sex able to read in 1901 than in 1891. This will be readily seen by an examination of the following figures:—

| 1891. | | | 1901. | |
|-------|--------|----|-------|---------------------|
| Boys. | Girls. | .. | Boys. | Girls. |
| 9,357 | 9,421 | .. | 9,398 | 9,454 could read |
| 8,686 | 8,852 | .. | 8,971 | 9,056 could write |
| 643 | 579 | .. | 602 | 546 could not read. |

It is always a noticeable fact that in Victoria girls are much further forward in the rudiments of education than are boys. Whether this is owing to a closer application to lessons, to less distractions caused by sports and games, or to quicker natural abilities, it is hard to determine. This relative backwardness of boys is not a condition peculiar to Victoria, but is just as noticeable in the other States.

Education
of children
of different
sects.

The degree of education of children differs somewhat according to religious denomination, as will be seen by the following figures taken from the census records of 1901:—

EDUCATION OF CHILDREN OF DIFFERENT DENOMINATIONS, 1901.

| Religious Denominations. | Number aged 5 to 15 years. | | | Proportion per cent. | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. | Able to read and write. | Able to read only. | Unable to read. |
| Church of England .. | 84,406 | 4,797 | 9,914 | 85·16 | 4·84 | 10·00 |
| Presbyterian .. | 36,808 | 2,032 | 4,232 | 85·46 | 4·72 | 9·82 |
| Methodist .. | 40,769 | 2,036 | 4,102 | 86·92 | 4·34 | 8·74 |
| Other Protestants .. | 18,022 | 858 | 2,028 | 86·20 | 4·10 | 9·70 |
| Total Protestants | 180,005 | 9,723 | 20,276 | 85·72 | 4·63 | 9·65 |
| Roman Catholics .. | 46,468 | 2,849 | 6,253 | 83·62 | 5·13 | 11·25 |
| Jews .. | 1,026 | 56 | 79 | 88·37 | 4·82 | 6·81 |
| Residue .. | 3,657 | 198 | 497 | 84·03 | 4·55 | 11·42 |
| Total .. | 231,156 | 12,826 | 27,105 | 85·27 | 4·73 | 10·00 |

In addition to these, there were 5,770 children between the ages of five and fifteen whose education was unstated.

* The school age is now 6 to 14 years of age.

At the census of 1901 the number of children at school age (over 6 and under 13 years*) resident in Victoria was 197,704, and of these 184,200 were receiving instruction, whilst the balance, 13,504, were not under instruction nor receiving any education whatsoever. There were also 43,353 children either above or below the school age, making a total of 241,057 children under instruction. Of every 1,000 of these, 783 were educated at State schools, 33 at colleges and grammar schools, 72 at denominational schools, 63 at private schools, and 10 at unspecified schools, whilst the balance of 39 were educated at home. Of the 13,504 at school age who were returned as not receiving any instruction at all, 4,608 were in Melbourne and suburbs, 2,209 in country cities, towns, and boroughs, and 6,687 in rural districts. Of the children at school age resident in Melbourne and suburbs, 6·13 per cent., of those in the country towns, &c., 7·03 per cent., and of those in rural districts 7·34 per cent. were not receiving instruction.

Education of children at census, 1901.

As a measure of the progress of education under the free, compulsory, and secular system, it may be mentioned that 90·12 per cent. of children of school age (6 to 13 years) at the census of 1901 were able to read and write, as against 87·69 in 1891, 81·70 in 1881, and 65·60 in 1871, just before the introduction of the system. The percentage just mentioned as being able to read and write at the census of 1901 (viz., 90·12) is considerably higher than the percentages at that date for other States, these being, at the 1901 census, 84·42 in Queensland (Australian born children only), 82·05 in Western Australia, 82·00 in South Australia, 80·35 in New South Wales, and 78·77 in Tasmania.

Education of children. Progress and comparison with other States.

STANDARD OF EDUCATION.

The proportion of either sex who showed their want of elementary education, by signing the marriage register with a mark instead of in writing, is given in the following table for each fifth year from 1875, and for the years 1900 to 1908:—

Signing with marks.

SIGNING THE MARRIAGE REGISTER WITH MARKS, 1875 TO 1908.

| Year. | Men. | Women. | Mean. |
|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| | Per cent. | Per cent. | Per cent. |
| 1875 .. | 5·48 .. | 9·43 .. | 7·46 |
| 1880 .. | 4·18 .. | 4·09 .. | 4·13 |
| 1885 .. | 2·56 .. | 2·62 .. | 2·59 |
| 1890 .. | 1·50 .. | 1·53 .. | 1·52 |
| 1895 .. | ·89 .. | ·67 .. | ·78 |
| 1900 .. | ·66 .. | ·85 .. | ·76 |
| 1901 .. | ·56 .. | ·50 .. | ·53 |
| 1902 .. | ·67 .. | ·54 .. | ·60 |
| 1903 .. | ·69 .. | ·50 .. | ·59 |
| 1904 .. | ·65 .. | ·40 .. | ·52 |
| 1905 .. | ·50 .. | ·38 .. | ·44 |
| 1906 .. | ·43 .. | ·44 .. | ·43 |
| 1907 .. | ·47 .. | ·29 .. | ·38 |
| 1908 .. | ·33 .. | ·40 .. | ·36 |

* The school age is now 6 to 14 years of age.

Increased numbers signing in writing.

It will be observed that in proportion to the total numbers married, a very satisfactory increase took place during the 20 years ended with 1895 in the numbers of both sexes signing the marriage register in writing, in that nearly every year, as compared with its predecessor, showed a smaller proportion of persons signing with marks. From 1895 to 1900 this proportion remained at a somewhat uniform level, but since the latter year the improvement has been marked. It is probable, however, that the irreducible minimum has almost now been reached, for a certain residuum of the population will remain illiterate even under the compulsory system of education which prevails in Victoria. This is confirmed by the results of the census of 1901, which show that the percentage of males aged 21 years and upwards (exclusive of Chinese and aborigines) who could not write was 3·18, and that of females aged 15 years and upwards, 3·23; whereas at the age groups fifteen to twenty, immediately following the school period, the percentage was ·81 for males and ·45 for females, so that the persons at all ages now marrying in Victoria are not only far better instructed than the general population, but are quite as well educated as those who have just completed their school life.

Compared with England and Wales, Scotland, and Ireland, where the proportions per cent. signing with marks were 1.58, 1.89, and 6.99 respectively, the elementary educational standard is very high in this State, which, in this respect, occupies the highest position in Australasia.

Religions of the people.

The following table shows the principal religions of the people as ascertained at the census of 1901:—

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS OF 1901.

| Religion. | Number. | Per cent. of Population. |
|---|---------|--------------------------|
| Protestant Churches— | | |
| Church of England (including Protestant, so stated) | 432,704 | 36·52 |
| Presbyterian Church of Victoria | 190,725 | 16·09 |
| Free Presbyterian | 778 | ·07 |
| Methodist | 180,272 | 15·21 |
| Independent or Congregational | 17,141 | 1·45 |
| Baptist | 32,648 | 2·75 |
| Evangelical Lutheran | 13,935 | 1·18 |
| Unitarian | 788 | ·07 |
| Church of Christ | 10,682 | ·90 |
| Welsh Calvinistic Methodist | 1,257 | ·11 |
| Society of Friends | 251 | ·02 |
| United Brethren or Moravian | 144 | ·01 |
| Australian Church | 964 | ·08 |
| Seventh Day Adventists | 1,086 | ·09 |
| Free Christian Church | 71 | ·01 |
| Other Protestant Churches | 12,658 | 1·06 |
| Total Protestant Churches | 896,104 | 75·62 |

RELIGIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF VICTORIA AT THE CENSUS
OF 1901—continued.

| Religion. | Number. | Per cent. of Population. |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------|
| Roman Catholic Church | 263,710 | 22·26 |
| Other Denominations— | | |
| New Church (or Swedenborgian) | 146 | ·01 |
| Catholic Apostolic Church | 460 | ·04 |
| Christian Israelites | 258 | ·02 |
| Spiritualists | 913 | ·08 |
| Salvation Army | 8,830 | ·74 |
| Greek Orthodox Church | 367 | ·03 |
| Jews | 5,907 | ·50 |
| Other Religions | 3,293 | ·28 |
| Sceptics | 4,969 | ·42 |
| Total specified | 1,184,957 | 100·00 |
| Unspecified | 16,384 | .. |
| Grand Total | 1,201,341 | .. |

The total number of Protestants of all denominations in 1901 was 896,104, as against 836,857 in 1891. In 1901 the Roman Catholics numbered 263,710; in 1891, 248,591. The rate of increase of each of these bodies in the ten years was, therefore, about the same as that of the population.

Protestants and Roman Catholics.

The Presbyterians, Methodists, and Baptists have improved their positions relatively to the total population since 1891. The proportion of members of the Church of England has remained almost stationary. The Independents have decreased from 22,100 to 17,141.

Protestant sects.

In 1891 the adherents of the Salvation Army were enumerated at 13,521, but they numbered only 8,830 in 1901.

Salvation Army.

At the end of 1908, there were 2,816 regular churches and chapels, and 1,930 other buildings, where religious services were held—a total of 4,746 places of public worship throughout the State

Ministers and Churches.

—attended by 1,807 regular clergymen. The following statement contains particulars of the different denominations:—

CHURCHES AND CHAPELS, 1908.

| Denominations. | Number of Clergy, Ministers, &c. | Buildings used for Public Worship. | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| | | Churches and Chapels. | Other Buildings. | Total. |
| Protestant Churches— | | | | |
| Church of England ... | 325 | 621 | 626 | 1,247 |
| Presbyterian Church of | | | | |
| Victoria ... | 246 | 499 | 400 | 899 |
| Free Presbyterian ... | 3 | 10 | 3 | 13 |
| Methodist ... | 220 | 810 | 475 | 1,285 |
| Independent or Congrega- | | | | |
| tional ... | 55 | 77 | 47 | 124 |
| Baptist ... | 75 | 95 | 62 | 157 |
| Other Protestant ... | 70 | 137 | 65 | 202 |
| Roman Catholic Church ... | 255 | 476 | 173 | 649 |
| New Church (or Swedenborgian) | 1 | 2 | ... | 2 |
| Catholic Apostolic Church ... | 2 | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Spiritualists ... | 4 | ... | 3 | 3 |
| Salvation Army ... | 535 | 77 | 74 | 151 |
| Greek Orthodox Church ... | 1 | 1 | ... | 1 |
| Jews ... | 6 | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| Re-organized Church of Latter | | | | |
| Day Saints ... | 9 | 3 | ... | 3 |
| Total ... | 1,807 | 2,816 | 1,930 | 4,746 |

Sunday
Schools.

The Sunday Schools of the various religious bodies numbered 2,906; the teachers, 20,081; and the number of scholars on the rolls, 205,938—91,699 males and 114,239 females.

TECHNICAL SCHOOLS.

Technical
schools.

All the technical schools, under which name are included the Schools of Mines, Working Men's Colleges, and Schools of Art and Design, are managed by local councils elected by subscribers. The Education Department, however, retains the general direction of technical education, and decides when schools are to be opened. Regulations are issued defining the powers of the councils, allotting the Government grants, and providing for the instruction and examination of the students. In the schools of art and design, the subjects taught comprise practical geometry, mechanical and architectural drawing, perspective, model, and freehand drawing. The schools of mines, which have been established at the principal mining centres, provide both theoretical and practical instruction, not only in all the subjects in any way connected with mining pursuits, but also in the arts and sciences generally; whilst a wide range of subjects is taught at the working men's and other colleges. In 1907-8, there were altogether 16 technical schools in the State. Seven of these afforded instruction in science, art, and trade subjects; two

in art and science; four in art and trade; while two schools confined their teaching to art, and one to trade. Six schools, viz., the Working Men's College, Melbourne, and the Schools of Mines at Ballarat, Bendigo, Bairnsdale, Stawell, and Maryborough, are classed as certified science schools, and are eligible to receive State school exhibitioners. Science and Art classes for State school children have been established at the Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Daylesford, and Stawell schools, the boys and girls attending being selected from the senior pupils of the State schools. The schools, as a whole had, during 1907-8, an average enrolment of 3,799 pupils for each term; whilst the fees per term ranged in the different schools from 3s. to £8 15s. The Government expenditure on all the institutions in 1907-8 amounted to £26,839, which included a grant of £3,000 towards the erection of the new Eastern Suburbs Technical College. The students paid in fees £12,727 during the year.

The following is a statement showing the Government expenditure on each technical school during the financial year 1907-8:—

GOVERNMENT EXPENDITURE ON TECHNICAL SCHOOLS, 1907-8.

| Name. | Amount. |
|--|---------|
| <i>Schools of Mines and Technical Schools.</i> | |
| Bairnsdale | £ 762 |
| Ballarat | 4,405 |
| Bendigo | 2,993 |
| Castlemaine | 850 |
| Daylesford | 350 |
| Eastern Suburbs Technical College .. | 3,000 |
| Gordon Technical College, Geelong .. | 871 |
| Horsham | 356 |
| Kyneton | 250 |
| Maryborough | 764 |
| Sale | 402 |
| Stawell | 902 |
| <i>Schools of Art.</i> | |
| Echuca | 300 |
| Nhill | 200 |
| Warrnambool | 150 |
| <i>Working Men's College.</i> | |
| Melbourne | 8,956 |
| <i>College of Domestic Economy.</i> | |
| Melbourne | 443 |
| Miscellaneous Expenditure .. | 885 |
| Total | 26,839 |

Descriptions were given in the Year-Book for 1907-8 of these technical schools and schools of art.

MELBOURNE COLLEGE OF PHARMACY.

Melbourne
College
Pharmacy.

The Melbourne College of Pharmacy was established in 1881 for the purpose of providing instruction in the subjects prescribed in the compulsory curriculum set out in section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890, Part III., for qualification as a pharmaceutical chemist in Victoria. In 1882, the old County Court, in Swanston-street, was purchased from the Government, and since then a large amount has been spent in the erection of laboratories, lecture rooms, library, &c. The College is under the control of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Australasia, by whom it was established. It is also recognised by the Pharmacy Board of Victoria as a school of pharmacy providing instruction in accordance with the provisions of section 88 of the *Medical Act* 1890. The land upon which the College is erected is a reservation by the Crown for educational purposes, and is vested in the Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society.

The College of Pharmacy, in addition to providing instruction for pharmaceutical students in chemistry, practical chemistry, materia medica and botany, is affiliated to the Melbourne University, and gives instruction in materia medica and practical pharmacy to second-year medical students. It is represented on the Faculty of Medicine by a member of the teaching staff. Dental students undergoing the curriculum prescribed by the Dentists Act receive instruction at the College in theoretical and practical chemistry. The syllabus also makes provision for students entering the College at any date, and pursuing an independent course of study, according to the object in view. In 1906, evening post-graduate classes in bacteriology and urine analysis were established. Provision is also made in the laboratory for students desirous of acquiring a knowledge of chemistry in its application to medicine, manufactures, toxicology, brewing, analysis, or original research. The Royal Commission on Technical Education in 1901, after full inquiry into its scope and objects, reported that the functions of the College were manifestly those of a high class technical school.

Appended are the details of the work from 1st January, 1880, to 31st December, 1908:—

Number of Students who have attended the College.

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| Pharmaceutical students | ... | ... | 608 |
| Medical students, Melbourne University | ... | ... | 846 |
| Dental students | ... | ... | 297 |
| Extra laboratory students | ... | ... | 344 |
| Bacteriological students | ... | ... | 48 |
| Urine Analysis students | ... | ... | 14 |
| Analytical and Applied Chemistry students | ... | ... | 30 |

 2,187

Number of Candidates Examined.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Preliminary examination | 2,458 |
| Intermediate examination | 1,329 |
| Modified examination | 164 |
| Final qualifying examination | 964 |
| Medical students | 728 |
| Dental students | 280 |
| Bacteriological students | 22 |
| Urine Analysis | 11 |
| Analytical and Applied Chemistry | 12 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 5,977 |

Finance.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Revenue— | £ |
| Grants from Government | 11,960 |
| Fees received from students | 14,076 |
| Aids from Pharmaceutical Society | 5,302 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total Revenue | 31,338 |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Expenditure— | £ |
| Ordinary | 27,999 |
| On Buildings... .. | 3,339 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total Expenditure | 31,338 |

THE WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, MELBOURNE.

The Working Men's College is a technical institution and school of mines, founded in 1887. It is open to all classes and both sexes, and supplies high-class instruction. Its revenue is obtained from students' fees, supplemented by a Government grant. There are both day and evening courses.

All fees are payable in advance, and no refund is allowed. Students under 18 years of age, those under 21 in receipt of less wages than 25s. per week, and indentured apprentices, are admitted at reduced fees to many of the evening classes. Examinations are held in July and December, and entrance to these examinations is free to students of the college attending the classes in which they

Working
Men's
College,
Melbourne.

Fees.

present themselves for examination, provided they have made the necessary attendances.

FEES PAYABLE.

| | Full Day Course. | Fee. |
|---|------------------|----------|
| Mechanical, Electrical, Marine, and Mining Engineering— | | |
| First year | £5 | per term |
| Second year | £6 | ” |
| Third year | £8 | ” |
| Metallurgy— | | |
| First year | £5 | ” |
| Second year | £6 | ” |
| Third year | £8 | ” |
| Applied Chemistry— | | |
| First year | £5 | ” |
| Second year | £6 | ” |
| Third year | £7 | ” |
| Fourth year | £8 | ” |
| Building and Contracting— | | |
| First year | £4 | ” |
| Second year | £5 | ” |
| Third year | £6 | ” |

EVENING CLASSES.

| | |
|---|--|
| Preliminary year for Science Courses | } Various amounts ranging from 5s. upwards per term. |
| Preliminary year for Trade Courses | |
| Arithmetic | |
| Algebra | |
| Practical Geometry | |
| Freehand Drawing | |
| Painting | |
| Modelling | |
| Applied Mechanics | |
| Applied Electricity | |
| Architecture | |
| Building Construction | |
| Woolsorting | |
| Chemistry | |
| Cookery | |
| Millinery | |
| Dressmaking | |
| Mechanical Drawing | |
| Photography | |
| Science, Art, Trade, Commercial, and Mining, and numerous other Subjects | |

Special prizes are awarded to students annually. The Magee prize is of the annual value of £3, and is awarded to the student who obtains highest marks at examination in the work of the senior mechanical drawing class. The Sir George Verdon prize is of an annual value equal to the interest on the amount of the donor's endowment of £210, and is awarded for excellence of design and workmanship in the technical or trade subject selected by the Council at the beginning of each year. The Turri prizes, awarded for original inventions of students, consist of one prize of £10 10s., two prizes of £5 5s., and five prizes of £1 1s. each. The total receipts from Government, in 1908, amounted to £8,850.

Over 170 classes are held in the following departments:—Commercial, Elocution and Music, Mathematics, Engineering, Architecture, Chemistry, Mining and Metallurgy, Photography, Art and Applied Art, Rural Industries, Household Economy, and Trade Courses. The work is divided into—(1) day courses, and (2) evening courses and classes. In the day courses the lower technical school prepares for the higher technical school, and also gives boys after they have left school a course of practical training, fitting them to enter intelligently on any line of industrial work. The higher technical school prepares students for the higher positions of industrial life, and has the following complete courses:—(1) Mechanical Engineering, (2) Electrical Engineering, (3) Marine Engineering, (4) Mining Engineering, (5) Sanitary Engineering, (6) Building and Contracting, (7) Metallurgy, and (8) Applied Chemistry. To students who complete any of the above courses, pass the necessary examinations, and produce evidence of having obtained twelve months' approved practical experience, the Diploma of "Associateship" of the College is issued.

In the evening school, the following courses for Experts' certificates are in operation, and preliminary years for these courses are also held:—(A) carpenters, (B) fitters and machinists, (C) cabinet-makers, (D) plumbers and gasfitters, (E) house decorators, (F) modellers and terra cotta workers, (G) lithographic artists and draughtsmen, (H) photographers, (I) electricians, (J) assayers, (K) geologists, (L) municipal engineers, (M) commercial, (N) sheep and wool. There are also courses for marine engineers, for naval artificers, both fitters and wood workers, and for builders and contractors. The following figures indicate the comparative amount of work done at the college during the years 1904 to 1908:—

STUDENTS AT WORKING MEN'S COLLEGE, 1904 TO 1908.

| — | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. |
|---------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Students enrolled— | | | | | |
| Average per term | 2,239 | 2,313 | 2,276 | 2,453 | 2,441 |
| Males over 21 | 417 | 363 | 377 | 436 | 416 |
| " under 21—Apprentices .. | 150 | 195 | 334 | 569 | 594 |
| " " Others | 1,198 | 1,325 | 1,184 | 1,091 | 1,099 |
| Females | 474 | 430 | 381 | 357 | 332 |
| Fees received during the year £ | 7,296 | 7,475 | 7,526 | 8,150 | 8,669 |
| Average fee per student .. | 65s. 2d. | 64s. 8d. | 66s. 2d. | 66s. 5d. | 71s. |
| Number of classes | 166 | 168 | 169 | 170 | 173 |
| " instructors | 60 | 62 | 66 | 73 | 73 |
| Salaries paid instructors .. | £ 7,533 | 8,163 | 8,528 | 9,228 | 10,673 |

LIBRARIES.

