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CHAPTER VIII.

EDUCATION.

§ 1. Evolution of Educational Systems in Australia.

1. **Educational Systems of the States.**—(i) *Place of New South Wales in Australian Education.* The first settlement in Australia being in New South Wales, it is but natural that Australian Education should have had its beginning in that State. In the evolution of educational method and system in Australia, New South Wales also has played a leading part, and has had practically a dominating influence. The subject is dealt with in some detail in No. I. and No. II. issues of the Commonwealth Official Year Book, but it is not proposed to repeat it in the present volume. (See also 2 hereunder.)

(ii) *Educational Systems of other Commonwealth States.* A more or less detailed account of the origin and development of the educational systems of the other States also appears in No. I. and No. II. issues of the Year Book.

(iii) *Medical Inspection of State School Children.* See Chapter XI., Public Hygiene.

2. **Later Development in State Educational Systems.**—Preceding issues of the Official Year Book contained an outline of later developments of the educational systems of the various States (see No. 22, pp. 426-29), but it has been decided to omit this information from the present volume.

As pointed out in previous issues, the educational system of New South Wales may now be considered as a more or less homogeneous entity, the various stages succeeding one another by logical gradation from kindergarten to university. In the other States development is proceeding on somewhat similar lines, activity in this respect being greatly helped by interstate conferences of directors of education and of inspectors and teachers as well as by the Council alluded to in 3. hereunder.

3. **Australian Council for Educational Research.**—This Council, which was constituted on 10th February, 1930, receives from the Carnegie Corporation an endowment of £5,000 a year for ten years for general purposes, and a further sum of £2,500 a year for five years for administrative purposes. It consists of nine members of whom six are elected by the State Institutes for Educational Research, and three are co-opted members. The publications of the Council appear in the form of a Research Series published by the Melbourne University, and up to the end of 1932, fifteen numbers had appeared. Since its inception the Council has granted 108 applications for assistance to persons who wished to carry out investigations, or have their works published. During the same period, the Council itself initiated a number of investigations. In addition to organizing the carrying out of research, the Council acts as a centre for the collection and dissemination of information concerning Australian education. Expenditure to the end of June, 1932, amounted to £6,716.

4. **Imperial Educational Conference.**—A meeting of the Advisory Committee was held in London in June, 1931. No formal resolutions were passed, but it was decided that the next meeting of the Conference should be held in July, 1933, and that the main subjects for consideration should be the more practical aspects of education, including the relation of education to industry and the development of technical, commercial, and agricultural education. The provision of greater facilities for post-graduate research in educational theory and practice, for interchanges of teachers, &c., will also be discussed.

§ 2. State Schools.

1. **General.**—The State Schools, or, as they are sometimes termed, the “public” schools, of Australia comprise all schools directly under State control, in contradistinction to the so-called “private” schools, the bulk of which, though privately managed, nevertheless cater for all classes of the community. Separate information regarding Technical Education is given in § 6, but the junior technical schools are included hereunder. The returns include figures relating to correspondence schools as well as subsidized schools, but evening schools and continuation classes where such are in existence, are not included, but are dealt with separately in 4. iv hereinafter.

2. **Returns for Year 1931.**—(i) *General.* The following table shows the number of State Schools, together with the teachers employed and the enrolment and average attendance in each State during the year 1931 :—

STATE SCHOOLS.—RETURNS, 1931.

State or Territory.	Schools.	Teachers.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Percentage of Attendance on Enrolment
New South Wales (a) ..	3,191	13,120	366,378	322,816	88.1
Victoria ..	2,747	9,382	243,434	215,691	88.6
Queensland ..	1,724	4,299	144,299	115,896	80.3
South Australia ..	1,055	3,479	89,928	78,620	87.4
Western Australia ..	866	2,202	58,675	53,630	91.4
Tasmania ..	508	(b)1,268	33,868	30,328	89.6
Northern Territory ..	6	12	319	281	88.1
Australia ..	10,097	33,762	936,901	817,262	87.2

(a) Including Federal Capital Territory.

(b) Exclusive of 33 teachers in junior technical schools.

During recent years the percentage of attendance on enrolment has risen considerably. This is due partly to the greater attractiveness of school life consequent on improved methods in teaching and school management, and partly to more effective administration of the compulsory provisions of the Education Acts. Due weight must also be given to the excellent help given by parents' and citizens' associations, mothers' clubs, etc., in connexion with many of the schools. Allowance, moreover, must be made for the fact that in periods of depression, when employment is difficult to obtain, there is a tendency for pupils to remain longer at school. In New South Wales, for example, the enrolment figures for 1931 show an excess of over 9,000 on those for the previous year, the increase occurring chiefly in classes above the primary course. Owing to the necessity for rigid economy, consequent on the restriction in the funds available, this increase in enrolment created difficult problems in the provision of staff, accommodation, equipment, etc.

The methods of calculating enrolment are not quite identical throughout the States, but the figures may be taken as representing the net number on the rolls after allowing for repeated enrolments. The matter of securing uniformity in this respect has been under consideration for some time, and the Educational Research Council, alluded to in § 1, 3 *ante*, is devoting attention to the question of securing greater uniformity in methods of collection and presentation of educational data generally. Uniformity in educational statistics also was included in the agenda set down for discussion at the eighth Conference of Directors of Education in Australia and New Zealand held in Melbourne in May, 1930.

