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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS,
CANBERRA.

OFFICIAL

YEAR BOOK

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

No. 35.—1942 and 1943.

Prepared under Instructions from
The Honorable the Treasurer,

BY

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PREFACE.

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

The synopsis on pp. viii to xxi immediately following shows the general arrangement of the work. The special index (following the usual general index) provided at the end of the volume, together with certain references given in the various Chapters, will assist in tracing in previous issues matter which, owing to limitations of space, has been omitted or is not printed fully in the present volume.

Economic and financial conditions during recent years have caused a demand for new information, or information expressed in new terms, concerning many matters of finance, trade, prices, production and population, and some progress has been made in the later volumes towards bringing closer to present day requirements the Chapters dealing with these branches of statistics, while a diary of the principal financial and economic events of the years 1939 to 1944 is inserted after the last chapter.

The censorship provisions preclude the publication of certain statistics during the war period. In the present volume Chapters V. "Transport and Communication", XIV. "Trade" and XX. "Mineral Industry" are chiefly affected.

Later information which has been compiled since the various Chapters were sent to press has been incorporated in the Appendix (p. 961).

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

My thanks are due to the State Statisticians, who have collected and compiled the data on which the greater part of the information given in the Official Year Book is based. Thanks are also due to the responsible officers of the various Commonwealth and State Departments, and to others, who have kindly, and often at considerable trouble, supplied information; special mention should be made of the services of the Chief Draftsman of the Property and Survey Branch, Department of the Interior, who was responsible for the drawing of the graphs throughout this volume.

An expression of keen appreciation is due in respect of the valuable work performed by Mr. J. P. Dwyer, Editor of the Official Year Book, and of the services rendered by the officers in charge of the various sections of the Commonwealth Bureau of Census and Statistics, upon whom has devolved the duty of revising the Chapters relative to their respective sections.

Publication of the present volume has been delayed through war-time restrictions and preoccupation of a large part of the staff of this Bureau and of the Government Printing Office with urgent war work.

S. R. CARVER,
Acting Commonwealth Statistician.

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STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY, AUSTRALIA.

Heading.		Year.						
		1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.	1941.	1943.
Population(a)	Males	1,736,617	2,004,836	2,382,232	2,799,462	3,332,577	3,597,447	3,651,492
	Females	1,504,368	1,820,077	2,191,554	2,711,532	3,220,029	3,539,775	3,614,949
	Persons	3,240,985	3,824,913	4,573,786	5,510,994	6,552,606	7,137,222	7,266,441
Births	No.	110,187	102,945	122,193	136,198	118,509	134,525	149,295
	Rate	34.47	27.16	27.21	24.95	18.16	18.94	20.65
Deaths	No.	47,430	46,330	47,869	54,076	56,560	71,176	74,486
	Rate	14.84	12.22	10.66	9.91	8.67	10.02	10.30
Marriages	No.	23,862	27,753	39,482	46,869	38,882	75,148	67,673
	Rate	7.47	7.32	8.79	8.59	5.96	10.58	9.36
		1891-92.	1901-02.	1911-12.	1921-22.	1931-32.	1941-42.	1942-43.
Agriculture—								
Wheat	Area, acs.	3,334,957	5,115,965	7,427,834	9,719,042	14,741,313	12,003,483	9,280,345
	Yld., bshl.	25,675,265	38,561,619	71,636,347	129,088,806	190,612,188	166,712,865	155,727,983
	Av., "	7.70	7.54	9.64	13.28	12.93	13.39	16.78
Oats	Area, acs.	246,129	461,430	616,794	733,406	1,085,489	1,460,472	1,496,913
	Yld., bshl.	5,726,256	9,789,854	9,561,833	12,147,433	15,194,680	22,302,478	21,531,525
	Av., "	23.27	21.22	15.50	16.56	14.00	15.27	14.38
Barley	Area, acs.	68,068	74,511	116,466	298,910	342,396	784,253	450,615
	Yld., bshl.	1,178,560	1,519,819	2,056,836	6,085,685	6,290,672	18,003,864	8,278,117
	Av., "	17.31	20.40	17.66	20.36	18.37	22.92	18.37
Maize	Area, acs.	284,428	294,849	340,065	305,186	269,448	301,360	284,592
	Yld., bshl.	9,261,922	7,034,786	8,939,855	7,840,438	7,062,383	7,436,174	6,884,953
	Av., "	32.56	23.86	26.29	25.69	26.21	24.67	24.19
Hay	Area, acs.	942,166	1,688,402	2,518,351	2,994,519	2,634,680	2,758,128	2,359,115
	Yld., tons	1,067,255	2,024,608	2,867,973	3,902,189	3,167,459	3,574,888	3,116,055
	Av., "	1.13	1.20	1.14	1.30	1.20	1.30	1.32
Potatoes	Area, acs.	112,884	109,685	130,463	149,144	145,111	99,324	140,209
	Yld., tons	380,477	322,524	301,489	388,091	397,102	332,727	483,561
	Av., "	3.37	2.94	2.31	2.60	2.74	3.35	3.45
Sugar-cane (b)	Area, acs.	45,444	86,050	101,010	128,356	241,576	254,504	240,988
	Yld., tons	737,573	1,367,802	1,682,250	2,436,890	4,213,453	5,153,670	4,691,501
	Av., "	16.23	15.73	16.65	18.99	17.44	20.25	19.47
Vineyards	Area, acs.	48,882	64,677	60,602	92,414	112,961	129,739	130,307
	Wine, gal.	3,437,598	5,262,447	4,975,147	8,542,573	14,190,522	15,856,560	19,793,176
Total gross value all agricultural production £		16,988,000	23,835,000	38,774,000	81,890,000	74,489,000	94,451,000	111,230,000
Pastoral, dairying, etc.—								
Live Stock	Sheep	106,421,068	72,040,211	96,886,234	86,119,068	110,618,893	125,189,129	124,614,672
	Cattle	11,112,112	8,401,428	11,828,954	14,441,309	12,260,955	13,560,754	14,005,320
	H ses	1,584,737	1,620,420	2,278,226	2,438,182	1,775,550	1,611,059	1,517,970
	Pigs	845,888	931,300	1,110,721	960,385	1,167,845	1,477,303	1,563,000
Wool production(c) '000 lb.		634,046	539,395	798,391	723,059	1,007,456	1,167,159	1,151,167
Butter	lb.	42,314,585	103,747,295	212,073,745	267,071,340	390,654,070	375,494,000	383,571,000
Cheese	"	10,130,945	11,815,153	15,886,712	32,653,003	31,422,973	67,520,000	80,930,000
Bacon and ham	"	16,771,886	34,020,629	53,335,092	58,626,469	71,121,740	95,119,000	104,836,000
Total gross value of pastoral and dairying production £		39,256,000	36,890,000	72,883,000	119,399,000	103,018,000	184,857,000	204,927,000
		1891.	1901.	1911.	1921.	1931.	1941.	1942.
Mineral production—								
Gold	£	5,281,861	14,017,538	10,551,624	4,018,685	3,563,519	15,990,550	12,060,166
Silver and lead	£	3,736,352	2,248,598	3,022,177	1,539,992	1,443,897	6,255,860	5,623,665
Copper	£	367,373	2,215,431	2,564,278	803,957	567,558	1,505,200	1,665,879
Tin	£	560,502	448,234	1,209,973	418,418	262,505	1,001,179	896,017
Zinc	£	2,979	4,067	1,415,169	283,455	512,795	1,589,913	1,563,017
Coal	£	1,912,353	2,602,733	3,927,360	11,014,831	6,355,246	10,871,870	12,622,786
Total value of all mineral production .. £		12,074,106	21,816,772	23,302,878	20,029,107	13,352,316	41,256,888	38,462,181
Forestry production—								
Quantity of local timber sawn or hewn— '000 sup. ft.		(e)	452,131	604,704	590,195	236,707	913,675	855,728
		1891-92.	1901-02.	1911-12.	1921-22.	1931-32.	1941-42.	1942-43.

