

VICTORIAN  
YEAR BOOK  
1979



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(Frontispiece) View of the Jolimont railway yards, a complex system of sidings and through lines containing over 50 kilometres of track, used primarily for stabling suburban trains overnight and at off-peak periods.

*Victorian Railways Department*

(Front endpaper) West Gate Bridge which spans the lower reaches of the Yarra River was opened to the public on 15 November 1978. This link enables traffic from the south-eastern suburbs to approach the western suburbs without having to use congested city roads.

*West Gate Bridge Authority*

(Back endpaper) A touch of nostalgia is reflected in this photograph of the Williamstown steam ship ferry. A familiar sight on the Yarra River from 1873, this ferry ceased to operate on 1 July 1974. Its former function has now been taken over by the West Gate Bridge.

*Port of Melbourne Authority*



VICTORIAN YEAR BOOK 1979

Number 93

# VICTORIAN YEAR BOOK 1979

W. McLENNAN, B.Ec. (Hons)

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## SYMBOLS AND OTHER FORMS OF USAGE

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The following symbols mean:

- cr. credit
  - dr. debit
  - n.a. not available
  - n.e.c. not elsewhere classified
  - n.e.i. not elsewhere included
  - n.p. not available for separate publication (but included in totals where applicable)
  - n.y.a. not yet available
  - p preliminary
  - r figure or series revised since previous edition
  - . . not applicable
  - nil or less than half the final digit shown
  - (where a line drawn across a column between two consecutive figures)  
break in continuity of series
- M males; F females

The following abbreviations are used for the titles of the Australian States and Territories and Australia : N.S.W. (New South Wales), Vic. (Victoria), Qld (Queensland), S.A. (South Australia), W.A. (Western Australia), Tas. (Tasmania), N.T. (Northern Territory), A.C.T. (Australian Capital Territory), and Aust. (Australia).

Yearly periods shown as, e.g., 1977 refer to the year ended 31 December 1977. Those shown as, e.g., 1976-77 refer to the year ended 30 June 1977. Other yearly periods are specifically indicated.

Values are shown in Australian dollars (\$) or \$A) or cents (c) unless another currency is specified.

All data is presented in metric terms.

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

## PREFACE

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This is the ninety-third edition of the *Victorian Year Book*.

The *Year Book* presents a comprehensive statistical and descriptive account of the social, demographic, and economic structure and the physical environment of Victoria. Particular emphasis is placed on the developments and trends in the State in more recent times. Continuity, especially of statistical information, is preserved as far as possible so that the *Year Book* will fulfil its function as a reference work. Consistent with its basic purpose, the coverage of the book is wide and hence, of necessity, its treatment is broad. Therefore the presentation is comprehensive rather than detailed.

In this edition a number of changes have been made to the content. The Employment and Unemployment chapter has been broadened to include a review of changing employment patterns. Special articles on Workers' Compensation have been added. The Population chapter has been rewritten in the light of the 1976 Population Census. A new section has been added to the Prices and Household Expenditure chapter describing the Household Expenditure Survey which provided important statistics on economic and social trends in the community. The fourth major article in the series on Victoria's Environment and Man, this time on the theme of transport, is also included.

Successive volumes provide new descriptive material to ongoing themes. Over the years the cumulative impact of this material will illuminate the State's history.

The statistical tables in the *Year Book* give the latest facts available at the time of preparation. More detailed, and in many cases more up-to-date, statistics of the various topics contained in the *Year Book* are available in other Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) publications. A comprehensive range of statistics is published by the Australian Statistician and by the Deputy Commonwealth Statistician in each State. The details of the publications available are set out in the *ABS Catalogue of Publications, 1979* (1101.0).

The Victorian Office maintains an Information Service, which, on request, supplies available statistical information and advice on which publications are appropriate, and a library in which all publications of the ABS are available for reference. Businessmen, government officers, students, and members of the public are invited to make use of these services.

The material in the *Year Book* has been checked throughout, but I shall be grateful to hear from readers who wish to offer suggestions or have noticed defects.

The length of the book has now stabilised at around 800 pages and a new system of "Further references" has been introduced to indicate clearly special material that has been omitted in this volume.

Also, this is the first volume to be set by computer typesetting.