(ii) *Schools in the Federal Capital Area.*—(a) *General.* During the year 1931 fourteen State Schools were in operation in the Federal Capital Territory (Yass-Canberra). The individual pupils enrolled numbered 1,425 and the average attendance 1,077. Cost of upkeep amounted to £12,922. By arrangement with the Federal Government these schools are conducted by the New South Wales Education Department on the same lines as the ordinary State Schools, the Department being recouped for expenditure. Ample provision has been made for both primary and secondary education, and this

will be increased to meet requirements. The figures quoted, other than expenditure, do not include enrolment, etc., at the Trade School and the Evening Continuation School. (b) *The Canberra University College* (see § 5-6 hereinafter).

3. **Increase in Average Attendance.**—The average attendance at the State Schools in Australia is shown below for the years 1891, 1901, 1911, and for each year of the period 1927 to 1931:—

STATE SCHOOLS.—AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.—AUSTRALIA.

Year.	Total Population. (a)	Average Attendance.	Year.	Total Population. (a)	Average Attendance.
1891	3,421	350,773	1928	6,337	764,496
1901	3,825	450,246	1929	6,414	777,626
1911	4,573	463,799	1930	6,476	801,729
1927	6,235	748,712	1931	6,526	817,262

(a) At 31st December, in thousands.

During the last five years the average attendance increased by about 9.2 per cent., the figures ranging from about 14 per cent. in New South Wales to about 5 per cent. in Queensland.

4. **Distribution of Educational Facilities.**—(i) *In Sparsely-settled Districts.*—(a) *General.* The methods adopted in the various States to carry the benefits of education into the remotest and most sparsely-settled areas are set out in some detail in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, pp. 430-31), but limitations of space preclude their repetition in the present volume. (b) *Correspondence Teaching.* Teaching by correspondence has been adopted to meet the needs of children out of reach of the ordinary means of education, including those incapacitated from attending school by reason of physical ailment. Over 14,500 children were receiving instruction in this way during 1931, the respective numbers in each State being New South Wales, 4,885; Victoria, 743; Queensland, 4,980; South Australia, 1,470; Western Australia, 2,148; Tasmania, 295. In the Northern Territory, 31 children were receiving tuition by correspondence during the year.

(ii) *Centralization of Schools.* The question of centralization of schools adopted so successfully in America and Canada has received some attention in Australia, and particularly in New South Wales. It is recognized that a single adequately staffed and well equipped central institution can give more efficient teaching than a congeries of small scattered schools in the hands of less highly trained teachers, and the small schools in some districts were therefore closed and the children conveyed to the central institution. The principle was first adopted in New South Wales in 1904, and in 1931 a sum of £53,332 was expended in boarding allowance and conveyance to central schools. Cost of conveyance to State Schools in Victoria during 1931 was returned as £12,343. In South Australia the sum of £13,964 was disbursed in connexion with travelling expenses of school children in 1931, while £13,666 was spent in Western Australia, and about £5,076 in Tasmania. (It may be pointed out, however, that the parents are often reluctant to part with the small schools which form, as it were, "heart centres" in their little community, while the kindly help of the teachers is a great asset in the social and intellectual life of the districts served by the schools.)

(iii) *Education of Retarded and Defective Children.* This subject was alluded to at some length in preceding issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, pp. 431-2), but the information cannot be repeated in this issue.

(iv) *Evening Schools.* Evening Public Schools have been in existence for many years in some of the States, but their progress has been uncertain. In New South Wales the 45 Evening Continuation Schools had an average weekly enrolment in 1931 of 5,464 and an average attendance of 4,386. The schools for boys are classed as commercial,

commercial preparatory, junior technical, and junior technical preparatory, and for girls as domestic and domestic preparatory. Attendances at the schools for boys numbered 3,098, and at those for girls 1,288. The comparatively high proportion of attendance to enrolment shows that the institutions are attractive. In Western Australia evening continuation classes were held at 23 centres in 1930, with an average enrolment of 2,777 pupils, but the classes were discontinued at the end of the year specified, and preparatory technical classes were substituted wherever there was a technical school in operation.

(v) *Higher State Schools.* In all the States higher schools have been established which provide advanced courses of instruction for pupils who have completed the primary grades. Reference to the development of these schools will be found in preceding Official Year Books (see No. 22, pp. 433-4), but considerations of space preclude the repetition of this information herein.

(vi) *Agricultural Training in State Schools.* Extended reference to the methods adopted in the teaching of agriculture in State Schools was incorporated in preceding Official Year Books (see No. 22, pp. 434-7), but considerations of space preclude the repetition of this matter herein.

5. *Teachers.*—The distribution of the teaching staff in the State Schools during the year 1931, including teachers of needlework, was as follows:—

STATE SCHOOLS.—TEACHING STAFF, 1931.

State.	Principal Teachers.		Assistants.		Pupil or Junior Teachers.		Sewing Mis-tresses.	Total.		
	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.	Males.	Fem.		Males.	Fem.	Total.
New South Wales	2,579	1,054	3,086	6,189	..	..	212	5,665	7,455	13,120
Victoria ..	1,877	850	1,351	3,049	678	1,248	329	3,906	5,476	9,382
Queensland ..	1,138	615	909	1,574	26	37	..	2,073	2,226	4,299
South Australia	732	379	655	1,254	53	122	284	1,440	2,039	3,479
Western Australia	477	393	237	737	30	176	152	744	1,458	2,202
Tasmania ..	233	311	104	438	33	146	3	370	898	1,268
Northern Territory	2	3	2	3	..	2	..	4	8	12
Total ..	7,038	3,605	6,344	13,244	820	1,731	980	14,202	19,560	33,762

The figures for principal teachers include mistresses of departments, while students in training colleges, visiting teachers, and teachers of special subjects have been grouped with assistants. This group also includes in the case of Queensland about 40 junior technical school teachers. Some of the teachers in sole charge of small schools have had very little training, but future permanent appointments will be confined as far as possible to those who have gone through a regular course of instruction.