(a) At 31st December. (b) Area of productive cane. (c) In terms of greasy. (d) Years ended December, except for last three columns, which refer to years ended June. (e) Information not available.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY AUSTRALIA—continued.

Heading.	Year.						
	1891.	1901.	1911.	1921-22.	1931-32.	1941-42.	1942-43.
Factories—							
No. of factories			14,455	18,023	21,657	26,971	26,414
Hands employed (a) No.			311,710	378,540	336,658	725,342	759,045
Wages paid (b) £	(c)	(c)	27,528,377	68,050,861	55,931,818	180,052,212	208,866,843
Value of production £			51,259,004	121,674,119	110,981,830	316,439,028	352,002,056
Total value of output £			133,022,090	320,340,765	281,045,785	773,058,971	850,348,656
Shipping—							
Oversea vessels (No. ent. & cleared) { tons	3,778 4,726,307	4,028 6,541,991	4,174 9,984,801	3,111 9,081,278	3,057 11,395,784	2,555 10,790,489	(h) (i) (e)
Commerce—							
Imports, oversea £	37,711,000	42,434,000	66,967,488	103,066,436	44,712,868	149,355,797	212,106,701
" per head £	11/16/0	11/3/11	14/18/2	18/14/1	6/16/6	20/18/6	29/6/9
Exports oversea £	36,043,000	49,696,000	79,482,258	127,846,535	85,842,887	127,208,381	100,241,464
" per head £	11/5/6	13/2/2	17/13/10	23/4/1	13/1/11	17/16/6	13/11/4
Total oversea trade £	73,754,000	92,130,000	146,449,746	230,912,971	130,555,755	276,564,178	312,348,165
" per head £	23/1/6	24/6/1	32/12/0	41/18/2	19/18/5	38/15/0	43/4/1
Customs and Excise duties £	7,440,869	8,656,530	13,515,005	27,565,199	28,524,996	56,777,344	64,861,091
" per head £	2/6/7	2/5/8	2/19/2	5/0/1	4/7/1	7/7/19	9/0/2
Principal Oversea Exports (f) £							
Wool '000 lb. (g)	619,260	518,018	720,365	927,834	893,644	937,376	630,077
Wheat cental	19,940,029	15,237,454	26,071,193	47,977,044	32,102,246	58,040,901	44,318,188
Flour tons	5,876,875	12,156,035	33,088,704	59,968,334	76,440,603	13,387,573	13,526,462
Butter lb.	1,938,864	2,774,643	9,641,608	28,644,155	19,220,203	4,644,793	4,884,310
Skins and hides £	33,363	96,814	175,891	359,724	610,858	413,684	341,719
Tallow .. £	328,423	589,604	1,391,529	5,519,881	3,833,237	4,191,382	3,494,440
Meats .. £	4,239,500	34,607,400	101,722,100	127,347,400	201,639,400	130,347,196	124,320,720
Timber (undressed) £	206,868	1,451,168	4,637,362	7,968,078	10,250,002	8,124,975	8,085,660
Gold .. £	873,695	1,250,938	3,227,236	3,136,810	2,315,594	5,981,589	3,705,014
Silver and lead .. £	571,069	677,745	1,935,836	1,441,795	831,415	841,719	186,147
Copper .. £	460,894	2,611,244	4,303,159	5,542,102	6,370,012	14,093,943	10,895,860
Coal .. £	38,448	731,301	1,023,960	1,158,166	432,595	320,400	266,746
Govt. Railways—							
Lgh. of line open, mls.	9,541	12,579	16,078	23,502	26,959	27,241	27,223
Capital cost .. £	99,794,090	123,223,779	152,194,603	244,353,233	321,972,000	322,152,345	324,204,512
Gross revenue £	8,654,085	11,038,468	17,847,837	38,194,630	37,579,965	66,481,738	84,745,989
Working expenses £	5,630,182	7,133,617	10,945,727	29,817,970	28,141,984	51,043,094	64,026,800
Per cent. of working expenses on earnings %	65.06	64.63	61.33	78.07	74.88	76.78	75.55
Postal—							
Letters and postcards dealt with No. '000	157,297	220,853	453,063	561,973	(i) 731,135	(i) 921,901	(i) 887,798
" per head ..	49.07	58.26	100.90	102.01	111.62	129.17	123.32
Newspapers dealt with No. '000	85,280	102,727	141,638	140,477	139,502	177,974	163,578
" per head ..	26.61	27.10	31.54	25.50	21.30	24.94	22.72
Queuing-paying Banks(j)—							
Note circulation £	4,477,269	3,390,462	3,778,458	(k) 213,868	197,121	166,667	(l) 166,550
Coin & bullion held £	16,712,923	19,780,528	33,470,770	21,626,832	2,882,026	4,479,215	(l) 7,837,611
Advances .. £'000	129,742	86,353	108,579	193,436	206,918	(n) 323,850	(n) 270,864
Deposits (m) .. £'000	98,345	91,487	143,447	273,867	(n) 319,241	(n) 482,722	(n) 694,493
Savings Banks (o)—							
Total deposits £	15,536,592	30,882,645	59,393,682	154,396,051	197,966,308	274,274,762	471,530,121
Aver. per head of population £	4/18/7	8/3/0	13/8/5	28/0/4	30/1/11	38/4/7	(p) 64/10/8
State Schools—							
Number of Schools ..	6,231	7,012	8,060	9,445	10,097	9,535	9,075
Teachers .. No.	12,564	14,500	16,971	26,120	33,762	32,066	31,684
Enrolment ..	561,153	638,478	638,850	819,042	936,901	886,655	864,550
Aver. attendance ..	350,773	450,246	463,799	666,498	817,262	732,116	684,222