PUBLIC LIBRARY OF VICTORIA.

Public
Library of
Victoria.

The buildings of the Public Library, Museums, and National Gallery of Victoria cost £229,382. The funds were provided by the Government, as also were further moneys expended on maintenance, amounting, with the sum just named, to a total of £1,218,528, at the end of 1908. At that date the Reference library contained 181,021 volumes. It is open to the public without payment on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), between the hours of 10 a.m. and 10 p.m., and was visited during the year 1908 by 354,399 persons. The Library consists of three distinct sections, viz. :—The Reference Library, the Lending Library, and the Country Lending Library. The librarian reports that 4,294 volumes were purchased, 1,882 volumes presented, 220 volumes obtained under the "Copyright Act," and 43,667 newspapers added to the Reference Library during the year. The Lending Branch, which is also free to the public, issued 172,397 volumes during 1908, and the number of persons to whom the books were lent was 9,280. Of these volumes 51.74 per cent. related to fiction, 15.46 to history, 8.07 to general literature, 11.11 to religion, philosophy, natural science and art, 8.15 to arts and trades, and 3.44 per cent. to social science. The number of volumes in the Lending Library at the end of 1908 was 25,707, of which 1,056 were added during the year.

Following on the establishment of the Melbourne Public Library, libraries were founded in many of the larger towns. The attention of the original trustees of the Melbourne Library was directed to these institutions, and to the vast number of people whom distance prevented from reaching their building. They, therefore, established a scheme by which the larger country centres should have the benefit of their collection, and forwarded cases of books on loan for fixed periods. To the country towns of less importance cases were also sent, and in many instances the nucleus of a local library was thus formed. This travelling library system, as it is called, thus greatly stimulated the library movement in those places where it had begun, and inaugurated it in many places to which as yet it had not spread. At the present time loans are made up to 300 volumes at a time to the committees of free libraries and mechanics' institutes, and to the councils of municipalities, for a period of one year, with a further extension of time if required. The books are selected with a view to meeting the special requirements of the district to which they are to be forwarded, publications on mining being sent to mining centres, and those relating to agricultural and pastoral pursuits to those districts where these industries are carried on. Although this scheme is now in operation in many countries, research among library records does not reveal the existence of anything similar prior to its establishment in Melbourne, so that the credit of starting it seems to belong undoubtedly to the original trustees of our library. Many of the local libraries are now in a position to supply all the wants of their patrons without having recourse to these loans.

The National Gallery at the end of 1908 contained 17,831 works of art, viz., 511 oil paintings, 3,558 objects of statuary, &c., and 13,762 water colour drawings, engravings, photographs, &c. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays it is open from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The school of painting in connexion with this institution was attended in the year by 6 male and 16 female students, and the school of design by 43 male and 61 female students. The students are encouraged to paint original works, by which means it is hoped the foundation may be laid of a school of art of purely Australian subjects. Every three years a Travelling Scholarship is open for competition amongst the students of painting. Its money value is £150 per annum, and it is awarded with the object of enabling promising students to travel and complete their art studies in England and on the Continent. The Trustees also award a prize of £20 for the best painting from life shown at the annual exhibition of students' work, and numerous other prizes for distinction in the different branches of the drawing and painting schools.

National
Gallery.

The Industrial and Technological Museum adjoins the National Gallery, and was opened on 7th September, 1870. At the end of 1908 it contained 55,155 specimens. It is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily on week days (Christmas Day and Good Friday excepted), and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Industrial
Museum.

The collection in the National Museum, formerly kept in a building situated on the grounds of the Melbourne University, is now located in the Public Library Buildings. It comprises natural history, geology, and ethnology. The National Museum is open to the public free of charge on all week days throughout the year, except Thursdays, Christmas Day, and Good Friday, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and on Sundays from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. In 1908 the expenditure for specimens, furniture, materials, &c., was £750. The payments for salaries and wages during the year amounted to £2,456.

National
Museum.

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The free library attached to the Commonwealth Department of Patents, Rialto, Collins-street, Melbourne, contains over 10,000 volumes, including the printed patent specifications of Australia, France, Germany, Italy, Great Britain, New South Wales, New Zealand, Queensland, South Australia, Victoria, &c. Patent, designs, trade mark and copyright records, &c., from Argentine Republic, Austro-Hungary, Belgium, Brazil, British India, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Japan, Luxemburg, Mexico, Portugal, Peru, South Africa, Spain, Tasmania, United States of America, and West Australia are also included. The value of the books donated by these countries is very great, and additions of several hundred volumes are made annually. The library also contains the principal journals of mechanical science and numerous encyclopædias and scientific textbooks, to which frequent additions are made by purchase. In October, 1906, the printing of the Commonwealth Patent Specifications was commenced; about half of the specifications accepted

Patent
Office
Library.

since the initiation of the Department in 1904 have now been printed, and weekly additions are printed as soon as possible after acceptance. These are arranged in two separate files for free public perusal, one arranged chronologically and numerically, the other classified according to the subjects of the inventions. Complete sets are also sent weekly to the branch patent offices in the State capitals, and to other public libraries in various foreign States and countries. The library is open to the public on each week day, except Saturday, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and on Saturday from 9 a.m. until noon.

The Supreme Court Library at Melbourne has eighteen branches in the assize towns. It is free to members of the legal profession between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., except on Saturdays, when it closes at noon. It is supported by fees paid under Acts of Parliament and rules of court for the admission of barristers and attorneys.

FREE LIBRARIES.

Most of the suburban and country libraries receive Government aid—the amount granted in 1907-8 being £6,720. In addition to the Melbourne Public Library, 443 furnished returns in 1908, which show that they possessed 749,660 volumes, and received £45,587 in revenue, also that 2,578,807 visits were paid to the 407 institutions which kept records of the attendances of visitors. As to the class of literature in general use, it appears, from particulars received from a number of institutions, that works of fiction are in much greater demand than any other class. Next come general literature, history, and travel, in that order.

EXHIBITION BUILDINGS.

The Exhibition Buildings, which are situated in the Carlton Gardens, Melbourne, when first opened, in October, 1880, occupied a total space of 907,400 square feet. The original cost of the permanent structure was £132,951, of the temporary annexes, £83,111; gardens, £18,481; machinery, £5,715; and organ, £5,560; there was also miscellaneous expenditure, £547—making a total of £246,365. After the close of the exhibition, on 30th April, 1881, the annexes were removed, and the permanent building was vested in trustees. Another exhibition was opened in the building on 1st August, 1888, to commemorate the hundredth anniversary of the foundation of the first Australian Colony. On this occasion, a further sum of £125,178 was expended upon the re-erection of the annexes; £30,986 upon additions to and alterations and decorations of the permanent building; £4,854 upon the gardens; £16,471 upon machinery; £77,128 upon electric lighting; and £8,337 upon gas and gas fittings—making a total of £262,954. At the close of the exhibition, there was realized from the sale of various materials, including temporary annexes, a sum of £56,904. The property again reverted to the trustees, in whose report for the

Supreme
Court
Library.

Free
Libraries.

Exhibition
Buildings,
Aquarium,
and
Museum.

year 1908, it is stated that all the buildings are in a good and substantial condition, the gardens well maintained, and the aquarium and insectarium museums extremely useful, both from educational and scientific points of view. An efficient and up-to-date fire service has been provided in the buildings. The new system of arc lighting has proved very successful, and lessens the cost to the tenants. The receipts for the year amounted to £5,007, consisting of rents, £2,588, and aquarium and other receipts, £2,419. The expenditure totalled £5,021, viz., £2,028 for expenses of the Aquarium; and £2,993 for maintenance and improvement of the building and gardens, insurance, and sundry expenses. The deposits and balances in banks to the credit of the trust amount to £1,656.

THE MELBOURNE BOTANIC GARDEN.

The Melbourne Botanic Garden is situated on the south side of the River Yarra, and is at a distance of about a mile and a half from the city. The area of the garden proper, including lawns, groups, &c., is 88 acres, whilst that of the lake, including the added elbow, or bend of the River Yarra, amounts to 12 acres in addition. This now historic garden, together with the Government House grounds (62 acres), and the Domain (150 acres), comprises a total of 312 acres. The facts as to the commencement and progress of the establishment, compiled from the most reliable sources, are to be found in the illustrated "Guide Book," published by the Government Printer in 1901-2, from which the accompanying quotation has been taken:—

Botanic
Garden.

"The first site chosen for a Botanic Garden was an area of 50 acres, near to where the Spencer-street railway station is situated, and was selected by Mr. Hoddle, Surveyor-General, in 1842. Afterwards various other localities were proposed, but finally, owing mainly to the discrimination and taste of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, first Government Superintendent (afterwards Lieutenant-Governor) of the province of Port Phillip, a portion of the present site was decided upon for the purpose. In September, 1845, Dr. Nicholson presented a petition, signed by three or four hundred of the citizens, headed by the Mayor, praying for the immediate establishment of the Botanic Garden, and the sum of £750 was thereupon voted—1845-6—for its maintenance. The first superintendent, or curator (Mr. John Arthur), was appointed 1st March, 1846, and he at once fenced in a 5-acre paddock, that portion of the gardens at present known as the Anderson-street Lawn, sloping towards the tea-house on the edge of Lake, in which he made good progress both as to cultivation and planting. Mr. Arthur, however, whose labours were much appreciated at the time, died in January, 1849. Mr. John Dallachy succeeded Mr. Arthur as curator, and insured such good results that, at the end of 1851, a progress report submitted to the Legislature showed that, in addition to an extension of cultivated ground, many kinds of exotic plants had been added to the collection, and also that the native vegetation had received attention. The various shows of the Horticultural Society were at that time held in the gardens. For several years prior to the retirement of Mr. Dallachy, a scientific arrangement of plants in a part of the gardens was undertaken by the then Government Botanist, Dr. Ferdinand Mueller (subsequently Baron Sir F. von Mueller), who had accompanied the Gregory Expedition in search of Leichhardt, the explorer. After the Baron had received the appointment as Director (1857),

Mr. Dallachy was re-employed for several years as a collector of seeds and herbarium specimens for the gardens, and discovered many new and beautiful species in Queensland. The Baron held office as Director until 1873, when, with the view of enabling him to give undivided attention to his scientific labours as Government Botanist, he was relieved of control of the Botanic Gardens, and Mr. W. R. Guilfoyle was appointed to the position. Since 1873 the gardens have been entirely remodelled by him and their area extended by more than 30 acres.

The present features of the garden are its extensive undulating lawn areas and broad sweeping paths with varied groupings and marginal beds of ornamental trees, flowering shrubs, and useful plants. Large specimens of Australian and exotic trees and other vegetation are effectively disposed about the grounds. At suitable spots, rockeries and mounds have been formed and planted. Along the western and southern boundary fence an interesting plantation of Australian vegetation has been made, which contains many hundreds of representative trees and shrubs of the Continent.

When the present Director took charge of the garden, in 1873, about 2,500 species of plants were growing there, and these, having been constantly added to, the garden now contains no less than 14,000 species. Many of the most valuable additions are large palms in great variety, and arborescent and other ferns—as, for instance, those in and around the rather extensive Fern-gully, which has a thousand feet of winding pathway running through its area. There are, besides, hundreds of rare ornamental and utilitarian plants, and a large collection of medicinal herbs.

An extensive "System Pavilion" was also formed by the present Director. The plants, all in large pots, are classified in their natural orders, and, like the various collections in the outer grounds, conservatory, &c., have labels attached—giving both their scientific and common names, their orders, native countries, &c.

The "Museum of Botany and Plant Products" established by Mr. Guilfoyle contains many thousands of fully-named herbarium specimens; seeds in their seed vessels (or pods), fibres, and woods; products of food, medicinal, and other plants. Both the system pavilion and museum, which are open to the public on Tuesdays and Fridays from 2 to 4 p.m., are largely visited by students connected with botanical classes in colleges and schools.

A *Nymphæa* or Water-lily lake has been formed in the valley immediately above the head of the fern gully on the south side of the gardens. Over 40 different varieties of *Nymphæas* have been planted in the pockets built for them in the form of mounds in the lake. Around the margin of the water, a "shelf" or "shallow" has been raised to within a few inches of the surface, and on this a number of ornamental semi-aquatic plants have been planted. The area directly surrounding the lake has been laid out in gently sloping swards of grass, with mounds and promontories covered with suitable vegetation jutting out at various intervals.

The old and dilapidated propagating and plant houses and nurseries, which for so many years occupied a position in the eastern part of the garden at the rear of the present tea-house site, were recently pulled down, and a new set of such houses and plant frames was erected on the western side of the grounds in proximity to the plant classification pavillion. This change has led to the entire remodelling of the area in the vicinity of the tea-house and the improvement of the lake margin in that locality. A large ornamental rotunda and a summer-house are now in course of construction near that spot. Both of these buildings, while being useful as rest-houses for ordinary visitors, will, also, serve as valuable adjuncts in connexion with the tea-house.

The grounds are almost encircled by a much-used carriage way, which, having been inter-connected, comprises the Alexandra Avenue and the South Yarra Drive, and now makes one wide promenade of $2\frac{3}{4}$ miles in length. Adjacent to the two entrances from the Alexandra Avenue, and on one of the highest points, close to Government House, has been erected a large domed structure with ten columns, which is known as the Temple of the Winds. This has been dedicated by the Director to the memory of the Hon. Charles Joseph La Trobe, the first Governor of Victoria, who selected the site for the Botanic Garden in 1845-6. The Temple is very attractive to visitors, as from it, very fine views of the Garden, Yarra Improvements, City, Eastern Suburbs, and the Dandenong and Healesville Ranges are to be obtained.

An efficient water supply for the gardens is obtained from the River Yarra. A pumping station is located near Dight's Falls, at Studley Park, and the water is drawn by powerful pumps from the river and forced into a storage reservoir, situated on the highest point in the Park. The whole of the water required is conducted from this reservoir for a distance of over three miles directly into the garden's water mains. A service of Yan Yean water is provided for drinking purposes for visitors.

The garden may be approached from the City by foot or vehicle along the interesting Alexandra Drive and Avenue from Prince's Bridge, by boat along the Yarra River, or by the South Yarra or Toorak trams, which pass close to one of the main entrances; while visitors from the northern, eastern, or southern suburbs can obtain access by gates on these boundaries of the gardens.

The gates of the garden are daily opened from April to September (inclusive) at 7.30 a.m., and from October to March (inclusive) at 7 a.m., and closed at sunset.

It will be seen by the facts quoted that the Melbourne Botanic Garden has now had an existence of over 60 years, and as a favorite resort has become increasingly popular, being attended by many thousands of people on Sundays and holidays, whilst being on week days much used by citizens and others, including visitors from other States, Colonies, &c., Great Britain, and other countries.

Zoological
and Accli-
matisation
Gardens.

The gardens of the Zoological and Acclimatisation Society of Victoria are situated in the centre of Royal Park, on the northern side of the city, distant nearly two miles from the Post Office, and can be reached by the tramcars starting every few minutes from the lower end of Elizabeth-street, or by rail. The ground enclosed contains 50 acres, rather more than half of which is laid out as a zoological garden and the rest in deer paddocks. The Patron of the Society is His Excellency the State Governor, and the present director is Mr. D. Le Souëf.

ROYAL HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY OF VICTORIA.

The initiation and progress of the horticultural interests in this State may justly be considered as due to the efforts of this society, which, as the Horticultural Society of Victoria, was started in the year 1849. Its pioneer members have by this time all passed away, but there remain a few who were members of the society in the early fifties and whose interest in the work of popularizing the growth of plants, flowers, and fruits still manifests itself.

Some few years after its establishment, the society undertook the responsibility of forming and maintaining experimental gardens at Burnley—the park of which it formed a part being known as Survey Paddock—and Mr. Clarson was intrusted with the direction of the work, acting for many years as honorary director. Upon his resignation in 1882, Mr. George Neilson took charge as curator and remained in that position until his death a few years ago. During all this time, the society was rendering most valued assistance to growers, especially in the establishment of the most complete and reliable type collection of fruits ever seen in Australasia. Horticulturists from all parts of Australia and New Zealand readily availed themselves of this magnificent collection in order to settle disputed questions of nomenclature of fruits, as very great pains were taken to insure absolute correctness of name of every variety planted among the collection. In 1885, Her Majesty the late Queen Victoria issued the warrant for the society to use the name of "Royal," and it has since worked under the full title of Royal Horticultural Society of Victoria.

The years of depression following the crash of the land boom had their full effect on the society, many of the most liberal donors to its funds being compelled to relinquish the financial support they had in previous years generously accorded the committee. In 1891, the Government of the day undertook the establishment of a School of Horticulture, and the balance due to debenture-holders on the handsome show pavilion erected in the gardens having been paid by the Government, the estate was handed over to the management of the Department of Agriculture, Mr. Neilson continuing as curator under the direction of a Board of Horticultural Advice to whose personnel

the Government appointed three, and the society three, with the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as Chairman. This arrangement worked with the utmost satisfaction until the death of the curator. Some years after that event, the Minister made a new departure by dissolving the board and placing the School of Horticulture under the sole auspices of the Department.

Since relinquishing the sole control of the Gardens, the society has set itself the task of giving instruction by means of lectures and exhibits at monthly meetings of members, and by imposing fruit and floral displays, all of which attract large attendances.

The membership subscription is low enough (10s. per annum) to be within the reach of all lovers of horticulture, and as a consequence the list of members is an encouraging evidence of the society's popularity.

The business of the society is vested in a committee, consisting of the president, two vice-presidents (one amateur and one professional), an honorary treasurer, and sixteen members (eight amateurs and eight professionals), the administrative work being conducted by the secretary, Mr. James R. A. Milligan, at the office, Broken Hill Chambers, 31 Queen-street, Melbourne.

There are 30 other horticultural societies in the State, situated at Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Kyneton, Mildura, Terang, Traralgon, and other centres. The Government provided £287 in aid of these associations during the year ended 30th June, 1908. Other Societies.

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC RESERVES.

Greater Melbourne is amply supplied with public reserves and parks, the total area devoted to such purposes being 5,440 $\frac{7}{8}$ acres in 1908. The following list of these reserves, together with a statement of their respective areas, has been supplied by the Lands Department :— Public reserves in Greater Melbourne.

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1908.

| Municipality. | Name of Reserve. | Area. |
|----------------|-------------------|--------|
| | | Acres. |
| Melbourne City | Royal Park | 425 |
| " | Yarra " | 155 |
| " | Prince's " | 97 |
| " | Fawkner " | 102 |
| " | Flinders " | 17 |
| " | Alexandra Park | 46 |
| " | Park (Model Farm) | 28 |

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND
SUBURBS, 1908—*continued.*

| Municipality. | Name of Reserve. | Area. |
|----------------------|--|---------------|
| Melbourne City | Botanic Garden and Domain | Acres. 178 |
| " | Queen Victoria Memorial Statue and Garden | 8½ |
| " | Zoological Garden | 55 |
| " | Carlton | 63 |
| " | Fitzroy | 64 |
| " | Spring | 21 |
| " | Flagstaff | 18 |
| " | Argyle Square | 3¼ |
| " | Curtain | 3¾ |
| " | Darling | 2 |
| " | Lincoln | 3¼ |
| " | Macarthur | 1 |
| " | Murchison | 1 |
| " | University | 3¾ |
| " | University Grounds | 106 |
| " | School Children's Recreation Reserve | 25 |
| " | Industrial Schools and Board of Health Depôt | 47 |
| " | Melbourne Cricket Ground | 9½ |
| " | East Melbourne | 7 |
| " | Scotch College | 7 |
| " | Richmond Cricket Ground | 6 |
| " | Carlton (old) | 5 |
| " | Parliament Reserve | 10 |
| " | Ornamental Plantations | 26 |
| " | General Cemetery | 101 |
| " | Old Cemetery | 8½ |
| " | Military Parade Ground | 5 |
| " | Recreation (Brown's Hill) | 7½ |
| " | Recreation (North Melbourne) | 9½ |
| " | Race-course (Flemington) | 301 |
| " | Recreation (Kensington) | 5¾ |
| Fitzroy City | Edinburgh Park | 34 |
| " | Recreation | 7 |
| Collingwood City | Mayor's Park | 6 |
| " | Recreation | 7 |
| " | Darling Gardens | 16 |
| " | Victoria Park | 10 |
| " | Park and Recreation (Yarra Bank) | 23 |
| Richmond City | Richmond Park | 158 |
| " | Horticultural Gardens | 33¾ |
| " | Barkly Square | 7 |
| " | Municipal Reserve | 7¾ |
| Northcote Town | Jika Park | 5¾ |
| " | Recreation | 7 |
| South Melbourne City | Albert Park (part of) | 464 |
| " | St. Vincent Gardens | 7½ |
| " | Ornamental Plantations | 2¼ |
| " | Cricket and Recreation (Warehousemen's) | 8 |
| Port Melbourne Town | Cricket Ground | 7¼ |
| " | Park and Garden | 58 |
| " | " | 2 |
| " | Ornamental Plantations | 17 |
| Prahran City | Toorak Park | 7 |
| " | Victoria Gardens | 4 |
| " | Gardens (Grattan-street) | 2 |
| St. Kilda City | St. Kilda Gardens | 16 |

AREA OF RESERVES, PARKS, AND GARDENS IN MELBOURNE AND SUBURBS, 1908—*continued.*

| Municipality. | Name of Reserve. | Area. |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|
| | | Acres. |
| St. Kilda City | Albert Park (part of) | 106 |
| " | Recreation (Point Ormond) | 54 |
| " | " | 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | " | 11 |
| " | (Beach Reserves) | 47 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Dandenong Road | 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Cemetery | 20 |
| Brighton Town | Elsternwick Park | 90 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Beach Park | 67 |
| Essendon City | Recreation | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | " | 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Agricultural Society's Yards | 30 |
| " | Queen's Park | 22 |
| " | Water Reserve | 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Hawthorn City | Recreation | 15 |
| Kew Borough | Studley Park | 208 |
| " | Lunatic Asylum | 384 |
| " | Cemetery | 31 |
| " | Recreation | 16 |
| Footscray City | Public Gardens and Recreation | 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | " | 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ |
| " | Cricket Ground, &c. | 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Recreation (Yarraville) | 5 |
| " | " (Footscray West) | 15 |
| " | " | 11 |
| Williamstown Town | Park (Newport) | 25 |
| " | " | 2 |
| " | " | 10 |
| " | Recreation | 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Beach Park | 20 |
| " | Cemetery | 28 |
| " | Rifle Range | 332 |
| " | Cricket Ground | 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Public Garden | 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Recreation (Newport) | 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| Malvern Town | Park and Garden | 8 |
| " | Recreation | 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ |
| " | Park and Garden (Waverley-road) | 16 |
| Caulfield Town | Race-course | 144 |
| " | Park | 62 |
| " | Park (East Caulfield) | 17 |
| " | Recreation | 13 |
| " | Brighton Cemetery | 29 |
| Oakleigh Borough | Recreation | 8 |
| " | Park and Garden | 21 |
| " | Park and Recreation | 5 |
| " | Cemetery | 10 |
| Camberwell Town | Gardens | 7 |
| " | Norwood Recreation Reserve | 4 |
| Coburg Borough | Recreation | 5 |
| Outside urban municipalities | Yarra Bend Asylum | 350 |
| | Williamstown Race-course | 190 |
| | Total | 5,440 $\frac{1}{8}$ |

Public
Reserves in
Country
Towns.