I wish to record my appreciation of the continued co-operation received from educational institutions, business firms, primary producers, private organisations, individuals, and government departments who provide the basic data from which the contents of the *Year Book* and of all other ABS publications are derived. Without this co-operation, the provision of the wide range of detailed information included in this book would not have been possible.

This is the first edition of the *Year Book* to be published since I became Deputy Commonwealth Statistician for Victoria, and I would like to pay tribute to my predecessor Mr N. Bowden, B.Ec., who retired earlier this year. Mr Bowden had a long and distinguished career in the ABS working in the Hobart, Canberra, and Melbourne Offices. He was appointed Deputy Commonwealth Statistician for Victoria in 1974. All his colleagues wish him well in retirement.

I gratefully acknowledge the valuable assistance given by many individuals and institutions in the preparation of the *Year Book*; I express my thanks to them in the following pages.

*October 1979*

W. McLENNAN  
*Deputy Commonwealth Statistician*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

---

The preparation of this *Victorian Year Book* has been a complex undertaking which would not have been possible without the willing co-operation of many persons and institutions in the community.

First, I wish to thank my staff in the Victorian Office who have contributed significantly to the production of this *Year Book*. I wish to pay special tribute to the Editor of Publications, Mr H. L. Speagle, M.A., B.Ed., who has edited the *Year Book* for the last twenty years. The revision, compilation, and tabulation of statistics have been the responsibility of Mr I. M. Cowie, B.Com., Assistant Deputy Commonwealth Statistician (Operations) and Mr R. J. Brown, B.Com., Acting Assistant Deputy Commonwealth Statistician (Services), and the directors working under them: Mr K. Amanatides, B.A., B.Litt.; Mr J. A. Camfield, B.Sc.; Mr J. Curtain, B.Com.; Mr B. B. Leith, B.Com.; Mr M. T. Ryan, B.Sc.; Mr P. A. Stackpole, B.Com.; and Mr G. M. Young. Mr J. F. Clark, B.Com., was Acting Deputy Commonwealth Statistician and Mr J. W. Maurer was Acting Assistant Deputy Commonwealth Statistician (Services) for a considerable period during the preparation of this *Year Book*.

Second, I extend my thanks to Mr Norman Quaintance, our typographical consultant, and to the Government Printer and his staff for their interest, skill, and resourcefulness in printing this book.

Third, my thanks are due to the following persons and institutions who either supplied basic material for the various articles or advised on their preparation:

### CHAPTER ONE:

TRANSPORT IN THE  
VICTORIAN ENVIRONMENT  
Ministry of Transport

### CHAPTER TWO:

GEOGRAPHY  
Department of Crown Lands and  
Survey  
Department of Minerals and Energy  
Environment Protection Authority  
Geological Survey of Victoria  
Land Conservation Council  
Ministry for Conservation  
National Museum of Victoria  
National Parks Service  
Port Phillip Authority  
Royal Botanic Gardens and National  
Herbarium  
Soil Conservation Authority  
State Rivers and Water Supply  
Commission  
Zoological Board of Victoria

### CHAPTER THREE:

CLIMATE  
Bureau of Meteorology

### CHAPTER FOUR:

CONSTITUTION AND PARLIAMENT  
Australian Electoral Officer for  
Victoria  
Chief Parliamentary Counsel  
Clerk of the Papers  
Clerk of the Parliaments  
Hon. G. J. Nicol  
Parliamentary Library  
Premier's Department  
State Electoral Office

### CHAPTER FIVE:

GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION  
AND PLANNING  
Auditor — General  
Chief Parliamentary Counsel  
Department of State Development and  
Decentralization  
Local Government Department  
Melbourne City Council  
Ministry for Planning  
Municipal Association of Victoria  
Ombudsman  
Premier's Department  
Public Record Office  
Public Service Board of Victoria

**CHAPTER SIX:**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

Local Government Department  
Melbourne City Council  
Municipal Association of Victoria

**CHAPTER SEVEN:**

**POPULATION**

Department of Aboriginal Affairs  
Department of Immigration and Ethnic  
Affairs  
Ministry of Immigration and Ethnic  
Affairs