(a) Includes working proprietors. (b) Excludes amounts drawn by working proprietors. (c) Owing to variation in classification and lack of information, effective comparison is impossible. (d) Merchandise only. (e) British currency values. The recorded values were—Exports, 1931-32, £A109,034,065; 1941-42, £A159,328,498; and 1942-43, £A125,552,435. (f) Australian produce, except gold, which includes re-exports. (g) In terms of greasy. (h) Not available for publication. (i) Includes packets. (j) Figures for the first three years are averages for the December quarter; the remainder for the June quarter. (k) Decrease due to prohibition of re-issue. (l) Quarter ended June, 1944. (m) Includes Commonwealth Savings Bank Deposits in year 1921-22. (n) Government "Set-off" accounts, Interstate (Commonwealth Bank) excluded. (o) First two years at 31st December; remainder 30th June. (p) At 30th June, 1944.

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE.

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

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

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

- Year.
- 1816 N.S.W.—Botanic Garden formed at Sydney.
- 1817 N.S.W.—Oxley's first exploration inland. Discovery of Lakes George and Bathurst and the Goulburn Plains by Meehan and Hume. First bank in Australia—Bank of New South Wales—opened at Sydney.
- 1818 N.S.W.—Liverpool Plains, and the Peel, Hastings and Manning Rivers discovered by Oxley, and Port Essington by Captain King.
- 1819 N.S.W.—First Savings Bank in Australia opened at Sydney.
- 1820 Tas.—First importation of pure merino sheep.
- 1821 Tas.—Establishment of penal settlement at Macquarie Harbour.
- 1823 N.S.W.—New South Wales Judicature Act passed. Discovery of gold at Fish River by Assistant-Surveyor McBrien. Qld.—Brisbane River discovered by Oxley.
- 1824 N.S.W.—Constituted a Crown Colony. Executive Council formed. Establishment of Supreme Court at Sydney, and introduction of trial by jury. First Australian Enactment (Currency Bill) passed by the Legislative Council. Proclamation of freedom of the press. First manufacture of sugar. Vic.—Hume and Hovell, journeying overland from Sydney, arrived at Corio Bay. Qld.—Penal settlement founded at Moreton Bay (Brisbane). Fort Dundas Settlement formed at Melville Island, N. Terr.
- 1825 N.S.W.—Extension of western boundary to 129th meridian. Tas.—Separation of Van Diemen's Land (Tasmania). Qld.—Major Lockyer explored Brisbane River to its source, and discovered coal.
- 1826 N.S.W.—Settlement in Illawarra District. Vic.—Settlement at Corinella, Western Port, formed by Captain Wright.
- 1827 N.S.W.—Colony became self-supporting. Qld.—Darling Downs and the Condamine River discovered by Allan Cunningham. W.A.—Military Settlement founded at King George's Sound by Major Lockyer. First official claim of British Sovereignty over all Australia.
- 1828 N.S.W.—Second constitution. First Census. Sturt's expedition down Darling River. Gas first used at Sydney. Richmond and Clarence Rivers discovered by Captain Rous. Vic.—Abandonment of settlement at Western Port. Qld.—Cunningham discovered a route from Brisbane to the Darling Downs, and explored Brisbane River.
- 1829 N.S.W.—Sturt's expedition down Murrumbidgee River. W.A.—Foundation of settlement at Swan River. Foundation of Perth.
- 1830 N.S.W.—Insurrection of convicts at Bathurst. Sturt, voyaging down Murrumbidgee and Murray Rivers, arrived at Lake Alexandrina. Tas.—Trouble with natives. Black line organized to force aborigines into Tasman's Peninsula, but failed. Between 1830 and 1835, however, George Robinson, by friendly suasion, succeeded in gathering the small remnant of aborigines (203) into settlement on Flinders Island.
- 1831 N.S.W.—Crown lands first disposed of by public competition. Mitchell's explorations north of Liverpool Plains. Arrival at Sydney of first steamer, *Sophia Jane*, from England. SS. *Surprise*, first steamship built in Australia, launched at Sydney. First coal shipped from Australian Agricultural Company's workings at Newcastle, N.S.W. First assisted immigration to N.S.W. S.A.—Wakefield's first colonization committee. W.A.—Appointment of Executive and Legislative Councils.
- 1832 N.S.W.—State Savings Bank established.
- 1833 N.S.W.—First School of Arts established at Sydney.
- 1834 N.S.W.—First settlement at Twofold Bay. Vic.—Settlement formed at Portland Bay by Henty Bros. S.A.—Formation of the South Australian Association. W.A.—Severe reprisals against natives at Pinjarrah.
- 1835 Vic.—John Batman arrived at Port Phillip; made treaty with the natives for 600,000 acres of land; claim afterwards disallowed by Imperial Government. Foundation of Melbourne.