It will be observed that there is a fairly large number of junior teachers, or pupil teachers, as they are called in some of the States. Although expert pedagogical opinion throughout the world is against the pupil-teacher system, motives of practical expediency compel its retention, or some modification thereof, in most countries.

In New South Wales and in some of the other States attention has recently been drawn to the difficulty of securing an adequate supply of teachers, particularly male teachers for small schools in out-back districts. Difficulty is also experienced in some of the States in securing suitable living accommodation for teachers of these small schools.

6. *Training Colleges.*—The development of the training systems of the various States has been alluded to at some length in earlier issues of the Year Book (see No 22, pp. 437-9), but considerations of space will not permit of its retention herein.

7. *Expenditure.*—(i) *Maintenance—All Schools.* The net expenditure on maintenance in all grades of schools, excepting senior technical schools, and the cost per head of average attendance for the five years ended 1931 are shown below. The figures do not include expenditure on buildings, which is given separately in a

subsequent table. In the case of Queensland allowance has been made in calculating cost per head of average attendance for the number of State scholarship holders attending non-State schools.

STATE SCHOOLS.—EXPENDITURE ON MAINTENANCE.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Nor. Ter.	Total.
TOTAL.								
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1927	3,751,913	2,340,581	1,438,969	743,274	605,704	257,653	4,406	9,142,500
1928	4,004,495	2,464,714	1,471,322	778,715	624,271	266,281	5,153	9,614,951
1929	4,282,083	2,536,674	1,547,076	813,485	633,306	269,202	5,744	10,087,570
1930	3,996,517	2,445,861	1,514,456	792,981	648,508	269,764	5,626	9,673,713
1931	3,781,614	2,145,573	1,168,195	762,934	472,318	227,466	4,471	8,562,571

PER HEAD OF AVERAGE ATTENDANCE.

	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1927	13 4 7	11 14 6	12 14 6	10 3 2	12 1 5	9 4 11	18 10 2	12 5 4	
1928	13 15 4	12 1 11	12 13 7	10 6 6	12 5 1	9 17 3	21 4 1	12 12 9	
1929	14 6 8	12 4 10	13 6 3	10 13 3	12 10 11	9 12 0	24 17 4	13 0 10	
1930	12 12 10	11 9 7	12 17 11	10 2 0	12 11 4	9 3 6	31 19 4	12 1 4	
1931	11 14 3	9 18 11	9 17 2	9 14 1	8 16 2	7 10 0	15 18 3	10 9 6	

The comparatively large cost of maintenance during the three years 1927-29 was brought about chiefly by the higher salaries and allowances paid to teachers, and the increased expenditure in connexion with the supply of materials and equipment, while the necessity for economy is reflected in the considerable drop in the total and average expenditure for 1930 and 1931. In New South Wales the heavy fall was occasioned by reductions in teachers' salaries and curtailment of maintenance expenditure generally. Savings in maintenance costs were effected in various ways in the other States mentioned, e.g., South Australia, where considerable reductions were made in salaries and administration, and further general reductions were effected in 1931, the total for the year being considerably over a million lower than that for 1930.

(ii) *Maintenance—Secondary Schools.* The figures given in the preceding table refer to expenditure on maintenance of all State primary and secondary schools, exclusive of technical colleges. It has been thought desirable by the State Education Departments to give separate information in regard to the cost of secondary education. Any satisfactory estimate of this nature is, however, rendered difficult by the circumstance that there is no exactly comparable definition of the term "secondary" as applied in the various States, while difficulties arise in connexion with the correct apportionment amongst the various branches of expenses of administration, inspection, and the training of teachers. A further complication is caused by the fact that both elementary and higher education are in some instances given in the same school and by the same teacher. The figures quoted in regard to cost hereunder have been extracted from the Reports of the State Education Departments, and are subject to the qualifications above enumerated.

STATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS.—EXPENDITURE ON MAINTENANCE, 1931.

State.	Cost.	Cost Per Head of Population.
	£	s. d.
New South Wales	547,193	4 4
Victoria	308,010	3 5
Queensland	131,544	2 9
South Australia	110,453	3 9
Western Australia	138,060	5 10
Tasmania	19,063	1 9

The figures in all cases are exclusive of cost of buildings. In the case of Victoria the total includes the expenditure on "intermediate" education amounting (excluding administration costs) to £90,446. For Queensland, the figure quoted does not include the cost of the Agricultural High School and College, which amounted in 1931 to £20,341. For Western Australia the total includes £79,190 on account of "post primary" education. The figures for South Australia as published by the Department in 1931 differ somewhat from those given in previous years, owing to the inclusion in the returns for 1931 of portion of the cost of higher primary education, and to a different system of allocation of expenditure on scholarships.

(iii) *Buildings.* Expenditure on school buildings exclusive of Technical Colleges in each of the years quoted was as follows:—

STATE SCHOOLS.—EXPENDITURE ON BUILDINGS.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Nor. Ter.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1927	668,412	578,691	98,905	156,520	53,506	21,751	..	1,577,785
1928	1,004,252	398,939	143,995	102,477	68,957	44,150	..	1,762,770
1929	772,296	360,262	127,504	111,137	76,025	32,801	..	1,480,025
1930	488,776	114,826	110,196	68,006	63,578	23,065	920	869,367
1931	416,217	43,817	44,462	22,471	56,267	10,719	122	594,075

The large increases in expenditure shown in several instances up to the year 1928 were due to the efforts made to overtake arrears in necessary buildings and repairs, while the growing necessity for economy is reflected in the figures for the last three years.