**CHAPTER EIGHT:**

**VITAL STATISTICS**

Coroner's Court  
Registrar-General

**CHAPTER NINE:**

**INDUSTRIAL CONDITIONS**

Australian Conciliation and  
Arbitration Commission  
Department of Labour and Industry  
Victorian Chamber of Manufactures  
Victorian Employers Federation  
Workers Compensation Board

**CHAPTER TEN:**

**EMPLOYMENT AND  
UNEMPLOYMENT**

Department of Employment and  
Youth Affairs

**CHAPTER ELEVEN:**

**HOUSING, BUILDING, AND  
CONSTRUCTION**

Commonwealth Scientific and  
Industrial Research Organization  
— Division of Building Research  
Defence Service Homes Corporation  
Department of Employment and Youth  
Affairs  
Department of Housing and Construction  
Department of Veterans' Affairs  
Hon. Sir Gregory Gowers, Q.C.  
Housing Commission, Victoria  
Housing Loans Insurance Corporation  
Melbourne City Council  
Ministry of Housing  
Rural Finance and Settlement Commission  
Teacher Housing Authority  
Victorian Building Societies Association

**CHAPTER TWELVE:**

**ENERGY AND MINERALS**

Department of Minerals and Energy

**CHAPTER THIRTEEN:**

**WATER RESOURCES AND  
SEWERAGE**

Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of  
Works

Ministry of Water Resources and Water  
Supply

State Rivers and Water Supply Commission

**CHAPTER FOURTEEN:**

**FORESTRY**

Forests Commission, Victoria

**CHAPTER FIFTEEN:**

**FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE**

Fisheries and Wildlife Division

**CHAPTER SIXTEEN:**

**RURAL INDUSTRY**

Australian Barley Board  
Australian Meat and Livestock  
Corporation  
Australian Wheat Board  
Australian Wool Corporation  
Department of Agriculture  
Department of Crown Lands and Survey  
Elder Smith Goldsbrough Mort Ltd  
Grain Elevators Board  
La Trobe University  
Marcus Oldham Farm Agricultural College  
Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of  
Works  
Ministry of Water Resources and Water  
Supply  
Rural Finance and Settlement Commission  
Soil Conservation Authority  
State Rivers and Water Supply Commission  
University of Melbourne  
Victorian Dairy Industry Authority

**CHAPTER SEVENTEEN:**

**MANUFACTURING**

Commonwealth Scientific and  
Industrial Research Organization  
Department of Industry and Commerce  
Department of Labour and Industry  
Department of Productivity  
Department of State Development and  
Decentralization  
Department of Trade and Resources  
Industrial Design Council of Australia  
National Association of Testing Authorities  
Prices Justification Tribunal  
Small Business Development Corporation  
Standards Association of Australia  
Victorian Chamber of Manufactures

**CHAPTER NINETEEN:**

**EXTERNAL TRADE**

Department of Business and  
Consumer Affairs  
Department of Trade and Resources  
Industries Assistance Commission  
Melbourne Harbour Trust Commissioners

**CHAPTER TWENTY:**

**PUBLIC FINANCE**

Australian Taxation Office  
(Melbourne)  
Country Fire Authority

Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation  
Land Tax, Probate and Gift Duties Office  
Metropolitan Fire Brigades Board  
Stamp Duties Office  
Tattersall Sweep Consultations

**CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE:**

**PRIVATE FINANCE**

Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Ltd  
Commonwealth Banking Corporation  
Life Offices' Association of Australia  
Public Trustee  
Reserve Bank of Australia  
State Bank  
State Insurance Office  
Stock Exchange of Melbourne  
Trustee Companies Association

**CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE:**

**TRANSPORT**

Australian National Line  
Country Roads Board  
Department of Transport  
Geelong Harbour Trust  
Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board  
Melbourne Underground Rail Loop Authority  
Ministry of Transport  
Motor Accidents Board  
Motor Registration Branch  
Port of Melbourne Authority  
Port Phillip Sea Pilots Service  
Portland Harbour Trust  
Road Safety and Traffic Authority  
Transport Regulation Board  
Treasury of Victoria  
Victorian Railways  
West Gate Bridge Authority

**CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR:**

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Australian Postal Commission  
Australian Telecommunications Commission

**CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE:**

**EDUCATION**

Association of Independent Schools of Victoria  
Catholic Education Commission  
Commonwealth Department of Education  
Council of Adult Education  
Council of Public Education  
Deakin University  
Education Department  
La Trobe University  
Monash University  
Post-Secondary Education Commission  
Schools Commission  
State College of Victoria  
Tertiary Education Commission  
University of Melbourne  
Victoria Institute of Colleges  
Victorian Institute of Secondary Education

Victorian Universities Admissions Committee  
Victorian Universities and Schools Examinations Board

**CHAPTER TWENTY-SIX:**

**HEALTH AND MEDICAL RESEARCH**

Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria  
Cancer Institute  
Commonwealth Department of Health  
Commonwealth Serum Laboratories Commission  
Dental Board of Victoria  
Department of Health  
Department of Veterans' Affairs  
Health Commission of Victoria  
Hospitals and Charities Commission  
Medical Board of Victoria  
Mental Health Authority  
National Health and Medical Research Council  
University of Melbourne  
Victorian Bush Nursing Association  
Victorian Nursing Council

**CHAPTER TWENTY-SEVEN:**

**SOCIAL WELFARE**

Australian Red Cross Society (Victoria)  
Community Services Centre  
Department of Community Welfare Services  
Department of Social Security  
Department of Veterans' Affairs  
Department of Youth, Sport and Recreation  
Lord Mayor's Fund  
Registrar of Friendly Societies

**CHAPTER TWENTY-EIGHT:**

**JUSTICE AND THE ADMINISTRATION OF LAW**

Australian Legal Aid Office  
Chief Secretary's Department  
Children's Court  
Coroner's Court  
County Court  
Crimes Compensation Tribunal  
Crown Solicitor's Office  
High Court of Australia  
Law Department  
Legal Aid Committee  
Liquor Control Commission  
Public Solicitor  
Small Claims Tribunal  
Supreme Court  
Trotting Control Board  
Victoria Law Foundation  
Victoria Police  
Victorian Bar  
Victoria Racing Club

**CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE:**

**THE ARTS, LIBRARIES, AND MEDIA**

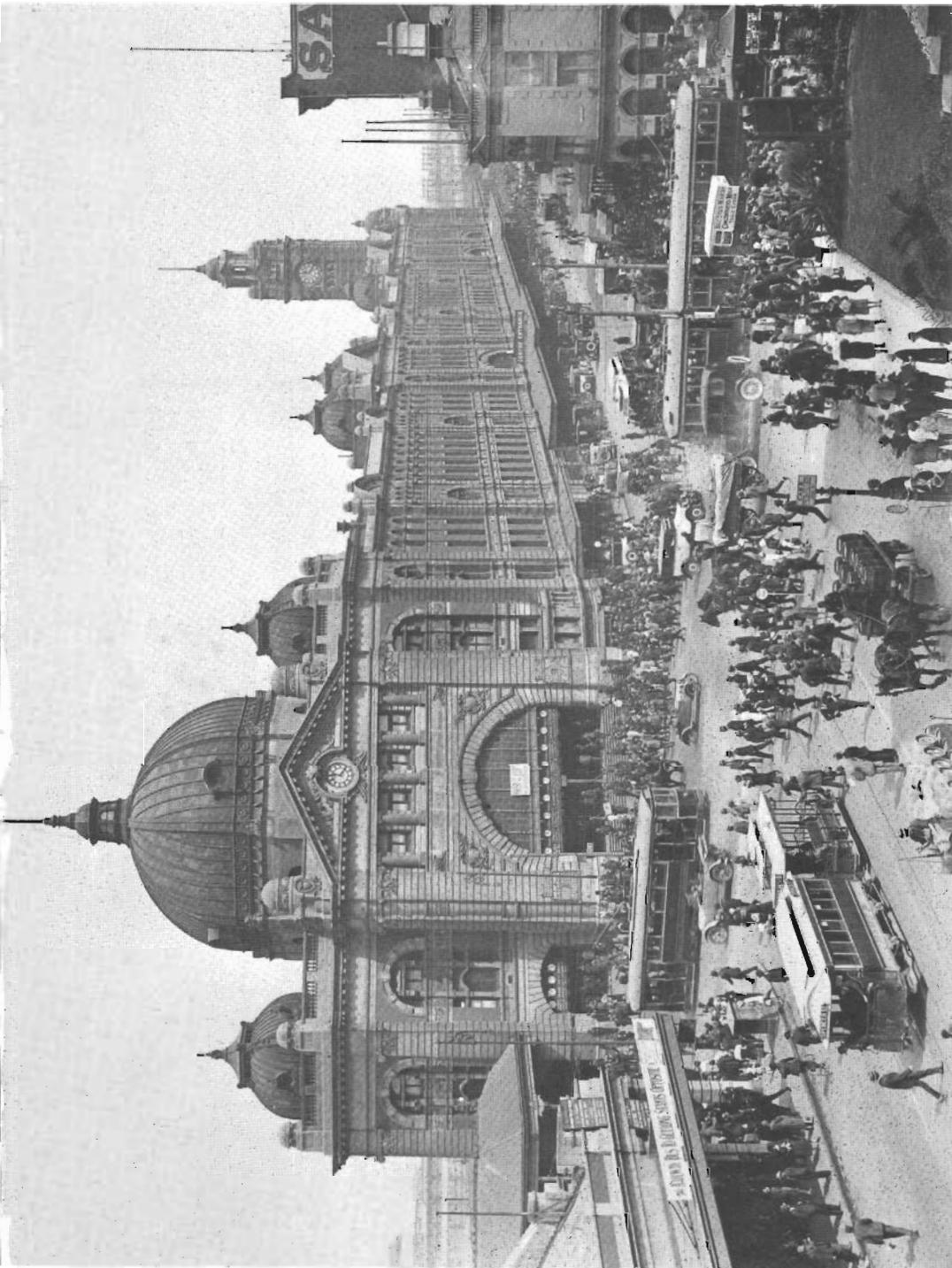
Australian Ballet

Australian Broadcasting Commission  
Australian Broadcasting Tribunal  
Community Services Centre  
Library Council of Victoria  
Melbourne City Council  
Melbourne Suburban Newspapers'  
Association Pty Ltd  
Ministry for the Arts  
National Gallery of Victoria  
National Trust of Australia (Victoria)  
Mr L. O'Neill  
Regional Galleries Association of Australia  
*The Age*  
Victorian Arts Centre Building Committee

APPENDIX A:  
CHRONOLOGY OF IMPORTANT  
EVENTS, 1978  
Premier's Department

APPENDIX D:  
SELECT BIBLIOGRAPHY  
OF VICTORIA  
State Library of Victoria

SUPPLEMENT  
Clerk of the Papers  
State Electoral Office



“Meet you under the clocks.” Flinders Street Railway Station is possibly one of Melbourne’s best known landmarks. The photograph was taken on a Saturday lunchtime in 1926.