- Year.
- 1836 N.S.W.—Mitchell's overland journey from Sydney to Cape Northumberland. Vic.—Proclamation of Port Phillip district as open for settlement. S.A.—Settlement founded at Adelaide under Governor Hindmarsh.
- 1837 N.S.W.—Appointment in London of Select Committee on Transportation. Vic.—Melbourne named by Governor Bourke. First overlanders from Sydney arrived at Port Phillip.
- 1838 N.S.W.—Discontinuance of assignment of convicts. Qld.—Settlement of German missionaries at Brisbane. S.A.—“Overlanding” of cattle from Sydney to Adelaide along the Murray route by Hawden and Bonney. Settlement at Port Essington, Northern Territory, formed by Captain Bremer.
- 1839 N.S.W.—Gold found at Vale of Clwydd by Count Strzelecki. S.A.—Lake Torrens discovered by Eyre. Port Darwin discovered by Captain Stokes. W.A.—Murchison River discovered by Captain Grey.
- 1840 N.S.W.—Abolition of transportation to New South Wales. Land regulations—proceeds of sales to be applied to payments for public works and expenditure on immigration. Vic.—Determination of northern boundary. Qld.—Penal settlement broken up and Moreton Bay district thrown open. S.A.—Eyre began his overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound.
- 1841 N.S.W.—Gold found near Hartley by Rev. W. B. Clarke. W.A.—Completion of Eyre's overland journey from Adelaide to King George's Sound. Tas.—Renewal of Transportation. New Zealand proclaimed a separate colony.
- 1842 N.S.W.—Incorporation of Sydney. Vic.—Incorporation of Melbourne. S.A.—Discovery of copper at Kapunda.
- 1843 N.S.W.—First Representative Constitution (under Act of 1842). First manufacture of tweed. Qld.—Moreton Bay granted legislative representation.
- 1844 Qld.—Leichhardt's expedition to Port Essington. S.A.—Sturt's last expedition inland.
- 1845 N.S.W.—Mitchell's explorations on the Barcoo. Qld.—Explorations by Mitchell and Kennedy. S.A.—Discovery of the Burra copper deposits. Sturt discovered Cooper's Creek.
- 1846 N.S.W.—Initiation of meat-preserving. Qld.—Foundation of settlement at Port Curtis. S.A.—Proclamation of North Australia. W.A.—Foundation of New Norcia (Benedictine) Mission.
- 1847 N.S.W.—Iron-smelting commenced near Berrima. Overland mail established between Sydney and Adelaide. Vic.—Melbourne created a City. Qld.—Explorations by Leichhardt, Burnett and Kennedy.
- 1848 Qld.—Leichhardt's last journey. Kennedy speared by the blacks at York Peninsula. Chinese brought in as shepherds.
- 1849 N.S.W.—Indignation of colonists at arrival of convict ship *Hashemy*. Exodus of population to gold-fields of California. Vic.—*Randolph* prevented from landing convicts. Qld.—Assignment of convicts per *Hashemy* to squatters on Darling Downs. W.A.—Commencement of transportation to Western Australia.
- 1850 N.S.W.—Final abolition of transportation. First sod of first Australian railway turned at Sydney. Sydney University founded. Vic.—Gold discovered at Clunes by Hon. W. Campbell. Representative government granted. S.A.—Representative government granted. W.A.—Pearl oysters found by Lieut. Helpman at Saturday Island Shoal. Tas.—Representative government granted.
- 1851 N.S.W.—Payable gold discovered by Hargraves at Lewis Ponds and Summerhill Creek. Vic.—Separation of Port Phillip—created an independent colony under the name of Victoria. Discovery of gold in various localities. “Black Thursday,” 6th Feb., a day of intense heat. W.A.—Proclamation of Legislative Council Act.
- 1852 N.S.W.—Arrival of the *Chusan*, first P. and O. mail steamer from England. S.A.—First steamer ascended the Murray River to the junction with the Darling. Tas.—Meeting of first elective Council protests against transportation. Payable gold discovered at The Nook, near Fingal, and at Nine Mile Springs.