Most of the large towns throughout the State also possess public gardens, parks, and reserves for recreation purposes. The following table contains particulars respecting the most important of these:—

NUMBER AND AREA OF PARKS AND GARDENS IN COUNTRY TOWNS
IN VICTORIA, 1908.

| Town. | Number of Reserves. | Area. Acres. |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Ararat | 4 | 36½ |
| Bairnsdale | 3 | 150 |
| Ballarat | 6 | 1,153 |
| Ballarat East | 11 | 185½ |
| Beechworth | 5 | 161 |
| Bendigo | 10 | 168 |
| Buninyong | 4 | 114 |
| Burrumbeet | 1 | 100 |
| Castlemaine | 3 | 109 |
| Clunes | 5 | 78½ |
| Colac | 3 | 78 |
| Creswick | 3 | 54½ |
| Daylesford | 5 | 235 |
| Dromana | 3 | 274¾ |
| Dunolly | 5 | 312 |
| Eaglehawk | 4 | 42½ |
| Echuca | 4 | 251 |
| Flinders | 1 | 14½ |
| Geelong | 5 | 261 |
| Hamilton | 4 | 58 |
| Horsham | 3 | 142½ |
| Koroit | 1 | 13 |
| Kyneton | 1 | 14 |
| Korumburra | 2 | 31½ |
| Learmonth | 4 | 76 |
| Majorca | 2 | 185 |
| Maldon | 4 | 156 |
| Maryborough | 3 | 142 |
| Mortlake | 2 | 65 |
| Portland | 5 | 103 |
| Port Fairy | 1 | 26 |
| Queenscliff | 2 | 48 |
| Sale | 1 | 40 |
| Sebastopol | 1 | 36 |
| Shepparton | 4 | 123½ |
| St. Arnaud | 2 | 63 |
| Stawell | 3 | 71¾ |
| Wangaratta | 3 | 125 |
| Warrnambool | 9 | 449 |

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Valuations
of Friendly
Societies.

Friendly societies are regulated by their own rules which are registered under the *Friendly Societies Act* 1890 and amendments thereof in the Acts of 1891, 1896, 1900, 1905, 1906, and 1907. These Acts, amongst other provisions, prescribe that each society

shall furnish returns annually to the Government Statist, and once at least in every five years shall cause its assets and liabilities to be valued by or to the satisfaction of that officer. The fees for valuation have purposely been fixed at a low rate, and average no more than threepence per member, the result being that, although it is competent for the societies to employ outside valuers should they desire it, as a matter of fact they have rarely done so, and all the valuations are now made by the Government Statist.

Every Society which carries on the business of a Friendly Society must be registered and provide in its rules for a scale of payments certified by the Government Statist to be adequate to provide the benefits set forth therein. Registered societies must not contract to pay more than 40s. per week in sickness, and the practice now obtaining in Victoria is to pay a maximum of only 20s. per week. Central bodies are empowered by statute to appoint auditors to audit and inspect the accounts and securities of branches at such time as the central body may direct. The *Friendly Societies Act* 1907 provides that every trustee, treasurer, secretary, chairman or member of the committee of management who takes any money or valuable thing in consideration of any benefit received or to be received by any member of an unregistered society shall be liable to a penalty of £50. Trade unions are exempted from registration. The investment of funds on leasehold property is now illegal, but the power to invest generally is extended to all trustee securities. All loans on freehold property must be on first mortgage only, and are not to exceed three-fifths of the value as certified by a practical surveyor or valuer. The trustees are prohibited from investing if the fee-simple of the property has been in the possession of a trustee or his wife during the previous five years. Prior to the year 1907, it was not lawful for a friendly societies' dispensary to sell patent or other medicines to members of friendly societies or their relatives, but this has been amended so that all benefit members who have paid the full subscription to the dispensary, and the full amount payable to the society for medicines and medical appliances, may now be supplied with medicines for which payment is required.

Registration, &c.,
of Friendly
Societies.

The growth of Victorian friendly societies in recent years is worthy of note. The total membership increased from 89,469, in 1898, to 130,048 at the close of 1908—an increase during the decade of 40,579 members. Over 5,000 members were added during the year 1906, and over 6,600 in both 1907 and 1908. The funds increased during the ten-year period from £1,221,210 to £1,887,891—an addition of £666,681. These are well invested, the return from the Sick and Funeral Fund averaging 4 per cent. for the year 1908. Female societies have been established in recent years, and at the end of 1908 these had a membership of 8,356, and funds amounting to £20,767.

Progress of
Friendly
Societies.

A table is appended showing the membership, revenue, expenditure, and total funds of friendly societies in Victoria during the years 1906-1908 :—

| Year. | | | Membership. | Revenue. | Expenditure. | Funds. |
|-------|-----|-----|-------------|----------|--------------|-----------|
| | | | | £ | £ | £ |
| 1906 | ... | ... | 116,562 | 436,161 | 354,370 | 1,708,346 |
| 1907 | ... | ... | 123,443 | 452,323 | 367,483 | 1,793,186 |
| 1908 | ... | ... | 130,048 | 481,197 | 386,492 | 1,887,891 |

It will be seen that these societies are in a progressive condition, and as recent legislation will tend to improve the financial position of all the institutions, further numerical and financial progress may be anticipated.

The following is an epitome of the particulars furnished respecting friendly societies for the five years, 1904 to 1908 :—

FRIENDLY SOCIETIES, 1904 TO 1908.

(Including Female Societies.)

| — | 1904. | 1905. | 1906. | 1907. | 1908. |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Number of societies ... | 26 | 26 | 26 | 27 | 42 |
| Number of branches ... | 1,266 | 1,306 | 1,351 | 1,376 | 1,422 |
| Average number of members | 107,213 | 110,063 | 114,059 | 120,002 | 126,746 |
| Number of members sick | 21,608 | 20,951 | 22,394 | 24,456 | 24,099 |
| Weeks for which alimnt was allowed | 184,799 | 180,986 | 185,537 | 190,702 | 197,618 |
| Deaths of members ... | 1,007 | 1,035 | 1,052 | 1,068 | 1,171 |
| Deaths of registered wives | 406 | 413 | 424 | 431 | 414 |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Income of sick and funeral fund | 223,460 | 225,790 | 239,172 | 246,045 | 263,151 |
| Income of incidental fund | 181,085 | 183,881 | 193,095 | 202,116 | 210,555 |
| Other Income ... | 4,738 | 3,710 | 3,894 | 4,162 | 7,491 |
| Total Income ... | 409,283 | 413,381 | 436,161 | 452,323 | 481,197 |
| Expenditure of sick and funeral fund | 161,277 | 152,434 | 161,991 | 165,426 | 173,898 |
| Expenditure of incidental fund | 177,899 | 182,234 | 190,498 | 198,113 | 206,582 |
| Other Expenditure ... | 1,918 | 2,077 | 1,881 | 3,944 | 6,012 |
| Total Expenditure... | 341,094 | 336,745 | 354,370 | 367,483 | 386,492 |
| Amount to credit of sick and funeral fund | 1,437,390 | 1,510,746 | 1,587,927 | 1,668,546 | 1,757,799 |
| Amount to credit of incidental fund | 56,032 | 57,679 | 60,276 | 64,279 | 68,252 |
| Amount invested—sick and funeral fund | 1,378,151 | 1,451,359 | 1,530,569 | 1,608,510 | 1,700,283 |
| Amount invested—incidental fund | 47,395 | 48,549 | 48,754 | 50,678 | 55,112 |
| Amount invested—other funds | 52,208 | 50,971 | 54,647 | 56,500 | 56,786 |
| Total invested ... | 1,477,754 | 1,550,879 | 1,633,970 | 1,715,688 | 1,812,181 |
| „ funds ... | 1,549,919 | 1,626,555 | 1,708,346 | 1,793,186 | 1,887,891 |

In proportion to the number of effective male members of the societies, the amount of sickness experienced in 1908 was about the average of recent years. The days per effective member for which alimnt was allowed were equal to an average of about 11.7 in each of the five years 1904-1908, but the average was only 11.0 during the twenty-one years ended 1903. The death rate in 1908 was also about the average—the rate per 1,000 members being 9.76 in 1908, 9.18 in 1907, 9.61 in 1906, 9.75 in 1905, 9.64 in 1904, and 10.37 for the 31 years ended 1908. The female societies experienced a smaller amount of sickness than the male branches—the days per effective member for which alimnt was allowed only averaging 7.0 yearly during the five years ended 1908. The death rate, too, was considerably lower, being 3.52 per 1,000 members in 1908, and not exceeding 4.29 per 1,000 members in any of the years of the quinquennium.

Sickness and death rates.

OCCUPATIONS.—CENSUS RETURNS.

The occupations of the people in 1901 were ascertained at the last census. The various divisions of employment, under 28 heads, were as follows:—

Occupations, 1901.

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1901.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--|--------|----------|--------|
| Ministering to— | | | |
| Government, Defence, &c. | 6,719 | 165 | 6,884 |
| Religion, Charity, Science, Education, &c. | 13,664 | 14,676 | 28,340 |
| Board, Lodging, and Attendance | 13,129 | 53,686 | 66,815 |
| Dealing in— | | | |
| Money and Real Property | 10,039 | 2,760 | 12,799 |
| Art and Mechanic Productions | 3,720 | 934 | 4,654 |
| Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials | 6,374 | 2,452 | 8,826 |
| Foods, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants | 18,217 | 3,428 | 21,645 |
| Animals, and Animal and Vegetable Substances | 3,977 | 198 | 4,175 |
| Metal or Minerals (other than those used for Fuel and Light) | 2,044 | 162 | 2,206 |
| Minerals, &c., mainly used for Fuel and Light | 2,794 | 34 | 2,828 |
| Engaged in— | | | |
| General Dealing and Mercantile Pursuits | 16,091 | 4,446 | 20,537 |
| Speculating on Chance Events | 284 | 1 | 285 |
| Storage | 1,093 | ... | 1,093 |
| Transport and Communication | 30,318 | 1,198 | 31,516 |

OCCUPATIONS OF THE PEOPLE, 1901—continued.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|---------|----------|-----------|
| Manufacturers of— | | | |
| Art and Mechanic Productions ... | 20,676 | 1,748 | 22,424 |
| Textile Fabrics, Dress and Fibrous Materials | 10,664 | 28,450 | 39,114 |
| Foods, Drinks, Narcotics, and Stimulants | 10,251 | 1,402 | 11,653 |
| Animal and Vegetable Substances ... | 5,281 | 85 | 5,366 |
| Metals and Minerals (other than those used for Fuel and Light) | 14,315 | 88 | 14,403 |
| Materials used for Heat, Light, or Energy | 1,035 | 37 | 1,072 |
| Constructors of Buildings, Roads, Railways, Earthworks, &c. | 27,392 | 17 | 27,409 |
| Engaged in Disposing of the Dead or Refuse | 1,260 | 24 | 1,284 |
| Ill-defined Industrial Workers (chiefly Labourers) | 22,653 | 855 | 23,508 |
| Engaged on Land or with Animals, and in Obtaining Raw Products from Natural Sources | 140,149 | 24,998 | 165,147 |
| Persons— | | | |
| Of Independent Means ... | 7,242 | 2,824 | 10,066 |
| Dependent upon Natural Guardians ... | 203,279 | 444,931 | 648,210 |
| Dependent upon the State or upon Public or Private Support | 7,701 | 6,444 | 14,145 |
| Occupation not stated (chiefly Breadwinners) | 3,522 | 1,415 | 4,937 |
| Total | 603,883 | 597,458 | 1,201,341 |

The number of breadwinners and dependents were:—

Breadwinners and dependents, 1901.

BREADWINNERS AND DEPENDENTS, 1901.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. | Percentage. | | |
|----------------|---------|----------|-----------|-------------|----------|--------|
| | | | | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| Breadwinners | 389,381 | 144,668 | 534,049 | 65 | 24 | 45 |
| Dependents ... | 210,980 | 451,375 | 662,355 | 35 | 76 | 55 |
| Total ... | 600,361 | 596,043 | 1,196,404 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Proportion of breadwinners and dependents.

The proportion of breadwinners was 100 to every 124 dependents, which was almost the same as at the previous census, when 100 breadwinners supported 125 dependents. It will be seen, too, that nearly one-fourth of the females in Victoria were returned as earning their own living.

FACTORIES AND SHOPS.

The Factories and Shops Acts were consolidated during the year 1905 by the *Factories and Shops Act 1905*, No. 1975. Beyond making the Act a permanent measure, no changes were effected in the law by Act No. 1975. The nine existing Acts were merely consolidated. Factory
legislation.

Shortly after the consolidation, the *Factories and Shops Act 1905* (No. 2), No. 2008, was passed, and came into force on 1st March, 1906. The *Factories and Shops Act 1907* (No. 2137) was passed on 23rd December, 1907, and came into force on 1st March, 1908. These measures remove a number of administrative difficulties, but the majority of their provisions do not call for special remark.

An important change was, however, made by Act No. 2008 as regards the provisions governing the closing of shops in the Metropolitan District. Under the old law, the majority of shops were required to close at 7 p.m. on ordinary nights, and 10 p.m. on Saturdays, unless a majority of the shopkeepers of any class in any district petitioned the Governor in Council to fix a later hour by Regulation. Shopkeepers could also petition for the closing of shops for a half-holiday.

The above provisions continue in force as regards places outside the Metropolitan District, but, as regards the latter, the amending Act fixed the hours for closing and for a half-holiday, and same cannot be altered except by Act of Parliament.

The Metropolitan Saturday Half-holiday Act No. 2177 came into force on 1st May, 1909, and provides for the closing of all shops other than Fourth Schedule Shops or shops mentioned in the First Schedule to Act No. 2177 (viz.—Flower shops, Bicycle shops, Hairdressers, Butchers and Bakers) from 1 p.m. on Saturday in each week; also that shops which are closed from 1 p.m. on Saturday may be kept open until 10 p.m. on the preceding Friday. Regulations for closing the shops mentioned in the First Schedule to the above Act from 1 p.m. on Saturday and permitting same to be kept open until 10 p.m. on Friday may be made on receipt of petitions signed by a majority of the shopkeepers in the Metropolitan District to be affected.

Until such a Regulation is made the shops mentioned in the First Schedule to Act No. 2177 are required to be closed at 1 p.m. on either Wednesday or Saturday.

Shortly stated, the hours for closing bakers' shops are fixed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, and 1 p.m. on Wednesday or Saturday, whichever the shopkeeper may prefer. If Wednesday be chosen for the half-holiday, the hour for closing on Saturday is 10 p.m., and if Saturday be chosen the hour for closing on Wednesday is 6 p.m. Bicycle shops, flower shops, and hairdressers' shops must be closed on Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday, and Friday at 8 p.m.; on Wednesday or Saturday at 1 p.m. If the shop be closed on Saturday at 1 p.m., it must be closed on Wednesday at 8 p.m.; if it be closed at 1 p.m. on Wednesday, it can be kept open till 11 p.m. on Saturday.

All other shops (except Fourth Schedule Shops) must be closed at 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. On Friday the closing hour is 10 p.m., and on Saturday 1 p.m.

The Fourth Schedule shops, so far as the Metropolitan District is concerned, are:—

- Chemists' shops.
- Coffee-houses.
- Confectioners.
- Cooked meat (other than tinned meat) shops.
- Eating-houses.
- Fish and oyster shops.
- Fruit and vegetable shops.
- Restaurants.
- Tobacconists' shops.
- Booksellers' and news agents' shops.

No hours for closing such shops are fixed by the Act.

Under the provisions of the *Factories and Shops Act 1907* the Minister can grant permission to certain shopkeepers, who under Act No. 2008 are required to close their shops at 6 p.m., to keep open till 8 p.m. Such permission can only be granted to widows, old people, and in cases of great hardship.

Provision is also made under Act No. 2137 for overtime and tea money for shop employes.

A factory is defined to mean any place in which four or more persons other than a Chinese, or in which one or more Chinese are employed in any handicraft, or in preparing articles for trade or sale; or any place in which one or more are employed, if motive power be used in the preparation of such articles, or where furniture is made, or where bread or pastry is made or baked for sale. The expression handicraft includes any work done in a laundry or dyeworks. Provision is made for the registration of factories; and inspectors are appointed to inspect and examine them in order to ensure that the health requirements and other provisions of the Acts are complied with. A record is to be kept in every factory of the names, work, and wages of all employes, and the ages of those under 21. The employment of males under 14 and females under 15 years of age is debarred, unless they were employed in a factory or workroom prior to 2nd March, 1909, and a strict limitation is placed on the hours of employment for all females and for males under sixteen. There are special provisions to guard against accidents, and persons in charge of engines and boilers must hold certificates of competency or service. The working hours of Chinese are specially restricted, with the view of preventing or lessening unfair competition. Every employe in a factory must be paid at least 2s. 6d. per week. This provision is, of course, intended as a protection for juvenile workers.

The most important provision contained in the Act of 1896, and extended by subsequent Acts, is in regard to the formation of Boards to fix the rates of wages and piece-work in various trades, for which purpose it is provided that, to determine the lowest prices or rates to be paid, the Governor-in-Council may appoint special Boards, if a resolution in favour of creating a Board for any process, trade, or business has been carried in both Houses of Parliament, the Board to consist of from four to ten members (half elected by employers and half by employées), who are to nominate some outside person as chairman; or if no agreement can be arrived at as to such nomination, then the Governor-in-Council shall appoint the chairman. The Board so appointed may fix piece-work rates which may be paid, also the lowest wages rates, and may determine the number of improvers who may be employed. There are 59 Special Boards now in existence, of which number 51 have made determinations affecting over 51,500 operatives. These Boards are:—

Wages
Boards.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Aerated Water Trade Board | 30. Hairdressers Board |
| 2. Agricultural Implements Board | 31. Ice Board |
| 3. Artificial Manure Board | 32. Ironmoulders Board |
| 4. Bedstead Makers Board | 33. Jam Trade Board |
| 5. Boot Board | 34. Jewellers Board |
| 6. Brassworkers Board | 35. Leather Goods Board |
| 7. Bread Carters Board | 36. Malt Board |
| 8. Bread Board | 37. Millet Broom Board |
| 9. Brewers Board | 38. Milliners Board |
| 10. Brick Trade Board | 39. Ovenmakers Board |
| 11. Brushmakers Board | 40. Paper Bag Trade Board |
| 12. Butchers Board | 41. Pastrycooks Board |
| 13. Candlemakers Board | 42. Picture Frame Board |
| 14. Cardboard Box Trade Board | 43. Plate Glass Board |
| 15. Carriage Board | 44. Pottery Trade Board |
| 16. Cigar Trade Board | 45. Printers Board |
| 17. Clothing Board | 46. Rubber Trade Board |
| 18. Confectioners Board | 47. Saddlery Board |
| 19. Coopers Board | 48. Shirt Board |
| 20. Cycle Trade Board | 49. Soap and Soda Board |
| 21. Drapers Board | 50. Starch Board |
| 22. Dressmakers Board | 51. Stone Cutters Board |
| 23. Engravers Board | 52. Tanners Board |
| 24. Farriers Board | 53. Tinsmiths Board |
| 25. Fellmongers Board | 54. Underclothing Board |
| 26. Flour Board | 55. Waterproof Clothing Board |
| 27. Furniture Trade Board | 56. Wire Workers Board |
| 28. Glass Workers Board | 57. Wicker Board |
| 29. Grocers Board | 58. Woodworkers Board |
| | 59. Woollen Trade Board |

The most important provision of the *Factories and Shops Act* 1907 is that which provides for the extension of the Special Board system to—

1. Any business whatsoever usually or frequently carried on in a shop.
2. Any business of carting or driving generally, or in any specified business.
3. Any specified process, trade, or business connected with the erection of buildings or quarrying.
4. Any business connected with the preparation or sale of firewood.