(iv) *Total.* The net total cost during the year 1931 was as follows:—

STATE SCHOOLS.—NET TOTAL COST, 1931.

Item.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Nor. Ter.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Net cost of education, including buildings	4,197,831	2,189,390	1,212,657	785,405	528,585	238,185	4,593	9,156,646

The figures in this and the preceding tables refer to all grades of State Schools (with the exception of senior technical schools). Including buildings, the net cost per scholar in average attendance for the whole of the State schools in Australia amounted in 1931 to £11 4s. 1d., as compared with £4 9s. 3d. in 1901.

8. *School Savings Banks.*—In New South Wales the control of these institutions was taken over in 1924 by the Government Savings Bank, which allows interest on the children's deposits. At the 30th June, 1931, there were 142,746 depositors having at credit £184,377. In Victoria banks were in operation at 2,556 schools at the 30th June, 1932. On the same date the number of depositors amounted to 170,839 and balances at credit to £283,786. School Savings Banks began operations in Queensland in July, 1928, and at the 30th June, 1931, there were 959 banks, with 53,547 depositors, and balances amounting to £45,893. In South Australia, there were 73,000 depositors in 1931 at 1,092 banks with £96,042 to their credit; and in Western Australia, there were 719 school banks, with 57,042 depositors and £78,430 to their credit.

§ 3. Private Schools.*

1. Returns for 1931.—The following table shows the number of private schools, together with the teachers engaged therein, and the enrolment and average attendance in 1931 :—

PRIVATE SCHOOLS, 1931.

State.	Schools.	Teachers.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
New South Wales	733	4,708	92,285	78,435
Victoria	505	2,286	66,671	56,670
Queensland	195	1,259	30,644	26,500
South Australia	179	886	13,994	12,714
Western Australia	128	553	11,367	10,515
Tasmania	65	298	6,327	4,749
Northern Territory	1	5	99	82
Total	1,806	9,995	221,387	189,665

The figures for Queensland include the returns from Grammar Schools, of which there are ten—six for boys and four for girls, with an enrolment of 1,526 boys and 860 girls. These schools are governed by boards of trustees, partly nominated by Government, and partly by the subscribers to the funds. The trustees make regulations regarding the fees of scholars, the salaries of teachers, and generally for the management of the schools. The Government endowment received in 1931 amounted to £15,942. In addition, a sum of £15,946 was received by way of fees for the tuition of State scholarship holders. The Grammar schools are inspected annually by officers of the Department of Public Instruction. In the Northern Territory there is a privately conducted school for natives and half-castes at Hermannsburg Mission Station with an enrolment of 90. Returns regarding this institution have not been included in the preceding table.

2. Growth of Private Schools.—The enrolment and average attendance at private schools during 1891, 1901, 1911, and in each year of the period 1927 to 1931 are as follows :—

PRIVATE SCHOOLS.—ENROLMENT AND ATTENDANCE.

Year.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.	Year.	Enrolment.	Average Attendance.
1891	124,485	99,588	1928	237,713	184,464
1901	148,659	120,742	1929	242,077	189,018
1911	160,794	132,588	1930	242,024	193,691
1927	235,074	181,396	1931	221,387	189,665

The increase in average attendance at private schools during the last five years amounted to about 4.6 per cent., or only half the rate for the State schools during the same period.

3. Registration of Private Schools.—Conditions in regard to the registration of private schools were alluded to in previous Year Books (*vide* No. 18, p. 451), but considerations of space preclude the repetition of this information in the present issue.

* Private schools include all schools not wholly under State control. The term "private," though popularly applied, is, of course, a misnomer.

§ 4. Free Kindergartens.

The following information regarding Free Kindergartens has been compiled from particulars supplied by the principals of the chief institutions or the organizing secretary in each State, except in the case of Western Australia, the details for which were furnished by the Education Department.

FREE KINDERGARTENS, 1932.

State.	No. of Schools.	Average Attendance.	Permanent Instructors.	Student Teachers.	Voluntary Assistants.
New South Wales ..	16	910	30	61	60
Victoria	30	1,801	74	59	415
Queensland	6	(a)320	10	20	16
South Australia ..	9	361	13	28	22
Western Australia (Perth) ..	7	314	15	6	10
Tasmania	4	126	6	7	..
Total	72	3,832	148	181	523

(a) Estimate.

The kindergartens in New South Wales are all in the metropolitan area, but there is a Kindergarten Holiday Home at Thirroul at which a small staff is maintained for the purpose of looking after delicate children sent to the Home to recuperate. In Victoria, the schools at Ballarat and Geelong were attended by about 50 children respectively in 1932. In New South Wales there were 117 students at the Kindergarten Training College. At the Melbourne College, 45 students were in training. The Brisbane Training College had 20 students in training, the Training College at Adelaide 41, and at Perth, 18. Seven students were in training at Hobart.

The information given above refers to institutions under private kindergarten unions or associations, and is exclusive of the kindergarten branches in the Government schools of the various States.

§ 5. Universities.

1. **Origin and Development.**—A brief account of the origin and development of the Universities in the various States is given in preceding issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 22, pp. 442-3), but this information cannot be repeated herein.

2. **Teachers and Students.**—The following table shows the number of professors and lecturers, and the students in attendance at each of the State Universities during the year 1931 :—

UNIVERSITIES.—TEACHERS AND STUDENTS, 1931.

University.	Professors.	Lecturers and Demonstrators.	Students attending Lectures.		
			Matriculated.	Non-matriculated.	Total.
Sydney	48	170	2,657	366	3,023
Melbourne	34	188	..	..	(a) 2,858
Queensland (Brisbane) ..	14	44	663	136	799
Adelaide	18	111	1,192	900	(b)2,092
Western Australia (Perth) ..	14	41	724	85	809
Tasmania (Hobart) ..	9	12	195	54	(c)249

(a) Exclusive of 243 students at Conservatorium of Music.