- Year.**
- 1853** Tas.—Abolition of transportation. Vic.—Melbourne University founded.
- 1854** Vic.—Opening of first Victorian railway—Flinders-street to Port Melbourne. Riots on Ballarat gold-fields. Storming of the Eureka Stockade, 3rd Dec. Telegraph first used.
- 1855** N.S.W.—Opening of railway—Sydney to Parramatta. Mint opened.
- 1856** N.S.W.—Pitcairn Islanders placed on Norfolk Island. W.A.—A. C. Gregory's expedition in search of Leichhardt. Responsible Government in N.S.W., Vic., S.A. and Tas. (Act of 1855).
- 1857** N.S.W.—Wreck of the *Dunbar* (119 lives lost), and *Catherine Adamson* (21 lives lost), at Sydney Heads. Select Committee on Federation. Vic.—Manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. S.A.—Passage of Torrens' Real Property Act.
- 1858** N.S.W.—Establishment of manhood suffrage and vote by ballot. Telegraphic communication between Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. Qld.—Canoona gold rush.
- 1859** Qld.—Proclamation of Queensland as separate colony. Tas.—First submarine cable, via Circular Head and King Island to Cape Otway.
- 1860** Vic.—Burke and Wills left Melbourne and crossed to Gulf of Carpentaria. S.A.—Copper discoveries at Wallaroo and Moonta. McDouall Stuart reached centre of continent and named "Central Mount Stuart".
- 1861** N.S.W.—Anti-Chinese riots at Lambing Flat and Burrangong gold-fields. Opening of first tramway in Sydney. Regulation of Chinese immigration. Vic.—Burke and Wills perished at Cooper's Creek, near Innamincka, S.A.
- 1862** N.S.W.—Abolition of State aid to religion. Real Property Act. S.A.—Stuart crossed the Continent from south to north. W.A.—First export of pearl-shell.
- 1863** Vic.—Intercolonial Conference at Melbourne. S.A.—Northern Territory taken over. W.A.—Initiation of settlement in the North-west district. Henry Maxwell Lefroy discovered and traversed area now comprised in the Coolgardie-Kalgoorlie gold-field.
- 1864** Qld.—First railway begun and opened. First sugar made from Queensland cane. Tas.—First successful shipment of English salmon ova.
- 1865** N.S.W.—Destruction by fire of St. Mary's Cathedral, Sydney.
- 1866** N.S.W.—Passage of Public Schools Act of (Sir) Henry Parkes. S.A.—Introduction of camels for exploration, etc.
- 1867** Vic.—Imposition of protective tariff. Qld.—Discovery of gold at Gympie.
- 1868** N.S.W.—Attempted assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh at Clontarf, near Sydney. W.A.—Arrival of the *Hougomont*, last convict ship. Tas.—First sod of first railway (Launceston and Western) turned by Duke of Edinburgh.
- 1869** Vic.—Record gold nugget "Welcome Stranger" 2,284 oz. found near Dunolly. W.A.—First telegraph line opened from Perth to Fremantle.
- 1870** N.S.W.—Intercolonial Exhibition opened at Sydney. Imperial troops withdrawn. Vic.—Intercolonial Congress at Melbourne. S.A.—Commencement of transcontinental telegraph.
- 1871** N.S.W.—Permanent military force raised. W.A.—Passage of Elementary Education Act. Forrest's explorations. Tas.—Discovery of tin at Mount Bischoff. Launceston-Western railway opened for traffic.
- 1872** N.S.W.—International Exhibition at Sydney. Vic.—Mint opened. S.A.—Cable from Java to Port Darwin. Completion of transcontinental telegraph line.
- 1873** N.S.W.—Intercolonial Conference at Sydney. First volunteer encampment. Inauguration of mail service with San Francisco.
- 1874** N.S.W.—Triennial Parliaments Act passed. Intercolonial Conference. W.A.—John and Alexander Forrest arrived at Overland Telegraph from Murchison. S.A.—University of Adelaide founded.
- 1875** Qld.—Transfer of Port Albany Settlement to Thursday Island.
- 1876** N.S.W.—Completion of cable—Sydney (La Perouse) to Wellington (Wakapuaka). W.A.—Giles crossed colony from east to west. Tas.—Death of Truganini, last representative of Tasmanian aborigines.