This is a very great extension of the Special Board system, but it must be remembered that not one new Special Board can be appointed under the provisions of the new Act unless such appointment is sanctioned by a vote in both Houses of Parliament.

Effect—
Rise in
earnings.

The Chief Inspector of Factories reports that determinations, made by forty-nine Boards appointed under the Act, were in force during 1908, and furnishes figures showing the increase in average earnings consequent thereon. For instance, the average weekly wage for all employés (including boys) in the bread-making trade was £1 12s. 6d. in 1896, prior to the Wages Board being in operation, and £2 4s. 7d. in 1908, when its determination was in full force. Likewise, the average wage of persons employed in the boot trade increased from £1 3s. 2d. in 1896 to £1 8s. 5d. in 1908, and in the furniture trade from £1 9s. 1d. to £1 16s. 8d. In 1900, the average wage of persons engaged in the engraving trade was £1 16s. 11d., and in 1908, when the determination was in force, it was £2 0s. 10d., or an increase of 3s. 11d. In the pottery trade the average wage was £1 8s. 1d. in 1900, before the Wages Board fixed the rates, and in 1908, when the determination was in operation, it had risen to £1 14s. 7d., thus showing an average increase of 6s. 6d. for each employé engaged in the trade. In the brewing trade the average wage in 1901 was £1 14s. 4d., but in 1908, under the wages board determination, the average was £2 4s. 11d., or an increase of 10s. 7d. for each employé.

Provision has been made in the law for appeals against the determination of any Special Board to a Court of Industrial Appeals. The Court consists of a Judge of the Supreme Court, who may be assisted by two assessors for technical purposes only. The assessors have no voice in the decisions of the Court. There have been five appeals against the determinations of Special Boards to this Court.

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

Government
Labour
Bureau.

Prior to 1st October, 1900, two labour bureaus were administered by the Railway Department: One registered men in search of work, and distributed all Government work, each Department paying the cost. The other was a Railway Staff Office, regulating and distributing all temporary and casual railway employment. Both these

are now administered by a bureau under the control of the Public Works Department, where applicants are registered for temporary or casual employment principally as artisans and labourers on Government works, including railways. Men are supplied when work is available according to their order of registration, subject to fitness. This bureau also undertakes to supply workmen for private employment, and advances railway tickets to deserving applicants who may themselves have obtained employment in country districts, which they would be otherwise unable to reach, these advances being subject to orders for repayment out of earnings.

The following is a summary of the operations of the bureau in respect to registrations and applicants sent to employment for the year 1908 :—

GOVERNMENT LABOUR BUREAU.

| Year and Month. | Number of Applicants for Work as Registered at the End of each Month in the Metropolis. | Number of Men for whom Employment was Obtained. |
|----------------------|---|---|
| 1908—January | * | } 4,973 |
| February | 1,020 | |
| March | 1,596 | |
| April | 1,227 | |
| May | 957 | |
| June | 1,354 | |
| July | 1,735 | |
| August | 1,343 | |
| September | 1,446 | |
| October | 915 | |
| November | 933 | |
| December | * | |

* Figures not available.

In the next table particulars are given of the operations of the bureau over a series of years :—

| Year. | Registrations Effected. | | Engagements Effected. |
|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| | In the City. | In the Country. | |
| 1901 | 13,865 | ... | 2,705 |
| 1902 | 10,071 | ... | 806 |
| 1903 | 7,629 | ... | 1,203 |
| 1904 | 11,559 | ... | 1,329 |
| 1905 | 12,937 | 571 | 1,531 |
| 1906 | 13,232 | 1,600 | 2,896 |
| 1907 | 10,119 | 1,921 | 2,466 |
| 1908 | 14,444 | 3,294 | 4,973 |

Regarding the number of distinct individuals included in the registrations and engagements effected, the officer in charge of the bureau states that the number of men who are regular applicants at the bureau is very considerable, especially amongst unskilled labourers, and consequently the allowance to be made for duplication of registrations is proportionately great. It would probably be safe to say that the number of distinct individuals applying in any one year would be represented by about half the registrations effected. In connexion with the engagements effected during the year allowance must also be made for the fact that the same applicants may be engaged more than once during the year, and this, it is considered, would be equal to about one-sixth to one-eighth of the engagements made.

During the year 1908 the number of railway tickets advanced was 1,029, valued at £725, of which £515 was refunded. During the past eight and a quarter years 6,535 railway tickets have been advanced, of the value of £5,338, of which £3,273 has been refunded.

CHARITIES AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS.

Charitable
and Refor-
matory
Insti-
tutions, &c.

The total number of organizations administering charitable relief and of a reformatory character throughout the State which forwarded returns to the Government Statist for the year 1908 was 243. The number of these which received aid from the Government was 218. The amount received by all these institutions was £937,197, of which the Government contributed £663,763, and £273,434 was received from all other sources. The total expenditure amounted to £924,618. The daily average number under care indoors throughout the year was 14,129, and there were no less than 128,019 distinct cases of outdoor relief. With regard to the outdoor relief, it has been ascertained that in some institutions the "distinct cases treated" represent the actual number of persons treated; in others, they represent the actual cases of illness, accident, or disease; but in these latter cases, the books of the institutions do not furnish the necessary particulars as to the number of distinct persons. Again, it is considered probable that some obtained relief at more than one establishment, and that some, in the course of the year, became inmates of one or other of the institutions. There is no available information upon which an estimate of these duplications can be based.

In the following table will be found a summary containing full particulars of all these charitable and reformatory institutions, showing the number in each class, the daily average number of persons under care in institutions, the total number of distinct cases receiving outdoor relief, together with the receipts and expenditure:—

CHARITABLE AND REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS—INMATES, RECEIPTS,
AND EXPENDITURE, 1907-8.

| Name of Institution, &c. | Number of Institutions. | Daily Average Indoors. | Outdoor Relief Distinct Cases. | Receipts. | | | Expenditure (including Building Expenses for Year). |
|---|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|----------------|---|
| | | | | From Government. | From Other Sources. | Total. | |
| HOSPITALS. | | | | | | | |
| General Hospitals | 45 | 2,207 | 63,439 | 53,097 | 99,468 | 152,565 | 145,056 |
| Women's Hospital | 1 | 97 | 1,070 | 2,400 | 9,245 | 11,645 | 9,450 |
| Children's Hospital | 1 | 100 | 13,581 | 625 | 11,808 | 12,433 | 18,116 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 1 | 19 | 3,787 | 400 | 1,465 | 1,865 | 1,988 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 1 | 50 | .. | 4,279 | .. | 4,279 | 4,279 |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 1 | 40 | .. | 825 | 2,668 | 3,493 | 4,550 |
| Convalescent Homes | 2 | 47 | .. | 370 | 1,293 | 1,663 | 1,921 |
| Deaf and Dumb, Blind, and Eye and Ear Institutions | 3 | 240 | 6,149 | 4,900 | 10,814 | 15,714 | 17,105 |
| Hospitals for Insane, Idiot Asylum, and Receiving House | 10 | 5,012 | .. | 186,742 | 26,938 | 207,678 | 207,678 |
| Foundling Hospitals | 2 | 177 | .. | 1,055 | 1,607 | 2,662 | 2,694 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital | 1 | 52 | .. | 1,749 | 2,942 | 4,691 | 4,579 |
| Total | 68 | 8,041 | 88,026 | 256,442 | 162,246 | 418,688 | 417,411 |
| BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES. | | | | | | | |
| Benevolent Asylums | 8 | 2,402 | 1,615 | 22,415 | 20,751 | 43,166 | 39,658 |
| Old Colonists' Association | 1 | 61 | 9 | .. | 4,523 | 4,523 | 4,685 |
| Freemasons' Society | 1 | 15 | .. | .. | 907 | 907 | 600 |
| Benevolent Societies | 98 | .. | 17,389 | 7,422 | 21,016 | 28,438 | 25,618 |
| Orphan Asylums | 9 | 1,530 | .. | 5,630 | 21,784 | 27,414 | 24,393 |
| Total | 117 | 4,008 | 19,013 | 35,467 | 68,981 | 104,448 | 95,454 |
| REFORMATORY INSTITUTIONS. | | | | | | | |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 18 | 355 | 5,103 | 69,307 | 2,540 | 71,847 | 71,847 |
| Lara Inebriates' Institution | 1 | 15 | .. | 14,789 | 553 | 15,342 | 15,342 |
| Female Refuges | 10 | 647 | .. | 5,240 | 23,909 | 29,239 | 26,924 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes | 6 | 145 | .. | 566 | 4,790 | 5,356 | 5,435 |
| Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society | 1 | .. | 372 | 95 | 737 | 832 | 811 |
| Gaols and Penal Establishments .. | 16 | 897 | .. | 51,299 | .. | 51,299 | 51,299 |
| Total | 52 | 2,059 | 5,475 | 141,296 | 32,619 | 173,915 | 171,658 |
| MISCELLANEOUS. | | | | | | | |
| Old-age Pensioners | .. | .. | 11,288 | 329,378 | 6,170 | 235,548 | 235,548 |
| Talbot Colony for Epileptics | 1 | 21 | .. | 1,000 | 961 | 1,961 | 1,985 |
| Night Shelters (Dr. Singleton's) .. | 2 | .. | .. | 40 | 15 | 55 | 66 |
| Charity Organization Society | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1,995 | 1,995 | 1,895 |
| Free Dispensaries | 2 | .. | 4,217 | 140 | 447 | 587 | 601 |
| Total | 6 | 21 | 15,505 | 230,558 | 9,588 | 240,146 | 240,095 |
| Grand Total .. | 243 | 14,129 | 128,019 | 663,763 | 273,434 | 937,197 | 924,618 |

Charitable
institutions
—accom-
modation.

Particulars relating to the accommodation in the most important of the various classes of charitable institutions in the State are as follows. The information relates to the year ended 30th June, 1908, except in the case of the Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, and the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, where it relates to the calendar year 1908, and in the case of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, where it is for the year ended 30th September, 1908. Of the general hospitals, six are in Melbourne, and the remainder in country towns, nine of the latter being also benevolent asylums. The accommodation available for indoor patients was as follows:—

AMOUNT OF ACCOMMODATION, 1907-8.

| Description of Institution. | Number of Institutions. | Dormitories. | | Number of Beds for Inmates. | Number of Cubic Feet to each Bed. |
|--|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | Number. | Capacity in Cubic Feet. | | |
| General Hospitals ... | 45 | 414 | 4,236,701 | 3,153 | 1,344 |
| Women's Hospital ... | 1 | 25 | 144,450 | 106 | 1,363 |
| Children's Hospital ... | 1 | 17 | 141,815 | 115 | 1,233 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital ... | 1 | 8 | 54,680 | 60 | 911 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 1 | 3 | 23,892 | 22 | 1,086 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital | 1 | 6 | 96,304 | 50 | 1,926 |
| Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) | 1 | 10 | ... | 90 | ... |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 1 | 3 | 15,336 | 62 | 247 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 1 | 11 | ... | 67 | ... |
| Consumptive Sanatorium... | 1 | 32 | 56,000 | 130 | 431 |
| Receiving House for the Insane | 1 | 12 | 26,673 | 31 | 860 |
| Hospitals for the Insane ... | 8 | 1,264 | 3,138,899 | 4,384 | 716 |
| Idiot Asylum ... | 1 | 20 | 114,288 | 296 | 386 |
| Benevolent Asylums ... | 8 | 214 | 1,965,310 | 2,711 | 725 |
| Convalescent Homes ... | 2 | 30 | 69,000 | 61 | 1,131 |
| Blind Asylum ... | 1 | 5 | 91,318 | 112 | 815 |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum ... | 1 | 5 | 87,604 | 90 | 973 |
| Orphan Asylums ... | 9 | 80 | 771,194 | 1,472 | 524 |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 18 | 90 | 311,222 | 681 | 457 |
| Female Refuges... | 10 | 138 | 516,169 | 723 | 714 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes | 6 | 17 | 112,226 | 188 | 597 |
| Lara Inebriates' Institution | 1 | 10 | 41,900 | 38 | 1,103 |
| Talbot Colony for Epileptics | 1 | 20 | 60,816 | 50 | 1,216 |
| Total ... | 121 | 2,434 | 12,075,797 | 14,692 | 822 |

The following statement shows the number of inmates and of deaths in these institutions:—

Charitable institutions—
inmates
and deaths.

INMATES AND DEATHS, 1907-8.

| Description of Institution. | Number of Inmates. | | Number of Deaths. | Proportion of Deaths to Total Number of Inmates. |
|--|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|--|
| | Total during the Year. | Daily Average. | | |
| General Hospitals | 25,224 | 2,207 | 2,556 | Per cent. 10·1 |
| Women's Hospital | 2,232 | 97 | 42 | 1·9 |
| Children's Hospital | 1,597 | 100 | 176 | 11·0 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 804 | 59 | 5 | ·6 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 288 | 19 | 11 | 3·8 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital ... | 682 | 52 | 35 | 5·1 |
| Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) | 132 | 82 | 9 | 6·8 |
| Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 154 | 95 | 13 | 8·4 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 300 | 50 | ... | ... |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 205 | 40 | 5 | 2·4 |
| Receiving House for the Insane ... | 356 | 18 | 1 | 3 |
| Hospitals for the Insane | 5,550 | 4,684 | 359 | 6·5 |
| Idiot Asylum | 356 | 310 | 21 | 5·9 |
| Benevolent Asylums | 3,932 | 2,402 | 535 | 13·6 |
| Convalescent Homes | 1,245 | 47 | ... | ... |
| Blind Asylum | 103 | 94 | 2 | 1·9 |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum | 99 | 87 | ... | ... |
| Orphan Asylums | 1,953 | 1,530 | 3 | ·2 |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 6,535 | 5,458 | 63 | 1·0 |
| Female Refuges | 980 | 647 | 8 | ·8 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes ... | 667 | 145 | 1 | ·1 |
| Old Colonists' Association | 66 | 61 | 2 | 3·0 |
| Lara Inebriates' Institution ... | 68 | 15 | ... | ... |
| Talbot Colony for Epileptics ... | 55 | 21 | ... | ... |
| Freemasons' Home | 15 | 15 | ... | ... |
| Total | 53,598 | 18,335 | 3,847 | 7·2 |

In addition to the inmates shown in the preceding table, there were 58 mothers of infants in the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home, 84 infants in the Female Refuges, and 143 infants in Salvation Army Homes during the year.

Charitable
institutions
—receipts
and ex-
penditure.

The total receipts of all charitable institutions in the year 1907-8 amounted to £650,350, of which £383,086, or 59 per cent., was contributed by Government, and the expenditure amounted to £637,771. Of the Government contribution, £275,117 was expended on the Receiving House for the Insane, Hospitals for the Insane, the Idiot Asylum, the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives, and the Lara Inebriates' Institution, which are Government institutions.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.—RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1907-8.

| Description of Institution. | Receipts. | | | Expenditure. | | | | |
|---|------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| | From Government. | From other Sources. | Total. | | | | | |
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | | | | |
| General Hospitals | 53,097 | 99,468 | 152,565 | 145,056 | | | | |
| Women's Hospital | 2,400 | 9,245 | 11,645 | 9,450 | | | | |
| Children's Hospital | 625 | 11,808 | 12,433 | 18,116 | | | | |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 1,800 | 4,280 | 6,080 | 9,804 | | | | |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 400 | 1,465 | 1,865 | 1,983 | | | | |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital ... | 1,749 | 2,942 | 4,691 | 4,579 | | | | |
| Foundling Hospital (Broad- meadows) | 105 | 768 | 873 | 863 | | | | |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 950 | 839 | 1,789 | 1,831 | | | | |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Con- sumptives | 4,279 | ... | 4,279 | 4,279 | | | | |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 825 | 2,668 | 3,493 | 4,550 | | | | |
| Receiving House for Insane Hospitals for the Insane Idiot Asylum | 186,742 | 20,936 | 207,678 | 207,678 | | | | |
| Benevolent Asylums | | | | | 22,415 | 20,751 | 43,166 | 39,658 |
| Convalescent Homes | | | | | 370 | 1,293 | 1,663 | 1,921 |
| Blind Asylum | 1,700 | 3,366 | 5,066 | 3,066 | | | | |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum | 1,400 | 3,168 | 4,568 | 4,235 | | | | |
| Orphan Asylums | 5,630 | 21,784 | 27,414 | 24,893 | | | | |
| Neglected Children and Reforma- tory Schools | 69,307 | 2,540 | 71,847 | 71,847 | | | | |
| Female Refuges | 5,240 | 23,999 | 29,239 | 26,924 | | | | |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes ... | 566 | 4,790 | 5,356 | 5,435 | | | | |
| Old Colonists' Association | ... | 4,523 | 4,523 | 4,685 | | | | |
| Freemasons' Home | ... | 907 | 907 | 600 | | | | |
| Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society | 95 | 737 | 832 | 811 | | | | |
| Charity Organization Society | ... | 1,995 | 1,995 | 1,895 | | | | |
| Benevolent Societies | 7,422 | 21,016 | 28,438 | 25,618 | | | | |
| Free Dispensaries | 140 | 447 | 587 | 601 | | | | |
| Dr. Singleton's Night Shelters ... | 40 | 15 | 55 | 66 | | | | |
| Lara Inebriates' Institution | 14,789 | 553 | 15,342 | 15,342 | | | | |
| Talbot Colony for Epileptics | 1,000 | 961 | 1,961 | 1,985 | | | | |
| Total | 383,086 | 267,264 | 650,350 | 637,771 | | | | |

The following statement shows the average number of inmates of the respective institutions, the total cost of their maintenance, and the average cost for the year of each inmate:—

Charitable institutions
—average
cost per
inmate.

COST OF MAINTENANCE, 1907-8.

| Description of Institution. | Daily average Number of Inmates. | Total Cost of Maintenance. | Average cost of each Inmate. |
|--|----------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| | | £ | £ s. d. |
| General Hospitals | 2,207 | 128,019 | 58 0 1 |
| Women's Hospital | 97 | 7,203 | 74 5 2 |
| Children's Hospital | 100 | 9,939 | 99 7 10 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 59 | 4,336 | 73 9 10 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 19 | 1,791 | 94 5 3 |
| Infectious Diseases Hospital ... | 52 | 4,279 | 82 5 9 |
| Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows) ... | 82 | 863 | 10 10 6 |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 95 | 1,781 | 18 14 11 |
| Greenvale Sanatorium for Consumptives | 50 | 2,688 | 53 15 2 |
| Consumptive Sanatorium | 40 | 4,347 | 108 13 6 |
| Receiving House for the Insane | | | |
| Hospitals for the Insane | 5,012 | 156,041 | 31 2 8 |
| Idiot Asylum | | | |
| Benevolent Asylums | 2,402 | 33,457 | 13 18 7 |
| Convalescent Homes | 47 | 1,622 | 34 10 3 |
| Blind Asylum | 94 | 2,930 | 31 3 5 |
| Deaf and Dumb Asylum | 87 | 3,497 | 40 3 11 |
| Orphan Asylums | 1,530 | 20,639 | 13 9 9 |
| Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools | 5,458 | 71,847 | 13 3 3 |
| Female Refuges | 647 | 18,781 | 29 0 7 |
| Salvation Army Rescue Homes | 145 | 4,739 | 32 13 8 |
| Old Colonists' Association | 61 | 2,556 | 41 18 0 |
| Lara Inebriates' Institution | 15 | 2,502 | 166 16 0 |
| Talbot Colony for Epileptics | 21 | 1,519 | 72 6 8 |
| Freemasons' Home | 15 | 600 | 40 0 0 |
| Total | 18,335 | 485,976 | 26 10 1 |

In calculating the average cost of each inmate, the cost of treating out-patients is necessarily included, as there is no available information showing the cost of in-patients and out-patients separately.

The institutions showing the lowest average cost per inmate are the Foundling Hospital (Broadmeadows), the Neglected Children and Reformatory Schools, the Orphan Asylums, and the Benevolent Asylums. As many of the children of the Industrial and Reformatory Schools cost the State nothing—maintaining themselves at service or being supported by relatives—the cost of maintenance per head shown above is not a correct indication of the burden on the public, the true cost per head of those supported by the State being about £17 8s. The average cost per inmate of the Foundling

Hospital and Infants' Home, Female Refuges, and Salvation Army Homes would be reduced if allowance were made for mothers of infants in the first-named institution, and for infants in the two latter groups of institutions.

HOSPITALS.

Melbourne
Hospital.