(b) Exclusive of 336 students at

Conservatorium of Music. (c) Exclusive of 228 students attending tutorial classes or extension lectures.

The Conservatorium in Sydney, while attached to the Education Department, is not under the control of the University. The enrolment of students for the year 1931 was 924.

3. **University Revenue.**—The income of the Universities from all sources during the year 1931 was as shown in the table below. The figures in the column "private foundations" refer to income received from foundations, the cash value of benefactions received during the year being shown separately in the appended note.

UNIVERSITIES.—REVENUE, 1931.

University.	Government Grants.		Fees.	Private Foundations. (a)	Other.	Total.
	Endowment.	Other.				
	£	£				
Sydney	28,800	32,696	59,606	112,585	13,133	246,820
Melbourne	58,068	11,308	96,807	31,050	15,634	212,867
Queensland (Brisbane)	18,000	2,695	18,317	24,437	3,681	67,130
Adelaide	4,000	(b)47,067	28,493	19,885	9,120	108,565
Western Australia (Perth)	27,900	..	3,743	20,239	4,037	55,919
Tasmania (Hobart)	4,000	9,418	2,940	2,363	385	19,106
Total	140,768	103,184	209,906	210,559	45,990	710,407

(a) Not including value of new foundations received during the year as follows:—New Wales South £27,636; Victoria, £28,050; South Australia, £584. (b) Including £14,100 yearly parliamentary appropriation and £32,967 special vote.

In preceding issues of the Official Year Book information was given in some detail in regard to the extent to which the Universities have benefited from private munificence. Space will permit of reference to the most important benefactions only herein. Thus the Challis bequest to the Sydney University amounted to £277,000 (now valued at £408,000): Mr. G. H. Bosch contributed £240,000: Sir P. N. Russell £100,000: Mr. W. O. Watt £81,000: Mr. Thos. Fisher £30,000. Mr. Sidney Myer's gifts to the Melbourne University amounted to £50,000, while Sir Samuel Gillott, Mr. Edward Wilson (Argus Trust), and Sir Samuel Wilson contributed £41,000, £34,000, and £30,000 respectively. Mr. R. B. Ritchie's gifts for the endowment of a Chair of Economics amount to £30,000, and a similar sum was received from the Supreme Court Library Fund for the endowment of a Chair of Public Law. The Hon. Francis Ormond contributed £20,000 to the University as well as benefactions to Ormond College amounting to considerably over £100,000. Queensland University received about £200,000 from the McCaughey estate, and up to the end of April, 1931, had benefited to the extent of £26,800 from the Walter and Eliza Hall Trust. The chief benefactors to Adelaide University were Sir Thomas Elder, £99,000; Sir Langdon Bonython, £62,000; Mr. T. E. Barr Smith £30,000; Mrs. Jane Marks, £30,000; Family of John Darling, £25,000; and R. B. Smith and family, £21,000. Several very valuable properties, in addition to shares which produced a sum of £58,450, were also bequeathed to this University by Mr. Peter Waite. Under the will of Sir Winthrop Hackett the University of Western Australia received £425,000, while the late Robert Gladden bequeathed an estate valued at £60,000.

4. **University Expenditure.**—For the year 1931 the expenditure by the Universities under various headings was as follows :—

UNIVERSITIES.—EXPENDITURE, 1931.

University.	Salaries and Administration.	Scholarships, Bursaries, etc.	Equipment Publications, &c.	Buildings and Grounds.	Other.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney	157,741	7,022	32,110	(a)19,616	414	216,903
Melbourne	122,853	7,850	13,057	(b)14,016	35,239	193,015
Queensland (Brisbane) ..	31,833	1,414	3,533	(c) 735	20,462	57,977
Adelaide	56,013	1,236	(d)20,696	(e) 2,088	22,937	102,970
Western Australia (Perth)	28,388	7,733	4,392	(f)45,602	5,304	91,419
Tasmania (Hobart) ..	13,994	1,264	3,451	630	..	19,339
Total	410,822	26,519	77,239	82,687	84,356	681,623

(a) Including £17,047, new expenditure. (b) Includes new expenditure, £8,931. (c) New expenditure, £481. (d) Research. (e) New Expenditure. In addition a sum of £19,189 was spent from Endowment Fund. (f) New expenditure, £44,437.

5. **University Extension.**—Some account of the initiation and progress of university extension is given in preceding Official Year Books (see No. 22, p. 446), but considerations of space preclude the insertion of this matter in the present issue.

6. **The Canberra University College.**—The question of the establishment of a University at the Federal Capital is still under consideration, and in the meantime a University College has been established under the *Canberra University College Ordinance*, 1929–32. By virtue of a regulation of the University of Melbourne, the College is empowered to provide approved lectures in the subjects of the Arts, Science, Commerce, and Law courses in preparation for certain degrees and diplomas of that University. Lectures commenced in 1930 with the aid of several part-time lecturers, and 30 students were enrolled during the year. The curriculum was extended in 1931 and two full-time lecturers were appointed. In 1931 and 1932 the students numbered 62 and 61 respectively. The examinations are conducted by the University of Melbourne.