- Year.
- 1877 W.A.—Opening of telegraphic communication with South Australia.
- 1878 Qld.—Restriction of Chinese immigration.
Introduction of telephone into Australia.
- 1879 N.S.W.—First artesian bore at Killara. International Exhibition at Garden Palace, Sydney. First steam tramway. W.A.—A. Forrest's explorations in the Kimberley district, and discovery of the Fitzroy pastoral country.
- 1880 N.S.W.—Public Instruction Act passed. Vic.—Opening of first Victorian International Exhibition at Melbourne. First Australian Telephone Exchange opened in Melbourne.
Federal Conference at Melbourne and Sydney.
- 1881 N.S.W.—Further restrictions on Chinese immigration.
Visit to Australia of T.R.H. Prince Albert Victor and Prince George.
- 1882 N.S.W.—Garden Palace destroyed by fire. W.A.—Nugget of gold found between Roebourne and Cossack.
- 1883 N.S.W.—Discovery of silver at Broken Hill. Completion of railway between New South Wales and Victoria. Qld.—Annexation of New Guinea—repudiated by Imperial authorities.
Federal Conference held at Sydney. Federal Council created.
- 1884 Federation Bill passed in Victoria and rejected in New South Wales. British protectorate declared over New Guinea.
- 1885 N.S.W.—Military contingent sent to the Sudan. Opening of the Broken Hill Proprietary Silver Mines. W.A.—Gold found by prospectors on the Margaret and Ord Rivers in the Kimberley district. Tas.—Silver-lead discovered at Mount Zeehan.
- 1886 Tas.—Discovery of gold and copper at Mount Lyell.
First session of Federal Council met at Hobart on 26th January.
- 1887 N.S.W.—Disaster at Bulli coal-mine (81 lives lost). S.A.—International Exhibition at Adelaide. W.A.—Cyclone destroyed nearly the whole pearling fleet off the Ninety-Mile Beach—200 lives lost. Gold discovered at Southern Cross.
First "Colonial" Conference in London. Australasian Naval Defence Force Act passed.
- 1888 N.S.W.—Centennial celebrations. Restrictive legislation against Chinese, imposing poll-tax of £100. Vic.—Second Victorian International Exhibition held at Melbourne. Qld.—Railway communication opened between Sydney and Brisbane.
Conference of Australian Ministers at Sydney to consider question of Chinese immigration. First meeting of the Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science held in Sydney.
- 1889 Qld.—Direct railway communication established between Brisbane and Adelaide.
W.A.—Framing of new Constitution. Tas.—University of Tasmania founded.
- 1890 W.A.—Responsible Government granted.
Meeting at Melbourne of Australasian Federation Conference.
- 1891 N.S.W.—Election to Legislative Assembly of 35 Labour members. Arrival of Australian Auxiliary Squadron. Cessation of assisted immigration. W.A.—Discovery of gold on the Murchison.
First Federal Convention in Sydney; draft bill framed and adopted.
- 1892 W.A.—Discovery of gold by Messrs. Bayley and Ford at Coolgardie.
- 1893 N.S.W.—Departure by the *Royal Tar* of colonists for "New Australia".
Financial crisis, chiefly affecting the eastern States.
- 1895 N.S.W.—Free-trade tariff. Land and income taxes introduced.
Conference of Premiers on Federation at Hobart.
- 1896 N.S.W.—People's Federal Convention at Bathurst.
- 1897-8 Sessions of Federal Convention at Adelaide, Sydney and Melbourne.
- 1898 N.S.W.—First surplus of wheat for export.
Draft Federal Constitution Bill submitted to electors in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Tasmania. Requisite statutory number of votes not obtained in New South Wales.

- Year.**
- 1899 First contingent of Australian troops sent to South Africa. Conference of Premiers in Melbourne to consider amendments to Federal Constitution Bill. Referendum—Bill accepted by New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia and Tasmania. First Labour Government (Queensland).
- 1900 N.S.W.—Old-age pensions instituted.
Contingents of naval troops sent to China. Commonwealth Constitution Act received Royal Assent, 9th July. Proclamation of Commonwealth signed, 17th September. Mr. (afterwards Sir) Edmund Barton formed first Federal Ministry.
- 1901 Vic.—Old-age pensions instituted.
Proclamation of the Commonwealth at Sydney. First Federal Parliament opened at Melbourne by the Duke of Cornwall and York. Interstate free-trade established.
- 1902 N.S.W.—Disastrous explosion at Mount Kembla Colliery—95 lives lost. W.A.—Opening of pumping station at Northam in connexion with Gold-fields water supply. Completion of Pacific Cable (all-British). First Federal Tariff.
- 1903 W.A.—Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie Water Supply Scheme completed.
Inauguration of the Federal High Court.
- 1905 N.S.W.—Re-introduction of assisted immigration.
- 1906 Wireless telegraphy installed between Queenscliff, Vic., and Devonport, Tas. Papua taken over by Commonwealth.
- 1907 N.S.W.—Telephone, Sydney to Melbourne, opened. First telephone trunk line service between Capital Cities, i.e., Sydney and Melbourne.
Imperial Conference in London.
- 1908 Canberra chosen as site of Australian Capital. Visit of U.S.A. fleet to Australia.
- 1909 Imperial Defence Conference in London—Commonwealth ordered two destroyers and one first-class cruiser for fleet unit. Visit of Lord Kitchener to report and advise on Australian military defence. Queensland University founded.
- 1910 Referendum on financial relations between the Commonwealth and the States. Penny Postage. Arrival of the *Yarra* and *Paramatta*, first vessels built for the Royal Australian Navy. Australian Notes Act passed and first Commonwealth notes issued. Admiral Sir R. Henderson visited Australia to advise on naval defence.
- 1911 First Federal Census. Transfer of Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory to Commonwealth. Introduction of compulsory military training. Establishment of penny postage to all parts of British Empire. University of Western Australia founded.
- 1912 Opening of Commonwealth Bank. First payments of Maternity Bonus. First sod turned at Port Augusta of Trans-Australian Railway (Port Augusta to Kalgoorlie).
- 1913 Australian Capital named Canberra and foundation stone laid. Appointment of Interstate Commission.
- 1914 Visit of General Sir Ian Hamilton to report on military defence scheme. Double dissolution of Federal Parliament. Visit of British Association for the Advancement of Science. Transfer of Norfolk Island to Commonwealth.
European War declared 4th August. Australian Navy transferred to British Navy. Australian offer to equip and furnish 20,000 troops accepted. German possessions in South-West Pacific seized by Australian Naval and Military Expeditionary Force. German cruiser *Emden* destroyed by H.M.A.S. *Sydney* at Cocos Islands, 9th November. First contingent landed in Egypt. Australian and New Zealand Army Corps (A.N.Z.A.C.) formed under Sir William Birdwood.
- 1915 Opening of Broken Hill Proprietary's Ironworks at Newcastle, N.S.W. Navy Department created. Defeat of Third Fisher Government. Hughes Ministry formed.
Australian and New Zealand troops landed at Gallipoli, 25th April. Battle of Sari Bair (Lone Pine), 6th–10th August. Evacuation, 18th–20th December. Australian warships with Grand Fleet, in Atlantic, Malaysia, and elsewhere overseas during remainder of war.