The origin of this institution belongs to the very earliest days of Melbourne. Five years from the foundation of the city, the great desirability, and even necessity, of providing some establishment for the reception, nursing, and treatment of the sick poor, and for the relief of victims of accidents, was apparent. A public meeting, presided over by the Superintendent of the Province, Mr. Latrobe, and attended by the leading people of the settlement, was held on 1st March, 1841, and resolutions were unanimously and enthusiastically adopted in favour of the foundation of a hospital in which the best medical advice and the most skilful surgical treatment available would be at the service of those who were in indigent circumstances, as well as of those who would be admitted as paying patients. The severity of the struggle for existence in those early days, and the poverty of the people of the settlement, retarded for a time the collection of subscriptions. In a year, only £300 had been received; but urgent requirements were met by the establishment of a dispensary in a small brick cottage rented for the purpose in Little Collins-street. The grant in aid, which had been fully expected, was refused by the Government in Sydney; but the charitable work was not thereby doomed, and private donations enabled larger premises, in Bourke-street west, to be engaged for hospital purposes. It was intimated that no more than £500 could in any event be expected from Sydney, and the indignation and disappointment in Melbourne culminated in a meeting of prominent colonists at the house of Dr. Palmer, afterwards President of the Legislative Council under responsible government. Strong representations were made to the Governor, Sir George Gipps, who promised the memorialists a site for the hospital, and a money grant by way of building fund and endowment. In February, 1845, two sites were offered, namely, the hay and corn market reserve, between Flinders-lane and Flinders-street, and a block, in a then sequestered corner of the town, bounded by Lonsdale, Little Lonsdale, Swanston, and Russell streets. The latter was ultimately chosen, and upon it the building of the hospital was commenced.

As an intimation had been received from Sydney that the Government was prepared to advance £1,000 if a like amount was subscribed in Melbourne, immediate steps were taken to fulfil the condition. £265 was raised at a public meeting, at which also a governing body was appointed. The first entertainment raised nearly £60, and was given by some gentlemen amateurs who had formed themselves into a philharmonic society. In January, 1846, tenders were called for the erection of the building. The foundation stone was laid on the same day as that of the original Prince's-bridge. Early in 1848, the building was ready for

occupation, and a staff was appointed, and in March of that year two patients were admitted and four out-patients treated. By July, 1848, all the beds, 21 in number, were occupied, and even at that early date applications for admission exceeded the available accommodation, and additions had therefore to be made. The original building now forms the east wing of the main building. From that time up to the present day continual additions and alterations have been made in order to meet the growing demands of an increasing population, and equip the institution for the position it has held as the principal general hospital of Victoria, and the chief medical training school for University students. The wards now contain over 300 beds, in which over 5,000 in-patients are treated annually. In the out-patients' department, 21,225 persons were treated last year, including 9,012 casualty cases. The aggregate number of attendances was 72,609.

As far as has been possible in an institution, the greater part of which was built over half a century ago, the hospital has been improved in accordance with the latest views of hospital construction, and the requirements of modern science. A fine operating theatre was built a few years ago, and recently the old original theatre was reconstructed and brought thoroughly up to date. In these two theatres during 1908 no fewer than 1,939 operations were performed. There is a most effective system of steam supply and hot-water pipes installed at this hospital, whereby the operating theatres and some of the wards are heated; the sterilizers are supplied with steam at a high temperature, and the theatres are provided with absolutely sterilized water.

Some years ago an excellently-equipped mortuary was added to the hospital, and a fine large lecture-room for University students. Other important additions have been two new wards for septic cases. These are the most up-to-date wards in the hospital, and have proved highly satisfactory. Another department of the institution which has been excellently equipped is the X-Rays room. Generous donations from the trustees of the estate of the late Edward Wilson have provided for this highly useful department the latest and best equipment.

The usefulness of the Melbourne Hospital since its inauguration may be judged from the work carried out. The in-patients treated up to date number 200,408; the out-patients, 873,892.

In 1907-8 the Government granted £10,000 towards maintenance; the municipal grants were £746; private contributions amounted to £4,456; proceeds of entertainments were £136; bequests, £5,615; Hospital Sunday collections, £1,900; payments and contributions by in-door patients, £1,679; out-patients' fees, £1,171; interest amounted to £2,072; and £2,330 was received from all other sources. The total receipts for the twelve months were £30,105, which included £3,573, bequests, &c., to the endowment fund. The expenditure was £26,846—£26,185 for maintenance, &c., and £661 for extraordinary repairs and purchase of X-rays apparatus, &c.

During the year 1907 an offer of £120,000 was made by the trustees of the Edward Wilson estate towards the erection of a new hospital. This was subsequently added to by the trustees of the Sumner estate to the extent of £20,000, and by gifts of £1,000 each from Mrs. Aubrey Bowen and Mr. S. Miller, and a promise of £500 in fittings from Mr. A. T. Danks, making a total of £142,500. It has been decided to re-build on the present site, and the architect for the committee (Mr. J. J. Clark) recently made a visit to Great Britain, the Continent, and America, with the object of studying modern hospital architecture before preparing the plans for the new structure.

Alfred
Hospital.

For many years before the establishment of this institution, the necessity for a second general hospital in Melbourne was recognised. It was not, however, until 1868 that it was finally resolved that a charitable institution should be erected as a memorial of the providential escape of H.R.H. Alfred, Duke of Edinburgh, from assassination during his visit to Sydney. A site of 13 acres within the municipality of Prahran was secured, and the foundation stone was laid in March, 1869, by His Royal Highness, after whom the hospital was named. In May, 1871, the establishment was opened, and additions were made in 1885. In 1888, a fire occurred, which entirely destroyed a portion of the original buildings. During the year 1901-2, further additions were made. This hospital is recognised by the Melbourne University as a clinical school for medical students, and, in addition, a training school for nurses was established in 1880, the term of instruction decided upon being one year, which term was subsequently increased to three years. The pupils are of two grades; the first pay an entrance fee and a fixed sum monthly for maintenance, &c., whilst the second receive a small and progressive salary after six months. For the year ended 30th June, 1908, the daily average number of in-patients was 161.7. The number of patients treated shows a continuous and steady increase. Thus, the total number of patients for the year ended 30th June, 1898, was 6,745, while the figures for the year 1907-8 were 10,183. The total revenue from all sources was £13,294—£4,000 from the Government; £467 municipal grants; £1,872 private contributions; £25 proceeds of entertainments; £2,729 legacies, bequests, &c.; £903 Hospital Sunday collections; £1,712 contributions by in-door patients; £840 by outdoor patients; £416 from interest, and £330 all other receipts. The total expenditure was £13,221. The management has provided sleeping quarters for the night nurses away from the main buildings, at a cost of about £3,000, and thereby absorbed all the funds in the building account. The committee is making a special effort to obtain the sum required to replenish this account, as extensive renovations are urgently needed.

Homœo-
pathic
Hospital.

This institution was first established in 1869 as a dispensary, in Spring-street, Melbourne. In 1876, the buildings were enlarged, and founded as a hospital for the treatment of both in and out-patients. In 1881, owing to annually increasing demands for the treatment of in-patients, it was decided to remove the institution to its present

site on St. Kilda-road, and the northern wing and administrative quarters were then erected. In 1890, the southern wing, which is reserved for surgical cases, was added, the cost being met by a gift of £9,000 made by Mr. James S. Hosie, of Melbourne. Since the institution was first opened, up to 30th June, 1908, 159,729 patients have received treatment. During the year ended on that date, 9,142 patients were treated. The visits of out-patients during the same period were 22,996. The average stay of in-patients was 19 days for males and 20 days for females, which is an exceedingly low average; 901 operations were performed by the visiting honorary surgeons, and 1,887 casualty cases were attended to. The general death-rate for the past year was 6.25 per 100 persons admitted. The establishment has attached to it a school for training nurses, who have to serve a period of three years, and pass prescribed examinations. Visitors are admitted on Sundays and Wednesdays, between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m. The income for the year was £5,216, made up of £1,275 Municipal grant; £306 municipal grants; £911 private contributions; £1,070 legacies, bequests, &c.; £351 Hospital Sunday collections; £528 contributions by in-door, and £531 by out-door patients; and £244 from all other sources. The expenditure was £4,805—£15 for buildings; £4,754 for maintenance; and miscellaneous items £36.

The institution has accommodation for 84 patients. On 30th June, 1908, there were remaining under care 30 men and 27 women. A new operating theatre has recently been built, equipped with all the latest instruments and appliances, and it is proposed by the board of management of the hospital very shortly to proceed with the erection of a children's wing, which will provide accommodation for over 30 children; also a new building for nurses' accommodation, a dispensary, and out-patients' waiting rooms.

This hospital for incurables, the only one of its kind in Victoria, is situated on a block of 17 acres at Heidelberg. Its origin belongs to the year 1880, when Mrs. Thomas Austin, of Barwon Park, Winchelsea, offered £6,000 for the purposes of the institution. Other donations quickly followed, and the Government of the day granted the present site. The hospital was opened in August, 1882, and provided accommodation for 66 patients. In 1884, a wing, containing sixteen beds for the reception of cancer patients, was opened, and in 1900 another wing was added for consumptives, containing 41 beds. Alterations in 1897 increased by eight the accommodation for cancer patients. The Nurses' Home, with accommodation for 30 nurses and women servants, was erected and furnished in 1897. This building was enlarged in 1906 so as to increase the accommodation for nurses and women servants to 45 beds. In 1901, the children's wing was erected, and a laundry has since been added. In 1905 an additional wing for consumptives, capable of containing 60 patients, was opened. £5,110 of the total cost (about £6,000) of the erection of the building was provided by Mr. Joseph Kronheimer, of Melbourne. The ground floor of the wing, holding 30 beds, has been furnished at a cost of about £480, of which amount

Austin
Hospital
for
Incurables.

quite two-thirds has been specially contributed, without solicitation, by friends of the institution. The whole (60 beds) of the accommodation for patients in the Kronheimer wing was rendered available in 1906. Up to 30th June, 1908, 2,727 patients were admitted; of this number 1,869 died in the institution, 647 were discharged, and 211 were occupying beds in the various wards. The patients treated have been all of the one class, *i.e.*, chronic or incurable, many of them reaching the hospital in a dying condition. Amongst the number set out as having been discharged, a fair percentage, say, 45 per cent., have benefited very considerably from the treatment received in the institution, the remaining 55 per cent. having left of their own accord, many of them preferring to die amongst their friends and relatives. Practically no cures have been effected at the establishment. The patients treated during the year 1907-8 numbered 388, of whom 181 were new admissions, and the daily average was 206.5. The institution is well supported by the public. Of the total expenditure for 1907-8—£9,935—£1,223 was spent on buildings, and £8,712 on maintenance and other expenses. The revenue was £7,940; made up of £2,275 Government grant; £240 municipal grants; £2,754 private contributions; £3 proceeds of entertainments; £406 legacies and bequests; £883 Hospital Sunday collections; £462 contributions from in-door patients; and £917 miscellaneous contributions. The institution now contains 30 dormitories with 210 beds. There were 118 males and 93 females under care on 30th June, 1908.

St. Vincent
Hospital,
Melbourne.

This hospital was founded in 1893, and is conducted by the Sisters of Charity; but, though associated with the Roman Catholic Church, the work of the institution is carried on upon entirely unsectarian lines. The site is in Victoria Parade, Fitzroy. The present building forms only the rear portion of the proposed completed structure, and contains 120 beds. A new suite of rooms has been provided for the treatment of diseases of the eye, including two dark-rooms for special examinations, equipped with the Moorefield pattern of electric lighting apparatus—one room is available for Retinoscopy, and the other for Ophthalmoscopic examinations. The patients suffering from diseases of the ear, nose, and throat are now seen in a special room, in which the Nernst system of electric lighting has been installed. During the year ended 30th June, 1908, 1,770 patients were treated in the institution; 121 patients remaining, showing that every available bed was occupied. The number of out-patients who received treatment was 11,948, making a total of 13,718. The total number of operations performed on patients during the year was 1,477, of whom 27 died, giving a death-rate of 1.8 per 100 operations. The total receipts were £9,459 made up of £3,343 Government grant; £130 from municipalities; £2,683 private contributions; £278 proceeds of entertainments; £969 from legacies and bequests; £570 from Hospital Sunday Committee; £1,466 patients' contributions, and other receipts £20. The expenditure was £11,666, of which £2,225 was spent on buildings and repairs, and £9,441 on maintenance, &c.

The necessity for establishing an institution of this kind forced itself upon the attention of the benevolent ladies of Melbourne over fifty years ago. In 1856 it was definitely founded, its original title being the Melbourne Lying-in Hospital and Infirmary for Diseases of Women and Children, and it was the first institution of this special nature erected in Australia. The work was first carried on in Collins-street, Eastern Hill, but a permanent site was eventually granted by the Government in Madeline-street, Carlton, where the hospital was opened in 1858, its title being altered in 1868 to Women's Hospital, the name it now bears. Important and improved additions have since been made, including the Genevieve Ward Wing, constituting the largest portion of the midwifery department, nurses' quarters, and the infirmary and midwifery operating theatres. Recently the management has caused to be created an up-to-date pathological block and an eclamptic ward, and the work of building a new out-patients' department and nurses' quarters to take the place of those existing, which have fallen far behind modern requirements is now in progress. These buildings are part of a complete scheme for a new Women's Hospital. The institution, early in its career, attained a high reputation for the efficient help it afforded, and the accommodation had to be augmented from time to time to meet increasing demands. It is a special training school in gynæcology and midwifery for medical men and nurses, and the excellent work carried on is fully recognised. Up to 30th June, 1908, the number of patients admitted was 49,990, and the attendances of out-patients 192,594. During the year ended on that date, 2,143 patients were admitted, which, together with 89 remaining at the close of previous year, gave a total of 2,232 treated. There were also in the same period 2,780 attendances of 1,070 out-patients. There is now accommodation for 104 in-patients, each bed having the most liberal allowance of space. It is governed by a committee of 15 ladies and 6 gentlemen, on whom falls the responsibility of the effective working of the whole establishment. The professional work devolves chiefly on an honorary staff. The receipts for maintenance were £6,323, made up of £2,400 Government grant; £318 municipal grant; £1,255 private contributions; £450 bequests and donations; £493 Hospital Sunday collections; £717 from patients; £530 medical students and pupil nurses; £52 interest; and £108 other sources. The receipts for the building fund were £5,322—bequests donated, £1,224; Lady Mayoress' appeal for funds for new buildings, £3,946; interest on debentures, £145; and rent of cottage, £7. The expenditure on maintenance was £7,232. The expenditure on buildings was £2,218. Every patient who passes through the wards is seen and spoken to by some lady or ladies of the committee—many of them before admission, but all before leaving. No patient is discharged without inquiries being made as to her home, &c., and, where possible, the wants of needy patients are supplied. To prevent abuse of the charitable trust, certain ladies each week give much of their time to interviewing applicants for admission to inquire into their circumstances.

Queen
Victoria
Memorial
Hospital
for Women
and
Children.

In this establishment 18 patients remained under care on 30th June, 1907. During the year 1907-8 270 were admitted making a total of 288 treated; 249 were cured or relieved, 2 were discharged incurable, 10 left at their own request, and 11 died, leaving 16 in the hospital on 30th June, 1908. The total number of distinct cases treated as out-patients was 3,787, the attendances numbering 14,147. The income for 1907-8 was £1,865, made up as follows:—Government grant, £400; municipal grant, £87; private contributions, £306; proceeds of entertainments, £211; legacies, bequests, &c., £120; Hospital Sunday collections, £240; out-patients' contributions, £450; in-patients' fees, £150; and miscellaneous receipts, £91. The expenditure was £1,983.

Children's
Hospital,
Melbourne.

The Children's Hospital, Melbourne, founded in 1870, has completed its 38th year of useful progress. It was first opened in a very small cottage in Stephen-street, Melbourne, as an out-patient department only, but the necessity of treating in-patients was very soon felt, and in consequence, six beds were opened for the reception of in-patients. This small effort has grown with marvellous rapidity, and the hospital now occupies a site in Drummond, Pelham, and Rathdown streets, Carlton, covering an area of $1\frac{3}{4}$ acres, provides accommodation for 115 in-patients, and receives daily at the big out-patients' department nearly 270 attendances. In addition there is at Brighton a Convalescent Cottage, with 23 beds, utilized solely for those children who, although cured from the disease from which they suffered, need strengthening before being sent home. Every form of infantile ailment is treated in children up to 14 years of age, and the tabulated list of causes of admission of in-patients is a wonderful record of the good work done. For the year ended 30th June, 1908, there were 1,500 cases admitted, which, with 97 in the hospital on 1st July, 1907, makes a total of 1,597 in-patients treated during the year, of whom 1,318 were discharged relieved, 176 died, and 103 were in the institution on 30th June, 1908. The total indoor patients treated from the commencement number 27,246. In the out-patients' department 13,581 children attended 85,369 times; and since the foundation of the hospital there have been 1,336,996 attendances of 267,859 out-patients. The cost of maintenance last year was £9,995, which, with £8,121 expended on the building, &c., gave a total expenditure of £18,116. The revenue was £12,433, made up of £625 Government grant; £394 municipal grants; £2,385 private contributions; £521 proceeds of entertainments; £5,389 bequests; £1,039 Hospital Sunday collections; £403 schools and church collections; £1,025 contributions by patients; and £652 interest and miscellaneous revenue.

Eye and
Ear
Hospital.

The Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital deals not only with the diseases which, as the name of the institution implies, fall to be treated there, but also with diseases in parts adjacent to the eye and ear, viz., the nose, pharynx, naso-pharynx, and larynx. Thus classes of ailments are treated in this institution which not only are the cause of extreme suffering in themselves, but are also, when unchecked, the means of producing much helplessness and poverty, arising from deaf-

ness, blindness, &c., and entailing a heavy burden on the community. It places within the reach of all persons, without distinction of creed or country, every attainable means for the relief or cure of diseases of the eye and ear. The patients treated are distributed throughout the whole of the Commonwealth; New Zealand also contributing its quota. The in-patients admitted during 1908 numbered 756, making, with 48 in the institution at the commencement of the year, a total of 804 treated. The patients discharged numbered 764, of whom 734 were stated to be cured or relieved, and 11 to be incurable; 14 were discharged at their own request, and 5 died. Besides these, there were 6,149 out-patients treated, 105 of this number being from the other States and New Zealand; 136 were from various charitable institutions, and 63 were wards of the State, of whom 10 were treated as in-patients. The total number of attendances was 32,098, and of operations, 1,093. The hospital buildings are situated on a fine site in Victoria-parade, East Melbourne, and a considerable addition to them has recently been made. The increased accommodation thus obtained whilst affording ample room for the out-patient department, which was urgently needed, has also admitted of an increase of 21 beds, thus bringing the total number up to 81. and making the hospital one of the largest of its kind in the British Empire. The receipts for the year 1907-8 were £6,080 made up of £1,800 Government grant; £266 from municipalities; £799 private contributions; £1,107 legacies, bequests, &c.; £1,094 out-patients' fees; £306 in-patients' fees; and £708 from other sources. The expenditure was £9,804, of which £5,455 was spent on buildings and extraordinary repairs.

A detailed account was given in the Year-Book for 1907-8 of the hospitals in the following urban centres:—Ballarat, Bendigo, Castle-maine, Geelong, Maryborough, Stawell and Warrnambool.

ROYAL VICTORIAN INSTITUTE FOR THE BLIND.

The Royal Victorian Institute for the Blind occupies a site on the St. Kilda-road, Melbourne. The institution is strictly undenominational in its character, and its objects are to give a suitable scholastic and religious education to the young blind of the State, and to teach them trades or professions by means of which they may earn an independent livelihood. It is further intended, as far as the exigencies of trade will permit, to give employment in its industrial department to blind people, who, having completed their term of training, may be unable to get work elsewhere. This, however, is restricted to the demand for the goods made. The institute is not in any sense a benevolent asylum for the indigent blind, who can not only be maintained cheaper, but can be better cared for in the ordinary institutions for the care of the destitute. The scholastic education is similar to that in the State schools, varied only in the apparatus and means employed, and examinations are held annually by the Education Department. Music is an important part of the education of the blind, those who display exceptional

Institute for
Blind.

talent are trained for the musical profession, and the skill of the pupils is utilized as a means of raising revenue for the institution by means of concerts and band performances in various parts of the State. In the industrial branch, pupils are trained in the trades of brush, basket, mat, and matting making, the period of training varying from two to five years. Wages are paid at somewhat higher rates than those ruling in the various trades of a similar character outside. Some less proficient workers have their wages supplemented by a bonus. Its outside workers are assisted in times of sickness by "The Blind Workers' Sick Benefit Society." The funds of this society are maintained by weekly contributions from its members, and it is subsidized by a grant from the board of management equal to the amount of the members' contributions. The society is managed by a committee of its members, assisted by the principal of the institution and the accountant, who acts as honorary treasurer. The institution contains 5 dormitories, with 112 beds. There were under care on 1st July, 1907, 94 persons; 9 were admitted during the year; 6 were discharged and 2 died, leaving 95 at the end of the financial year. The total sales of manufactured goods were £5,922. There is now no debt on the institution. The total receipts in 1907-8 were £5,066, comprising—£1,700 Government grant; £193 municipal grants; £1,532 private contributions; £471 legacies and bequests; and £1,170 from all other sources. The total expenditure was £3,066.

At the census of 1901 there were 1,082 blind persons in Victoria, viz., 645 males and 437 females, and of these nearly one-fourth (242) were inmates of charitable institutions.

VICTORIAN DEAF AND DUMB INSTITUTION.

Deaf and
Dumb
Institution.