7. **Workers' Educational Association.**—In 1913, Workers' Educational Associations were formed in all the States of Australia, and later in New Zealand. The movement has for its object the bringing of the University into closer relationship with the masses of the people, and thereby providing for the higher education of the workers in civic and cultural subjects. There are now direct grants from all State Governments except Western Australia, and an additional University grant in New Zealand. The particulars of grants for classes in 1932 were as follow :—New South Wales, £3,800, 36 classes and 3 study circles; Victoria, £3,450, 34 tutorial classes and extension work; Tasmania, £1,135, 5 classes; South Australia, £2,025, 6 tutorial classes and 23 lecture classes and 6 study circles; Queensland, £1,000, 11 classes and 118 correspondence students. In addition, the New South Wales Association receives a Government grant for general organizing purposes of £500, paid on the basis of £1 for £1 on subscriptions and donations up to this amount. The Queensland and South Australian Associations received grants of £600 and £240 respectively. The Carnegie Corporation has in recent years shown its interest in the work by allotting substantial grants to the Associations and to the Universities. The principal subjects chosen in all States are Industrial History, Economics, Political Science, and Sociology, but there is an increasing number of classes in other subjects such as History, Psychology, Philosophy, Literature, Music, Physiology and Biology. Each University co-operates with the W.E.A. in the formation of a joint committee for tutorial classes, which supervises the work with the assistance of a University officer with the title of *Director of Tutorial Classes*. In addition to the longer University tutorial classes, many preparatory classes, study circles, and summer schools are organized by the Association, numerous courses of public lectures are delivered, educational conferences promoted, and an extensive book service is spreading educational literature throughout Australia.

§ 6. Technical Education.

1. **General.**—Although provision has been made in all of the States in respect to many necessary forms of technical education; the total provision made would imply that this branch of education has not been regarded as of outstanding importance. As will be seen later on, the expenditure on technical education for the whole of Australia is comparatively small. In preceding issues of the Official Year Book an outline was given of the origin and development of technical education in each State (see No. 22, pp. 447-51), but considerations of space preclude the inclusion of more up-to-date information in later volumes.

2. **Returns for Year 1931.**—Returns for the year 1931 in regard to enrolments and attendances, etc., in each State are given in the table hereunder.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—ENROLMENTS, ETC., 1931.

State.	Number of Classes.	Teachers.	Enrolments.	Average Attendance.	Fees Received.
					£
New South Wales ..	747	574	(a) 15,152	(b)	(c) 34,228
Victoria ..	320	628	16,224	11,463	36,024
Queensland ..	(b)	366	11,690	(b)	13,895
South Australia ..	636	211	10,564	8,376	7,983
Western Australia ..	447	116	(d) 9,060	8,032	2,583
Tasmania(e) ..	(b)	58	759	667	1,455
Total ..	2,150	1,953	63,449	..	96,168

(a) Individual Students. fees approximately, £23,000.

(b) Not available.

(c) Includes receipts from other sources: average enrolments: individual students, 4,067.

(e) Includes the School of Mines.

Figures for earlier years will be found in preceding volumes. Owing to the considerable differences in scope and methods in the States, and in the presentation of the returns in connexion therewith, effective comparison of the results is somewhat difficult. With regard to the figure quoted for number of classes in Victoria, it is stated that each grade of a subject is counted as a class. Special classes for young people out of work were conducted in 1931 in New South Wales, payment of fees being deferred. In Victoria, fees have been remitted in the case of deserving students under the provisions of regulations empowering school councils to grant remissions up to 10 per cent. of the number of paying students. Towards the end of the year, the Education Department in Queensland in conjunction with the Department of Labour and Industry established a series of free classes in various centres for unemployed young men and women.

3. **Expenditure on Technical Education.**—The expenditure on technical education in each State for the year 1931 is shown below:—

TECHNICAL EDUCATION.—EXPENDITURE, 1931.

Year.	N.S.W.	Victoria.	Q'land.	S. Aust.	W. Aust.	Tasmania.	Total.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1931 { (a)	175,598	258,938	65,593	(c) 90,912	17,867	19,026	627,934
{ (b)	3,442	1,925	2,323	475	387	179	8,731

(a) Maintenance.

(b) Buildings.

(c) Includes Junior Technical Schools.

The expenditure on maintenance for technical education in 1931 amounted to 1s. 11d. per head of the population of Australia, as compared with 26s. 4d. per head expended on maintenance for primary and secondary education.

§ 7. Business Colleges and Shorthand Schools.

There has been a considerable development in recent years both in the number and scope of privately conducted institutions which aim at giving instruction in business methods, shorthand, typewriting, the use of calculating machines, etc. Particulars for all States, so far as they are available, are given in the following table:—

BUSINESS COLLEGES, SHORTHAND SCHOOLS, ETC., 1931.

State.	Schools.	Teachers.	Students Enrolled.		Average Attendance.		Fees Received.
			Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
New South Wales ..	25	180	1,573	4,481	837	2,403	£ (a)
Victoria ..	16	127	2,375	2,082	2,212	1,787	(a)
Queensland ..	7	23	186	637	139	557	(a)
South Australia ..	7	31	659	983	519	459	8,948
Western Australia ..	12	50	2,428	1,006	(a)	(a)	22,758
Tasmania ..	3	12	75	184	67	174	(a)
Total ..	70	423	7,296	9,373	(b) 3,774	(b) 5,380	..

(a) Not available.

(b) Exclusive of Western Australia.

The figures for New South Wales are exclusive of students instructed at home through the medium of correspondence classes.

§ 8. Diffusion of Education.

1. **General Education.**—A rough indication of the state of education of the people is obtained at each Census under the three headings, "read and write," "read only," and "cannot read." Particulars for each State and Territory were included in previous issues of the Official Year Book (see No. 19, p. 439). Detailed tables dealing with various aspects of education were published in connexion with the Census of 1921. Here it must suffice to mention that during the period 1871 to 1921 the proportion per 10,000 of the population of Australia able to read and write advanced from a little over 6,000 to nearly 8,500, while that of those able to read only fell from about 1,100 to under 30.