Year.

- 1916** Purchase of steamships by the Commonwealth.
 Australian and New Zealand mounted troops organized in mounted divisions and camel corps, operating thereafter in Egypt, Palestine and Syria. Battle of Romani, 4th August. Other troops with reinforcements organized as four infantry divisions (1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th) with some other units, and transferred to France. Fromelles, 19th July; the Somme, 1st July-18th November (Poizieres, Moquet Farm, Flers). 3rd Division, formed in Australia, landed in France. First proposal for compulsory military service defeated by referendum.
- 1917** National Ministry formed under Rt. Hon. W. M. Hughes. Kalgoorlie-Port Augusta railway completed.
 German withdrawal from Somme; Arras offensive (Bullecourt, 11th April and 3rd May); Messines, 7th June; Third Battle of Ypres, 1st July-10th November (Menin Road, Polygon Wood, Broodseinde, Passchendaele). Palestine-Gaza, 26th March, 19th April, 31st October (Beersheba). Australian Flying Corps operating with R.F.C. in Palestine and France. Second proposal for compulsory military service defeated by referendum.
- 1918** Population of Australia reached 5,000,000. Australia House (Strand, London) opened by the King.
 Five Australian divisions in France formed into army corps, 1st January. Sir William Birdwood succeeded by Sir John Monash, 30th May. Defensive campaign on Somme, 21st March-25th April (Dernancourt, Villers-Bretonneux); Battles of the Lys, 9th-29th April (Hazebrouck); Hamel, 4th July; Battle of Amiens, 8th August; Mont St. Quentin, 31st August; Hindenburg Line, 18th September-5th October. Palestine-Megiddo, 19th September; Damascus, 1st October. Armistice with Germany, 11th November. Repatriation Commission created.
- 1919** Messrs. Hughes and Cook represented Australia at Peace Conference. Return of Australian troops. Aerial flight England to Australia by Capt. Sir Ross Smith and Lieut. Sir Keith Smith. Peace Treaty signed at Versailles, 28th June.
- 1920** Visit to Australia of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Wholesale prices reached a point more than double the 1914 level.
- 1921** Second Commonwealth Census. Germany's indemnity fixed (Australia's share approximately £63,000,000). Mandate given to Australia over Territory of New Guinea. First direct wireless press message, England to Australia.
- 1922** First lock on River Murray opened at Blanchetown, South Australia. Queensland Legislative Council abolished.
- 1923** First sod turned on the site of Federal Parliament House at Canberra.
- 1924** Visit of British cruiser squadron. Directorate of Commonwealth Bank appointed. Australian Loan Council formed.
- 1925** Visit of American fleet. Solar Observatory established at Canberra. Brisbane-Grafton railway joining Sydney and Brisbane by uniform gauge was commenced. Sydney Harbour Bridge commenced.
- 1926** Population of Australia reached 6,000,000. Council for Scientific and Industrial Research established. Imperial Conference. Dominion Status defined.
- 1927** Transfer of Seat of Commonwealth Government from Melbourne to Canberra. New Parliament House opened by H.R.H. the Duke of York. Beam Wireless established.
- 1928** Visit of British Economic Mission to report on the development of Australian resources. Financial agreement of Commonwealth and States; Loan Council reconstituted; State debts to be taken over; Referendum carried.
- 1929** Beginning of fall in export prices. Commonwealth Bank empowered to mobilize gold reserve. Substantial export of gold reserves towards end of year. Bruce-Page Government defeated. Labour Ministry formed by Hon. J. H. Scullin.

Year.