The Victorian Deaf and Dumb Institution occupies a site on St. Kilda Road, and is a home and school combined for deaf children from all parts of the State, irrespective of creed or nationality. At the beginning of the year there were 87 pupils on the roll. During the year ended 30th June, 1908, 8 new pupils were admitted, 4 re-admitted, and 9 discharged, leaving 90 on the roll; the largest in the institution's history. Since the institution was established 489 deaf children have enjoyed its benefits.

The combined oral and manual teaching, which is used in the majority of similar institutions throughout the world, is also used here, with most satisfactory results. In addition to the ordinary school work, the boys are instructed in carpentering, bootmaking, and gardening; while the girls are taught dressmaking, plain and fancy needlework, and all kinds of domestic duties.

The receipts for the year amounted to £4,568, made up of £900 Government grant and £500 grant towards the building fund, £224 municipal grants, £946 private contributions, and £1,998 from all other sources. The expenditure was £4,235, viz., £703 for building and extraordinary repairs, and £3,532 for maintenance, &c.

BENEVOLENT ASYLUMS AND SOCIETIES.

In addition to the nine Benevolent Asylums connected with general hospitals, there are eight other of these institutions in the State; two are situated in Ballarat, one each in Bendigo, Beechworth, and Castlemaine, the remaining three being in Melbourne. The number of inmates on 1st July, 1907, was 2,449; the number admitted during the year, 1,483; the total discharged cured, relieved, or otherwise, and died was 1,516; leaving under care on 30th June, 1908, in all the institutions, 2,416. The Government grant in aid for the year 1907-8 was £22,415; from municipalities a sum of £1,093 was received; private contributions amounted to £3,574; proceeds of entertainments were £675; legacies, bequests, and special donations, £8,957; Hospital Sunday collections, £996; payments by patients, £2,282; interest was £2,543; and from all other sources £631 was received, making a total income of £43,166. The expenditure was £39,658.

Benevolent
asylums.

Ninety-eight benevolent or philanthropic societies furnished returns for the year ended 30th June, 1908. These associations are for the relief of distressed or indigent persons, and are generally managed by ladies. The names of three of the societies indicate their connexion with the Jewish body, but no distinctive denomination is perceptible in the titles of any of the others, with the exception of the Central Methodist Mission and Scots' Church Mission. The distinct adult individuals relieved during the year numbered about 17,389; the receipts amounted to £28,438, of which £7,422 was from Government, £1,635 from municipalities, and £19,381 from private sources; the expenditure was £25,618.

Benevolent
societies.

ORPHAN ASYLUMS.

There are nine of these establishments in the State, situated at Ballarat, Geelong, and Melbourne. The number of children under care on 1st July, 1907, was 1,526, the number admitted during the 12 months was 427; the total discharged and died, 444, leaving under care on 30th June, 1908, 1,509. This shows overcrowding to a slight extent, as the daily average in attendance was 1,530 and the number of beds only 1,472. In one of these establishments, the Nazareth Home at Ballarat, the particulars respecting cost of maintenance, &c., cannot be furnished, as the management, on the score of economy, keeps no books of accounts. In the other eight institutions, the total receipts were £27,414—made up of £5,630, Government grant; £376, municipal grants; £4,846, private contributions; £555, proceeds of entertainments; £9,680, legacies and bequests; £158, Hospital Sunday contributions; £2,055, payments on account of orphans maintained; £3,806, interest; and £308, other receipts. The total expenditure was £24,893—£3,789 for buildings, and £21,104 for maintenance and other expenses.

Orphan
asylums.

CONSUMPTIVE SANATORIA.

Victorian
Sanatoria
for con-
sumptives.

The management of the Victorian Sanatoria for Consumptives, which had two branches, has closed both of these. The Echuca Sanatorium was closed during the winter of 1907, and the Macedon establishment on 30th June, 1908. During the year ended on the latter date 205 patients were treated, of whom 134 were discharged, cured, or relieved, 27 were incurable, 14 were discharged at their own request, 5 died, and 25 were under care when the institution closed its doors. The receipts for 1907-8 amounted to £3,493, and the expenditure to £4,550.

Greenvale
Consump-
tion Sana-
torium.

The Greenvale Consumption Sanatorium, at Broadmeadows, was opened for the reception of patients on 10th May, 1905. This institution was established by the Government, and is under the control of the Department of Public Health. During the year ended 31st December, 1908, 346 patients were treated at the Sanatorium, 32 of these being cases admitted during the previous year. Of this number 187 did very well, 21 were classed as incurable, 84 were discharged at their own request, or for special reasons (some of these being cases sent in for a short period for educational purposes). No death occurred during the year. At the end of the period under review there were 67 patients remaining under care. 860 patients have now received the benefits of treatment and education that this institution affords to cases of consumption in the early stages. A most important function of the institution is the teaching of patients how to avoid communicating the disease to others. Immediately after the admission of a patient to the Sanatorium, the house or room vacated is disinfected under the supervision of the municipal council of the district, a centre of infection being thus removed. There is now accommodation for the treatment of 90 patients, two new tents, with an aggregate accommodation of 16 beds, having been opened in August, 1908.

OTHER CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS.

Convales-
cent homes.

In addition to the hospitals, there are two Convalescent Homes—one for men situated at Cheltenham, and the other for women at Clayton—with accommodation for 61 inmates. The number of inmates at the beginning of the year 1907-8 was 45; 1,200 were admitted during the year, 1,202 were discharged, and 43 remained under care on 30th June, 1908. The Government grant in aid of these institutions amounted to £370; municipal grants were £86; private contributions, £357; legacies, bequests, &c., £273; Hospital Sunday collections, &c., £311; receipts from relatives, £88; and from interest and other sources, £178—a total of £1,663. The expenditure was £286 on buildings, &c.; £1,635 on maintenance, &c.—a total of £1,921.

Free dis-
pensaries.

Two free dispensaries furnished returns for 1908—the Collingwood and Fitzroy Free Medical Dispensary, and the Richmond General Dispensary. The individuals treated during the year ended 30th June, 1908, numbered 4,217. The visits to or by these persons

numbered 18,502. The total receipts amounted to £587, of which £140 was from Government and £447 from other sources. The total expenditure was £601.

This hospital was established on 1st April, 1901. The original cost of the buildings was £2,200, and about £2,000 has been expended since that time in additions and improvements. The total number of inmates on 30th June, 1907, was 79; 53 were admitted during the year, 9 died, 38 were discharged or adopted, and 85 were under care on 30th June, 1908. The institution contains 10 dormitories and 90 beds. It is supported chiefly by donations and collections. It is managed by the Sisters of St. Joseph, whose aim is to protect infant life, procure suitable homes for the children, and afford shelter to destitute mothers. The condition of the institution has been greatly improved, open-air accommodation for the infants having been provided.

Broad-
meadow
Foundling
Hospital.

The objects of the Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home are the prevention of infanticide, the saving of infant life from the many evils arising from baby-farming, and the rescuing of mothers of illegitimate children from further degradation. Every child admitted must be brought by the mother or some authorized person, who must enter the child's name and the date of birth in a register kept for the purpose, and must undertake to contribute something towards its support. During the year ended 30th June, 1908, 154 children were in the care of the institution. Of these 29 were discharged to friends or relations, 7 were adopted, 41 were boarded out, 13 died, and 64 remained in the institution on 30th June, 1908. Two new day nurseries and a foundling ward, with necessary nurses' duty rooms, &c., were opened in September, 1905, and the extra accommodation is already taxed to the uttermost. The ordinary and extraordinary receipts amounted to £1,789, of which £950 was received from the Government. The expenditure was £1,831.

The
Foundling
Hospital
and Infants'
Home.

At the present time these refuges are ten in number, and are all situated in or near large centres of population. The women while under care in these institutions are expected to work to the best of their ability, a suitable share of labour being allotted to each. Laundry work is the chief means of providing employment, whilst sewing, art needlework, embroidery, &c., also provide occupation to a limited extent. During the year ended 30th June, 1908, the Government subsidized these establishments to the extent of £5,240; £16,323 was obtained as the result of the labour of inmates, and £7,676 from other sources, making the total receipts £29,239. The expenditure amounted to £26,924—made up of £7,494 spent

Refuges for
women.

ment contains particulars of the number of inmates in the separate on buildings, and £19,430 on maintenance, &c. The following state-institutions during the year 1907-8:—

REFUGES FOR WOMEN, 1907-8.

| Female Refuges. | Number admitted. | | Born in the Home. | Number discharged. | | Inmates on 30th June, 1908. | |
|---|------------------|----------|-------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | Women and Girls. | Infants. | | Women and Girls. | Infants. | Women and Girls. | Infants. |
| Ballarat Home ... | 22 | 2 | 13 | 19 | 8 | 22 | 22 |
| Bendigo Rescue Home | 7 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 3 |
| Elizabeth Fry Retreat, South Yarra ... | 45 | ... | ... | 42 | ... | 31 | ... |
| Geelong ... | 7 | ... | 6 | 6 | 5 | 10 | 7 |
| Magdalen Asylum, Abbotsford ... | 103 | ... | ... | 97 | ... | 361 | ... |
| Carlton Refuge ... | 35 | 29 | ... | 31 | 21 | 32 | 24 |
| South Yarra Home ... | 49 | ... | ... | 53 | ... | 24 | ... |
| Temporary Home, Collingwood ... | 23 | ... | 2 | 25 | 2 | 8 | 3 |
| House of Mercy, Cheltenham ... | 12 | ... | ... | 13 | ... | 7 | ... |
| Magdalen Asylum, South Melbourne | 33 | ... | ... | 34 | ... | 152 | ... |
| Total ... | 336 | 37 | 22 | 329 | 42 | 651 | 59 |

Salvation
Army
Rescue
Homes.

There are six rescue homes controlled by the Salvation Army, at Abbotsford, Ballarat, Bendigo, Brunswick, Fitzroy, and Geelong. The establishment contained 188 beds on 1st July, 1907, when there were under care 139 adults and 3 children. During the year 528 adults and 103 children were admitted; 254 were placed at service or restored to friends; 179 were discharged at their own request; 14 were sent to hospitals and other institutions; 1 adult and 24 infants died; and there were 69 adults discharged for various reasons, with 88 children. The Army received £566 from the Government, in aid of these institutions; £166 from private contributions; and £4,624 from the proceeds of the labour of the inmates—a total of £5,356. The total expenditure was £5,435.

Night
shelters.

At Dr. Singleton's Night Shelters, Collingwood, 10,830 cases were accommodated during the year 1907-8, viz., 4,769 men, 6,029 women, and 32 children. The expenses were £66, which were defrayed out of the "General Charity Fund," but there were also numerous contributions in the shape of food.

Victorian
Discharged
Prisoners'
Aid
Society.

Since 1872 a society has been in existence for the purpose of affording assistance to discharged prisoners, and offering them inducements to return to the paths of honesty and industry. Relief is afforded by gifts of money, clothes, blankets, and other necessaries, railway passes, and various kinds of tools of trade; and those who

desire it are supplied for a time with board and lodging in Melbourne, or are provided with means to go into the interior, or to leave the State. The society also takes charge of and distributes the sums earned by the prisoners whilst under detention. The work is aided by honorary correspondents in country centres. Very valuable aid is given in connexion with the moral reformation of the young offender. The improvement of the hardened criminal is a matter of great difficulty, but the society is a valuable help to those who have not become confirmed in careers of crime and wrong-doing, and minimizes the tendencies of drifting into the criminal class of those who have formed vicious and evil habits. The number of individuals relieved in 1907-8 was 372. The receipts were £832, including grants from the Government and the Penal Department, and contributions from private sources, while the expenditure was £811.

This association was established in Victoria in 1883. Its objects are to instruct all classes in the preliminary treatment of the sick and injured. Since the inception of the association its influence has been steadily increasing, and the number of people instructed is growing larger every day. The total number who have been instructed to date is 16,588; the number of persons who are fully qualified is 795; 2,528 railway employes and 553 members of the police force have been specially educated in the work; and 10,418 certificates and medallions have been issued. Three ambulance waggons are stationed at 25 Lang-lane (Tel. 3264), at the back of the Grand Hotel, Spring-street, one at 33 Grosvenor street, South Yarra (Tel. Yarra 246), and one at 61 Wilson street, Moonee Ponds (Tel. Ascot 201), which may be summoned when required. First aid is rendered by trained men when necessary. Ashford litters are also provided for the use of the public in cases of accident in the city.

St. John's
Ambulance
Associa-
tion.

CHARITY ORGANIZATION SOCIETY.

The society has been established in Melbourne since 1887, its objects being:—(1) To encourage and organize charitable work and to promote co-operation therein; (2) To check imposture and professional mendacity, and to discourage indiscriminate alms-giving; (3) To inquire into all applications for assistance, with the view of ascertaining if and in what way each case can be helped; (4) To afford (where necessary) immediate relief during inquiry or pending arrangements with charitable institutions or aid from other sources; (5) To maintain a woodyard, or other labour test, so that the means of earning food or shelter shall be open to any applicant able and willing to work; (6) To establish a loan fund; (7) To keep records of all cases for the purpose of reference, and to maintain a Central Register of help given by all relieving agencies. The society is managed by an executive committee elected by a council empowered to make rules and regulations for the conduct of its business. This council consists of a nominee of each of the charities represented, and of twenty members elected at an annual meeting of subscribers of the society. The income of the year ended 30th June, 1908 was—Administration account (for payment of all general expenses of management as well as

Charity Or-
ganization
Society.

all charges connected with the administration of the trust and relief funds)—Receipts, £854; expenditure, £912. Trust Account (being donations for special applicants and objects)—Receipts, £923; expenditure, £811. Emergency Relief Account—Receipts, £218; expenditure, £172. Woodyard—Receipts, £1,073; expenditure, £990. The number of cases dealt with during the year was 1,490, of which the new cases investigated were 857. The result of investigation shows that in 758 instances distress was due to misfortune, in 62 to misconduct; and 37 cases come under other headings. Special efforts are made to deal with applicants for alms on street and doorstep. The society claims to have prevented a large amount of imposture, to have relieved subscribers of the annoying feeling that their benevolence was often wasted on unworthy objects, and to have stimulated and wisely directed the flow of charity. Especially good work has been done in cases where employment has been found for those who, without the society's aid, might have degenerated into permanent burdens on public or private charity, and in the large number of cases in which relatives of indigent persons have been induced to recognise natural claims in a community where no legal obligation is entailed by relationship other than that of husband to wife and of parent to infant. The woodyard is a very practical part of the society's work. It affords a test of the sincerity of men who ask help on the ground that they cannot get work; and it gives temporary work to those who really need it. This society has consistently advocated the establishment of labour colonies. That at Leongatha was founded by the advice, and with the assistance of the society sixteen years ago. The lack of suitable employment for the poor is partly met by the employment office of the society, through which a large number of persons have been given work, permanent in some cases, and temporary in others, which otherwise would not have reached them.

LABOUR COLONY, LEONGATHA.

Labour
Colony,
Leongatha.

The Labour Colony at Leongatha was established by a proclamation of 26th September, 1893, setting apart and appropriating, under the *Settlement on Lands Act 1893*, about 800 acres in the township. By a further proclamation of 24th April, 1903, the colony was abolished, and the land resumed by the Lands Department, although the colonists were still maintained on the land.

After the trustees of the old colony had all retired the Minister of Lands instructed the Director of Agriculture, on 13th June, 1903, to take over the farm and manage it as a Labour Establishment, virtually as a Labour Colony for the relief of destitute men in Melbourne who desired to go there. No order was given that the number admitted to the Establishment was to be reduced, and the destitute were as freely admitted as formerly, but in many instances they were not maintained there so long, orders being issued that when a man had earned £2 he should leave in search of work.

On 14th June, 1904, 460 acres or thereabouts of the old Labour Colony lands, including the homestead, were proclaimed a Labour Colony, and Trustees were appointed to act from 1st July, 1904.

The object sought by its establishment was to afford temporary relief at sustenance wages to able-bodied destitute men. During the first year of its existence 1,013 men were sent to the colony, and up to the present 7,232 out of the 10,782 applicants have been afforded relief. The colonists are instructed in the general work of farming, dairying, and fruit and vegetable growing, and pig breeding is carried on extensively. During the year ended 30th June, 1909, 296 men were admitted, a weekly average of 64 was maintained during the whole year for an average term of 9½ weeks, 91 left looking for work, 105 left with engagements, 69 left without notice, 21 were discharged for various reasons, 8 were sent to Melbourne for medical treatment, 16 received tickets but did not reach the colony, and 67 were at work on 30th June, 1909. The cost of maintenance, including food, wages, and management, was 8s. 2d. per week per man.

When the accounts were balanced for the financial year ended 30th June, 1909, it was found that there was a credit balance of £241 in trust accounts.

The total expenses for the year were £2,853, which included £232, fares and freights; £290, stores; £163, building material; £211, live stock; £370, plants and tools; £188, fodder seeds, &c.; and £310, food for men.

The receipts from sales, &c., amounted to £1,847, as follows:—

| | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Dairy produce | ... | ... | ... | £497 |
| Farm produce and garden | ... | ... | ... | 270 |
| Horses | ... | ... | ... | 76 |
| Pigs | ... | ... | ... | 495 |
| Dairy Herd | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Hides, Bones, &c. | ... | ... | ... | 59 |
| Sheep | ... | ... | ... | 99 |
| Bees | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Colonists' Board and Lodging | ... | ... | ... | 161 |
| Wages of men working off the place | ... | ... | ... | 124 |
| Miscellaneous | ... | ... | ... | 30 |

The following are the amounts of Government grants which have been spent annually since the establishment of the Colony:—

| | | | | £ | s. | d. |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|--------|----|----|
| 1893-4 | ... | ... | ... | 4,213 | 15 | 2 |
| 1894-5 | ... | ... | ... | 3,203 | 8 | 0 |
| 1895-6 | ... | ... | ... | 2,473 | 13 | 1 |
| 1896-7 | ... | ... | ... | 2,219 | 14 | 4 |
| 1897-8 | ... | ... | ... | 2,729 | 13 | 2 |
| 1898-9 | ... | ... | ... | 4,091 | 8 | 1 |
| 1899-1900 | ... | ... | ... | 3,884 | 5 | 11 |
| 1900-1 | ... | ... | ... | 3,000 | 0 | 0 |
| 1901-2 | ... | ... | ... | 2,374 | 3 | 6 |
| 1902-3 | ... | ... | ... | 3,627 | 7 | 10 |
| 1903-4 | ... | ... | ... | 1,998 | 18 | 11 |
| 1904-5 | ... | ... | ... | 999 | 19 | 7 |
| 1905-6 | ... | ... | ... | 499 | 19 | 9 |
| 1906-7 | ... | ... | ... | 496 | 9 | 10 |
| 1907-8 | ... | ... | ... | 449 | 18 | 7 |
| 1908-9 | ... | ... | ... | 549 | 19 | 9 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | 36,812 | 15 | 6 |

It will be seen that the Government grant for the past four years has averaged about £500 per annum, also that it was during those years lower than at any previous period and about £500 below the amount for the year 1904-5.

Although the profits from the farm are reduced owing to the restricted area, there will still be work in clearing and cultivation to enable men to be sent to Leongatha for several years. By the continuation of this colony no man need starve in the city. Every week applications are made by destitute unemployed men to be sent to the Institution. A greater number apply in winter than in spring or summer, and without an institution of this kind it is hard to conceive what would become of these destitute individuals. In every large community there is always a great number of human derelicts without criminal tendencies; and provision (other than gaols) where men can get work that is remunerative to the State, must of necessity be made. It is now almost self-supporting, and, in a few years' time, by the adoption of improved methods in management, should become entirely self-supporting.

AUSTRALIAN HEALTH SOCIETY AND ASSOCIATION FOR THE PREVENTION AND CURE OF TUBERCULOSIS.

Health
Society.

The "Australian Health Society" was established in Melbourne in 1875. It consists of about 300 members, and is managed by a president, three vice-presidents, a treasurer, secretary, and fourteen members of council, five of whom are ladies. Its objects are:—(1) To create an educated public opinion with regard to sanitary matters in general, by the aid of the platform, the press, and other suitable means; (2) To induce and assist people, by personal influence, example and encouragement, to live in accordance with recognised laws whereby health is maintained and disease is prevented; (3) To seek the removal of all noxious influences deleterious to the public health, and to influence and facilitate legislation in that direction. To effect these objects (its methods being distinctly benevolent), the society prints and distributes freely pamphlets, tracts, and wall sheets bearing upon the preservation of health; maintains a lending library of specially selected works for the use of members; and arranges courses of public health lectures. The ladies' committee of the council organize series of illustrated "Health Talks for Wives and Daughters" in thickly populated parts of the suburbs, thus reaching many greatly in need of sanitary enlightenment. Admission is in all cases free. In pursuance of the plan of testing the work done in the inculcation of health and temperance lessons in the State schools, an examination is held annually, with the concurrence of the Minister of Public Instruction, of pupils of thirteen years of age and upwards, in those subjects. At the last examination 72 candidates passed, and were awarded prizes and certificates, which were presented at the society's annual meeting. In the latter part of 1905 arrangements were completed by which the "Victorian Association for the Prevention and Cure of Tuberculosis" and the

“Women’s Health Society” were amalgamated with the Australian Health Society, the view being taken that the union would tend to further the spread of hygienic knowledge and promote the cause of sanitary progress. The “fight against consumption,” in particular, can thus be carried on with greater energy than before. The society receives no pecuniary aid from the Government, its work being carried on by voluntary subscriptions ranging from 5s. per annum upwards. The office is located in Empire Buildings, Flinders-street.