2. **Education as shown by Marriage Registers.**—Another common method of testing the spread of education is to compare the number of mark signatures in the marriage registers with the total number of persons married during each year of a series. The percentage signing with a mark on the total persons married in the Census year 1921 was only 0.17, as compared with 24.60 in 1861.

§ 9. Miscellaneous.

1. **Scientific Societies.**—(i) *Royal Societies.* In previous issues of the Official Year Book an outline was given of the origin and progress of the Royal Society in each State (see No. 22, pp. 454-5), but considerations of space preclude the retention of this matter in the present volume. The accompanying table, however, contains the latest available statistical information regarding these institutions, which in every case have their headquarters in the capital cities.

ROYAL SOCIETIES—PARTICULARS, 1932.(a)

Heading.	Sydney.	Melbourne.	Brisbane.	Adelaide.	Perth.	Hobart.
Year of origin ..	1821	1854	1884	1853	1897	1843
Number of members ..	288	198	180	167	203	200
Vols. of transactions issued	66	74	44	56	18	82
Number of books in library	31,000	18,000	6,000	6,300	3,400	17,000
Societies on exchange list ..	303	314	177	225	140	300
Income ..	..£ 1,451	463	154	311	211	238
Expenditure ..	..£ 1,929	346	236	334	183	238

(a) The Royal Society of Australia, with headquarters at Canberra, was founded on the 25th July, 1930, and received permission to use its title on the 14th January, 1931. The members, including associates, numbered 62 in 1932. Receipts and expenditure for the year amounted to £36 and £12 respectively.

In connexion with the year of origin it may be pointed out that the title Royal Society was in most cases assumed at a later date than that shown in the table, as the Societies originated under different names.

(ii) *The Australasian Association for the Advancement of Science.* This Association was founded in 1887, with headquarters at the Royal Society's House in Sydney. Its meetings are usually held biennially within the various States and in the Dominion of New Zealand. The next meeting will be held in Melbourne in January, 1935. The library of the Association contains 4,000 volumes, and is now housed by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research.

(iii) *Other Scientific Societies.* The Linnean Society of New South Wales, with headquarters in Sydney, was founded in 1874. The soundness of its present position is due to the benefactions of Sir William Macleay, who during his lifetime and by his will endowed the Society to the amount of £67,000, which has been increased by judicious investment to over £80,000. The Society maintains a research bacteriologist and offers annually 4 research fellowships in various branches of natural history. Four fellowships were awarded in 1932. The library comprises some 14,000 volumes, valued at about £7,000. Fifty-seven volumes of proceedings have been issued, and the Society exchanges with some 228 kindred institutions. The ordinary membership at the end of 1932 was 180.

The British Astronomical Society has a branch in Sydney, and in some of the States the British Medical Association has branches.

In addition to the societies enumerated above, there are various others in each State devoted to branches of scientific investigation.

2. **Public Libraries.**—(i) *States.* In each of the capital cities there is a well-equipped Public Library, the institutions in Melbourne and Sydney especially comparing very favourably with similar institutions elsewhere. The following statement gives the number of volumes in the Public Library of each capital city:—

METROPOLITAN PUBLIC LIBRARIES, 1931-32.

City.	Number of Volumes in—			Total.
	Reference Branch.	Ordinary Lending Branch.	Country Lending Branch.	
Sydney(c)	(a) 379,040	(b)	74,146	453,186
Melbourne	388,233	63,739	.. .. .	451,972
Brisbane	57,428	.. .. .	.. .. .	57,428
Adelaide(c)	161,179	81,617	.. .. .	242,796
Perth(c)	138,867	.. .. .	(d) 23,042	161,909
Hobart	29,252	(e) 7,771	.. .. .	37,023

(a) Including the Mitchell Library. (b) The maintenance and control of the ordinary lending branch of the Public Library at Sydney were transferred in 1908 to the Municipal Council. In 1931, the books numbered 53,508. (c) Year ended June, 1932. (d) Includes 4,289 volumes in School Childrens' Lending Library. (e) Includes 1,500 volumes in the Children's Branch.

In connexion with the Country Lending Branch of the Sydney Public Library, it may be noted that books are forwarded on loan to State schools, to approved associations, to Schools of Art and to individual students. During the year 1931-32, over 78,000 books were lent to small State schools, 13,000 to Schools of Arts, 6,200 to branches of the Teachers' Federation, 3,400 to Agricultural Bureaux, and 44,000 to individual borrowers.

A special research staff attached to the Public Library gives valuable assistance in making readily available to inquirers the store of information contained in books, etc., which, owing to limitations of space, are not in open access. About 8,000 books, and nearly 2,500 periodicals were added to the library in 1931-32.

The Mitchell Library in Sydney consisted of over 60,000 volumes and pamphlets, and 300 paintings, principally relating to Australasia, valued at £100,000, and bequeathed in 1907 by Mr. D. S. Mitchell, together with an endowment of £70,000. The testators stipulated that the regulations of the British Museum were to be adopted as far as practicable, hence the library is the resort of specialists. There are now over 128,000 volumes in the library in addition to valuable manuscripts, collections of Australian postage and fiscal stamps, and various pictures, coins, etc.

Amongst other important libraries in New South Wales may be mentioned the "Fisher" Library at Sydney University, with 199,500 volumes; the library at the Australian Museum, 27,300; the Teachers' College library, 41,600; Sydney Technical College library, 16,000; and the library at the Botanic Gardens, 10,100.