*Victorian Railways Department*



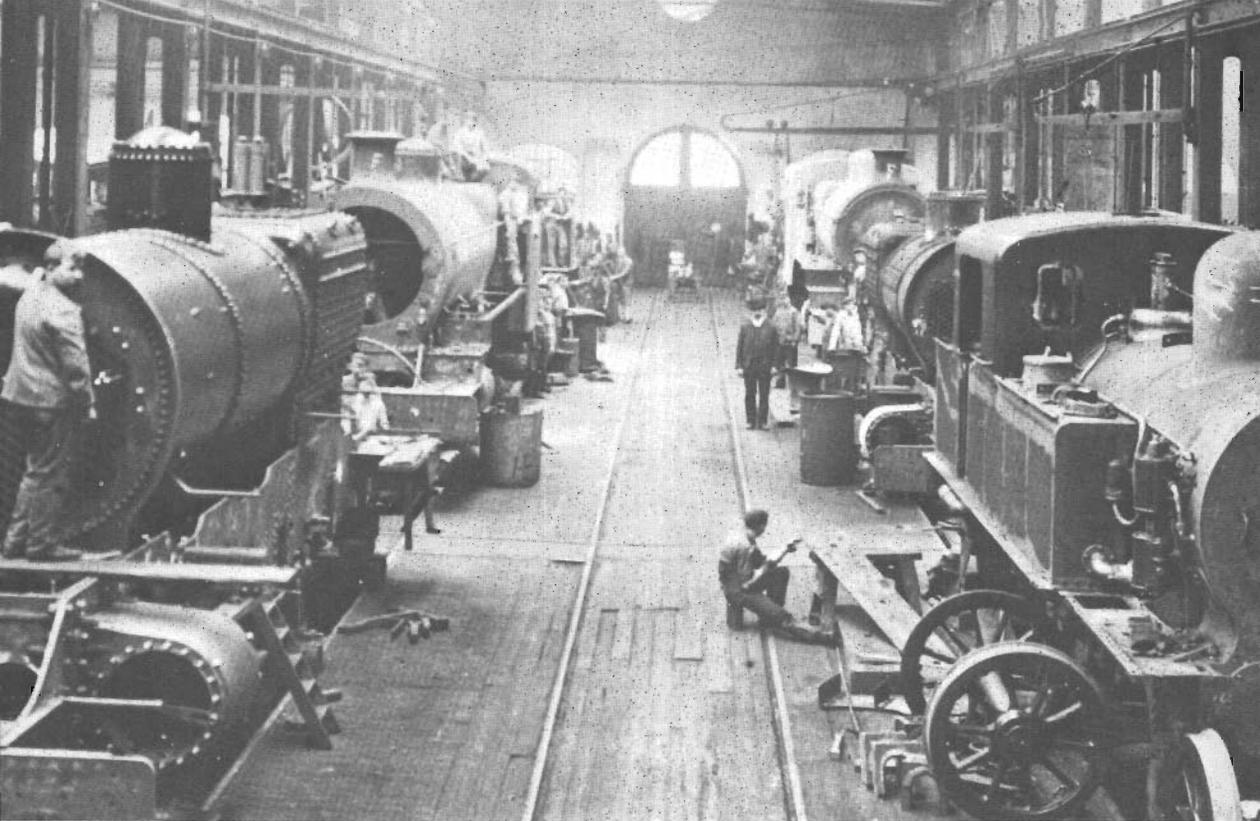
Dandenong Road in 1913. A form of road construction using metal, soil, weeds, and grass to provide a surface.

*Country Roads Board*

A view of the Great Ocean Road at Big Hill, north of Lorne, in 1921.

*Country Roads Board*





A2 steam locomotives under construction at Newport Workshops in about 1907. Until the advent of the diesel after the Second World War, these locomotives hauled express country passenger trains.

*Victorian Railway Department*

Waterproofing the shoulders of the Western Highway in 1938, using hessian as a waterproof membrane.

*Country Roads Board*





Channelisation at the Warrigal Road-Nepean Highway intersection in 1953.

*Country Roads Board*

(Below left). Work in progress at the Clifton Hill overpass in 1956.

*Country Roads Board*

(Below right). Experimental station finishes installed to evaluate design, colour schemes, and material prior to completion at Museum Station site.

*Melbourne Underground Rail Loop Authority*





This cable tram, built in New York, is a prototype of Melbourne's cable car fleet. It was in service from 1885 to 1940 and is now on exhibition at Russell Street, outside the National Museum.

*Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board*

One of the 40 W7 Class trams built at Preston Workshops from 1955-56. These trams were a development of the W6, and SW6 Class trams built from 1939 to 1955.

*Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board*



A Z Class tram incorporating modern Swedish design and control equipment. It is one of a fleet of 115 trams built and equipped at Dandenong, and entered service in June 1975.

*Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board*

A modern Volvo bus with a rear underfloor engine. Built locally on an imported chassis, the bus entered service in August 1977. It is one of a fleet of 100 now operating in Melbourne.

*Melbourne and Metropolitan Tramways Board*





The first of the silver suburban train fleet which began operation in December 1972. A total of 300 carriages were ordered in the first purchase, costing approximately \$37.5 million.

*Victorian Railways Department*

For many years *Puffing Billy* has been running through the Dandenong Ranges, thrilling both the young and young at heart. Since October 1978 the Emerald Tourist Railway Board has taken over the operation of this narrow gauge rail service.

*Victorian Railways Department*





The first of the 20 X Class diesels on its trial run. The 2,200 hp locomotives cost about \$500,000 each.

*Victorian Railways Department*

A double headed bulk wheat train on its journey to the Geelong grain terminal. At the peak of the wheat harvest up to 50 such trains may be seen each day on this section of track.

*Victorian Railways Department*





Asphalt sealing in progress on the Mulgrave Freeway, July 1976.  
*Country Roads Board*

A section of the Calder Freeway passing through the City of Keilor.  
*Country Roads Board*