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF AUSTRALASIA.

The Royal Humane Society of Australasia was established in 1874 under the name of “The Victorian Humane Society.” Its objects are as follows:—(1) To bestow awards on all who promptly risk their lives to save those of their fellow-creatures. (2) To provide assistance, as far as it is in the power of the society, in all cases of apparent death occurring in any part of Australasia. (3) To restore the apparently drowned or dead, and to distinguish by awards all who, through skill and perseverance, are successful. (4) To collect and circulate information regarding the most approved methods and the best apparatus to be used for such purposes. During the year ended 30th June, 1908, 52 applications for awards were investigated, with the result that 15 certificates, 16 bronze medals, and 2 silver medals were granted. The receipts during the year amounted to £397, and the expenditure to £409. The institution has placed and maintains 340 life-buoys at various places on the coast, rivers, lakes, and reservoirs, throughout all the Australian States and Fiji. Of the honorary awards distributed in 1907-8, 19 were for deeds of bravery performed in Victoria, 1 in New South Wales, 9 in Western Australia, 1 in Tasmania, 2 in Queensland, and 1 in South Australia. The society has 156 honorary correspondents, residing as follows, viz.:—54 in Victoria, 35 in New South Wales, 25 in New Zealand, 28 in Queensland, 8 in Tasmania, 3 in South Australia, and 3 in Western Australia. Owing to the appointment of these gentlemen and to the awards made by the society appearing to give complete satisfaction throughout the States, there is no urgency for forming local branches of the society in the other States.

Humane
Society.

Swimming competitions have been inaugurated in the schools of the Commonwealth, and awards of medals and certificates are made to those pupils who attain proficiency in exercises which have special reference to saving life from drowning. The society is making a special feature of the development of swimming and life saving proficiency.

The following figures show the number of persons accidentally drowned in Victoria during the past twenty years:—

| Period. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|------------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| 1889 to 1898 ... | ... 1,710 | 317 | 2,027 |
| 1899 to 1908 ... | ... 1,296 | 274 | 1,570 |

A large falling off is shown in the last ten years, both in the actual number of persons drowned, and in the proportion to the population, the rate per 100,000 being 13 in the later decennium as against 17 in the earlier.

Taking the ten years ended 1908, the ages of persons accidentally drowned were as follows:—

AGES OF PERSONS ACCIDENTALLY DROWNED IN VICTORIA,
1899 TO 1908.

| Age. | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--------------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Under 10 years | 232 | 85 | 317 |
| 10 to 20 years | 261 | 43 | 304 |
| 20 to 40 years | 316 | 76 | 392 |
| 40 to 60 years | 254 | 45 | 299 |
| 60 years and over | 233 | 25 | 258 |
| Total | 1,296 | 274 | 1,570 |

Society for
the Pro-
tection of
Animals.

The Victorian Society for the Protection of Animals was established on 4th July, 1871. For the first 10½ years of its existence it was known as the Victorian Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and in 1895 it was incorporated. By the enforcement of the existing laws, and the procuring of such further legislation as may be deemed expedient, it seeks to prevent wanton and unnecessary cruelty. The creation of a wholesome and enlightened public opinion is also aimed at, since it is recognised that to excite and sustain such opinion regarding man's duty to the lower animals is even of greater importance than the enforcement of the law, particularly in those classes of cases where pain and suffering may actually be caused in ignorance, and where consequently a little more knowledge of animals would result in the diminution of the unconscious practice of cruelty. To this end, papers and leaflets dealing with the proper, humane, and considerate treatment of animals are widely distributed. Honorary agents of the society are appointed in more than 170 different centres, and these, by disinterested service under the supervision of and in co-operation with the secretary and inspector in Melbourne, forward the work of the institution in every portion of the State. During the year ended 30th June, 1908, 831 cases were dealt with by the society, of which 636 were connected with cruelty to horses. There were 126 prosecutions in cases of deliberate cruelty, in nearly all of which the law was vindicated by the punishment of the offenders. The receipts for the year amounted to £401 and the expenditure to £419.

HOSPITAL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY.

In Melbourne and suburbs, the last Saturday and Sunday of October in each year are set apart for making collections in aid of the charitable institutions. The clergy of the various denominations take an active part in the movement, preaching sermons appropriate to the occasion, and otherwise helping it forward. The church collections on this Sunday are almost entirely devoted to the charities. Sunday school superintendents, business firms, their employes, and others lend valuable assistance in making collections. The following are the amounts collected since the movement was inaugurated:—

Hospital
and
Sunday.

COLLECTIONS, 1873 TO 1908.

| | £ | | £ |
|---------------------|---------|--------------|----------|
| 1873 to 1898 | 190,104 | 1905 | 8,235 |
| 1899 | 5,853 | 1906 | 8,011 |
| 1900 | 5,901 | 1907 | 8,813 |
| 1901 | 6,034 | 1908 | 9,146 |
| 1902 | 6,669 | | |
| 1903 | 7,058 | Total | £263,619 |
| 1904 | 7,795 | | |

The amounts distributed to the various charitable institutions, as well as the total sums collected, from the inception of the fund to 1907, and for the year 1908, were as follows:—

Distribution
of moneys
collected
on Hospital
Saturday
and
Sunday.

DISTRIBUTION, 1873 TO 1908.

| Institution. | Amount Distributed. | | |
|--|---------------------|-------|---------|
| | 1873 to 1907. | 1908. | Total. |
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Melbourne Hospital | 72,536 | 2,140 | 74,676 |
| Alfred Hospital | 31,712 | 967 | 32,679 |
| Benevolent Asylum | 21,850 | 576 | 22,426 |
| Women's Hospital | 21,857 | 617 | 22,474 |
| Children's Hospital | 28,768 | 1,292 | 30,060 |
| Eye and Ear Hospital | 12,121 | 462 | 12,583 |
| Homœopathic Hospital | 11,907 | 433 | 12,340 |
| Victorian Homes for Aged and Infirm | 7,722 | 160 | 7,882 |
| Richmond Dispensary | 1,571 | 50 | 1,621 |
| Collingwood Dispensary | 1,900 | ... | 1,900 |
| Austin Hospital for Incurables | 14,014 | 829 | 14,843 |
| Convalescent Home for Women | 2,650 | 155 | 2,805 |
| " " Men | 2,135 | 155 | 2,290 |
| Melbourne District Nursing Society | 1,232 | 150 | 1,382 |
| St. Vincent's Hospital | 4,481 | 632 | 5,113 |
| Sanatorium for Consumptives, Echuca and Macedon | 3,151 | ... | 3,151 |
| Queen Victoria Hospital for Women and Children | 1,263 | 187 | 1,450 |
| Melbourne Dental Hospital | 204 | 75 | 279 |
| The Foundling Hospital and Infants' Home | 86 | ... | 86 |
| St. John's Ambulance Association | 125 | 100 | 225 |
| Total distributed | 241,285 | 8,980 | 250,265 |
| Total collected | 254,473 | 9,146 | 263,619 |

OLD-AGE PENSIONS.

Federal
Invalid
and Old-
age
Pensions
Act.

The Federal Parliament recently made provision for the payment of invalid and old-age pensions throughout Australia, which came into force, so far as old-age pensions were concerned, on 1st July, 1909. The maximum rate of pensions is not to exceed 10s. per week, and the persons to whom old-age pensions may be paid and the principal conditions attaching thereto are as under:—

Every person who has attained the age of 65 years, or who being permanently incapacitated for work has attained the age of 60 years. The Governor-General may by proclamation declare that the age at which women shall be qualified to receive an old-age pension shall be 60 years.

Residence in Australia when applying for pension, and also continuously for 20 years. Continuous residence in Australia is not to be deemed as interrupted by occasional absences from Australia or a territory under its jurisdiction, not exceeding in the aggregate one-tenth of the total period of residence, or if the applicant proves that during any period of absence his home was in Australia, and if married that his wife and family resided in Australia and were maintained by him.

Good character.

If a husband, that he has not for 12 months or upwards during five years immediately preceding his application, without just cause, deserted his wife, or without just cause failed to provide her with adequate means of maintenance, or neglected to maintain any of his children under 14 years of age, or if a wife that she has not for 12 months during the preceding five years, without just cause, deserted her husband or children under the age of 14 years.

Net capital value of property not to exceed £310, but a deduction of £1 is made for every complete £10 by which the net value of property exceeds £50, except where the property includes the home of the pensioner, when £100 is exempted. Pensioner's income, together with pension, not to be more than £52 per annum. Benefits received from friendly societies, trade unions, and other similar associations, are not to be considered income.

Any applicant who has directly or indirectly deprived himself of property or income is not eligible.

The following persons are not qualified to receive an old-age pension:—

Aliens.

Naturalized subjects of the King who have not been naturalized for three years before making application, provided that a person who is or becomes a naturalized subject before 30th June, 1910, shall not be disqualified.

Asiatics (except those born in Australia), or aboriginal natives of Australia, Africa, the Islands of the Pacific, or New Zealand.

INVALID PENSIONS.

This part of the Act is not to come into force until the date is fixed by proclamation, and pensions may then be granted to the persons specified below, subject to the conditions mentioned :—

Every person above the age of 16 years, who is permanently incapacitated for work by reason of an accident or by reason of his being an invalid, and who is not receiving an old-age pension.

Residence in Australia continuously for at least five years, provided that the applicant has become permanently incapacitated whilst in Australia.

That the accident or invalid state of health was not self-induced nor in any way brought about with a view to obtaining a pension.

That applicant has no claim against any employer, company, or other person, or body to adequately maintain or compensate him on account of accident or ill-health.

That his relatives, viz., father, mother, husband, wife, or children, do not either severally or collectively adequately maintain him.

Income or property is not to exceed the limits prescribed for old-age pensions.

Persons disqualified for invalid pension are :—

Aliens.

Asiatics (except those born in Australia), or aboriginal natives of Australia, Africa, the Islands of the Pacific, or New Zealand.

The number of persons in each State of Australia who were on the pension list in September, 1909, was as follows :—

Old-age pensioners in Australia.

OLD-AGE PENSIONERS IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, SEPTEMBER, 1909.

| State. | Number of Pensioners. | Annual Amount Payable (Approximate).* |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | £ |
| Victoria | 15,901 | 363,470 |
| New South Wales | 23,081 | 527,593 |
| Queensland | 7,135 | 163,694 |
| South Australia | 1,663 | 38,013 |
| Western Australia | 556 | 12,710 |
| Tasmania | 1,732 | 39,591 |
| Australia | 50,068 | 1,144,471 |

As the Act has only been in operation for two months, the number of persons in receipt of old-age pensions given above may be expected to be considerably augmented in the various States when all the applications, which are being considered as fast as circumstances will permit, have been finally dealt with.

* These amounts have been calculated by taking as the average pension that payable to the old-age pensioners in Victoria on 31st December, 1908, viz., ss. 9½d. per week.

Old-age pensioners in Victoria.

An Act to provide for the payment of old-age pensions was passed in Victoria in 1900. The minimum age of a pensioner was fixed at 65 years, but pensions could be granted to persons under that age if they had been permanently disabled through having been engaged in mining or any prescribed unhealthy or hazardous occupation. The period of residence in the State required to entitle a person to a pension was 20 years, five of which had to be continuous and immediately preceding the application. A person who had deserted, without just cause, wife, husband, or children, for a period of 12 months in the preceding five years, was debarred from pension rights. The absence of serious criminal taint, to the extent of not having been imprisoned for periods amounting to five years during the whole qualifying period of residence, or to six months or upwards in the preceding five years, was insisted upon. Three convictions for drunkenness during the preceding two years was a disqualification. An applicant must have been a British subject by birth, or a naturalized subject of not less than six months' standing, but Chinese and Asiatics, whether naturalized or not, and Aborigines were excluded. Originally the maximum pension was 10s. per week, but in the Amending Act of 1901 it was reduced to 8s. per week. By Act No. 2088 the maximum rate of pension was again fixed at 10s. per week, dating from 5th October, 1907. Under the Amending Act of 1903 pensions were only granted and the amount fixed by the Treasurer of the State, after recommendation of the Commissioners. 10,875 persons were entitled to receive pensions on 31st December, 1907. Between 1st January, 1908, and 31st December, 1908, 2,220 pensions were granted to new applicants, and 177 pensions were restored; 309 pensions were suspended, and 1,190 pensioners died, leaving 11,773 persons entitled to pensions on 31st December, 1908, of whom 11,587 received payment from the last schedules prepared. (The remaining 186 pensioners were inmates of hospitals or had their pensions temporarily withheld.) Of the persons entitled to pensions on 31st December, 1908, 5,278 were resident in Melbourne and suburbs; 790 in Ballarat and district; 558 in Bendigo and district; 344 in Geelong; 122 in Maryborough; 75 in Daylesford; 125 in Warrnambool; and 95 in Creswick; the remainder were scattered throughout the other districts of the State.

The following are the amounts paid since the inception of the system on 1st January, 1901:—

| | | | |
|------------|-----|-----|----------|
| In 1900-01 | ... | ... | £129,338 |
| 1901-02 | ... | ... | 292,432 |
| 1902-03 | ... | ... | 215,973 |
| 1903-04 | ... | ... | 205,150 |
| 1904-05 | ... | ... | 200,464 |
| 1905-06 | ... | ... | 189,127 |
| 1906-07 | ... | ... | 187,793 |
| 1907-08 | ... | ... | 233,573 |
| 1908-09 | ... | ... | 270,827 |

Total ... £1,924,677

The following table contains the number of old-age pensioners in Victoria, distinguishing males and females, at various rates of payment on 31st December, 1908:—

Pensions at various rates.

NUMBER OF OLD-AGE PENSIONERS AND RATES OF PENSION ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1908.

| Rate of Pension per Week. | Number of Old-age Pensioners on 31st December, 1908— | | |
|---------------------------|--|----------|--------|
| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
| 10s. | 1,687 | 2,195 | 3,882 |
| 9s. 6d. | 89 | 96 | 185 |
| 9s. | 2,099 | 1,498 | 3,597 |
| 8s. 6d. | 112 | 78 | 190 |
| 8s. | 1,099 | 1,016 | 2,115 |
| 7s. 6d. | 83 | 98 | 181 |
| 7s. | 551 | 495 | 1,046 |
| 6s. 6d. | 43 | 24 | 67 |
| 6s. | 157 | 121 | 278 |
| 5s. 6d. | 8 | 19 | 27 |
| 5s. and under | 128 | 77 | 205 |
| Total | 6,056 | 5,717 | 11,773 |

This statement shows that about one-third of the total number of pensioners received the maximum amount of 10s. per week—the proportion of females who received the full pension, however, being 39 per cent., as against 28 per cent. of the males. The average pension payable to those on the roll on 31st December, 1908, was 8s. 9½d. Of the total number of pensioners, 51½ per cent. were men and 48½ per cent. women.

The following statement shows the estimated number of persons aged 65 years and over in three Australian States which paid old-age pensions and in New Zealand, the number of persons who received pensions, the proportion of the latter to the former, and the annual amount payable:—

Old-age pensions in Australia and New Zealand.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND, 1908.

| State or Dominion. | Estimated Number of Persons Aged 65 Years and Upwards. | Number of Persons Receiving Old Age Pensions. | Proportion of those Eligible on an Age Basis Receiving Pensions. | Annual Amount Payable. |
|------------------------|--|---|--|------------------------|
| Victoria | 67,000 | 11,513 | Per cent. | £ |
| New South Wales | 59,800 | 21,910* | 17 | 263,167 |
| Queensland | 14,300 | 6,604 | 37 | 509,498 |
| New Zealand | 44,093 | 14,088 | 46 | 149,077 |
| Total | 185,193 | 54,115 | 32 | 345,860 |
| | | | 29 | 1,267,602 |

* In addition there were 2,978 invalid pensioners at the end of 1908, and the total payment during 1908 on account of these pensions was £44,294.

It thus appears that Queensland was paying pensions to nearly one-half of those eligible to receive them under the age qualification, New South Wales to nearly two-fifths, and New Zealand to nearly one-third, but in Victoria only about one-sixth of those so qualified were on the pension list. The number of pensioners in New Zealand includes 657 Maoris.

In New South Wales, the scheme sanctioned by Parliament specified a pension of £26 a year, diminished by £1 for every £1 of income above £26 a year, and by £1 for every £15 of property the pensioner possessed. Where a husband and wife were each entitled to a pension the amount was fixed at £19 10s. a year each, unless they were living apart under a decree of the Court or a deed of separation, when the full amount of £26 was allowed. To obtain a pension a person must have reached 65 years of age and have resided in the State not less than 25 years. Persons under 65 years of age but over 60 years were entitled to pensions if they were incapacitated by sickness or injury from earning their livelihood, but debility due merely to age was not considered an incapacitating sickness. In 1907 an Act was passed by which pensions up to £26 a year were granted to persons over 16 years of age who were permanently incapacitated for work by reason of accident or invalidity. Applicants must have resided for five years in the State, and have become incapacitated there.

In Queensland the old-age pensions became payable from 1st July, 1908, and the maximum amount of pension was 10s. per week. The qualifying age was 65 years. The applicant must have resided in the State for at least 20 years, and for five years immediately preceding the application the residence must have been continuous. The pension was diminished by £1 for every complete pound of annual income above £26, and also by £1 for every complete £15 of net capital value of accumulated property. The maximum income that could be received inclusive of pension was, therefore, £52 per annum, and the maximum amount of property that could be held was £259.

In New Zealand every person 65 years of age and over is eligible for a pension, provided he has resided continuously in the dominion for 25 years, and does not receive income in excess of £60 a year, nor possess property exceeding £260 in value. The maximum pension is £26 a year with a deduction of £1 per annum for each £1 of income above £34 a year, and for each £10 of property above £50. Where any part of the property of an applicant is that on which he permanently resides, and produces no income a deduction of £150 is allowed. In the case of a husband and wife the amount of joint income (including pension) is limited to £90.

PUBLIC HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE.

Public
Hospitals
for the
Insane.

At the beginning of the year 1908 there were on the registers of the Department the names of 5,052 insane persons, consisting of 2,569 males and 2,483 females; at the end of the year (31st December, 1908) the numbers had increased to 2,579 males and 2,532

females, making a total of 5,111. The total increase for the year was, therefore, 59 persons, the greater number of whom, namely, 47, are maintained in the State Hospitals, the increase in the private Licensed Houses being only 4. The number on trial leave has fallen from 301 to 255, while the number boarded out has risen from 37 to 89. The distribution on 31st December, 1908, was as follows:—

NUMBER OF INSANE PERSONS ON THE REGISTERS OF THE
DEPARTMENT, 1908.

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| In the State Hospitals for the Insane... Boarded-out and on Trial Leave from the State Hospitals for the Insane ... | 2,391 | 2,279 | 4,670 |
| In the Private Licensed Houses ... | 166 | 178 | 344 |
| Out on trial from the private Licensed Houses | 15 | 55 | 70 |
| | 7 | 20 | 27 |
| Total | 2,579 | 2,532 | 5,111 |

At the same date (31st December, 1908) there were also under observation in the Receiving Houses and Receiving Wards the following persons, but these patients could not at the time be adjudged insane:—

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--------------------------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| In the Receiving House at Royal Park | 10 | 10 | 20 |
| „ „ Ward at Bendigo ... | ... | 2 | 2 |
| „ „ „ „ Geelong ... | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Total | 12 | 13 | 25 |

It is worth while pointing out that the year's increase is not a very serious one, viz., 59, although in the last three years there has been a very considerable growth in the numbers dealt with by the Department. This apparently large increase is due to the establishment of Licensed Houses for private cases, as well as to the fact that the Receiving House, at Royal Park, has attracted many cases which would not otherwise have come within the cognizance of the Department, and this, in a less degree, is true also of the private Licensed Houses.

The most convincing proof of an increase in the incidence of insanity would be a rise in the number of first admissions; that such increase does not exist in the case of Victoria is shown by the following table:—

| FIRST ADMISSIONS TO THE STATE HOSPITALS FOR THE INSANE. | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| 1902 | ... | ... | 691 | 1906 | ... | ... | 687 |
| 1903 | ... | ... | 681 | 1907 | ... | ... | 641 |
| 1904 | ... | ... | 664 | 1908 | ... | ... | 652 |
| 1905 | ... | ... | 630 | | | | |

Whilst it is still true that, of the Australasian States, Victoria has the highest ratio of lunacy (1 in 248.8 persons), this is accounted for in several ways: Firstly, the numbers of males and females are more nearly equal; secondly, there is a very much larger proportion of old people in Victoria than in the other States; thirdly, the more extensive use of the trial leave clause, by retaining names longer on the register, makes the Victorian figures appear much higher than those of the other States. These causes, coupled with the financial collapse of the early nineties and the subsequent emigration to New Zealand and Western Australia, fully explain our high rate of residual insanity.

The past year testifies to the value of the Receiving House which was established towards the end of 1907, at Royal Park. The admissions therein have totalled 339, the discharges 132 (of whom 117 were cured, 6 were relieved, 8 were not improved, and 1 escaped but was subsequently re-taken), while it was found necessary to send on to the State Hospitals 204 patients for further treatment or permanent detention. There was also 1 patient who died in the Receiving House. At present this house is being utilized not only for the observation of cases of doubtful insanity, but also for the cure of those who are readily curable, or only temporarily deranged; but with the opening of the Mental Hospital, some time in 1909, the Receiving House will revert to its special purpose—that of being a Receiving House and a distributing centre.