- 1930 Wireless phone service with other countries inaugurated. Export prices fell to half 1928 level. Cessation of oversea loans. Tariff embargoes and rationing of imports. Visit of Sir Otto Niemeyer, of Bank of England, to discuss financial questions. Heavy export of gold reserves. Exchange Pool formed. £28,000,000 Conversion Loan fully subscribed. Gold bonus granted. Government deficits total nearly £11,000,000. First Australian—Right Hon. Sir Isaac Alfred Isaacs, G.C.M.G., Chief Justice of the High Court—appointed Governor-General of Australia. Telephone trunk line service established between Adelaide and Perth linking up the whole of the mainland States by telephone.
- 1931 Depression continues; Australia substantially off gold standard with exchange rate at 130 in January; 10 per cent. cut in Federal basic wage. First experimental air mail England to Australia and return. New South Wales Savings Bank suspension and subsequent absorption by Commonwealth Bank. Postponement of sinking fund payments on war debt to British Government for two years. Initiation of Premiers' Conference plan to meet the financial situation. Commonwealth Bank Act amended to provide for temporary lower reserve against notes; substantial export of gold reserves. Hoover Moratorium on War Debts. England departs from gold standard in September; depreciation of Australian £1 on Sterling continued. Wheat bounty granted. Commonwealth Bank assumed control of exchange rate and lowered it to 125. Government deficits total £25,370,000, 1930-31.
- 1932 Sydney Harbour Bridge opened. Australian Broadcasting Commission established. New South Wales Government default in interest payments made good by Commonwealth Government; conflict of Commonwealth and New South Wales governments. Lang Ministry dismissed in New South Wales. Emergency restrictions on imports relaxed. Legislation passed enabling note reserve to be held in sterling securities, subsequently gold was shipped to the United Kingdom. Imperial Economic Conference at Ottawa, with consequential tariff agreements. Scullin Government defeated. Lyons Ministry formed. Sugar Agreement modified. Taxation reductions and assistance to wheat-growers. Government deficits reduced to £19,500,000 for 1931-32.
- 1933 Third Commonwealth Census. Imperial Air-mail "Astraea" arrived. World Economic Conference in London. Australia elected as Member of League of Nations. Secession Referendum (Western Australia). Referendum for reduction and limitation of number of members of Legislative Council (New South Wales). Disarmament Conference in London. Record wheat harvest (213,927,000 bushels). Antarctica and Ashmore and Cartier Islands taken over by the Commonwealth. Government deficits reduced to £4,500,000 for 1932-33.
- 1934 Visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester to open Victorian Centenary Celebrations, Goodwill Mission to the East—Leader Rt. Hon. J. G. Latham. Record flight from England to Australia by Messrs. Scott and Black (Centenary Air Race) in 71 hours. Inauguration of England-Australia Air Mail Service.
- 1935 Silver Jubilee of H.M. King George V. Visit to London for Jubilee Celebrations of the Rt. Hon. J. A. Lyons, Prime Minister. Empire Statistical Conference at Ottawa. Japanese Goodwill Mission to Australia. Meeting of the British Medical Association for the first time in Australia.
- 1936 Death of H.M. King George V. South Australian Centenary. Trade dispute with Japan. Rise in wheat prices. Joint Commonwealth and State Marketing Schemes invalidated by decision of the Privy Council in the James case. Abdication of H.M. King Edward VIII. Tasmania linked with mainland by submarine telephone cable.

Year.

- 1937 Referendum on Commonwealth control of aviation and marketing defeated on both issues. Coronation of H.M. King George VI. Imperial conference in London. New Education Fellowship Conference held in all States. Commonwealth basic wage increased by 5s. per week. Report of the Royal Commission on Monetary and Banking Systems in Australia. Epidemic of Infantile Paralysis mainly in Victoria and Tasmania.
- 1938 New South Wales Sesqui-Centenary Celebrations. Australian Trade Delegation to review Ottawa Agreement. New Lyons Ministry. New Defence Programme involving expenditure of £63,000,000 over three years; militia forces to be raised to 70,000. New Trade Treaty with Japan. British Empire Games in Sydney.
- 1939 Death of the Rt. Hon. J. A. Lyons, Prime Minister. Page Ministry 7th to 26th April. Menzies Ministry formed. National Register and Wealth Census. European war. Australia participates in vast Empire Air Training Scheme. Compulsory military training re-introduced for home defence. Special volunteer force of 20,000 men enlisted and trained for service overseas. Purchase by the British Government of the Australian wool clip and the export surplus of butter, cheese, eggs, meat, sugar, wheat, flour, lead, and zinc.
- 1940 Exchange of Ministers between Australia and United States of America. Appointment of Australian Minister to Japan. Exchange of High Commissioners between Australia and Canada. Population of Australia reached 7,000,000. Australian Forces embark for overseas service. Naval Dock commenced at Sydney. New Menzies Ministry formed. Air crash at Canberra, resulting in death of three Cabinet Ministers—the Hon. G. A. Street, the Hon. J. V. Fairbairn, and the Hon. Sir Henry Gullett. Petrol rationing introduced. Commonwealth elections held.
- 1941 Appointment of Japanese Minister to Australia. Prime Minister's visit to London. Appointment of Sir Thomas Blamey as Deputy Commander-in-Chief of British Forces in the Middle East. Establishment of Commonwealth Child Endowment Scheme. Cessation of commercial relations between Australia and Japan. Exchange of Ministers between Australia and China. United States Congress passed Lend-Lease Bill. Atlantic Charter signed by Mr. Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill. Hon. A. Fadden succeeded Rt. Hon. R. G. Menzies as Prime Minister. Fadden Government defeated on Budget. Hon. J. Curtin formed Labour Ministry. Japanese attack on Pearl Harbour. Outbreak of war with Japan. War-time control of trading banks.
- 1942 Daylight saving introduced. Darwin bombed. Allied Supply Council formed. United States armed forces land in Australia. General Douglas MacArthur Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in South-west Pacific. Regulation of Prices, April, 1942. Federal uniform taxation adopted. Commonwealth Widows' pensions introduced. Japanese submarines sunk in Sydney Harbour. Rationing of commodities. Labour Corps formed for Allied Works. Contract price of wool increased. Gold-mining curtailed. H.M.A.S. *Canberra* sunk by enemy action. Exchange of Ministers between Netherlands, Soviet Union of Russia and Australia. Constitutional Convention held in Canberra—Bill approved for reference to Commonwealth by States of powers to make laws in relation to post-war reconstruction. Department of Post-war Reconstruction formed. Commonwealth Child Endowment cost £11,303,000 in 1941-42. £100,000,000 Austerity Loan over-subscribed.
- 1943 Ceiling prices fixed, 12th April. Commonwealth elections held—return of Curtin Government. National Register of Civilians. High Commissioners appointed to India and New Zealand. Price Stabilization Scheme. Fourth Liberty Loan £125,000,000 over-subscribed. Mortgage Bank Department of Commonwealth Bank opened. National Works Council formed. Militia used in South-west Pacific area. Announced that H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester would become Governor-General of Australia. Assistance given to University students in certain faculties.