The reading room at the Melbourne Public Library ranks among the finest in the world. It was opened in 1913, and has a diameter of 114 feet, with a similar height, and is capable of seating 320 readers at a time, all of whom are under efficient supervision from the centre of the room. The Library forwards volumes on loan to Mechanics' Institutes and Free Libraries, and to individual borrowers in the country. During the year 1930-31 the volumes added to the Reference branch by purchase, donation, etc., numbered 11,837, while additions to the lending branch numbered 1,708.

The library at Brisbane (South) contained about 14,500 volumes at the end of June, 1931.

For some years past efforts have been made in South Australia to collect original documents likely to be of service in compiling a history of the State. So far back as 1914, Professor Henderson, of Adelaide University, under commission from the South Australian Government, visited and reported on the system of keeping archives in England, France, Belgium, Holland, and Ceylon, and obtained valuable information also from the United States and Canada. A department of historical documents has been created under the care of an archivist, and valuable work has been done in connexion with examination, classification, and permanent preservation of the available papers. A suitable building for housing the documents and the staff was provided in 1921. At the 30th June, 1932, the collection numbered 291,353 documents, 12,865 views, and 1,253 maps.

For the year ended 30th June, 1922, accessions to the Public Library at Perth numbered 1905 books and 243 periodicals.

During 1922 the Tasmanian Public Library adopted the plan of lending books to individual country borrowers and to families or committees of residents in country districts. The Public Library at Launceston contains 36,000 volumes. Books added to the Public Libraries at Hobart and Launceston during the year 1931 numbered 1,000 and 1,025 respectively.

Statistics in regard to other libraries are not available for all States, while the information supplied is not in all cases complete. Returns for Victoria in 1931 showed a total of 420 libraries in receipt of State or municipal aid, but statistics are now only collected from institutions in Greater Melbourne and the chief extra metropolitan towns. The 75 libraries from which returns were received contained a total of about 481,000 volumes. Queensland returned 259 libraries, with 530,000 books; South Australia, 215 suburban and country institutes with 602,000 books; Tasmania, 20 libraries and 68,000 books; while there were 3 libraries, with 6,000 books, in the Northern Territory.

(ii) *Commonwealth*—(a) *Parliamentary and National Library*. When the Commonwealth Parliamentary Library was created in 1902, it was recognized that at such time as the Federal Capital was established it would be necessary to have available there, for the use of members and the public servants, a library whose scope was wider than that usually associated with a purely Parliamentary one. To this end, therefore, this library was developed on lines similar to those of a State Public Library, and particular attention was given to the acquisition of works relating to or published in Australia.

In pursuance of this policy it acquired in 1909 a valuable collection of *Australiana*, comprising about 10,000 volumes and 6,500 pamphlets and other matter which had been formed by Mr. E. A. Petherick. In 1912, also, a provision was included in the Commonwealth Copyright Act requiring the publisher of any book, pamphlet, etc., printed in the Commonwealth to supply a free copy to this library. In the same year it undertook the publication of the Historical Records of Australia, and 34 volumes were issued before publication was temporarily suspended in 1926. The rapid development of the Australian and National Sections of the library led the Library Committee in 1923 to decide that the title "Commonwealth National Library" should be given to these, and that at Canberra the library should be divided into two sections—a Parliamentary and a National Section—the former to be housed in Parliament House, the latter in a separate building, to which the public would be given free access. As the accommodation for the National Section is not at present available, the whole library is maintained at the Parliament building, but to meet the requirements of University students and the general public the privileges of the Library have been extended to them in respect to borrowing as well as reference.

The total number of volumes at the beginning of 1932 was 99,669 books and 7,000 pamphlets, the chief feature being a unique collection of Captain Cook's manuscripts and early works relating to Australia, also an extensive series of official publications of Great Britain and all the Dominions.

(b) *Patents Office Library.* The free library attached to the Commonwealth Patents Office contains over 46,000 volumes, and includes literature dealing with patents in the principal countries of the world. This library is now situated in Canberra.

3. **Public Museums and Art Galleries.**—Previous issues of the Official Year Book contained a brief description of the public museums and art galleries in each State (see No. 22, pp. 457-9), but considerations of space preclude the incorporation of this matter in the present volume.

4. **State Expenditure on Education, Science and Art.**—The gross and net expenditure in each State on education, science and art during the year 1931-32 were as follow:—

STATE EXPENDITURE ON EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND ART, 1931-32.

State.	Expenditure from—				Receipts.	Net Expenditure.
	Revenue.	Loan.	Other Funds.	Total.		
	£	£	£	£	£	£
New South Wales	4,175,204	43,124	50,662	4,268,990	68,480	4,200,510
Victoria ..	2,607,024	3,354	8,364	2,618,742	62,125	2,556,617
Queensland ..	1,424,354	39,787	..	1,464,141	13,951	1,450,190
South Australia ..	869,218	14,823	6,047	890,088	20,437	869,651
Western Australia	614,254	..	8,817	623,071	16,434	606,637
Tasmania ..	253,818	401	..	254,219	763	253,456
Total ..	9,943,872	101,489	73,890	10,119,251	182,190	9,937,061

In the case of New South Wales, repayments to credit of votes of previous years have not been taken into account, and expenditure in connexion with agriculture, agricultural and viticultural colleges, and agricultural, pastoral, and horticultural societies has been excluded. The total receipts in Victoria include an amount of £37,273 expended by the Councils of technical schools, and which may be considered as not necessarily a set-off to the total expenditure. Figures for expenditure in South Australia include a sum of about £6,000 in connexion with sinking funds. The amount of £50,662 expended in New South Wales under the heading of "other" funds represents payments from the Unemployed Relief Fund.