The number of patients in the Hospitals for the Insane in the different Australian States and New Zealand, and their proportion to the total population of each State on 31st December, 1907, were:—

NUMBER OF INSANE PERSONS IN STATES.

| State or Dominion. | Number of Insane on 31st December, 1907. | |
|--------------------|--|----------------------------|
| | Total. | Per 100,000 of Population. |
| Victoria | 4,986 | 396 |
| Queensland | 2,078 | 380 |
| New South Wales | 5,576 | 355 |
| New Zealand | 3,240 | 349 |
| Tasmania | 502 | 273 |
| South Australia | 1,019 | 257 |
| Western Australia | 622 | 236 |

The high proportion of insane persons in Victoria is accounted for by the considerations mentioned above.

The recoveries of patients in the Victorian Hospitals for the Insane in 1907 were below the average of the seventeen years ended with 1907, the proportion in that year being 3,008 per 10,000 admitted, as compared with an average of 3,675 in the period stated.

Recoveries of insane persons in Australia, 1907.

RECOVERIES.

| | Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions. | | Recoveries per 10,000 Admissions. |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Tasmania ... | ... 4,947 | Victoria ... | ... 3,008 |
| South Australia ... | ... 4,741 | Queensland ... | ... 2,904 |
| New South Wales ... | ... 4,227 | Western Australia ... | ... 2,885 |

The apparent reduction in the Victorian rate is accounted for in part by the fact that many cases are now treated successfully in the Receiving Houses which were formerly dealt with in the hospitals. Also the trial leave system has been extended, and it is not possible to keep an accurate account of the recoveries among patients out on leave.

The mortality of patients was higher in Western Australia in 1907 than in any of the other States. This will be seen by the following figures:—

Deaths of insane persons in Australia and New Zealand.

DEATHS.

| | Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients. | | Deaths per 10,000 Resident Patients. |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------|
| Western Australia ... | ... 873 | Victoria ... | ... 674 |
| South Australia ... | ... 853 | Queensland ... | ... 642 |
| New South Wales ... | ... 739 | Tasmania ... | ... 569 |
| New Zealand ... | ... 718 | | |

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN.

There were at the end of 1908 three industrial and eleven reformatory schools in the State. Two of them (one industrial and one reformatory school) are wholly maintained and managed by the Government, and are used merely as receiving and distributing depôts, the children being sent as soon as possible after admission thereto to foster homes, situations, or to other institutions for dealing with State wards. The other schools are under private management and receive a capitation allowance from the Government for those inmates who are wards of the Neglected Children's and Reformatory Department. Many of the inmates of the reformatories are either placed

Neglected and Reformatory Children.

with friends or licensed out. The wards of the State on 31st December, 1908, numbered 5,703—comprising 5,477 neglected and 226 reformatory children—and there were 38 others free from legal control, who, being incapacitated, were maintained by the State. The following table shows the number of neglected and reformatory children under control at the end of each of the last five years:—

NEGLECTED AND REFORMATORY CHILDREN, 1904 TO 1908.

| Year. | | NUMBER OF NEGLECTED CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR. | | | | | Total Neglected Children. |
|-------|-----|--|-----------------------------------|---|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Boarded Out. | Placed with friends on Probation. | Maintaining themselves at Service or Apprenticed. | In Institutions (including Hospitals). | Visiting Relatives, &c. | |
| 1904 | ... | 3,154 | 769 | 826 | 136 | 4 | 4,889 |
| 1905 | ... | 3,044 | 761 | 854 | 148 | 6 | 4,813 |
| 1906 | ... | 3,315 | 724 | 751 | 120 | 10 | 4,920 |
| 1907 | ... | 3,358 | 740 | 777 | 127 | 6 | 5,008 |
| 1908 | ... | 3,711 | 710 | 748 | 306 | 2 | 5,477 |

| Year. | | NUMBER OF REFORMATORY CHILDREN AT THE END OF THE YEAR. | | | | | Total Reformatory Children. |
|-------|-----|--|------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | | In Reformatory Schools. | Placed with Relatives. | Maintaining themselves at Service. | In Institutions. | Visiting Relatives, &c. | |
| 1904 | ... | 189 | 33 | 62 | 2 | 1 | 287 |
| 1905 | ... | 151 | 29 | 54 | 1 | ... | 235 |
| 1906 | ... | 144 | 20 | 42 | ... | ... | 206 |
| 1907 | ... | 146 | 18 | 39 | ... | 1 | 204 |
| 1908 | ... | 161 | 18 | 42 | ... | 5 | 226 |

Children boarded out, &c.

The welfare of the children boarded out is cared for by honorary committees, who send reports to the Department as to their general condition. The rate paid by the Government to persons accepting charge of these children is five shillings per week for each child. Children from either industrial or reformatory schools may be placed with friends on probation, without wages, or at service.

Children committed to the care of the State, 1908.

The circumstances leading to the commitment of children to the care of the Department in 1908 were as follows:—The total number of children placed under control during the year was 1,240, and in 563 cases, or 46 per cent. of the whole, the parents were held to be blamable—the father in 457, the mother in 57, and both parents in

49 cases. There were 677 cases in which the parents were held to be blameless—in 404 the father was dead and the mother poor but of good character; in 2 the father was dead and the mother an invalid; in 14 both parents were dead; in 88 the parents were alive, but, though held to be of good character, were too poor to support their children; in 67 the father was an invalid and the mother poor; in 3 the father was an invalid and the mother dead; in 17 the father was poor and the mother dead; in 3 the father was poor and the mother an invalid; in 7 the father was unknown and the mother dead; in 35 the father was unknown and the mother unable through ill-health, or poverty, to maintain her offspring; in 4 the father was unknown and the mother was in a lunatic asylum; in 32 the father was in a lunatic asylum and the mother was poor; and in 1 the father was in a lunatic asylum and the mother was dead. The number of children placed under care in 1908 was the greatest on record, and this is largely due to the fact that many were during that year taken as wards and returned to their mothers—the number being 620, as compared with 398 in the preceding year. It is also due in part to the operation of the Infant Life Protection Act, 166 children having come directly under the control of the department through this legislative act, apart from those that are supervised and inspected by the officers of the Neglected Children's Department, but are maintained by their relatives.

The Government expenditure for the maintenance of neglected children amounted in 1908 to £60,540, and for reformatory school children to £4,639; the expenses of administration amounted to £6,095, making a total gross expenditure of £71,283. A sum of £2,414 was received from parents for maintenance, and £126 from other sources, making the net expenditure £68,743. The average number of neglected children under supervision during the year was 5,246; of this total 3,633 were maintained in foster homes at an average annual cost per head to the State of £15 4s. 10d.; 110 were in Government receiving depôts at £28 6s. 11d. per head, and 45 were in private industrial schools costing £13 16s. per head; 748 were at service earning their own living, and 710 were with relatives and others at no cost to the State. The average number of reformatory wards under supervision during the year was 214. Of this number, 154 were maintained in private schools at an average annual cost per head of £30 2s. 5d., 42 were in service earning their own living, and 18 were with relatives at no cost to the State. The average net cost per head of neglected and reformatory school children who were maintained by the State during the year was £17 8s. 9d.

Cost of maintenance of neglected and reformatory children.

Part VIII. of the *Neglected Children's Act* 1890 deals with the committal of neglected children to the care of private persons or institutions approved by the Governor in Council, and also provides for the wardship of the children, and for their transference if found unfitted for such care to the control of the Department for Neglected Children. The following return shows the societies and persons

Neglected children maintained by societies or private persons.

registered under the provisions of this part of the Act, and particulars respecting the children under their care during 1908:—

WORK OF SOCIETIES AND PERSONS REGISTERED UNDER PART VIII.
OF THE "NEGLECTED CHILDREN'S ACT."

| Name of Society or Person. | Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.07. | Admissions during 1908. | | | Number of Children under Supervision on 31.12.08. |
|---|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | | Court Committals. | Transfer of Guardianship. | Voluntary Admissions. | |
| Presbyterian and Scots' Church Neglected Children's Aid Society | 310 | 15 | 11 | 4 | 299 |
| Victorian Neglected Children's Aid Society | 592 | .. | .. | 70 | 483 |
| Clifden Home, Wedderburn .. | 105 | .. | .. | 2 | 107 |
| Gordon Institute, Melbourne .. | 160 | 5 | 27 | 38 | 218 |
| Try Society, Surrey-road, Hawksburn (Mr. W. M. Forster) | 18 | .. | 1 | 17 | 23 |
| Burwood Boys' Home | 57 | 1 | 28 | .. | 70 |
| Geelong Try Boys' Brigade .. | 119 | .. | .. | 61 | 111 |
| Latrobe-street Ragged School Mission | 149 | 2 | .. | 90 | 92 |
| Mission Rescue and Children's Home, Ballarat East | 35 | 5 | .. | 6 | 38 |
| Church of England Neglected Children's Aid Society | 110 | 4 | 6 | 16 | 106 |
| Methodist Homes for Children .. | 352 | 32 | .. | 21 | 379 |
| Methodist Boys' Training Farm, Burwood East | 68 | .. | 1 | 17 | 78 |
| Presbyterian Rescue Home, Brunswick | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 6 |
| St. Joseph's Home, Surrey Hills | 288 | .. | 2 | 75 | 139 |
| Total | 2,367 | 67 | 77 | 421 | 2,149 |

Total number of neglected and orphan children.

The total number of children who were under the guardianship of the State or maintained in public institutions or by societies in 1908 reached the large number of 9,399, viz., 5,741 under the control of the Neglected Children's Department, 2,149 under the supervision of societies registered under Part III. of the Neglected Children's Act, and 1,509 in Orphan Asylums.

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

Infant Life Protection Act.

With a view generally of exercising more efficient supervision over unprotected child life, and of lessening the excessive mortality amongst boarded-out children, the State Legislature passed an Act, No. 2102 (which came into force on 31st December, 1907), to amend the Infant Life Protection Act of 1890. Its principal provisions are as follows:—

The administration of the Act is removed from the Chief Commissioner of Police to the Department for Neglected Children, and power is given to establish maternity homes, infant asylums, or cottage homes. No male person is eligible to be registered as the occupier of a registered house. Male or female inspectors are to be appointed, who may enter and inspect any house registered under the Act, inspect any infant in the house, and examine the registered occupier as to the proper care and maintenance of the infants, and give any necessary advice or directions. The age of children who may be dealt with under the Act is raised from 2 to 5 years. For refusing to admit or obstructing an inspector, or for refusing to

answer or answering falsely any questions put by the inspector, a penalty of £10 may be imposed.

Any person who desires to board-out an infant must make application to the Secretary of the Department, stating what amount he or she is prepared to pay weekly for the child's maintenance. The infant must then be examined by a medical man, and if he reports that it is free from syphilis, epilepsy, or any disease of a serious nature, and the Secretary is satisfied that the home is suitable, he may grant the application.

No infant under the age of 12 months is to be boarded-out for less than 10s. per week, and if over 12 months old for less than 7s. per week, nor in any case for more than 40s. per week. All payments for the maintenance of infants are to be made through the Secretary, who is not to pay any registered person more than two weeks in advance, and no instalment of any payment is to be paid after the death of the infant, except for any arrears at the time of death. If the weekly payments fall into arrear for a period of four weeks, the infant *ipso facto* becomes a ward of the Department for Neglected Children.

The Secretary may cancel the registration, and take charge of children from a registered home, and if they are not removed from his care within a month they become wards of the Department, and the Secretary shall then determine, by writing, what amount, not exceeding 12s. per week, the parents or guardians are to pay towards each child's maintenance.

A penalty of £100, with or without imprisonment for any term not more than a year, may be levied for receiving or making payment for the maintenance of an infant contrary to the method prescribed in the Act.

Information as to the parentage of infants is to be treated as confidential, and is to be recorded in a book kept by the Secretary to be called the "Private Register."

Any child found to have developed syphilis, epilepsy, or any disease, which the Governor in Council may, by Order published in the *Government Gazette*, declare to be of a serious nature, must be removed from a registered home, and committed to the care of the Department.

When a child is received in a home, notice must be sent to the Secretary, and every registered person is to keep a roll containing the name, sex, and age of each infant, and the date at which the infant was received in charge. On the removal of an infant from a registered home, the Secretary is to be notified, and entries are to be made on the roll, showing the time of such removal, the name, address, and occupation of the person removing the infant, and if done by a married woman, the address and occupation of her husband. The penalty for neglecting to produce the roll or to keep it in proper form is a fine not exceeding £25, or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months.

All children in registered homes are to be under the care of medical officers appointed by the Government.

Every registered person is compelled within twelve hours after the death of an infant in her care to give notice to the Secretary,

and to the police. Unless a medical officer appointed pursuant to the regulations gives a certificate stating that he has personally attended or examined the infant, specifying the cause of death, and unless the coroner is satisfied that there is no cause for inquiry, an inquest must be held by the coroner, who has to make a report to the Chief Secretary, with such remarks as to him seem fit.

An infant dying under 5 years of age who at the time of death, or within two months previously, was in charge of a registered person, or, if illegitimate, who has died in the house of such person, cannot be buried without the production of a certificate from a coroner, justice, or member of the police force, authorizing the burial.

It is unlawful for a Registrar of Births and Deaths to give an undertaker or other person a certificate of the registration of the death of an infant to whom the provisions of this Act apply, unless authorized by a coroner, justice, or member of the police force acting on behalf of a coroner or justice.

Certain children are exempted from the operation of most of the sections of the Act, viz., wards of the Department for Neglected Children, any infant retained or received in any charitable institution approved by the Minister, and any child whom the Minister may exempt on the ground that he is satisfied that the guardian is a relative, or that it is unnecessary or undesirable that these sections should apply to it.

On 31st December, 1908, there were 304 children under supervision in registered homes under the provisions of the Act, 113 being under 1 year of age and 191 between 1 and 5 years of age. The deaths during the year numbered 48. In addition, 166 children became wards of the Neglected Children's Department—156 by the operation of Section 9, and 10 under Section 15 of the Infant Life Protection Act. Eighty-seven cases of adoption of children were notified during the year. Four female inspectors are engaged in the work of inspection.

An examination of the vital statistics of the State shows that there is pressing need for this Act for the repression of criminal negligence in the treatment of infants. In 1908 the illegitimate births numbered 1,790, and the deaths of illegitimate children under 1 year 354, being equal to a rate of 19.78 deaths per 100 births, as compared with 7.93 for legitimate children under 1 year of age. The mortality rate of illegitimate infants was thus between two and three times as great as that of children born in wedlock, which proportion is the experience of all recent years.

VICTORIAN MINING ACCIDENT RELIEF FUND.

In December, 1882, an inrush of water in the New Australasian Company's mine, at Creswick, caused the deaths of 22 miners. Consequent on the disaster 79 persons, comprising 18 widows and 61 children, were left in destitute circumstances. Public subscriptions to the amount of £21,602 were raised throughout Victoria for the relief of the widows and orphan children of those who lost their lives. A fund was established, out of which the widows and children to a certain age were paid weekly allowances, and on 31st De-

ember, 1908, there remained 7 widows, who were receiving 15s. per week each. At the same date the amount at credit was £15,097, of which £12,000 was the estimated value of freehold premises in Queen-street; £2,500 was in Government debentures, £467 in bank deposit receipts, and £130 cash in hand.

BENDIGO MINERS' ASSOCIATION—THE WATSON FUND.

About the middle of the year 1889 the idea suggested itself to Mr. J. B. Watson of doing something for the permanently injured miners of the Bendigo District. It was immediately after the occurrence of a severe mining accident that Mr. Watson sent a letter to the Miners' Association with an offer to contribute £1,500, at the rate of £100 per year unconditionally, or to give £150 per year for 10 years, if the Society would contribute a like amount. His proposal was brought under the notice of the Committee of Management, with the result that a Select Committee was appointed to bring up a report, and at the same time to formulate a scheme. It was thought that the sum of money was not sufficient to meet the liability that would be likely to occur. It was ultimately decided to recommend the members to accept Mr. Watson's offer of £150 for 10 years, and at the same time to cover it with the sum of £200 per year, to be made by levy on all members. This scheme was laid before Mr. Watson and the members, and accepted by both parties, and it was arranged that all gifts and donations that could be procured should be credited to a fund to be known as the Watson Sustentation Fund. It was decided that the collections of 1890 should be reserved strictly for revenue purposes, and that the benefits should not come into full operation until 1891, so as to give the fund a good start, and place it on a sure foundation. Payments were accordingly first made in 1891, at the rate of 5s. per week, and this rate was maintained for about two years, when the sick pay was increased to 7s. 6d. per week. Further changes were afterwards made, as necessity arose.

The following return shows the receipts and expenditure, from the inception of the fund. In the column "Administration" the item £152 for 1903 includes £132 expenses in connexion with the sale of property:—

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON SUSTENTATION FUND.

| Year. | Relieved during the Year. | On Funds at end of Year. | Deaths during the Year. | Receipts. | | |
|----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | | | From the Founder, J. B. Watson. | Other Receipts. | Total Receipts. |
| | | | | £ | £ | £ |
| 1890 ... | ... | .. | ... | 150 | 1,467 | 1,617 |
| 1891 ... | * | 11 | * | 150 | 56 | 206 |
| 1892 ... | * | 26 | * | 150 | 503 | 653 |
| 1893 ... | * | 44 | * | 150 | 452 | 602 |
| 1894 ... | * | 43 | * | 150 | 790 | 940 |
| 1895 ... | 43 | 38 | 5 | 150 | 734 | 884 |
| 1896 ... | 57 | 48 | 9 | 150 | 543 | 693 |
| 1897 ... | 56 | 52 | 4 | 150 | 1,680 | 1,830 |
| 1898 ... | 57 | 48 | 9 | 150 | 944 | 1,094 |
| 1899 ... | 56 | 41 | 15 | 150 | 524 | 674 |

* Particulars not available.

The Watson Sustentation Fund.

PERSONS RELIEVED, RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: WATSON
SUSTENTATION FUND—*continued.*

| Year. | Relieved during the Year. | On Funds at end of Year. | Deaths during the Year. | Receipts. | | |
|-----------|---------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| | | | | From the Founder, J. B. Watson. | Other Receipts. | Total Receipts. |
| 1900 ... | 54 | 47 | 7 | £ ... | £ 641 | £ 641 |
| 1901 ... | 66 | 48 | 18 | | 591 | 591 |
| 1902 ... | 52 | 41 | 11 | | 549 | 549 |
| 1903 ... | 50 | 43 | 7 | | 874 | 874 |
| 1904 ... | 58 | 48 | 10 | | 1,049 | 1,049 |
| 1905 ... | 63 | 40 | 20 | | 875 | 875 |
| 1906 ... | 76 | 40 | 36 | | 1,235 | 1,235 |
| 1907 ... | 68 | 35 | 33 | | 1,131 | 1,131 |
| 1908 ... | 40 | 40 | 16 | | 735 | 735 |
| Total ... | ... | ... | 200 | 1,500 | 15,373 | 16,873 |

Expenditure.

| Year. | Sick Pay. | Donations to Members and Wives and Families of Deceased Members. | Administration. | Total Expenditure. | | Balance at End of Year. |
|-----------|-----------|--|-----------------|--------------------|---------|-------------------------|
| | | | | £ | £ | |
| 1890 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | £ 1,617 | |
| 1891 ... | 104 | 87 | 6 | 197 | 1,626 | |
| 1892 ... | 330 | 150 | 3 | 488 | 1,791 | |
| 1893 ... | 571 | 116 | 9 | 696 | 1,697 | |
| 1894 ... | 578 | 64 | 6 | 648 | 1,989 | |
| 1895 ... | 777 | 98 | 7 | 882 | 1,991 | |
| 1896 ... | 845 | 107 | 34 | 986 | 1,698 | |
| 1897 ... | 946 | 121 | 17 | 1,084 | 2,444 | |
| 1898 ... | 917 | 99 | 10 | 1,026 | 2,512 | |
| 1899 ... | 873 | 61 | 7 | 941 | 2,245 | |
| 1900 ... | 973 | 65 | 11 | 1,049 | 1,837 | |
| 1901 ... | 765 | 140 | 9 | 914 | 1,514 | |
| 1902 ... | 842 | 28 | 11 | 881 | 1,182 | |
| 1903 ... | 827 | 39 | 152 | 1,018 | 1,038 | |
| 1904 ... | 854 | 114 | 24 | 992 | 1,095 | |
| 1905 ... | 822 | 80 | 43 | 945 | 1,025 | |
| 1906 ... | 767 | 97 | 29 | 893 | 1,367 | |
| 1907 ... | 715 | 96 | 27 | 838 | 1,660 | |
| 1908 ... | 716 | 135 | 20 | 871 | 1,524 | |
| Total ... | 13,222 | 1,697 | 430 | 15,349 | — | |

QUEEN'S FUND.

Queen's
Fund

This fund was inaugurated in 1887 by Lady Loch to commemorate the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. It is for the relief of women in distress, and it is arranged that only the interest on the capital shall be expended yearly. The number of women relieved during 1908-9 was 95, to whom £556 was allotted either by way of grant or loan, and the cost of management was £68. The accumulated fund on 20th June, 1909, amounted to £14,051.